

Setting the Table: Blueprint for a Hunger-Free PA

was released in September 2016.

Since then, we have...



made it easier for individuals to access benefits.

Eligible individuals are applying through or transferring to the Elderly/Disabled Simplified Application Project category to ease their renewal process. Now 318,271 do not have to renew their SNAP annually.

The myCOMPASS PA mobile app has 118,290 downloads and allows DHS benefit recipients to upload documents, complete their semi-annual reports, and update their information from their phones.

improved access to WIC and the Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Six local WIC agencies are co-located with Head Start/Early Head Start locations.

Agriculture developed a survey for both the WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Programs (FMNP). The information will be used to improve redemption of FMNP checks. Also, as of 2017, 1 year-olds are now eligible to receive vouchers for the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

WIC brochures are now mailed to Medicaid households when a newborn is added to a case.

increased knowledge of summer feeding programs.

DHS and PDE partnered to mail summer feeding postcards to all SNAP recipient households with children. 533,081 postcards were mailed. Once the cards hit the mail, a large increase was seen in texts received to get information on summer feeding. 25,966 texts received in 2017. Nationally, Pennsylvania had the 3rd highest increase in total texts received in 2017.



grown partnerships.

Local Food Alliances were convened to start the conversation about best practices and to learn from each other.

SNAP Education and SNAP Outreach partners are working together.

SNAP Education and Healthy Corner Stores are partnering to have nutrition education this year in at least 19 stores throughout the state. Health screenings will also be held in many of those stores.

increased access to healthy food. 🍏

Agriculture's Pennsylvania Agricultural Surplus System started in April 2016. Since then, 5.05 million pounds of product from 91 different farmers has been distributed to 814,000 households in all 67 PA counties.

There are now 160 Healthy Corner stores in PA. More than 85% of stores added whole grain products. 81% added inventory in fruits and vegetables. 63% added healthy protein sources. 44% added low-fat dairy options.

With the support of the Heinz Endowments, 41 home-based early care and education providers in the cities of Allentown, Erie, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh were able to engage in container garden projects for the 200 children they serve in 2017.

DCED's Charitable Food Program served 724,629 people with \$3.7 million in funding in 2015-16, with similar results expected for 2016-17.

made it easier to get employment and training (E&T) services.

DHS has established five 50/50 SNAP E&T sites with work on five additional sites underway.

A contract with Work Ready vendors is providing slots to Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents, which enables them to enroll in the program and maintain their SNAP benefits.

reduced waste.

The What A Waste program was piloted in 9 senior community centers in Pennsylvania from June 2016 through May 2017. Through implementation in PA and other states, food waste sent to landfills has decreased by 74% and greenhouse emissions were reduced by 52%. The Department of Aging has applied for a grant to fund 12 additional sites.

grown food security programs in the Medicaid system.

Recognizing the link between nutrition and health outcomes, every HealthChoices managed care organization has developed a food security program.

educated.

WIC Program Managers completed WIC 101 training for County Assistance Office staff covering 14 counties in PA.

Over 100 programs participated in the PA Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (NAP SACC) this year. New online training modules were added to include an infant/toddler focus and children with special needs.

Agriculture has developed Farm to Institution Grower Sessions (FIGS) – workshops designed to help Pennsylvania growers successfully diversify their business and sell appropriate products to institutions like schools. The first FIGS workshop is in the fall of 2017.