USDA Food and Nutrition Service

2021 Agricultural Outlook Forum

Building on Innovation: A Pathway to Resilience

American Agriculture, Nutrition, and Community Connection

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All FNS programs ultimately connect back to American agriculture. USDA research has shown that both SNAP and WIC directly contribute to farm incomes and therefore rural economies. In addition, SNAP & WIC program participants can purchase locally grown foods at Farmers Markets - a direct and considerable positive impact for local farmers and local economies.

Instead of simply measuring success in pounds or dollars, we have reframed how we view the effective delivery of our programs to focusing on how FNS programs can holistically meet participant needs. This effort is about helping individuals and families take one step forward each day to be better off than the day before.

By ensuring that our programs are delivered through a human-centered approach that meets participants where they are, providing not only access to adequate nutrition, but the education and guidance they need to put them on the pathway to sustainable independence and positive health outcomes, our programs inspiring hope for a brighter, more secure future.

That’s an underlying message in our 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines – we want to help all Americans move forward in dietary health by helping them “start simple” and learn how to “make every bite count.”