



NATIONAL
FARM to SCHOOL
NETWORK

Growing Stronger Together

Food, Health and Equity: Delivering on What Communities Want:

BUILDING LOCAL HEALTH AND EQUITY THROUGH FEDERAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE POLICY

American Public Health Association Annual Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana
November 2014

CORE ELEMENTS OF **FARM to SCHOOL**



National Farm to School Network is a hub for:

Information

Networking

Advocacy

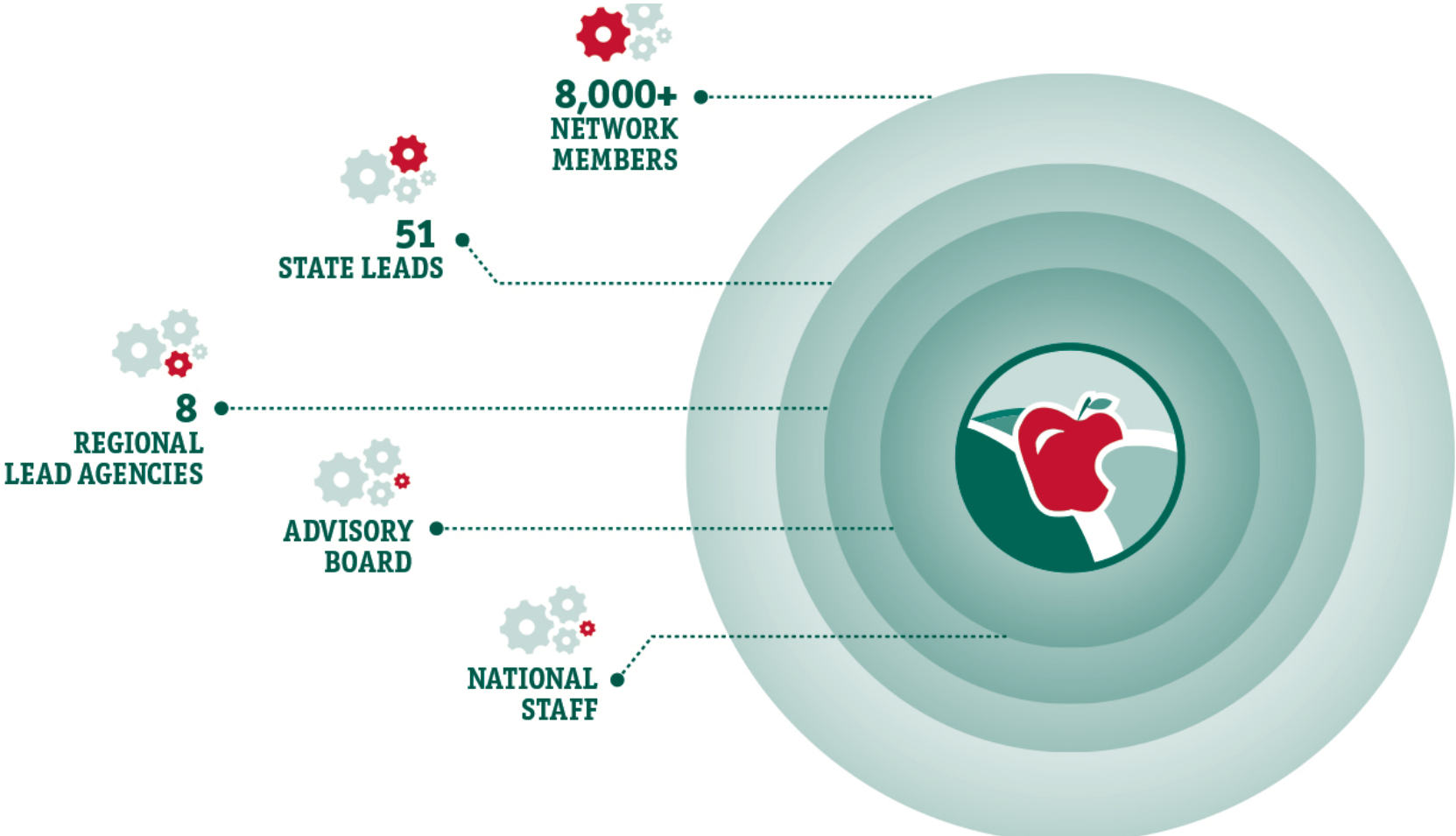
Connecting people to:

Resources

People

Policy

National Farm to School Network



NFSN Regional Lead Agencies

Northeast, VT FEED – Shelburne Farms

Mid-Atlantic, The Food Trust

South, Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group

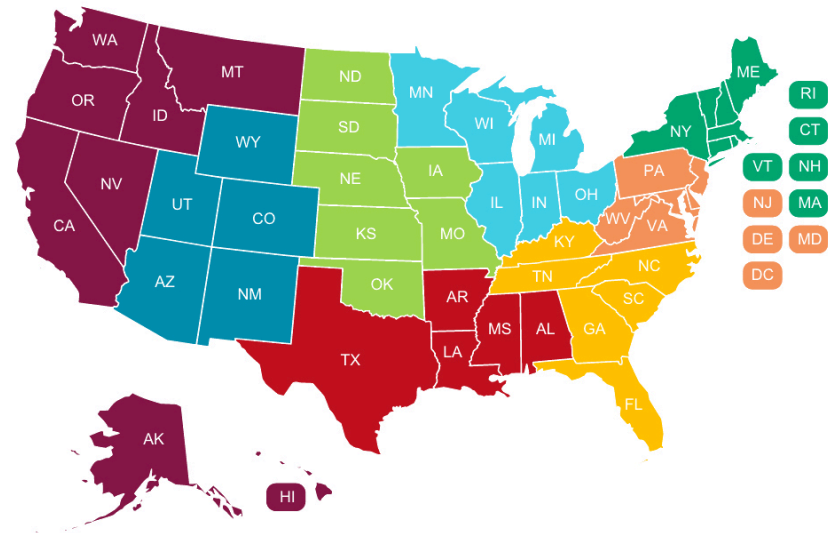
Southeast, Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project

Great Lakes, University of Wisconsin – CIAS

Midwest, National Center for Appropriate Technology

Southwest, Farm to Table/Southwest Marketing Network

West, Ecotrust



Why farm to school?



Kids WIN



Farmers WIN



Communities WIN



THE BENEFITS OF FARM TO SCHOOL

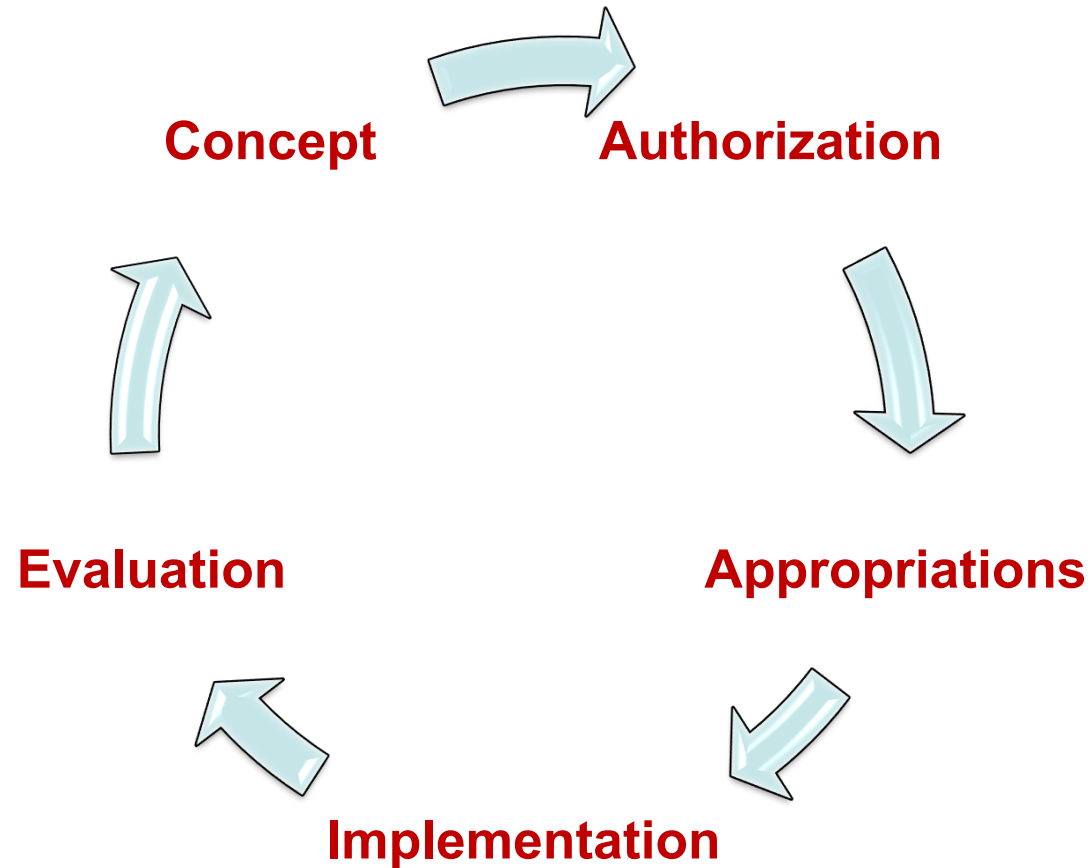
NFSN's Signature Events



**7TH NATIONAL
FARM TO CAFETERIA CONFERENCE**
AUSTIN, TEXAS | APRIL 15-18, 2014



The Policy Process



Child Nutrition Reauthorization

- Reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Act is abbreviated as CNR: Child Nutrition Reauthorization
- Includes federal school meal and child nutrition programs
- Current bill (the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010) expires on September 30, 2015
- Authorizing committees:
 - Senate Committee for Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
 - House Education and the Workforce Committee

CNR Background and History



photo credit: USDA Farm to School

- 1946 School lunch program
- 1966 Expands school lunch, adds breakfast
- 1972 WIC pilot established
- 1992 WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- 1994 Dietary Guidelines for Americans
- 2010 Nutrition standards and Farm to School Grant Program

National Farm to School Network – Growing Stronger Together

CNR Programs



- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
 - Farm to School Grant Program
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Afterschool Snack and Meals Program
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
 - WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (WIC FMNP)

CNR 2010

- New nutrition standards, and more money for school lunches
- Support for USDA Farm to School Grants
 - Provides \$5 million in annual mandatory funding
 - First two years of the program (FY13 and FY14):
 - 139 grants awarded (718 applications)
 - 15,200 schools involved
 - 4.55 million students reached

Farm Bill

Source: ERS.



- Current bill is the Agricultural Act of 2014
- Nearly 80% of the bill's cost is for SNAP
- Authorizing committees:
 - Senate Committee for Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
 - House Agriculture Committee

Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act

- Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act (“marker bill” for the farm bill)
- Endorsed by over 300 organizations
- Provisions included:
 - Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program
 - Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentives (FINI)

Partners and Coalitions



- National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity (NANA) Coalition, convened by Center for Science in the Public Interest
- Food Policy Working Group, convened by Feeding America, Bread for the World, and Public Health Institute
- Child Nutrition Forum, convened by Food Research and Action Center (FRAC)
- Getting Our Act Together on the Farm Bill (GOAT), convened by Rural Coalition and Community Food Justice Coalition
- Good Food for All collaborative, convened by Union of Concerned Scientists

State Farm to School Policy





Staying Engaged

Helen Dombalis, Policy and Strategic Partnerships Director

helen@farmtoschool.org

Join our network: www.farmtoschool.org

Twitter: @FarmtoSchool

Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/nfsnf2s>