State Physical Activity and Nutrition Program Recipients

Links to states in this document:

Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin

Alaska

Recipient: Alaska Department of Health and Social Services

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Erin Peterson

erin.peterson@alaska.gov

Project Overview: The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services' SPAN Program is:

- Continuing statewide nutrition and physical activity efforts in Alaska Native communities.
- Expanding state-level fruit and vegetable programs in partnership with the Alaska Food Policy Council.
- Working to improve nutrition standards for food served in Alaska Department of Corrections facilities.
- Organizing the state's first locally hosted walkability institute to help communities establish or update land use master plans that support physical activity.
- Using Go NAPSACC (Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care) and
 Breastfeeding Welcomed Here standards to support nutrition and physical activity in early care
 and education settings.
- Planning to train Village Community Based Lactation Counselors to support breastfeeding in Native Alaskan communities.

Arizona

Recipient: Arizona Department of Health Services

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Erin Raczynski

Erin.Raczynski@azdhs.gov

Project Overview: The Arizona Department of Health Services' SPAN Program is:

 Working to build nutrition and physical activity programs to improve health at the state level and in Yuma County, an area with a large Hispanic or Latino population living at or below the federal poverty level.

- Working with the Healthy Arizona Worksites Program to improve food service practices and to help promote breastfeeding support in the workplace.
- Expanding participation in Double Up Food Bucks.
- Using its Empower program, Go NAPSACC (Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care) resources, and Arizona's Farm to School Network to improve standards and systems that support nutrition and physical activity in early care and education settings.

California

Recipient: California Department of Public Health

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Erica Eilenberg

erica.eilenberg@cdph.ca.gov

Project Overview: The California Department of Public Health's SPAN program is:

- Working statewide, in high-need areas in San Francisco County and in the cities of Monterey, Alameda, San Jose, and Chico.
- Working with universities and parks and recreation sites on food service guidelines and healthy procurement.
- Working with the California Department of Food and Agriculture to advance produce prescriptions and voucher incentive efforts.
- Conducting assessments to determine priorities for community design, early care and education, and breastfeeding supports in each community.

Colorado

Recipient: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Natalya Verscheure

natalya.verscheure@state.co.us

Project Overview: The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's SPAN program is:

- Expanding statewide programs to reach underserved communities.
- Implementing food service guidelines in hospitals, the Food Bank of the Rockies, worksites, and in food service programs for children outside of school hours.
- Focusing local nutrition efforts on southeast Colorado.
- Emphasizing community design work on building capacity to implement policies, plans, and programs that align with the Active Communities Tool.
- Working to increase lactation support.
- Engaging state and local partners, such as food growers, to improve early care and education (ECE) standards and Farm to ECE programs.

Georgia

Recipient: Georgia State University Research Foundation, Inc.

Sector: University

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Chris Parker

chrisparker@gsu.edu

Project Overview: The Georgia SPAN program is:

- Working on healthier food service guidelines, procurement and promoting healthy eating research guidelines, and the Georgia Fresh for Less voucher incentive program.
- Focusing breastfeeding on worksite policy adoption.
- Engaging partners in urban and rural locations to promote community design for physical activity and capacity building that improves connectivity.
- Assessing the early care and education (ECE) landscape. The goal is the active integration of nutrition and physical activity into quality rated standards.
- Aligning the existing Georgia Farm to ECE 2021-2025 Strategic Plan with CDC's Spectrum of Opportunities.

Illinois

Recipient: Illinois Public Health Institute

Sector: Nonprofit Organization

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Janna Simon

janna.simon@iphionline.org

Project Overview: The Illinois Public Health Institute SPAN program is: '

- Convening a multisector coalition, Illinois Alliance to Promote Opportunities for Health (IAPOH),
 which helps inform and support implementing SPAN strategies and activities.
- Conducting assessments, landscape scans, and listening sessions to determine priorities, goals, and activities to implement in each SPAN strategy.
- Working at the state level and in priority regions.

Kentucky

Recipient: Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

(Connie) Gayle White

Connie.White@ky.gov

Project Overview: The Kentucky SPAN program is:

- Building on existing work to improve nutrition, physical activity, breastfeeding support, and best practices in early care and education.
- Collaborating with the University of Kentucky High Obesity Program on referrals to produce prescription programs and family healthy weight programs.
- Partnering with Feeding Kentucky to develop a food service guidelines implementation plan for food pantries.
- Working with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet on promoting and implementing active transportation.
- Supporting continuity of breastfeeding through Pilot Pacify in rural, low-income communities.
- Promoting Farm to early care and education (ECE), breastfeeding-friendly trainings, and Go
 NAPSACC (Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care) for ECE providers.

Louisiana

Recipient: Louisiana Department of Health

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Kimberly Brent

Kimberly.Brent@la.gov

Project Overview: The Louisiana SPAN program is:

- Leveraging the Well-Ahead Louisiana Healthy Communities Program to implement SPAN strategies statewide.
- Creating a Louisiana Food Policy Action Council to convene nutrition-focused partners.
- Engaging with 2023 Louisiana Walkability Action Institute teams to provide ongoing community design for physical activity technical assistance.
- Improving breastfeeding benchmarks in hospitals through Well-Ahead Louisiana.
- Using assessments to improve nutrition and physical activity benchmarks for early care and education centers through Well-Ahead Louisiana.

Michigan

Recipient: Michigan Department of Health and Human Resources

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Krystal Quartermusk

quartermusk@michigan.gov

Project Overview: The Michigan SPAN program is:

• Building on past work to implement SPAN strategies.

- Working with the Michigan Farmers Market Association to expand the Statewide Produce Prescription Learning Network and to increase participation in Double Up Food Bucks.
- Working with community and statewide partners to increase workplace and community lactation support and to improve nutrition standards in statewide early care and education systems.

Local food policy councils are assisting with local community food assessments. Six regional Walkability Action Institute teams will develop and implement plans for walkable and bikeable communities.

Missouri

Recipient: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Karen Wallace

karen.wallace@health.mo.gov

Project Overview: The Missouri SPAN program is:

- Continuing previous work and expanding its reach.
- Conducting community needs assessments for food security, health equity, and cultural food preferences.
- Expanding fruit and vegetable incentive and prescription programs throughout St. Louis and southeast Missouri.
- Building relationships with key partners for Safe Routes to Parks and Complete Streets implementation.
- Partnering with doula organizations to offer breastfeeding training and mentorship and is working to enable more people to become international board-certified lactation consultants.
- Aligning early care and education (ECE) program standards with the Caring for Our Children national standards.
- Continuing Farm to ECE efforts from the previous SPAN program.

New York

Recipient: New York State Department of Health/Health Research, Inc.

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Maureen Spence

maureen.spence@health.ny.gov

Project Overview: The New York State Department of Health is:

- Expanding its previous SPAN work statewide.
- Planning to work with Special Olympics New York to review its nutrition guidelines and to implement improved nutrition standards.

- Focusing community design activities on the New York State Department of Transportation Active Transportation Strategic Plan process.
- Expanding its Breastfeeding/Lactation Friendly New York Practice Designation program to support health care providers. This will increase breastfeeding continuity of care.
- Providing training and technical assistance in the early care and education (ECE) setting on components of Farm to ECE and outdoor learning environments.

North Carolina

Recipient: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Tish Singletary

<u>Tish.singletary@dhhs.nc.gov</u>

Project Overview: The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is:

- Working with local and state partners to implement SPAN strategies and promote healthy behaviors.
- Partnering with the North Carolina State University High Obesity Program to develop healthy and culturally appropriate produce prescription boxes.
- Offering a Healthy Food Access Pantry Training Program to guide food pantries in increasing healthy food access for their neighbors.
- Developing a breastfeeding curriculum and expanding donor milk programs.
- Providing technical assistance for early care and education (ECE) sites related to Farm to ECE and outdoor learning environments.
- Planning to work across state agencies to examine and promote a "health in all policies" approach to increase access to activity-friendly routes.

Ohio

Recipient: Ohio Department of Health

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Julia Hansel

julia.hansel@odh.ohio.gov

Project Overview: The Ohio Department of Health's SPAN program is:

- Working statewide, collaborating with local communities, the Ohio Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health program, and the Ohio High Obesity Program.
- Working with other Ohio state agencies to implement healthier vending and food service guidelines.
- Working with Produce Perks Midwest and other statewide partners to address fruit and vegetable voucher incentives and produce prescriptions.

- Working with the Ohio Department of Transportation to align physical activity priorities under Ohio's Active Transportation Plan: Walk. Bike. Ohio.
- Working with local agencies on workplace lactation accommodation and lactation education.
- Assisting early care and education (ECE) programs to achieve the Ohio Healthy Programs designation.
- Focusing on ECE and out-of-school time programs that help to create healthy habits, menus, policies, and family engagements to address childhood obesity.
- Incorporating Farm to ECE in trainings.

Rhode Island

Recipient: Rhode Island Department of Health

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Nancy Sutton

Nancy.Sutton@health.ri.gov

Project Overview: The Rhode Island Department of Health is:

- Aligning SPAN activities with its Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Program infrastructure.
- Partnering with state agencies to update food service policies and re-evaluating their local Master Price Agreement.
- Streamlining five long-running Fruit and Vegetable Voucher Incentive programs.
- Expanding the Rhode Island Streets Transformation Project to promote urban demonstration projects.
- Updating and implementing its Breastfeeding Strategic Plan with state and local partners. They
 will update Rhode Island's early care and education (ECE) regulations and provide technical
 assistance to assist ECE providers with implementing the regulations.

Texas

Recipient: Texas Department of State Health Services

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Nimisha Bhakta

nimisha.bhakta@dshs.state.tx.us

Project Overview: The Texas Department of State Health Services Obesity Prevention Program is working with partners to implement SPAN strategies through the Texas Physical Activity and Nutrition Project (TPAN). TPAN is:

- Working with the public health departments of San Patricio County, Abilene-Taylor County, Northeast Texas, and the Office of Border Region 8 on local efforts.
- Helping Texas food banks and worksites adopt and implement Healthy Eating Research guidelines.
- Using the Feeding Texas program to review and pilot produce prescription models.

- Identifying state agencies to work toward achieving Texas Mother-Friendly Worksite Program designation to recognize worksites supportive of breastfeeding.
- Working with Texas A&M Agrilife Extension to provide technical assistance on local physical activity strategy activities.
- Continuing work with OLE! Texas to improve outdoor learning environments in early care and education settings.

Utah

Recipient: Utah Department of Health

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Karlee Walker

karleewalker@utah.gov

Project Overview: The Utah Department of Health and Human Services, Healthy Environments Active Living Program is:

- Working with the state's 13 local health departments to expand existing programs. These
 programs include Eat Well Utah, a food service guidelines initiative, Double Up Food Bucks, and
 Produce Rx to improve food security.
- Promoting the Teaching Obesity Prevention in Early Child Care and Education Settings program (TOP Star) across the state into Hispanic and Latino communities and into rural areas.
- Working with several partners on Farm to ECE activities. These partners include Utah Farm to Fork, Utah State Extension, and the Association of State Public Health Nutritionists, .
- Working with the Stepping Up for Utah Babies program to guide participating hospitals through implementing the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding.
- Working with transportation and recreation partners to support improvements in safe and accessible routes to everyday destinations through data, toolkits, and perspectives.

Wisconsin

Recipient: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Sector: Health Department

Principal Investigator Contact Information:

Mary Pesik

mary.pesik@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Project Overview: The Wisconsin Department of Health Services' SPAN program is:

- Leading statewide efforts, focusing on six high need counties, the City of Milwaukee, and tribal communities.
- Adopting food service guidelines in the charitable food system.
- Partnering with the Great Lakes Intertribal Food Coalition on food service guidelines and produce prescription boxes.

- Promoting workplace lactation accommodations as well as continuity of care with the Native Breastfeeding Coalition of Wisconsin.
- Conducting a landscape assessment of local policies, community design guidance, and other active transportation related plans to inform statewide work and an action plan.
- Providing recommendations to improve nutrition, physical activity, and breastfeeding for early care and education (ECE) best practices and are continuing to support expansion of Farm to ECE.