Learning Hubs & Collaboratives to Develop Regional Partnerships & Expand Farm to ECE: **Pennsylvania**

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The Food Trust helps make healthy food affordable and easy to find in **supermarkets**, **corner stores** and **farmers' markets**.

The Food Trust makes food education a priority for **children** and **adults**, encouraging health in the classroom, at home and in the community.

The Food Trust promotes wellness through **community health** and **youth leadership**, and celebrates the joy of food with **Night Market Philadelphia**.

The Food Trust connects local farmers to the people they serve through **farm to school** initiatives and **healthy food incentive** programs.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FOOD TRUST, VISIT **THEFOODTRUST.ORG**

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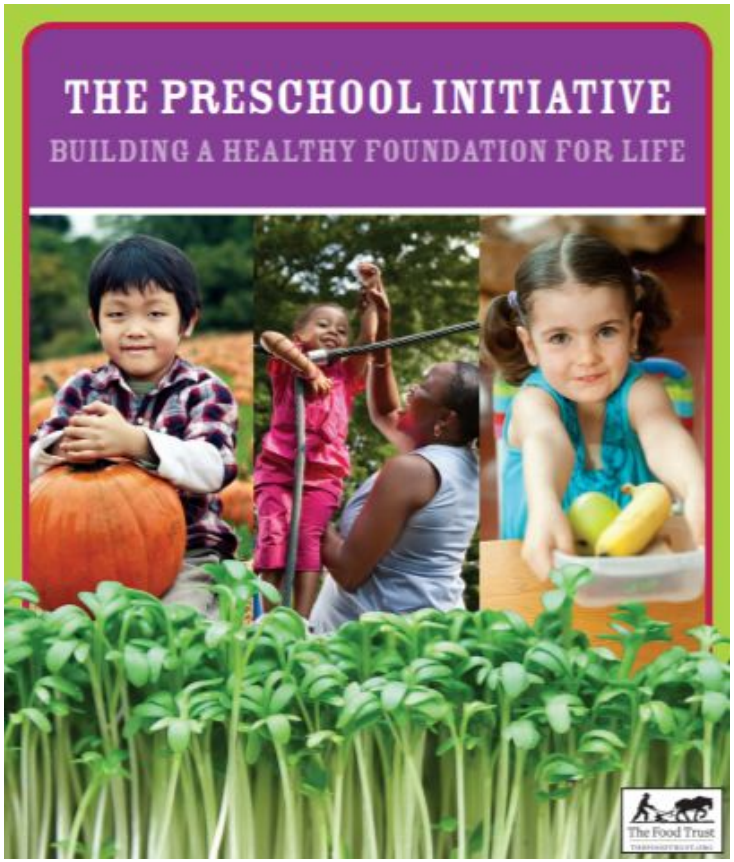
SNAP-Ed

"The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Education (SNAP-Ed)* is a federally funded grant program that supports evidence-based nutrition education and obesity prevention interventions and projects for persons eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) through complementary direct education, multi-level interventions, and community and public health approaches to improve nutrition."



https://nifa.usda.gov/program/supplemental-nutrition-education-program-education-snap-ed

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Farm to School

- Statewide & Regional Systems Change

NATIONAL FARM to SCHOOL NETWORK

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Ready, Set, Grow: Task Force

- Convened traditional task force in state capital

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Task Force Recommendations

EMERGING STRATEGIES

1
Integrate farm to ECE concepts and activities into Keystone STARS, Pennsylvania's quality rating system for early care and education providers.

2
Create a pilot incentive program for ECE providers to purchase locally and regionally grown foods for use in the federally funded Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

3
Establish a Pennsylvania mini-grant program to provide start-up or scale-up funds to ECE providers interested in making farm to ECE part of their program.

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Racial Equity Framework

- Racial Equity Learning -- deepening understanding of the history behind the false belief in a hierarchy of human value and how structural racism perpetuates historical injustices
- Wrote Framework: http://www.pareadysetgrow.org/racial-equity-framework/ Rationale for centering equity in our work
- Gathered tools & building organizational and team readiness to lead for racial equity
- Reevaluating our approach to embed equity
    - Moving beyond transactional to transformational approaches
    - Shifting resource allocation and power towards equitable change for equitable outcomes

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Advisory Boards

- Working with community members to develop local strategies for advancing Farm to ECE

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Regional Learning Collaboratives

- Build regional capacity and sustainability for supporting local foods procurement, gardening and ag education.
- Learn from varying approaches-- what works and what doesn't in different regions.
- Onramp farm to ECE stakeholders into advocacy process.

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Areas for Growth

- Shoring up the model
- Communication amongst different groups
- Evaluation!

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THANK YOU!

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