

## **Noteworthy initiatives in Orange County**

### **Partnerships between SNAP-Ed and Social Services agencies**

SNAP-Ed activities have been implemented in coordination with Orange County's Social Service Agency (SSA) for more than 15 years. Currently, all the CalFresh offices have display cases and/or acrylic displays (CFORK) and nutrition materials are provided on a quarterly basis. Nutrition education is provided monthly at the larger CalFresh offices. Individuals in the waiting area can visit the nutrition booth or participate in 15-20 minute classes. NEOP recently started training CalFresh staff on MyPlate and other topics. SSA is a key member in the County Nutrition Action Plan (CNAP) workgroup and NEOP works to support CalFresh and CalFresh outreach activities.

### **Healthy Meals, Healthy Families Adult 5-session nutrition education curriculum**

Since adults are responsible for the majority of family meals, Orange County (OC) has focused significant efforts on providing nutrition education to this group. A series of five lessons was developed and refined for more than six years. Impact/Outcome Evaluation (IOE) was conducted to ensure the lessons were effective in making the desired behavior changes. In 2014, IOE results showed statistically significant improvements were achieved in 22 of 23 target behaviors associated with the mandated Food Behavior Checklist (FBC) and four additional questions (n=173 matched). A class summary table shows how the interactive lessons link to the Dietary Guidelines, address the questions on the surveys and use USDA and NEOP resources.

### **Champion Moms initiative**

Orange County (OC) has been actively supporting the Champion Mom initiative for over 8 years. NEOP staff convene the "Parents for Healthy Neighborhoods" workgroup meetings to coordinate parent nutrition education and advocacy efforts being conducted by multiple local partners throughout OC. Each year, parent leaders in the community are nominated for their achievements and many become recognized Champion Moms. The workgroup mentors the Moms by providing workshops, newsletters, resources and more. The Moms then participate in school and community nutrition-related activities and subsequently advocate for improved access to nutritious, affordable food and active neighborhoods. The project has grown each year and is now supported by many local partners. As of 2015, OC is proud to report there are currently 75 recognized Champion Moms serving 12 cities in the county.

### **Internal management tools for program and activities tracking**

Orange County has developed various administrative forms and surveys to help document NEOP activities, track progress and evaluate efforts conducted by the LHD and its subgrantees. An Activity Report Form (ARF) is used to gather the information needed to complete the online Activity Tracking Form (ATF) and organize supporting file documents. A PSE tracking form was developed then customized for each of the five PSE areas identified in the OC Work Plan. This form helps collect the information needed to complete the RE-AIM report and aids in planning, coordinating and monitoring progress at each targeted site. Partnership agreement forms are used for early childhood, worksite, faith-based and retail efforts to help define expectations. In addition to Impact/Outcome Evaluation

(IOE), OC uses a variety of internal surveys to assess needs, satisfaction with services, effectiveness, equity among subgrantees and opportunities for improvement.

For more information regarding these initiatives, please contact:

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