

SNAP-Ed IMPACTS

IN DANE COUNTY

NUTRITION EDUCATION

Teaching about healthy eating and active living.

Dane County FoodWise teaches nutrition to students at various grade levels using fun, hands-on activities. Students learn about MyPlate, the importance of eating a variety of foods, and the benefits of staying active. They try new foods through taste tests and join interactive discussions about making healthy choices.

In one first-grade classroom, a parent shared on a post-program survey that the lessons inspired their whole family to be more active. They now spend more time outdoors walking, playing basketball, and tossing a football, making healthy living a family effort. The parent also noted a big change in their child's attitude toward food. Before the program, their child rarely tried new foods. Now, they're open to tasting different things and enjoy exploring new flavors. The parent thanked the program for its positive impact on their child and family. Early nutrition education can create lasting change beyond the classroom. By helping kids build healthy habits, FoodWise supports the well-being of entire families.

COMMUNITY REACH

IN DANE COUNTY

FOODWISE SNAP-ED NUTRITION EDUCATION ANNUAL REACH:

- ▶ over 1,700 youth
- ▶ over 450 adults

TOTAL LEARNING INTERACTIONS IN FY2024:

- ▶ 8,938 youth engagements
- ▶ 1,385 adult engagements



WHAT OUR PARTICIPANTS SAY

The kids were very excited to have [FoodWise] come each week. It is something we looked forward to. I have a very picky eater this year, however the kids were willing and eager to try the foods, especially as the weeks went on. This morning we had rutabaga as our healthy snack and most kids voluntarily tried it!

- 1ST GRADE TEACHER AT ORCHARD RIDGE ELEMENTARY, DANE COUNTY



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Working to make healthy choices easier and more accessible.

FoodWise Dane County has been working on a project to increase redemption of Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Vouchers. After communicating with stakeholders, doing a farmer survey, and meeting with senior center staff, FoodWise decided to pilot a program to host pop-up markets at senior centers so that seniors can redeem their vouchers somewhere they already shop and spend time. So far, there have been four markets at Waunakee Senior Center and one market at Middleton Senior Center. The pop-up booths have been highly anticipated and successful, with folks arriving 30 minutes early just to get in line at the Middleton Senior Center. FoodWise is looking forward to continuing the work next market season and possibly expanding to other low-access areas.