HER NOPREN COVID-19
School Nutrition Implications Working Group
HER NOPREN COVID-19 School Nutrition Implications Working Group Leadership Team

Co-Chairs

Sheila Fleischhacker, PhD, JD
Georgetown University Law Center

Erin Hager, PhD
University of Maryland School of Medicine

Caroline Dunn, PhD, RDN
Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health

Kirsten Arm, MPH, RD
Duke Global Health Institute

Lindsey Miller, MPH
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Ronli Levi, MPH, RD
University of California at San Francisco

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Ronli Levi, MPH, RD
University of California at San Francisco
Leveraging implementation science in the public health response to COVID-19: Child food insecurity and federal nutrition assistance programs. Public Health Reports. 2020;135(6):Forthcoming
## Progress to Date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Members/Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 13th</td>
<td>8 members, initial discussions at HER NOPREN annual meeting in early March, outlined project ideas &amp; preliminary hypotheses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20th</td>
<td>~20 members, School Nutrition Association (SNA) shares national survey findings, sub-group projects start to take shape, developed website, resource manager, list serv, among other infrastructure components</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27th</td>
<td>50+ members and growing list of collaborators, announce Fellow – Caroline Dunn, initial commentaries published &amp; preliminary findings shared on a growing number of projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22nd</td>
<td>100+ members, solidifying group infrastructure - HER call for proposals, launch student activities &amp; weekly digests, additional products finalized &amp; preliminary findings shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 11th</td>
<td>More than 400 members (~185 students and junior investigators), more than 20 collaborating organizations, 17 peer-reviewed research articles, perspectives or legislative updates—accepted, under review or under development plus additional other products</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meeting recordings & resources available at nopren/covid19/
HER NOPREN COVID-19 Members & Collaborators

- 20+ National Advocacy Organizations
- 10+ Academic Affiliates
- 20+ K-12 School Districts
- 5+ State/Federal Organizations
- 400+ Members
- 180+ Student Affiliates
- 40+ States
- 3 Countries
Join US!

Working Group Fellow
Caroline Dunn, PhD, RDN
Research Associate
Department of Health Policy and Management
Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health
cdunn@hsph.harvard.edu

- Calendar Invites & Agenda
- Group and Sub-Group Member Management

Listserv Manager (HER)
Kirsten Arm, MPH, RDN
Research Analyst
Healthy Eating Research
Duke Global Health Institute
Duke University
Kirsten.Arm@Duke.edu

Friday April 10, 2020
1:30-5 PM EST

https://web.zoom.us/j/81481299672?pwd=TWZlTVRyd252eG56OmxhZEJ6OE90Zz09
Password: 570301

COVID-19 Nutrition Response

I. Welcome (Erin) (~5 minutes)
II. Member Introductions (name/organization) (~10 minutes)
   i. ~70 joining
III. Group Logistics Updates (Caroline) (~5 minutes)
   i. Agenda/future meetings
      1. Trying to keep us at ~70
      2. Could/should we move to biweekly full group meetings?
      3. Options: if we are moving to bi-weekly, we may stick with 90 minute meetings
      4. Does Friday 3:30 still work?
   ii. Listserv (email Kirsten.arm@duke.edu to be added)
   iii. Google Drive
      1. COVID-19 HER Resource Manager is saved in the google folder. Feel free to share with others through this link:
      https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1V8CX0313R9y7pmCI2xzf9A1pO6owNIoN04/tAAM/ed/edit?usp=sharing
   iv. Contact Sheet
      1. Subgroup leaders should have access to contact list at all times; let Caroline know if you don’t (cdunn@hsph.harvard.edu)
      2. Contact list will be open for adding during meetings and for 10 minutes after. Please indicate your interest areas/add yourself if you are not already included

IV. Policy, Advocacy, and Field Updates (Sheila) (~15 minutes)
   i. If people are missing in the policy/advocacy area, please extend invites (or send them to group)
   ii. Funding opportunities
      1. 586R grant
      2. Other
   iii. Organizational updates
      1. NAACP (Francisco Weeks)
         1. Advocacy; pushing for racial data to be released, these reports are coming out now; increase in incidence and death rates among African American community - NAACP is pushing for more work in communities
         2. Policy; advocating with congressional leaders through stimulus package (racial data being released will help organization advocate for resources)
Perspective

Feeding Low-Income Children during the Covid-19 Pandemic

Caroline G. Dunn, Ph.D., R.D., Erica Kenney, Sc.D., M.P.H., Sheila E. Fleischhacker, J.D., Ph.D., and Sara N. Bleich, Ph.D.

As Covid-19 spreads throughout the United States, schools and child care facilities are balancing their role of helping to prevent disease transmission with ensuring access to food for children who rely on the federal nutrition assistance programs. The School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and the Child and Adult Care Food Program, which together serve nearly 35 million children daily, deliver free meals to local public and private schools, child care institutions, and other program sites. When such programs are interrupted, an essential source of nutrition is lost to low-income families.

Students fulfill up to two thirds of their daily energy needs through food obtained at school. Many more children miss meals when school is not in session. Some families rely on food distributed at school to supplement meals brought from home. The short-term interruptions in school meal delivery should not result in long-term damage to children’s health, but we cannot afford to lose the ground gained by years of focused efforts to make healthy foods available to children, especially those from low-income families.

In 2020, the U.S. Department of Agriculture extended the emergency meal service program for children from the end of the school year through the summer. But we must do more. As federal, state, and local agencies and communities prepare for the worst, we must act now to prevent food insecurity during the pandemic.

PRELIMINARY SUGGESTED APPROACHES TO ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY IN U.S. CHILDREN DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Centralize and widely distribute information about schools and school districts offering meals during school closure

Decrease social exposures and reduce the time and transportation burden for families by providing multiple days’ worth of meals, allowing for drive-through meal pickup (when reasonable), or coordinating meal delivery

Extend emergency benefits to caregivers of children in child care facilities participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and authorize use into periods beyond the Covid-19 response, such as summer months or other emergencies

Codify efforts to expand Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program access and benefits during future pandemics

Examine and amend policies that reduce or deter participation in the nutrition safety net (e.g., the public charge rule)
The Impact of Increasing SNAP Benefits on Stabilizing the Economy, Reducing Poverty and Food Insecurity amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Research Brief, April 2020

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is responsible for administering the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which provides participants with monthly financial assistance to purchase food. SNAP is by far the largest federal nutrition safety net program serving 39 million people in the United States—nearly half of whom are children. SNAP is proven to reduce poverty and food insecurity. With the increase in financial strain and uncertainty as a result of COVID-19—an unprecedented public health crisis with significant economic effects—SNAP participation is expected to increase significantly.

This brief provides evidence regarding the potential positive impact of a SNAP benefit increase on the economy and on SNAP households in the context of the current SNAP benefit allowance. We also discuss the SNAP provisions in the three congressional COVID-19 aid bills that have already been enacted.

Recent COVID-19 Stimulus Bills

To date, Congress has passed three COVID-19 stimulus bills (P.L. 116-132, P.L. 116-142, P.L. 116-159) including SNAP provisions, such as funding for emergency benefits and increased program operating flexibilities as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. (Table 1). Individually and collectively, these SNAP provisions should help families during COVID-19. However, in the face of the fact that SNAP is administrated at the state level, states will need to be intentional and aggressive in using these flexibilities on a state-by-state basis. This will likely result in a large variation in state use of these provisions, producing a patchwork of state emergency allowances and implementation practices across the country. Such a patchwork approach is unlikely to be successful in meeting the needs of all eligible program participants across the United States and will limit the ability of these additional investments to effectively boost and stabilize the economy.

In addition, these supplemental benefits and program flexibilities are time-limited by the federal public health emergency declaration for COVID-19. They are not currently tied to the resulting economic impacts, such as rising unemployment rates, which may take time to reverse. With the United States potentially entering one of the deepest recessions in its history, Congress is expected to pass additional stimulus bills. At a minimum, advocates groups (e.g., the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and the Food Research Action Center (FRAC) are calling on Congress to increase the SNAP maximum benefit (from $160 per month for a family of four).

Leveraging SNAP to alleviate poverty — a proven policy approach needed now

bleichs, dunn c, fleischhacker s. march 29, 2020
COVID-19–Related School Closings and Risk of Weight Gain Among Children

Andrew G. Rundle, Hoosun Park, Julie B. Herbstman, Eliza W. Kinsey, Y. Claire Wang

First published: 30 March 2020 | https://doi.org/10.1002/oby.22813 | Citations: 33

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic is causing substantial morbidity and mortality, straining health care systems, shutting down economies, and closing school districts. While it is a priority to mitigate its immediate impact, we want to call attention to the pandemic's longer-term effect on children's health: COVID-19, via these school closures, may exacerbate the epidemic of childhood obesity and increase disparities in obesity risk. In many areas of the United States, the COVID-19 pandemic has closed schools, and some of these school systems are not expected to reopen this school year. The experiences in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Singapore suggest that social distancing orders, if lifted after short periods, will have to be periodically reinstated to control COVID-19 flare-ups (13). In short, we anticipate that the COVID-19 pandemic will likely double out-of-school time this year for many children in the United States and will exacerbate the risk factors for weight gain associated with summer recess.

While much has been written regarding the poor food and physical activity environments in schools, the data show that children experience unhealthy weight gain not during the school year but rather primarily during the summer months when they are out of school (24,39). Von Hippel et al. (28) documented increases in student weight and the prevalence of obesity and overweight across 3 school years, with increases in obesity and overweight prevalence occurring only during summer recess. This and subsequent work have found that weight gain over the summer school recess is particularly apparent for Hispanic and African American youth as well as children already experiencing overweight (33). Importantly, the

Endless Summer Puts Homebound Kids at Risk for Weight Gain

With schools shuttered, the inactivity and snacking typical of summer breaks puts more students at risk of obesity and health ills.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Journal/Source</th>
<th>Publish Date</th>
<th>Topic area (i.e., WIC, SNAP, ECE, Schools)</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leveraging SNAP to alleviate poverty — a proven policy approach needed now</td>
<td>Sara Bleich, Caroline Dunn, Shella Fleischhacker, Caroline Dunn, Erica Kneer, Shella Fleischhacker, Sara Bleich</td>
<td>The Hill</td>
<td>03/29/2020</td>
<td>SNAP</td>
<td>Shella Fleischhacker PhD, JD at Georgetown University Law School provides a review of the U.S. Coronavirus Relief Package, and how food and nutrition workers can ensure the food and nutrition needs of all people are met during the COVID-19 situation. This review also examines an overview of a NPR/RPPE report.</td>
<td><a href="https://thekl.com/opinion/finance/20200720-leveraging-nap-to-alleviate-poverty-a-proven-policy-approach-needed-now/amp">https://thekl.com/opinion/finance/20200720-leveraging-nap-to-alleviate-poverty-a-proven-policy-approach-needed-now/amp</a></td>
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<td>Feeding Low-Income Children During the Covid-19 Pandemic</td>
<td>Shella Fleischhacker, PhD, KD, Randi A. Park, Y., Herbertman, J., Kinsey, E., Wang, Y.</td>
<td>The New England Journal of Medicine</td>
<td>03/30/2020</td>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>Shella Fleischhacker PhD, JD at Georgetown University Law School provides a review of the U.S. Coronavirus Relief Package, and how food and nutrition workers can ensure the food and nutrition needs of all people are met during the COVID-19 situation. This review also examines an overview of a NPR/RPPE report.</td>
<td><a href="https://www.njm.org/article/20200614/learning-feature">https://www.njm.org/article/20200614/learning-feature</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A Review: US Coronavirus Relief Package: Update on Food and Nutrition Preparations and Nutrition Today</td>
<td>Shella Fleischhacker, PhD, JD, Randi A. Park, Y., Herbertman, J., Kinsey, E., Wang, Y.</td>
<td>Parenting in Contact Research Lab</td>
<td>3/26/2020</td>
<td>ECE</td>
<td>Describes trends in food and nutrition practices, including school nutrition programs. This review also examines an overview of a NHRP report.</td>
<td><a href="https://nasconstantcontact.com/01e65555911e3ae1_406d3a7_5650_99e4448495.pdf">https://nasconstantcontact.com/01e65555911e3ae1_406d3a7_5650_99e4448495.pdf</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Public Concerns About the COVID-19 Pandemic: Results of a Survey via Social Media</td>
<td>Loren M. Nelson, Julie F. Simard, Abdull Razzaq, Vanessa Nave, Lisa G. Ross, Melissa Bondy, Elain Linus</td>
<td>JAMA Internal Medicine</td>
<td>4/7/2020</td>
<td>Consumers stocking food, difficulty getting food</td>
<td>Discussions on consumer experience of navigating food insecurity in the US. Names based on a representative, stratified weighted national sample (n=10,385) of U.S. adults collected in the last week of March 2020. The descriptive analyses presented here are based on these data.</td>
<td><a href="https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamainternalmedicine/articlecontent/244/8/468">https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamainternalmedicine/articlecontent/244/8/468</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As Child Hunger Soars Across USA, National Poll Finds Nearly One in Four Parents Reducing Food for Children</td>
<td>Hunger Free America</td>
<td>Parenting in Contact Research Lab</td>
<td>4/13/2020</td>
<td>Food Insecurity, Child Hunger</td>
<td>Discussions on consumer experience of navigating food insecurity in the US. Names based on a representative, stratified weighted national sample (n=10,385) of U.S. adults collected in the last week of March 2020. The descriptive analyses presented here are based on these data.</td>
<td><a href="https://www.hungerfreeamerica.org/blog/child-hunger-soars-across-usa-national-poll-finds-nearly-one-four-parents-reducing-food">https://www.hungerfreeamerica.org/blog/child-hunger-soars-across-usa-national-poll-finds-nearly-one-four-parents-reducing-food</a></td>
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Feeding Students During COVID-19 Related School Closures: 57 US Jurisdictions’ Initial Responses

Objective: To examine how US states, the District of Columbia, US territories, and the US Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Education responded to school-based federal nutrition assistance meal service provision during COVID-19 related school closures

Collaborative Highlights

▪ Multidisciplinary team
▪ Rapid review of evolving information
▪ Share Our Strength insights
  ▪ Federal waiver tracking
  ▪ State administrative agency responses
  ▪ School, family and student needs

Feeding Students During COVID-19 Related School Closures: 57 US Jurisdictions’ Initial Responses

Dissemination to Date

- 5 presentations
  - SNA
  - FRAC staff
  - 3 HER NOPREN WGs
    - COVID-19
    - School Wellness
    - P-EBT
- Paper under review
- Issue brief under development

Figure 1. Percentage of jurisdictions scoring low, medium or high according to seven criteria in crisis communication

Note: Sample sizes differ depending on usage of data. Emergency Declaration Reference of School Closures (n=56 states/territories); School Closure Meal Reference (n=53); Education COVID Page Reference (n=51); Meal Sites (n=56); Communication/Outreach (n=56); Implementation Guidance (n=56); Anti-Hunger Partnership (n=51).
Objective: To estimate the number of missed breakfasts and lunches per week from March 2 – May 1, 2020 using school closure reports from *Education Week* and state-level free and reduced-price participation in NSLP and SBP for 2019

Collaborative Highlights

- Multidisciplinary team
- Rapid review of evolving information
- Share Our Strength insights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Weekly Meals</th>
<th>Cumulative Meals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2-6</td>
<td>36,802</td>
<td>36,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 9-13</td>
<td>2,598,526</td>
<td>2,635,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 16-20</td>
<td>124,824,223</td>
<td>127,459,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 23-27</td>
<td>169,479,514</td>
<td>296,939,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 30 - Apr 3</td>
<td>169,619,512</td>
<td>466,558,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 6-10</td>
<td>169,619,512</td>
<td>636,178,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 13-17</td>
<td>169,619,512</td>
<td>805,797,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 20-24</td>
<td>169,619,512</td>
<td>975,417,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 27 - May 1</td>
<td>169,619,512</td>
<td>1,145,036,625</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimate of Missed Breakfasts & Lunches

Meal Service Innovations

Where
- SFSP/SSO sites
- Bus routes
- Home delivery
- Outdoor distribution

How
- Multiple meals, multiple days
- Bulk items
- Drive-through, touchless delivery
- Pre-ordering

To Whom
- Open to community members (separate times)
- Food bank/pantry partnerships
- Care for children or essential workers

Case Study – Maryland

- Maryland statewide school closures announced on Thursday, March 12 with replacement meals beginning Monday, March 16
- Maryland Department of Education collaborated with state’s 24 school districts to develop a plan
- State applied for and was granted 6 USDA waivers within first 3 weeks of shutdowns

Figure 2. Number of breakfast & lunch meals served per week in Maryland during COVID-19 school closures, March 16 – May 3, 2020

*Many districts took some days off of meal service for spring break
NOTE: average number of free and reduced-price breakfast and lunch meals served each week before Covid-19 pandemic 2,469,585

*
School Closures During COVID-19: Opportunities for Innovation in Meal Service

Eliza W. Kinney, MD, Anwke A. Mekh, PhD, Caroline Gayden Davis, PhD, Rich Levy, MPH, Marguer A. Bass, MA, Courtney Smith, MPH, Pamela Vesey, Mary K. Seligman, MD, M.A., and Eric R. Hayes, PhD

As COVID-19 disrupts a regular access to food, many families are facing food insecurity, low-income families are being disproportionately affected. Long-term school closures means that millions of students no longer have access to free or reduced-price meals. As social distancing recommendations continue, many parents are struggling to meet their nutritional needs. An immediate response is needed to prevent the unintended consequences of school closures.

School meals are a vital component of the public health system. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is the largest school meal program in the country. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Child Nutrition Program, and School Breakfast Program (SBP) serve approximately 65 million breakfasts and 35 million lunches daily at low or no cost to students.

More than three quarters of all students participating in school meal programs qualify for free or reduced-price meals because they live in a household with an income below 185% of the federal poverty level. Loss of access to school meals puts millions of households at increased risk of food insecurity, household-level economic and social conditions, and the likelihood of slipping into poverty.

About the Authors

Eliza W. Kinney is with the Department of Epidemiology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York, NY. Anwke A. Mekh is with the Department of Epidemiology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York, NY. Caroline Gayden Davis, PhD, Rich Levy, MPH, Marguer A. Bass, MA, Courtney Smith, MPH, Pamela Vesey, Mary K. Seligman, MD, M.A., and Eric R. Hayes, PhD are with the Department of Epidemiology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York, NY. Kinney et al. Peer Reviewed: Analytic Essays #1


Presentations to:
- NOPREN School Wellness Working Group
- USDA FNS Office of Policy Support

Follow-up paper on replacement meals in progress

Published online ahead of print September 17, 2020; e-pub ahead of print (DOI: 10.2105/AJPH.2020.301817)

https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2020.301817
Urban Deep Dive


# Meal Site Placement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LAUSD (n of sites= 63)</th>
<th>HISD (n=26)</th>
<th>NYCDOE (n=447)</th>
<th>CPS (n=297)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Median Percent Minority</strong></td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>36.0%</td>
<td>59.0%</td>
<td>46.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below median</td>
<td>22 (35%)</td>
<td>6 (24%)</td>
<td>179 (40%)</td>
<td>181 (60%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above median</td>
<td>41 (65%)</td>
<td>19 (76%)</td>
<td>268 (60%)</td>
<td>119 (40%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Median % Poverty</strong></td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below median</td>
<td>21 (33%)</td>
<td>8 (32%)</td>
<td>146 (33%)</td>
<td>113 (38%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above median</td>
<td>42 (67%)</td>
<td>17 (68%)</td>
<td>301 (67%)</td>
<td>187 (62%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Median Population 5-19 years old</strong></td>
<td>920</td>
<td>1121</td>
<td>779</td>
<td>727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below median</td>
<td>23 (37%)</td>
<td>12 (48%)</td>
<td>151 (34%)</td>
<td>88 (29%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above median</td>
<td>40 (63%)</td>
<td>13 (52%)</td>
<td>296 (66%)</td>
<td>212 (71%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food Desert Classification</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meal sites in food desert (½ mile)</td>
<td>21(33.3%)</td>
<td>21(80.7%)</td>
<td>5(1.1%)</td>
<td>87(29.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meal sites in non-food desert</td>
<td>42(66.6%)</td>
<td>4(19.3%)</td>
<td>442(98.9%)</td>
<td>211(71.8%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 14: New York Public School District Meal Distribution and Census Tracts characteristics (a) Percent Poverty, (b) Percent Minority, (c) School Age Population, and (d) Prevalence of Food Deserts (1/2 mile)

Food insecurity and schools during the pandemic

By: Neil Schranker - August 31, 2020

The coronavirus pandemic has brought a number of challenges to schools, which were forced to close in the spring to help slow the spread of infection. One major challenge for schools was ensuring that students’ nutritional supplementation needs were met when they were not attending school in person.

As schools across the country begin to welcome students back in person or for virtual learning, equity must be at the forefront of decisions pertaining to school emergency food services, finds a new study from the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis.

"Ensuring access to food during these critical times is of paramount importance to meeting the public health needs of vulnerable populations at greatest risk for food security. Further, as schools contemplate re-opening plans, a greater emphasis should be placed on ways to maintain practices..."
Objective: Understand policy-relevant implementation processes for school meal programs during COVID-19, including challenges and innovations, from the perspective of child nutrition directors across the country.

Development Timeline

- March – April 2020: Identified overlapping concepts/questions of interest related to implementation processes.
- May – June 2020: Collaborated with organizational partners (School Nutrition Association, Lunch Assist) to compile a concept list and create definitions and sample questions.
- June 2020 – ?: Ongoing data collection (~4 state-specific studies, 2 national studies, 1 social media project); potential replication for other organizational stakeholders.

Data Analysis

- Mapped concepts of interest to existing frameworks (e.g., Social Ecological Model, Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research) for within-study analysis.
- Cross-case analysis to identify patterns/trends/opportunities across states, sponsor types, regions, etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept Definitions</th>
<th>Frame Alignment</th>
<th>Unstructured Guide Example</th>
<th>Studies Summary</th>
<th>Explore</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please use and share the [Google doc](#) (and document usage)!
Qualitative Question Bank - Example Uses

SNA Social Media Project
- Weekly open-ended questions on Facebook page

Pandemic EBT Subgroup
- Created P-EBT specific questions for question bank
- Adapted sponsor-level questions for state administrators, SNAP families, and non-SNAP families

Studies in Maryland, North Carolina, California, nationally
- Adapted based on state policies, state and local stakeholder interest, organizational priorities, time period of data collection

May 20, 2020

All COVID-19 related webinars are available to both members and non-members.

This webinar will provide an overview of research and best practices on feeding school-aged children and adolescents during COVID-19 school closures as a means to prevent food insecurity. The panelists will present on topics such as the financial impact on school nutrition programs and districts, communication between school districts, parents, and students, how large urban districts are providing meals and ensuring safety, and the impact of COVID-19 school closures on food security. All panelists are members of a Nutrition and Obesity Policy Research and Evaluation Network (NOPREN) ad hoc working group that includes academic institutions, advocacy and trade groups such as SNA, and liaisons from CDC and Healthy Eating Research (HER). Learn more here: https://nopren.org/covid19/.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the role research and evaluation can play in the short and long term regarding improving meal provision during COVID-19.
2. Discuss best practices for communicating with school districts, parents, and students about meals provided during COVID-19 and the special precautions necessary to help mitigate the spread of this disease.
3. Learn ways to engage in ongoing and future research and evaluation efforts focused on the role of school foodservice personnel in responding to COVID-19 and the likely lingering economic effects of this pandemic on households and school foodservice operations.

EARNING CEs

SNA CEs=1.0
COLLABORATION WITH COVID-19 WORK GROUP

- Survey (School Nutrition Association)
- Communication Coding (Dr. McLoughlin)
- Qualitative Interviews (Dr. Lane)
- Mapping/Spatial Analysis (Dr. McGuirt)
- Financial Analysis (Dr. Zafari)

Maryland Project

Working with MSDE and Maryland LEAs, during state-wide school closures, to examine:

1. Reach of meal distribution;
2. Effectiveness of USDA waiver implementation and communication strategies on meals served;
3. Barriers and facilitators of implementation of meal delivery;
4. The financial impact on LEAs; and,
5. Lessons learned for the future.

Hager E, et al.
Pandemic EBT Projects

Nationwide or Multiple States

- CBPP (Neurberger) & FRAC (Melcher Philbin) – Deep dive analysis of 10 states, plus nationwide survey
- Columbia (Tettamani & Abiola)/U-Miami (Zaw) – Legal mapping tool of USDA SNAP Waivers
- Kriger, Jones-Smith, Kennedy, Bleich, Fleischhacker – Comparing P-EBT and School Meals-to-Go
- Fleischhacker, Bleich, Dunn, Lusson – Assessment of P-EBT state-level communication and outreach

Selected State and District Level Deep Dives

- Patel, Hecht (CA)
  - Coding of CA school district websites/social media, including P-EBT participation/outreach
  - Conducting semi-structured interviews with school district officials and community partners and focus groups with parents/caregivers to understand the strengths and weaknesses of school-based nutrition assistance programs (e.g., school meal program, P-EBT) in addressing food insecurity in four rural communities
- Bleich, Dunn (MA)
  - Working with the state agency to determine available data and key research questions
- Harper (MD)
  - Exploring the effect of three federal food assistance programs (P-EBT, emergency EBT, and the Summer SNAP pilot) on food security status, diet quality, and food acquisition behaviors in adolescents (ages 14-18) living in Baltimore, MD

Google doc - https://docs.google.com/document/d/19-Tl89uTycHvm4FjMSQk5p8L-UVC0Kcs/edit
Pandemic Child Hunger Prevention Act Aims to Expand Access to Nutritious Meals During COVID-19 National Emergency

07/30/2020 - Today, Rep. Bobby Scott (Va.) introduced the Pandemic Child Hunger Prevention Act, a bill intended to expand access to free school meals for all children during the COVID-19 pandemic and to prevent the collapse of school nutrition programs.

Skyrocketing unemployment rates due to the COVID-19 pandemic have left families wondering how they will continue to make ends meet, including providing healthful meals to their children. This is particularly concerning for the communities of color who have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and are far more likely to experience food insecurity. These unprecedented levels of economic hardship will likely result in increased enrollment in school-based federal nutrition assistance programs.

This coupled with the uncertainty and inconsistency of school reopening in the fall has made the need for a universal school meal program imperative. This legislation will:

- All students will temporarily be made eligible for free school meals during the 2020-2021 school year through the School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program;
- Due to the flexibility granted to the U.S. Department of Agriculture under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, free school meals will be available to students during remote learning through “grab and go” or meal delivery;
- All school districts, including those operating off-site meal services, can serve all children without having to certify the eligibility of each individual child;
- Under the Summer Food Service Programs and the Summer Seamless Option, schools and nonprofit community partners can operate off-site meal services anywhere in the country.

COVID-19 School Reopening: Supporting School Meals and Students’ Health in School Year 2020-2021

July 2020

Prepared by:

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

California Food for California Kids
Back-to-School: We’ll Keep Feeding Those Kids!

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused school districts across the nation to prepare for a variety of learning modes. School meals will continue to be an important and renewable contributor to children’s lives, maintaining their food security and supporting learning and a healthy weight. The resource builds upon the learnings from spring and summer 2020 and provides tools and tips for providing students with nutritious meals and supporting successful and sustainable nutrition programs when moving “back-to-school.”

Best Practices Moving into SY 20-21

- COVID-19 planning templates, reopening protocols, and additional resources that support school nutrition programs in return-to-school planning efforts.
- Back-to-School Planning Tools
  - Center for Ecoliteracy’s COVID-19 Return to School Planning Resources
  - LunchAssist Resource Directory
  - LunchAssist Water Toolkit
- Resources for Food Service
  - School Lunch Sponsors 5 Day Meal Kit Sheet
  - USDA Provisions School Meals During Coronavirus
  - USDA School Breakfast Program
  - CAFS: www.cafs.gov
- Farm to School Network: Local In This COVID-19 Response and Recovery

What are top-of-mind issues for schools as they shift back to operating NSLP?

- Establishing safe point-of-sale payments for children purchasing school meals
- Ensuring meals provided at drive-through/grab-and-go pick-up sites are distributed only to students enrolled in the school or district
- Providing enough staffing for non-congregate, on-site school meal service
- Keeping employees safe from COVID-19 exposure
- Maintaining quality and innovation in menus despite ongoing challenges and disruptions
- Distributing some foods in bulk or re-packaging foods—when individually-wrapped items are unavailable or unfeasible
- Managing additional costs related to operating during COVID-19 despite potential reductions in revenue
- Navigating regulatory uncertainties on USDA waivers

Meal Service Scenarios

Distance Learning
- All school sites closed
- Hybrid Learning
- Students come to school once or a few times per week
- School Staggered Schedules
- All school sites open, AM and PM schedule
- Online Learning
- All school sites open, all students learn online

Reopening Guidances

Want to read the official CDF Nutrition Response? Click on one of the links below. Please see all at a glance? Check out our Waiver Summary Chart. Want to check that you’ve done everything you need to be in compliance? Download our Waiver Checklist. Tools and resources to keep you on track throughout the Emergency Feeding period.

Updated July 7, 2020

LunchAssist

Reopening Considerations Checklist
Successful planning is in the details. We’ve got you covered to make sure you don’t miss any!

Reopening Planning Handout
Developed by the Center for Ecoliteracy and a task force of your peers, including LunchAssist.

Reopening Guidelines Resource Tracker
Not sure which guidelines you should review? Check out this cheat sheet from No Kid Hungry for a super helpful visual.
Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics invited practice paper on the risks of using homemade infant formula
National WIC Association

#WICWaiversWork
More than 10 students matched with HER NOPREN relevant projects for paid & unpaid summer internship experiences

Additional students met with Network members throughout this summer for mentoring sessions

More than 195 students (and faculty) signed up for the HER NOPREN Summer Student Speaker Series

16 students presented at the first-of-its-kind HER NOPREN Virtual Student Presentation Session (August 26)

6 session recordings, slides, QA responses, and suggested materials available at nopren/covid19/
Next Steps

- Working to disseminate data to date
  - Please invite group / projects to your NOPREN group!
- Complete and disseminate the more than 10 papers under review/development
- Support new projects continuing to emerge, including the new HER grantees
- Strengthening cross Network collaborations
- Expanding our other collaborations
- Responding to other survey suggestions
- Hosting at least 5 more monthly meetings and other sub-group endeavors

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