# The Power of Youth Voice in Nutrition Security

Implementing an Active Youth Presence in NIFA Programs



Presented by the Youth Delegates of the 2022 National 4 -H Conference Prioritizing Nutrition Security Roundtable

Moderated by Kate McHale, Cornell University, 4 - H Collegiate Facilitator

August 23, 2022

# Meet the Team

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#### **NIFA Nutrition Security Webinar Series**

#### **Selected editions include:**

- GusNIP Overview
- Internship Perspectives
- The Role of RDNs
- Cooperative Extension's National Framework for Health Equity and Well-Being
- Strengthening our Intersections between Climate Change, Food Systems, and Nutrition Security
- Prioritizing Nutrition Security: Emerging Approaches in Research and Practice
- NIFA Elevates Youth and Families

https://nifa.usda.gov/program/nifa-nutrition-security-webinar-series



How can NIFA better integrate youth voice into its efforts to prioritize nutrition security?





We believe that NIFA can better integrate youth voice into its work to prioritize nutrition security by creating a national youth committee, that would oversee state and local committees that will reach youth through community outreach , education , and involvement .



#### National Youth Committee

- Would work directly with NIFA
- Evaluate existing nutrition security programs
- Oversee state and local branch operations
- Provide online educational resources
- Promote youth voice



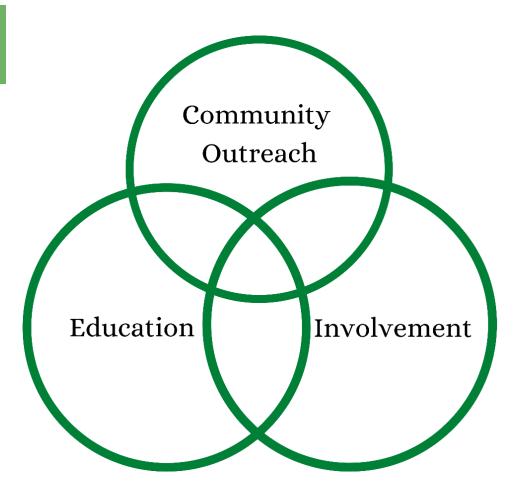
#### Purpose of State Committees

- Address specific state issues
- Bridge between local and national
- Use 4-H to spread awareness
- Social media campaigns
- Addressing educational policy



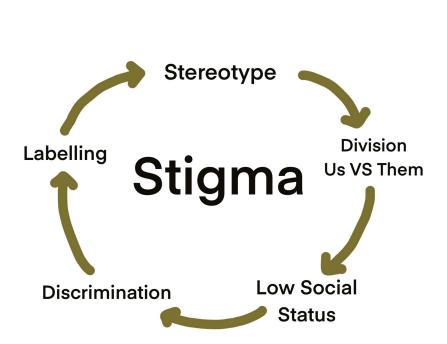
# Local Level

The 3 Components of our Curriculum



# Community Outreach





#### Eliminating Stigma Associated With Nutrition Insecurity

- Identify social disgrace
- Find ways to increase dignity
- Spread awareness



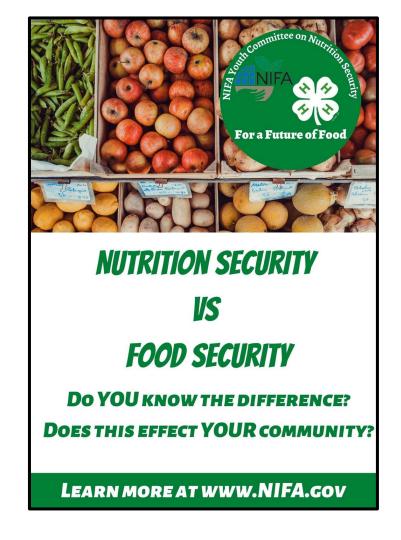
#### **Promotion**

- Connecting with community
- Spread news
  - Advertisement
  - Provide information within schools
- Extending resources from existing programs



#### Social Media

- Spreading information
- Advertising education
- Reaching more youth





#### **Social Awareness**

- Addressing the age gap
- Defining the regions
- Spreading the information

# Education



#### **Basic Nutrition**

- Addressing Elementary
- Targeting Teenagers
- School Lunch
- Informing Adults

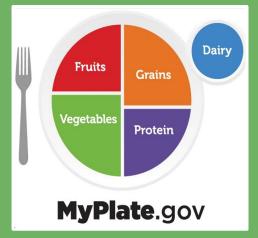


#### Teen Teaching

- Intracurricular
  - Teach elementary and middle schoolers
- Extracurricular
  - Teach to food deserts/underrepresented communities









#### Self - Sufficiency

- Developing independence in communities
- Having the knowledge to make healthy choices
- Examples would be programs on container gardening, the farm-totable initiative, and other school programs



# Involvement





#### Volunteering & Recruitment

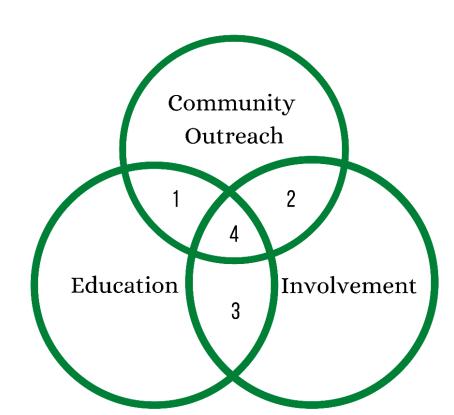
- Volunteer Opportunities
  - Volunteering at food shelters
  - Creating community gardens
  - Hosting food drives
- Recruitment
  - O Going into classrooms/promoting at school
  - Reach out to 4-H local clubs and other organizations
  - Organize a youth service advisory council and post volunteer opportunities online





#### Youth Leadership

- Youth become inspired to get involved and be leaders in their own communities
- Students learn how they can be the example
- Students can learn that leadership can be fun



- 1. Awareness, Eliminating Stigma
- 2. Volunteering/Recruitment, Community Gardens
- 3. Teens Teaching Teens, Youth Leadership
- 4. Creating awareness and unity among youth through nutrition mindfulness and advocacy

#### In Conclusion

- A national youth committee could encourage further progress and collaboration between parties interested in increasing nutrition security
- Giving youth and their communities the tools to succeed through education, empowerment, and engagement

### Thank You!

# Promising New Measures to Assess Aspects of the Food Insecurity Experience



Eric Calloway, PhD, Leah Carpenter, MPH, Tony Gargano, MPH, Julia Sharp, PHD, Amy Yaroch, PHD

Webinar Date: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 at 1 to 2 pm ET (Save the Date Forthcoming)

Questions about the measures: ecalloway@centerfornutrition.org

<u>URL</u>: www.centerfornutrition.org/food-insecurity-measures [NOTE: currently under construction]

Household Resilience Measures of the factors that make a household resilient to household-level financial shocks (e.g., job loss, high unexpected bills) that are risk factors for food insecurity.

Perceived Availability, utilization, stability

Measures of household perceptions of food availability, barriers to making a healthful meal, and time component of food security.

Nutrition Security & Dietary Choice

Measures of household ability to acquire foods that are good for their health and well-being and meet preferences.