

# **EFNEP WORKS**

Expanded Food & **Nutrition Education Program**  2024

#### SUPPORTING WISCONSIN FAMILIES SINCE 1969

EFNEP helps families with limited resources to introduce healthy changes through **nutrition** education, cooking classes using healthy and low-cost recipes, physical activity, and strategies to shop on a limited budget.

EFNEP provides hands-on, peer-to-peer researchbased education in four core areas:



Diet quality & physical activity



Food resource management



Food safety



Food security

EFNEP programs build on community strengths to leverage university resources and support

health with evidencebased approaches for parents and caregivers and youth.

# Wisconsin Landscape

## 1 of 10

Wisconsin households are food insecure



#### 1 in 15

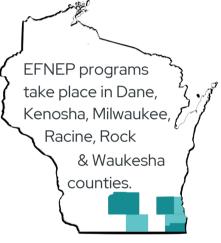
Wisconsin adults eat the recommended daily amount of fruits & vegetables



## 1 in 2

youth get the recommended level of physical activity

# Program Reach



# 2,910 participants engaged in hands-on,

interactive lessons with EFNEP peer educators.

#### 2,083 graduates completed EFNEP, building skills in nutrition

53 community partners collaborated with EFNEP to deliver

and healthy living.

impactful nutrition education.



# Making

# **A Difference**

Adult

#### **Graduates**

96% improved diet quality, habits, and behaviors.

**87%** practiced better food resource management.

73% improved food safety practices.

70% increased their physical activity.

**44%** reported improvement

in food security.

Youth

#### **Graduates**

86% improved diet quality, knowledge, and behaviors.

53% improved knowledge and practice of food safety behaviors.

57% increased physical activity knowledge and behaviors.

41% increased knowledge and practice of food resource management.

Parents and caregivers with limited income often struggle to prepare healthy meals due to time and budget constraints. A Waukesha County childcare center director requested help teaching parents how to cook easy, nutritious meals for their kids. FoodWlse (EFNEP) offered an Eating Smart Being Active lesson series to engage parents in cooking and nutrition education.

During the series, educator Sarah Garcia worked with the parents to prepare kid-friendly recipes like English muffin pizza, salmon patties, and banana "sushi", reinforcing lessons on fruits, vegetables, whole grains, shopping, label reading, and food safety. All children showed improvement in their dietary behaviors, food resource management, and food safety practices. Additionally, 60% became more physically active. The most commonly improved behaviors included eating more and a greater variety of vegetables, meal planning, and cooking at home. One parent said, "this has made me even more aware of labels and ingredients." Another said, "It has changed how I prepare, cook, and shop. From knowing how to safely thaw meat, to having a well-balanced meal, while still getting all of the nutrients me and my family need."

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