Summary of South Dakota’s Team Nutrition Projects

Project Period 2016-2019

South Dakota Department of Education will partner with South Dakota State University Extension and other organizations to build State-wide support for healthier school environments.

Activities will include having a Healthy School Advisor provide technical assistance to schools in order to:

- increase participation in the School Breakfast Program, especially in schools with a high percentage of American Indian youth;
- increase food preparation and culinary skills through a new Power Chef Challenge program;
- increase the number of schools receiving HealthierUS School Challenge: Smarter Lunchrooms (HUSSC:SL) awards in 5 school districts;
- increase local food procurement through garden-based nutrition education activities and Farm to School initiatives;
- support Farm to School and gardening through a mentorship program using a peer mentoring model;
- and to align and leverage resources and partnerships.

They will also train 600 students in the Power Chef Challenge program. South Dakota will measure changes in students’ nutrition knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors using pre- and post-surveys, changes in the cafeteria environment using the Cornell Center for Behavioral Economics in Child Nutrition Program’s Smarter Lunchroom Scorecard, and other changes in student consumption and meal satisfaction using plate waste studies, production records, and school meal participation rates.

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