

#### Montana's Smarter Lunchrooms Projects



2016 Montana Team Nutrition Training Grant October 19, 2018 Molly Stenberg, RDN

### + S.L. Intervention in 10 Schools

- Schools picked strategies to specifically promote fruits and vegetables.
- Encouraged to try new recipes.
- Encouraged to create a School Lunch Advisory Council (SLAC) to engage students with the Let's Eat Guide
- Many enhanced their salad bars.
- Many improved lunchroom atmosphere.
- Montana School Health Program provided each school with:
  - a MyPlate menu board
  - 1-2 black wire fruit dispensers
  - a digital scale for data collection
  - \$500 sub-grant







### + Success Stories from Montana Lunchrooms– Alder School

#### BEFORE





AFTER

#### + Success Stories from Montana Lunchrooms– Alder School



Renata Nichols, Alder School "It's always helpful to be open to new ideas and have fresh eyes check on your "proven" .... things !! "

### + Success Stories from Montana Lunchrooms– Gardiner School





#### SIMPLE LABELING!



#### + Success Stories from Montana Lunchrooms– Gardiner School

A RAINBOW ON THE SALAD BAR!



#### + Success Stories from Montana Lunchrooms– Somers Middle School

#### INVITING COLOR AND CONVENIENT





### + Success Stories from Montana Lunchrooms– Gallatin Gateway School



#### + Potomac School's simple strategies



Colorful veggies and fruits are easy to see on the service line!



# Hamilton High School enhances salad bar

PRE- clear trays

POST – black trays



Which salad bar is more appealing to you?

## EVALUATION RESULTS – COMBINED VEGETABLE GROUPS FOR 10 MONTANA SCHOOLS

PERCENT SELECTED: Red/Orange, Dark Green, Beans/Peas/Legumes



Percent selected was calculated by dividing ounces of food served by ounces of food available on the service line. There was a significant increase in selection of ounces of Red/Orange, Dark Green, and Beans/Peas/Legumes COMBINED across 10 schools in Montana Smarter Lunchrooms intervention. Selection increased from 66% to 73% of amount of ounces selected on service line. This was a significant increase at P < .05.

## EVALUATION RESULTS INDIVIDUAL VEGETABLE GROUPS FOR 10 MONTANA SCHOOLS



Percent selected was calculated by dividing ounces of food served by ounces of food available on the service line. There was a significant increase in selection of ounces of Red/Orange, Dark Green, and Beans/Peas/Legumes INDIVIDUALLY across 10 schools in Montana Smarter Lunchrooms intervention. Selection increased an average of 8.3% of amount of ounces selected on service line across these groups. This was a significant increase at P < .05.

#### + Successful Outcomes

- ✓ Each school increased their Smarter Lunchrooms
  Scorecard Score
  - Highest increase was 12 points.
  - ✓ Average increase was 3.7 points.
- ✓ 3 of the 10 schools increased average daily participation in lunch program.



- ✓ Enhanced lunchroom environment and engaged students.
- ✓ Included Smarter Lunchrooms discussion in School
  Wellness Committee Meetings





Verifying accuracy of production records and data sheets

 Data is only as accurate as is initially documented or not! (non-reported data)

Suggestions:

- Provide training on production records and data collection
- Stay current with reviewing data sheets upon submission.



Jay Stagg, Whitefish Schools *"It was valuable to see how much product we put out; and then brought back in."* 



Complete DAILY during each week of data collection.				Total number of student meals: Number of students at salad bar:		
DATE: Name of staff collecting data:	SCHOOL:			Total number of adult meals: Number of adults at salad bar:		
Vegetables: Dark Green Main line:	Total amount placed on service line by weight Quantity Prep number (# of servings, pounds, cans)	Serving size of one Individual portion	Weight of one Individual portion	any extra	amount left over by weight	Total prepared + any food added – leftover = amount of food selected
Salad bar:						
Other: (grab and go, a la carte)						
Vegetables: Red Orange Main line:						
Salad bar:						
Other: (grab and go, a la carte)						

## + Resources to share

Resources used in this project:

- Smarter Lunchrooms Recipe list
- Veg. subgroup data collection sheet
- Let's Eat Engaging Students in Smarter Lunchrooms

NEW resources (under development):

- > Eat the Rainbow Salad Bar Best Practices Checklist
- > Breakfast Boosts Brainpower A Smarter Breakfast Scorecard



### **Next Steps**

- Consider sustainability of the strategies selected.
- Seek partners to help school food service managers students, staff, community members, SNAP Educators.
- Share your state's specific successes Peer to Peer what works in your schools is powerful and persuasive!





Kalispell – Cornelius Hedges Elementary

## + Questions?





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