The Impact and Legacy of

USDA Nutrition Programs

FROM 2009 TO 2016

Over the past eight years, USDA has worked to advance the federal nutrition programs, which provide a critical safety net for millions of American children and families. By expanding access to nutritious foods, the USDA nutrition programs have made a significant difference in the lives of many Americans, creating a brighter, healthier future for our nation.



3 Million More Kids in the School Breakfast Program

Participation has dramatically increased from about 11 million students in 2009 to about 14 million students in 2015.

25,000 More Summer Meal Sites

The number of sites offering children and teens healthy food in the summer, when school is out and meals can be scarce, increased from about 40,000 in 2009 to over 65,000 in 2015.

8.5 Million Kids

2015

2009

Reached more than 8.5 million kids with healthy meals in areas with high numbers of low income families through the Community Eligibility Provision.



Created MyPlate

Completed two editions of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and widely disseminated

easily understandable nutrition information to consumers by introducing MyPlate.

6,000 More Markets Accepting SNAP

Over 7,000 authorized farmers markets and direct marketing farmers now accept SNAP benefits, up from less than 1,000 in 2009.



Ninety-eight percent of schools are meeting the updated meal standards, and the Smart Snacks in School standards ensure that over 50 million students have healthy choices throughout the school environment.



\$215 Million in Grants for School Kitchen Equipment

To help schools implement the healthier standards, USDA has awarded \$215 million for school kitchen equipment to help them prepare and provide healthier school meals.



7 Million People Lifted out of Poverty

Each year the SNAP program lifts Americans out of poverty with a peak impact of 7 million people in 2012.



\$50 Million in Grants

USDA has awarded \$50 million in competitive grants to help identify ways to incentivize SNAP participants to increase their purchases of fruits and vegetables.



Access for 8 Million Women & Children

Since WIC introduced its improved food package in 2009, the 8 million participants have increased access to healthy foods such as whole grains, fruits, and vegetables.