NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Farm to School/Preschool

Creating..

Healthy Places for Kids to Eat (HPKE)

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Today's Presenter:

Mary Stein, MS

Deputy Director, National Farm to School Network

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Agenda for webinar:

- What is farm to school/preschool (F2S/F2P)
- Cross-sectoral benefits of F2S/F2P
- About National Farm to School Network
- The core elements of farm to school
  - Procurement of healthy local food
  - Food, nutrition, agriculture education
  - School gardens
  - Funding farm to school initiatives
- Sustaining F2S/F2P efforts for the long haul
  - Funding
  - Evaluation
  - Policy
- Q&A

CORE ELEMENTS OF FARM to SCHOOL

EDUCATION

SCHOOL GARDENS

PROCUREMENT

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Why farm to school?

Photo courtesy of W.K. Kellogg Foundation

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Public Health

Education

Community Economic Development

Environmental Quality

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

our network

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

WHAT we do

Information

Our website is home to a large, searchable database of farm to school and farm to preschool resources ranging from curriculum and recipes to evaluation toolkits and food safety advice. We host a webinar series, and we share news and information through our monthly email newsletter and social media channels. We create and collate farm to school information and data for use by stakeholders across the country.

Advocacy

NFSN is the voice for the farm to school movement and the leading resource for information about national, state and local policies that impact farm to school and farm to preschool. We advocate for supportive policies and provide regular policy updates through our blog and newsletter. NFSN also organizes an annual public awareness campaign every October for National Farm to School Month.

Networking

Our state and regional leads are the heart of our network. They serve as the networking hub on the local level and share information, resources, needs and opportunities with their counterparts across the country. NFSN hosts the biennial National Farm to Cafeteria Conference, which convenes a diverse group of stakeholders from across the farm to cafeteria movement.

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Farm to School is a Win Win Win!

HEALTH: Kids Win

AGRICULTURE: Farmers Win

ECONOMY: Communities Win

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

How NFSN Supports HPKE Teams

- Connecting people to people
- Connecting people to resources/information
- Connecting people to training opportunities

- …at the state, regional and national levels.

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

First point of contact: NFSN State Lead

Arkansas Profile

- Visit the Arkansas Farm to School Website
- Visit the Arkansas Farm to School Google Group
- Visit the Arkansas Department of Education Child Nutrition Unit

Many Arkansas-based nonprofit, research and educational organizations are working to provide students with nutrition education and hands-on learning opportunities through farm to school programs. Popular farm to school products in Arkansas include watermelon, apples, strawberries, lettuces and more. Schools make purchases directly from farmers and farmers' markets, as well as through distributors and processors. There is great potential for growth in this area, with agriculture being the largest industry in the state. Explore this page to learn more!

Andrew Carberry
Arkansas State Lead

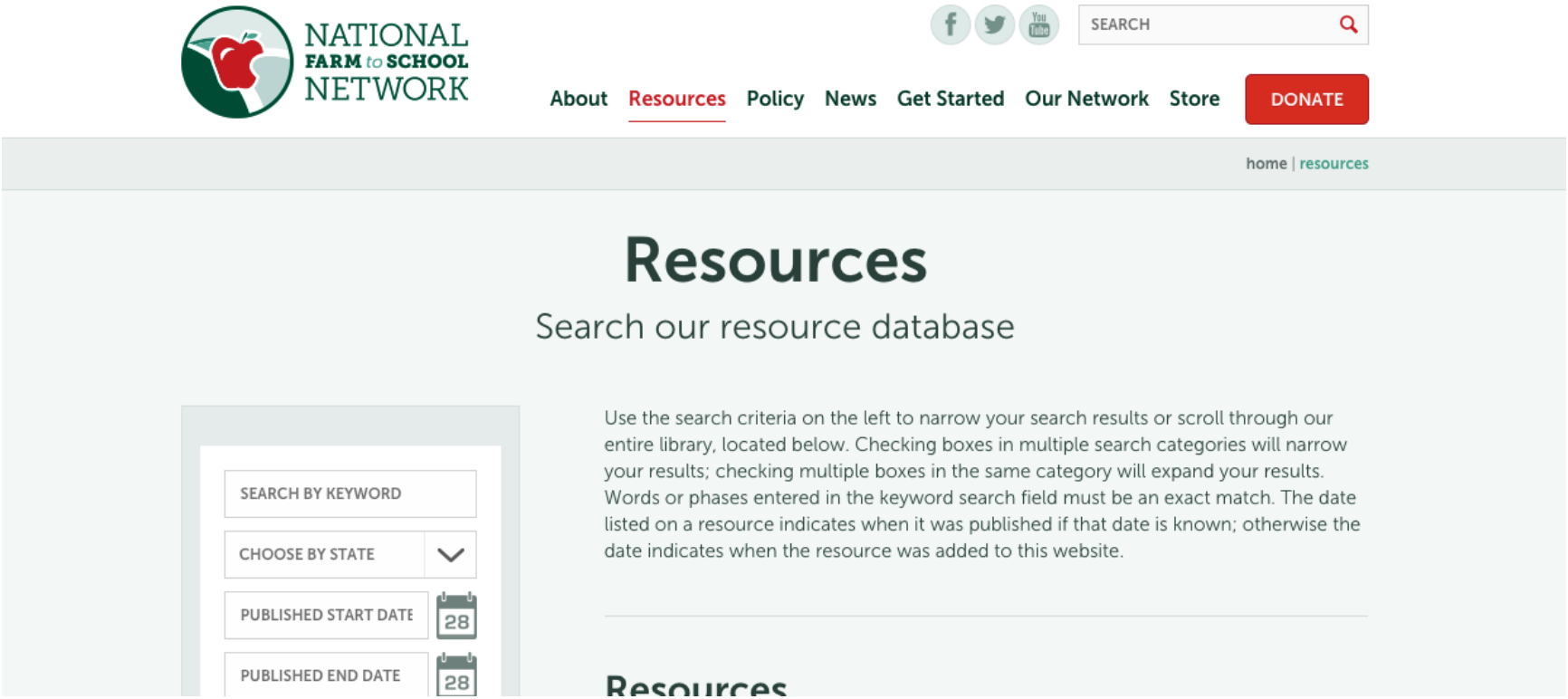
Program Development Coordinator
Arkansas Children's Hospital Research Institute, Childhood Obesity Prevention Research Program
P: 501-364-6555

CONTACT ANDREW

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Connecting to resources…



NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Connecting to training opportunities…

7TH NATIONAL FARM TO CAFETERIA CONFERENCE

AUSTIN, TEXAS | APRIL 15-18, 2014

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Digging in to the Core Elements of F2S/F2P

- Procurement
- Education
- Gardening

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Procurement: Getting Started

- Are the right people in the conversation?
- Start small…and grow from there
- Understand the process
- R&D… rip off and duplicate!!
  (the resources you need likely already exist)

Procurement: Resources

- Arkansas:
  http://growhealthy.uark.edu/Procurement%20Guidance8-7-12.pdf

- New Jersey:
  http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/fn/childadult/farm_to_school.html#4

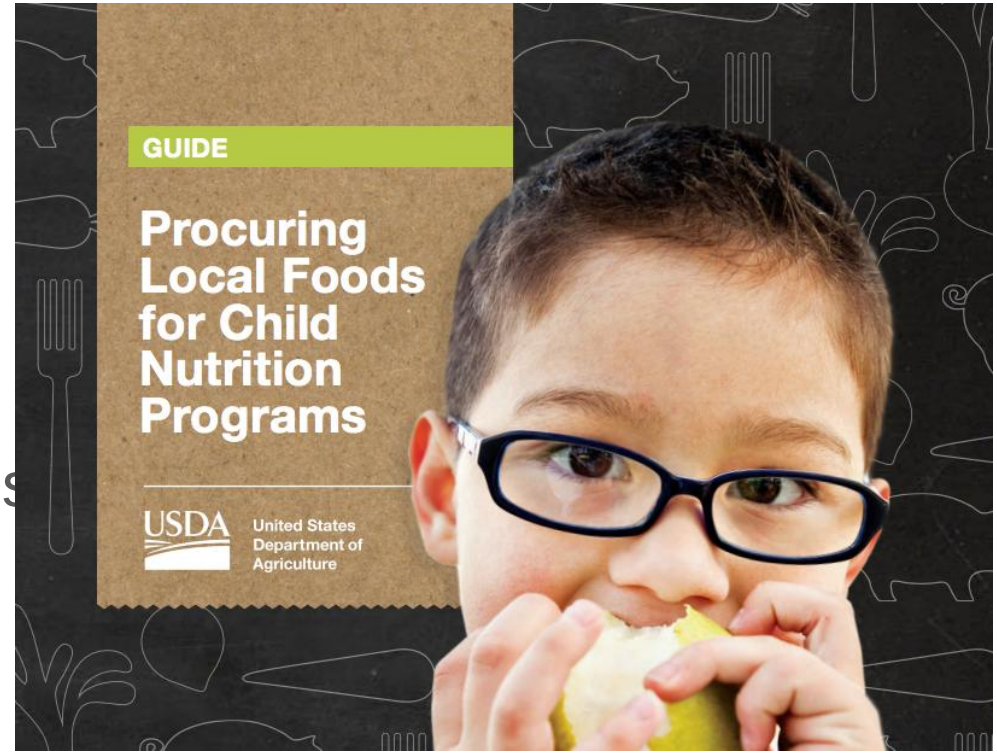
- Tennessee:
  http://www.tn.gov/agriculture/marketing/Produce_pdfs/Resourceguide.pdf

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Procurement: Resources

- USDA-Farm to School Team has created comprehensive resources on procurement with guidance on all of the regulatory considerations to make local procurement work!



NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

School Gardens: Making strong connections to healthy foods

- Grow it
- Nurture it
- Eat it!

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Starting and Maintaining a School Garden

http://www.farmtoschool.org/resources-main/starting-and-maintaining-a-school-garden-1

Other Key School Garden Resources:

- Let's Move School Garden Checklist:
  http://www.letsmove.gov/school-garden-checklist

- Lifelab: School Garden Resources for Educators
  http://www.lifelab.org/for-educators/schoolgardens/

- New Jersey Farm to School Network – School Gardens are happenin' in the Garden State!
  http://www.njfarmtoschool.org/who-we-serve/school-gardens/

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Food Education Throughout the School Environment

- Culinary education
  - Chef in the classroom!
- Nutrition education
  - FFVP – great in class opportunity
  - Connect classroom to garden
  - Taste tests
- Agriculture education
  - Farmer in the classroom
  - Farm field trips

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

F2S/F2P Strengthen Healthy Living at Home

Photo Source: Denver Urban Gardens

- Parents increase ability and interest in incorporating healthier foods into family diets.
- Increased knowledge among early care parents - of local famers' markets.
- Children asking for healthier purchases (early care).
- Cooking together
- Gardening together
- CSA participation

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Focus on: Farm to Preschool

Getting started

Key resources for farm to preschool:

- **Getting started with farm to preschool**
- **Local procurement for child care centers**
- **Local procurement for family child care providers**
- **Monthly farm to preschool e-newsletter archives**
- **Farmtopreschool.org**, maintained by the Urban and Environmental Policy Institute (UEPI) at Occidental College, a leader in the field of farm to preschool

For more information, contact:

Stacey Sobell
NFSN Farm to Preschool Specialist, based in Oregon
503-467-0751

Sustaining F2S/F2P Over Time…

- Key things to address:
  - Funding to support activities
  - Evaluation to determine impact and fine tune approaches
  - Policy at the local, state, federal levels – to remove barriers and support positive change

Funding F2S/F2P Initiatives

- Local
  - F2S activities supported through general funds, fundraising activities, community foundations
  - SAE funds – F2S activities are allowable
- State
  - States funding F2S coordinator positions, statewide F2S grant programs
- Federal
  - Many federal grant opportunities. USDA F2S Grants, Local Food Promotion Program, Specialty Crop Block Grants, CDC grants… and more.

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Evaluation for Transformation: A Cross-Sectoral Evaluation Framework for Farm to School

PRIORITY OUTCOME

Changes or benefits that result from activities and ...ts. Short-term outcomes are the most closely associa... program activities. Intermediate outcomes result fro... term outcomes. Long-term outcomes evolve fr... previous two outcomes. Most of the outcomes listed a... idered intermediate to long-term outcomes.

INDICATOR

State of a particular subsystem to help unders... performance" indicator is one that reflects ho... is working and anticipate potential breakdow...

MEASURE 1, 2, ETC.

Measures are different aspects that can help p...

ASSOCIATED CORE ELEMENTS

Procurement, gardening or education activiti...

DATA SOURCES

Recommended methods to gather, track or r...

Example summary of priority outcomes, indicators and measures at the research-level

Sector	Education			
Priority Outcome	Farm to school activities support student educational success			
Indicator(s)	1: Student readiness to learn	2: Student engagement and academic behaviors	3: Student academic mindset	4: Student academic competency gains
Measure s	1.1 Student participation in school breakfast programs when farm to school activities are conducted with breakfast	2.1 Changes in classroom attendance numbers or consistency during farm to school activity days or modules	3.1 Feeling of success at completing farm to school activities	4.1 Student content area te... scores in relation to far... to school activities used... to teach those subjects... (i.e., math, science, language arts)
		2.2 Student participation...	3.2 The degree to which...	4.2 Student course grades...

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Local	State	Federal
School wellness policies City level policy: • Los Angeles • Baltimore	**40 states and DC have supportive policies (as of 10/2014)**	Child Nutrition Reauthorization Food Safety Modernization Act Farm Bill

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Questions?

Staying Connected

Mary Stein, mary@farmtoschool.org
Deputy Director, NFSN

Find YOUR state lead at:
http://www.farmtoschool.org/our-network

Join our network: www.farmtoschool.org
Twitter: @FarmtoSchool
Facebook: http://on.fb.me/nfsnf2s