

Louisiana TNTG: Two Unique Approaches to Healthier School Nutrition Environments

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Objective:

The Louisiana Team Nutrition Training Grant program (LA TNTG) is in place to create healthier school nutrition environments and encourage healthier eating behaviors among students

Description:

The LA TNTG program is applying two unique approaches to reaching students and school communities around the state.



LA TNTG has awarded a [competitive] mini-grant (\$5,000) and technical assistance to 15 schools.



LA TNTG, in conjunction with the Louisiana Culinary Institute, is providing school food service professionals with hands-on Culinary Training designed to improve critical food preparation skills.



Conclusion and Implications:

LA TNTG is poised to influence student eating behaviors through nutrition education, modifications to food service practices, and inspiring food-related activities.

Opportunities presented through the LA TNTG could motivate long-term healthier behaviors among students, teachers, food service workers and their families.

Evaluation:

- Grade specific classroom curriculum assessments will capture change in nutrition knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors among students.
- Photos and stories will document school-based, innovative food/nutrition projects.
- An initial and 6-month follow-up Culinary Skills Training participant survey will capture changes in cooking skills, food-prep knowledge, food appreciation, and attitudes toward work.
- Use of Smarter Lunchroom (SL) strategies is being measured with SL score cards.
- School production records and meal participant numbers for the 15 mini-grant schools are being tracked, to identify changes in consumption of key foods or meals.
- CDC School Health Index is being used to track change in nutrition environment over the TNTG period.