FARM TO ECE:

Sowing the Seeds for Healthy Futures in MICHIGAN!

ASPHN FARM TO ECE GRANTEE PROGRAMS

Eastern Michigan University REACH was a CABBAGE recipient working on Farm to ECE for specific populations in Southeast and Western Michigan. The Farm to Early Care and Education Capacity Building Grant (CABBAGE) was administered by the Association of State Public Health Nutritionists and funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from January 2021 to July 2023. Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) is an innovative evidence-based approach that gives young children increased exposure and access to local produce, opportunities to learn about nutrition and agriculture, and hands-on learning through gardening. ECEs refer to preschools, child care centers, family child care homes, Head Start, and more.

WHY FARM TO EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION?

According to the CDC, **1 IN 2 CHILDREN** ages 1-5 do not eat a daily vegetable and **1 IN 3 CHILDREN** ages 1-5 do not eat a daily fruit.

→ Farm to ECE **INCREASES** children's consumption of fruits and vegetables by **ONE DAILY SERVING**.

→ Farm to ECE programs can **INCREASE THE SUCCESS** of Farm to School programs by **DECREASING PLATE WASTE** by as much as **66%**.

Click here for a full list of Farm to Early Care and Education benefits.

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY REACH HAS IMPACTED:*

316 children *estimated

6 ECEs *estimated

51 ECE educators *estimated

2 local farms *estimated

THE TEAM'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Tools and Resources

PURCHASED COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA) boxes from local food producers for ECEs

PROVIDED ECEs with **GARDENING AND CLASSROOM EDUCATION SUPPLIES** to support local Farm to ECE

CREATED Farm to ECE **MATERIALS, TOOLS, AND RESOURCES** and engaged with students, educators, and parents to promote Farm to ECE

Learning Opportunities

PROVIDED TRAININGS and **TECHNICAL SUPPORT** to help ECE educators establish gardens, identify local farmers and food producers, and access and serve local foods

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"Our students are still talking about the Apple Crunch from yesterday. It was wonderful of [the CABBAGE team] to come out and provide such a great activity for our students. They loved it and we love you! Thanks for caring about our Cubs and presenting such an educational and engaging activity. [Your work is] most appreciated!"

— Michigan ECE Educator

Nourish the minds and bodies of children and families by supporting Farm to ECE!

2023-09-18

ASSOCIATION OF STATE PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITIONISTS

[tel & fax] 814.255.2829 • [web] www.asphn.org
instagram • linkedin • facebook • twitter

The Association of State Public Health Nutritionists' Farm to ECE grantee programs are supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), as one of several projects funded by cooperative agreement number NU38OT000279 (total of $6,320,000). This resource was supported by ASPHN's Farm to ECE grantee program, which is funded by the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity (DNPAO)/ National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP)/CDC/HHS. The contents of this resource are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by DNPAO/NCCDPHP/CDC/HHS, or the U.S. government.