Improving Food Security and Access: Collaborations and Partnerships

Iowa Hunger Summit

October 15, 2013
Who the Academy Is

Founded in 1917 to improve health and conserve food during World War I

Today: 75,000+ members
Trends in Food Insecurity

Trends in prevalence rates of food insecurity and very low food security in U.S. households, 1995-2011

Prevalence rates for 1996 and 1997 were adjusted for the estimated effects of differences in data collection screening protocols used in those years.

Source: Calculated by ERS based on Current Population Survey Food Security Supplemental data.

Prevalence of food insecurity, average 2009-11

Source: Calculated by ERS based on Current Population Survey Food Security Supplemental data.
Harsh Reality of Hunger

- 1 in 5 children at risk
- 1 in 12 older adults
- Negative outcomes include physical impairments, psychological suffering, socio-familial disturbances
- Nearly 1 in 3 adults: experience with or concern about lack of food
- 1 in 10 adults went without basic need to provide food for family member
Future of Food in 21st Century

Academy co-sponsored conference

New collaboration to address food insecurity

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Joins New National Initiative To End Hunger and Achieve Food Security

By Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

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CHICAGO, June 14, 2012 -- /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly the American Dietetic Association) has joined a new nationwide initiative designed to help families obtain adequate amounts of healthful food and reduce the levels of “food insecurity” in the United States.

The new collaboration brings together health professionals including registered dietitians, the agriculture and food production industry, and hunger relief professionals.

“We are proud to support initiatives that combat hunger and malnutrition, produce food security, promote self-sufficiency, educate consumers and health professionals alike, and are environmentally and economically sustainable,” said registered dietitian and Academy President Ethan A. Bergman.
3 Key Pillars of Partnership

49,000 dairy farmers support 100 years of experience in nutrition
Research and education
Diverse group of stakeholders

Largest domestic hunger relief org
Provides access to 37 million meals each year

Largest organization of food and nutrition pros
Goals of the Partnership

- Raise awareness about food insecurity as public health issue
- Identify strategies and secure resources to change mix of food flowing through food banking network; increase access to nutrient-rich foods
- Build and support nutrition capacity and nutrition education within Feeding America network
Future of Food Forum 2013

Partners collective commitment and partnerships’ progress

- Food bank member grants
- DC Central Kitchen youth educational session
- Virtual food drive
Future of Food Webinars

- **February**: Hungry and Overweight: How is it Possible?
- **March**: Contributors and Effects of Food Insecurity: Nutrition and Beyond
- **April**: School Meals and Community Partnerships: Creative Solutions against Food Insecurity
- **May**: Point A to Point B: Improving Access to Healthy Foods in Food Banks
- **June**: A Flavorful Pairing: Nutrition Education in Food Banks
- **July**: Ready, Set, Go: Unveiling Access to Quality Nutrition Education Resources

[www.eatright.org/foundation/kidseatright](http://www.eatright.org/foundation/kidseatright)
Funds to Fight Hunger

- First nutrition initiative grants of $10,000
- To 10 food banks within Feeding America network
- Support nutrition education and increased access to dairy products, other in-demand nutrient-rich foods.
“Give Good with Dairy”

Launched June 2013 to increase access to nutrient-rich foods at local food banks
Best Choices...

... within available resources
Food Security Always on the Radar

To avoid very low food security, households will:

- Eat a less varied diet
- Participate in federal food and nutrition assistance programs
- Obtain emergency food from food pantries, emergency kitchens, shelters
Food Assistance Choices

74% government
53% family
53% food bank
38% church or place of worship
35% neighbor or friend
21% community garden
Food Security: Research Priority

One of the Academy’s core research priorities:

“Safe and secure and sustainable food supply.”
Food Security: Policy Priority

In Washington, D.C., and states

Federal and non-federal food and nutrition programs

Community-based Programs
Historic Legislation

Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act

Support for school nutrition directors to make significant changes in school meals
Older Americans Act

- Needs to be reauthorized by Congress
- Largest programs within Act are nutrition-focused
- Members lead programs at the state and local levels
- Cost savings to keep older adults independent
- Full funding to strengthen programs
- Support for qualified RD staff at all levels
Local Community Initiatives

- Green carts
- Corner store initiatives
- Seniors’ access to WIC farmers’ markets
- Healthy food financing efforts to bring grocers to low-income areas
- Nutrition education through SNAP-Ed, Cooking Matters, other nonprofit programs
- Articles in anti-hunger journals, including *Journal of Hunger and Environmental Nutrition*
- State and local food policy councils
- Food banks and food pantries
Academy Position Papers

- Addressing World Hunger, Malnutrition and Food Insecurity
- Food Insecurity in the United States
- Food and Water Safety
- Food and Nutrition Programs for Community-Residing Older Adults
- Child and Adolescent Nutrition Assistance Programs
- Local Support for Nutrition Integrity in Schools
Hunger in Focus

Hunger and Environmental Nutrition (HEN) DPG

Promotes optimal nutrition and well-being, acknowledging the interdependence of food and water security, health, agriculture and the environment

www.HENdpg.org
Ethan A. Bergman
PhD, RDN, FADA, CD
Immediate Past President
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Thank you!

Questions?