

Scratch Cooking: the Importance of School Food Professionals



The Healthy School Food Pathway (HSFP):

The Chef Ann Foundation's **Healthy School Food Pathway (HSFP)** workforce development program's mission is to transition K-12 public school cafeterias from the current **heat & serve model to a more nutritious scratch-cooked school meal paradigm**, by elevating the school food profession through **workforce development** and technical support.

The Chef Ann Foundation

School cafeterias are essentially 'the biggest restaurant in town', serving thousands of meals a week in every school district.

The Chef Ann Foundation's work focuses on empowering school food operations to serve more nutritious and locally sourced food by providing technical assistance and resources to school food staff.

Project Outcomes:

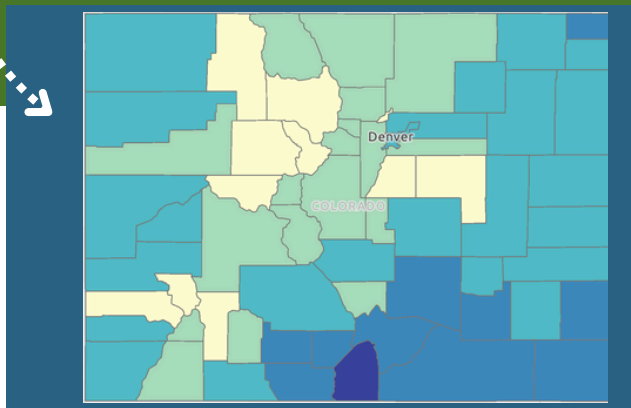
- 1) **Recruitment & Enrollment Strategy**: this deliverable aimed to create a data-informed process to facilitate the recruitment of values-aligned participants for HSFP
- 2) **Funding Toolkit**: the goal of this deliverable was to expedite the grant writing process for the Chef Ann Foundation's development team by creating centralized resource documents making the case for scratch cooking



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Methods: Recruitment & Enrollment Strategy

- **GIS Map:** identifies top counties for pilot implementation to maximize recruitment & funding opportunities
- **Community-Based Organization Database:** enables rapid identification of partner organizations for marketing networks
- **Focus Group-Tested Messaging:** communicates HSFP values and emphasizes most attractive & valuable program elements



Impacts:

Targeted marketing strategy

100+ sources backing HSFP

Acknowledgments

Project Partners: Kelsey Glass, Sara Glenn, Andrea Vaage

MENV Team: Lili Donovan, Sarah Elligott, Devon Hanna

Advisor: Leslie Blood

Methods: Funding Toolkit

- **Database:** 100+ sources supporting scratch cooking, local procurement, workforce development, and the importance of childhood nutrition
- **Case for Support:** extensive paper containing plug & play language for grant applications
- **Good Job Principles (GJP) Infographics:** highlighting HSFP impacts & alignment with federal GJPs

The Future of Cafeterias: Scratch Food Cooking

Narrative prepared for Chef Ann Foundation Healthy School Food Pathway by
Researchers with CU Boulder:
Devon Hanna, Sarah Elligott, and Lili Donovan
August 2024

HSFP cohort fall 2024 is underway!

50+ pages of supporting arguments

Expedited funding process

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