

# Child Nutrition Reauthorization 101: The Basics



# The Basics



- Every 5 years, Congress reauthorizes the federal child nutrition programs
- These Programs include:
  - National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
  - School Breakfast Program (SBP)
  - Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
  - Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
  - Afterschool Snack and Meal Program
  - Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
  - Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)

# Who Benefits from the CN Programs?



- According to the latest USDA data, 15.8 million (21.6 percent) children lived in households facing a constant struggle against hunger.
  - In 2012, 16.1 million children, or 21.8 percent of all children under age 18, lived in poverty.
  - In 2012, 10.8 million low-income children received free or reduced-price breakfast and 20.8 million low-income children received free or reduced-price lunches.
  - In 2013, 2.96 million low-income children received summer meals.
  - In 2013, 8.66 million women, infants and children participated in WIC.
  - In 2013, CACFP provided meals to 3.5 million children each day.
  - In 2010, 1.4 million students participated in the FFVP.

# Good Health -Long Lasting Benefits of Child Nutrition Programs



- Adequate food and nutrition is the foundation for a healthy productive life
- Impacts of malnutrition-
  - Inadequate diet quality and/or quantity of food impacts health and well-being through the lifecycle -
    - Low birth weight
    - Diminished immune function
    - Developmental and emotional growth
    - Educational attainment

# Good Health - Long Lasting Benefits of Child Nutrition Programs



- Impacts of malnutrition continued...
  - Malnourished children have greater odds of being hospitalized
  - Decreased earning power of malnourished children
  - Chronic disease, typically found in adults like diabetes, are on the rise in children
  - High health care costs throughout life

# The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010



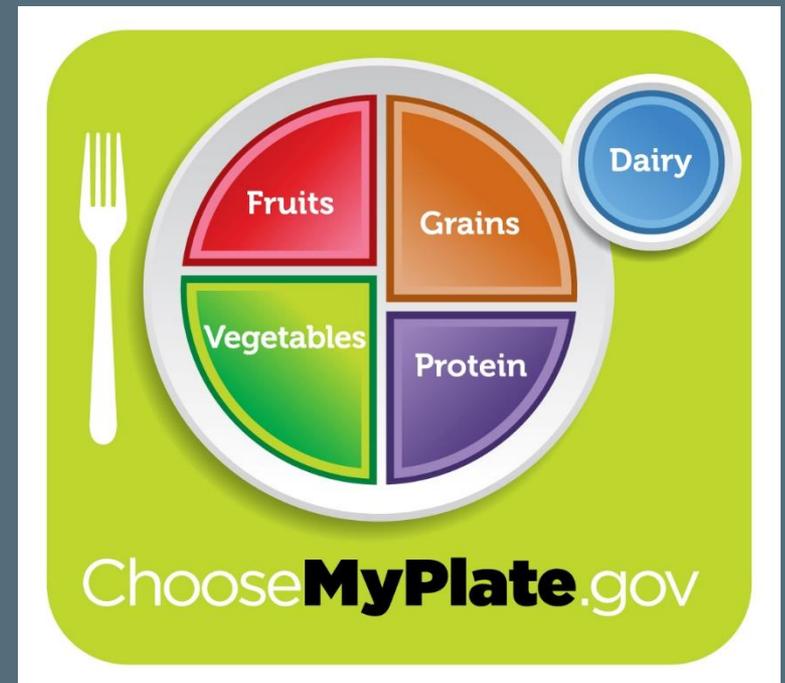
- President Obama signed into law ‘The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act’ on December 14, 2010.

The bill:

- Expanded the Afterschool Meal Program to all 50 states
- Enhanced the nutritional quality of food served in school-based and preschool settings.
  - Added a six cent increase in the federal reimbursement rate for each school lunch served in schools that meet updated nutrition standards.
- Established Community Eligibility
- Supported Summer Food expansion
- Mandated WIC electronic benefit transfer (EBT) implementation nationwide
- Improved area eligibility rules so more family child care homes can use the CACFP program

# Importance of Nutrition Standards

- USDA implements the law
- Nutrition standards are based on scientific review
  - Institute of Medicine
  - Dietary Guidelines for Americans



# Committee Jurisdiction



- House Education and the Workforce Committee

- Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education  
*Chairman: Rep. John Kline (R-MN)*  
*Ranking Member: Rep. George Miller (D-CA)*

- Senate Agriculture Committee

- Subcommittee on Nutrition on Food Assistance, Sustainable and Organic Agriculture  
*Chairwoman: Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)*  
*Ranking Member: Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS)*



# The Big Picture

(and a few dates to pencil in)



## SUMMER 2014

Advocacy efforts on CNR 2015 kickoff!

Members of Congress visit child nutrition sites

Advocates work to protect school meal nutrition standards and WIC in Ag. Appropriations

## November 4, 2014

Election Day

## February/March 2015

President Submits FY 2016 Budget Proposal to Congress, includes CNR framework

## March 1-3, 2015

National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference (DC)

## September 30, 2015

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act expires

# FRAC's Approach to Child Nutrition Reauthorization



1. Do no harm.
2. Increase access to the child nutrition programs to ensure that low-income children have access to healthy and nutritious foods in school based, preschool & child care, and out of school time settings.
3. Make the child nutrition programs easier to operate for sponsors and providers.

# Legislative Proposals



## Summer Meals Act

*Sponsors: Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) & Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)*

Expands access to summer meals.

[Companion legislation expected in the House shortly]

## Stop Child Summer Hunger Act of 2014 ([S. 2366](#))

*Sponsor: Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)*

Families who have children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals will receive an EBT card to purchase food to replace the meals that the children would otherwise be receiving at school.

# Legislative Proposals



## Expand School Meals Act of 2014 ([S.2248](#))

*Sponsor: Sen. Al Franken (D-MN)*

Eliminates the reduced-price category for school meals—increasing the number of children eligible for free school meals.

## Helping Hungry Students Learn Act ([H.R. 4249](#))

*Sponsor: Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV)*

365 day approach to addressing childhood hunger on school days, during the summer, and on weekends.



# Legislative Proposals Under Development



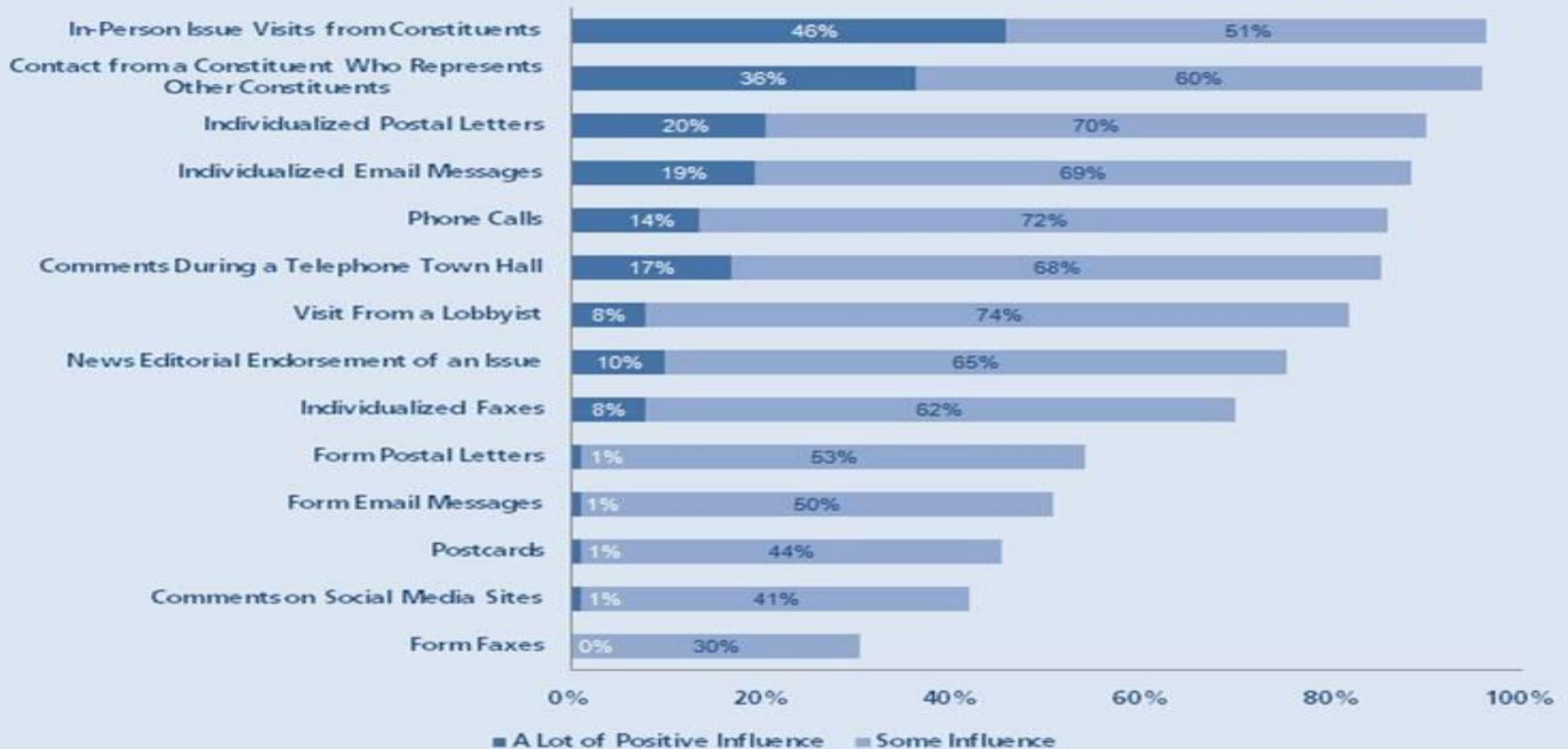
Throughout the process, there will be many other bills released on the community's priorities, including a bill that supports good nutrition and expands participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program in child care centers and homes. Stay tuned!



# How Effective is Your Advocacy?



If your Member/Senator has not already arrived at a firm decision on an issue, how much influence might the following advocacy strategies directed to the *Washington* office have on his/her decision?\*



# CN Advocacy To-Do List



## FY 2015 Agriculture Appropriations

1. Protect School Meal Nutrition Standards and integrity of WIC Food Package in Agriculture Appropriations Process.

## Child Nutrition Reauthorization

2. Urge your Senators to co-sponsor the Summer Meals Act.
3. Organize a site visit with your Members of Congress.
4. Organize a community call with your Member of Congress.
5. Write a Letter to the Editor or meet with your local Editorial Board about the Child Nutrition Programs.

# 1. Urge Congress to Protect School Meal Nutrition Standards and Integrity of the WIC Food Package



## Message:

- **School Meals** –Vote for amendments that support the critical role that decades of independent, science-based standards and recommendations have had on the school meals. Oppose proposals that delay or dilute the nutrition standards for school meals.
- **WIC** – Oppose proposals that circumvent the independent review of the WIC food package by the Institute of Medicine (IOM).

## 2. Urge your Senators to co-sponsor the Summer Meals Act.



- Check out FRAC's one pager on the Summer Meals Act.
- Call your Senators and ask them to co-sponsor Sen. Gillibrand (D-NY) and Sen. Murkowski's (R-AK) 'Summer Meals Act,' a bipartisan bill that ensures that low-income children have access to summer meals and simplifies the administration of the program for sponsors. (Capitol Switchboard: 202-224-3121)
- Rep. Don Young (R-AK) and Rep. Larsen (D-WA) are expected to introduce the House companion bill to the Summer Meals Act. Once the bill is dropped, we urge you to weigh in with your House Members. Be on the lookout for an action alert!

# 3. Organize a Site Visit

FRAC's Site Visit Resources

[Site Visit Opportunities for Members of Congress](#)

[FRAC 101: CN Site Visit Guide](#)

[Model invitations and scheduling request](#)



## 3. Organize a Community Call



A Community Call is an effective and efficient way for advocates who have limited travel budgets to connect with their Members of Congress throughout the year.

[FRAC 101: Community Call Guide](#)

## 5. Write a Letter to the Editor



Write a Letter to the Editor highlighting how important the child nutrition programs are to your community.

# Be Creative!



There are a million ways to advocate for the child nutrition programs. If you have a good idea, let us know! Your options are not limited the actions we outlined during the webinar, we just want to get the creative juices flowing!

# FRAC Resources



## CNR Specific Resources:

- [Child Nutrition Reauthorization Primer](#)
- FRAC's CNR Briefs
  - [School Breakfast Brief](#) with more to come!

## FRAC Child Nutrition Reports:

- [Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation: Summer Nutrition Status Report](#)
- [School Breakfast Scorecard: 2012-2013 School Year](#)
- [Breakfast for Learning Brief](#)
- [Breakfast for Health Brief](#)



# Save the Date: Upcoming FRAC CNR Webinars



❖ August 6, 2pm ET

CNR 101: Afterschool and Summer

❖ September 18, 2pm ET

CNR 101: School Meals

❖ October 14, 2pm ET

CNR 101: Early Childhood

❖ November 6, 2pm ET

Improving Access and Quality to Reduce Hunger and Obesity

❖ February 19, 2pm ET

Child Nutrition Programs, Health, and Well-being

# Join the Conversation on Twitter and Stay in the Know



Follow us @fractweets and @eatright and use the hashtag #childnutrition2015 in your CNR advocacy efforts.

Stay on top of the latest news and [register](#) for FRAC's action alerts.

# Questions?



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