

**Food Stamp Nutrition Education National Conference:
A Vision, A Journey, A Partnership**

15-17 March 2004

Hilton Columbus – Easton Mall
Columbus Ohio

Hosted by the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Land-Grant University Partners

Conference Objectives:

- Work toward a common vision among all who are a part of Food Stamp Nutrition Education
- Share new initiatives, models and promising practices in the journey to reach more Food Stamp participants, address unmet needs in economically challenged areas, and provide effective nutrition education strategies
- Draw upon the strengths of partnerships to support Food Stamp participants' potential for change

Process:

- Presentation with Q & A – Federal highlights of current and future directions; State reporting of what this investment means locally
- Peer reviewed oral and poster presentations –Sharing of promising practices
- Topic specific training
- Facilitated discussion groups
- Subsequent posting of conference proceedings on the CSREES-FSNE website

Desired Outcomes:

- Heightened focus on Food Stamp participants as the target audience.
- Increased understanding of FNS policies, priorities and future initiatives pertaining to FSNE and increased submission of State Nutrition Education Plans that comply with FNS FSNE Guidance.
- Identification of new skills, methods, and resources to increase healthy eating and active lifestyles among FS participants in order to promote health and reduce risks of diet related diseases through nutrition education
- Increased FSNE quality, consistency, and capacity to deliver outcome based nutrition education
- Enhanced communication that supports trust based on understanding - local, state, regional, national communication within and across projects, institutions, organizations, and agencies

Invited:

- FSNE coordinators/directors and administrators; other key individuals with state level responsibilities as funds allow (Extension/Land-Grant Universities, Public Health, Food Banks, Other Cooperators)
- State Food Stamp Program representatives
- FNS representatives from regions and headquarters
- Other USDA agency representatives –ERS, ARS, CSREES
- Professional cooperating entities – SNE