











Welcome to the **School Food Waste Reduction** Summit













## Welcome



#### Dr. Brian Schilling, PhD

- Director, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
- Senior Associate Director, NJ Agricultural Experiment Station













# Food Insecurity & Food Waste



#### Dr. Shilpa Pai, MD

- Director, Resident Education in Advocacy & Community Health
- Co-Director, NJ Pediatric Residency Advocacy Collaborative
- AAP District III Community Access to Children's Health (CATCH) Facilitator
- Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School













# **Case Study: Paterson, NJ**



#### Sara Elnakib, RD, MPH

Family & Community Health Sciences Educator, Rutgers University

### The Facts about Food Waste



- Approximately **30 to 40 percent of the food supply,** ends up as food waste.
- In 2010, an estimated 133 billion pounds of food from U.S. retail food stores, restaurants, and homes-valued at approximately
   \$161 billion-went uneaten.
- The *land, water, labor, energy* and other inputs used in *producing, processing, transporting, preparing, storing, and disposing* of discarded food is wasted.
- In 2010, the bill for dumping food into landfills was more than \$2 billion.

# USDA & EPA Food Waste Challenge

On September 16, 2015, the first-ever national food loss and waste goal in the United States was launched, calling for a 50percent reduction by 2030.



consumption later in the school day
Using techniques listed on the Smarter Lunchrooms
Self-Assessment Score Card to help reduce food waste

· Setting up a table for kids to place items they are not going to

consume (packaged or pre-portioned items)

Letting kids self-serve

Collecting excess wholesome food after mealtimes to donate to charitable organizations
 Sign up for the U.S. Food Waste Challenge to share your story of the U.S. Food Waste Challenge

food-scrap projects

 Sign up for the U.S. Food Waste Challenge to share your storyhow you are reducing, recovering, or recycling food waste

#### Legislative Genesis

#### Food Waste Bill S3027

- Signed August 2017
- Establishes 50% MSW food waste reduction by 2030

3122018

#### SENATE, No. 3027 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

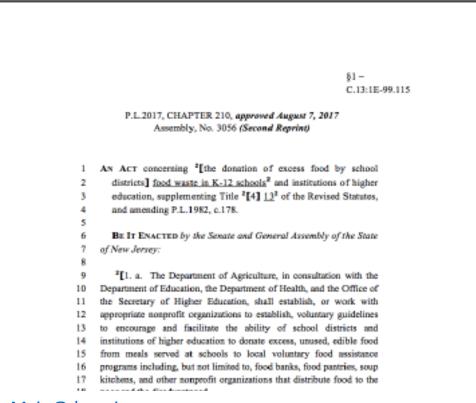
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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 27, 2017

Sponsored by: Senator BOB SMITH District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset) Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex) Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT District 6 (Burlington and Camden) Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO District 20 (Union) Assemblyman TIM EUSTACE District 38 (Bergen and Passaic) Assemblyman JAMES J. KENNEDY District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union) Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex) Assemblywoman ELIZABETH MAHER MUOIO District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer) Assemblyman ANDREW ZWICKER District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset) Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI District 33 (Hudson)

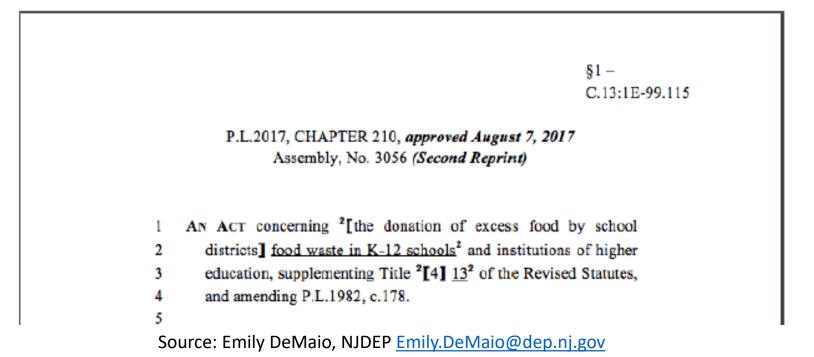
#### Food Waste Bill A3056

- Signed August 2017
- Requests guidelines to be written for K-12 and higher education institutions to reduce, recover and recycle food waste



#### Legislative Genesis

The A3056 food waste bill requires the NJ Department of Agriculture, the NJ Department of Education, the NJ Department of Health, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and the NJ Office of the Secretary of Higher Education to develop five categories of guidelines for K-8, Secondary, and Higher Education to reduce food waste in schools.





#### The Guidelines for Schools

- The NJDEP will be releasing the Food Waste Guidelines for both K-12 schools and Higher Education.
- To achieve the goals of Bill S3027 we need to measure baseline food waste.

#### Draft



- March 2018 -NJ Department of Environmental Protection NJ Department of Agriculture NJ Department of Education NJ Department of Health



#### How to Reduce Food Waste?



## Paterson's Food Waste Program



- Through a partnership with the Paterson
   Public Schools we conducted an audit to
   assess the effect of training for Food Service
   Workers on food waste.
  - Paterson Public Schools is under the Community Eligibility Provision
- All students receive free Breakfast & Lunch





# Design of this Study

- We wanted to measure the plate waste before and after the training. We only measured 15 elementary and middle schools that cooked their own meals.
  - Sample tray were weighed as a preconsumption measure.
  - → After the food was consumed each food component was weighed separately separately. (fruits, vegetables, milk and entrée [grain/protein])
  - → Each school was measured twice before and after the training.



# Training Program

⊷ Smarter Lunchrooms Movement

⊷ Offer Vs. Serve

# Smarter Lunchrooms Movement

- The Cornell B.E.N. Center researches how behavioral economics influences students' food choices.
- Make healthy choices visible, convenient, and appealing to students

- In the language of behavioral economics, these factors are called Visibility and Convenience, and they influence consumers' choices.
- Most choices are so subliminal they seem automatic
- Choices influenced by environment



• Change your environment = Change your habits.

# Examples of Smarter Lunchroom Strategies

#### • Focus on Fruits

- At least two kinds of fruit are offered.
- Sliced or cut fruit is offered.
- Vary the Vegetables
  - Both hot and cold vegetables are offered.
  - When cut, raw vegetables, are offered, they are paired with a low-fat dip such as ranch, hummus, or salsa.

#### • Highlight the Salad

- Pre-packaged salads or a salad bar is available to all students.
- Pre-packaged salads or a salad bar is in a hightraffic area.

#### • Move More White Milk

- White milk is displayed in front of other beverages in all coolers.
- 1% or non-fat white milk is identified as the featured milk and is labeled with a creative, descriptive name.

#### • Lunchroom Atmosphere

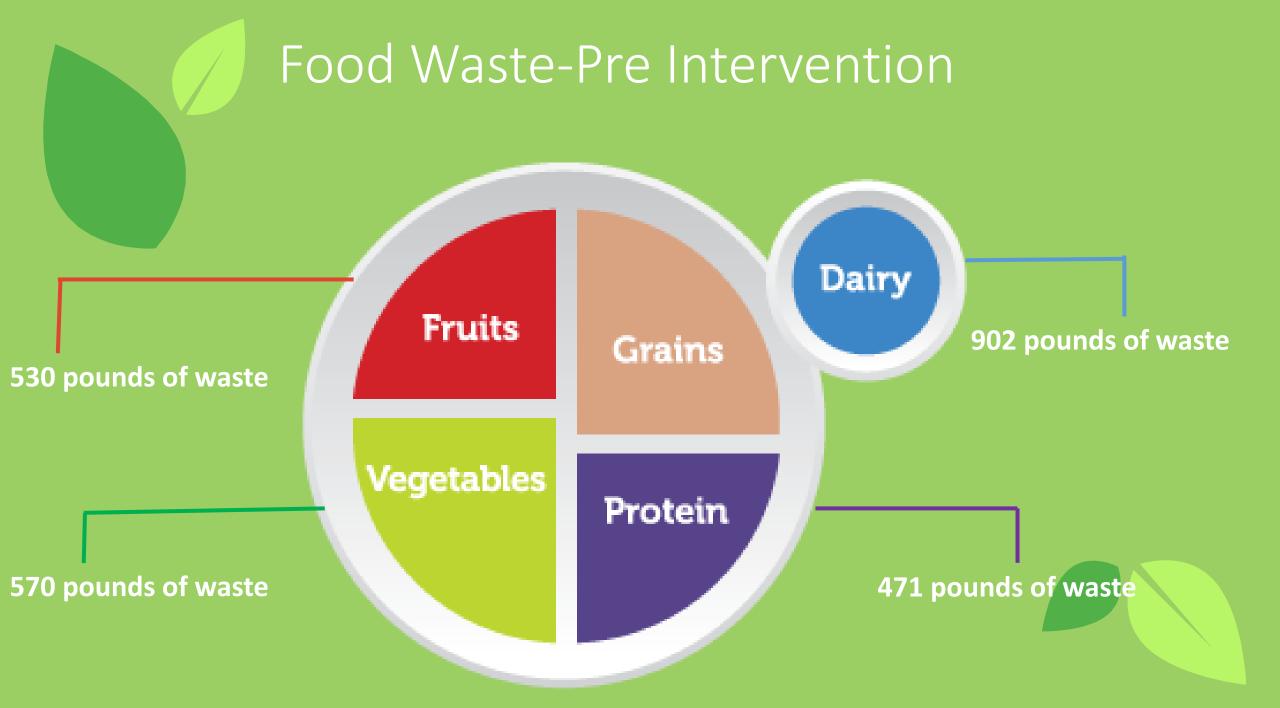
- Attractive, healthful food posters are displayed in dining and service areas.
- Cafeteria staff smile and greet students upon entering the service line and throughout meal service.



# Offer vs. Serve

- According to guidelines by the USDA, students do not need to take all 5 components of a meal for the school to be reimbursed for that meal.
- A student may choose 3 our of the 5 components at lunch and the school will be reimbursed as long as the student takes a fruit or vegetable.





# 2,473 pounds

Wasted in our 30 visits in schools





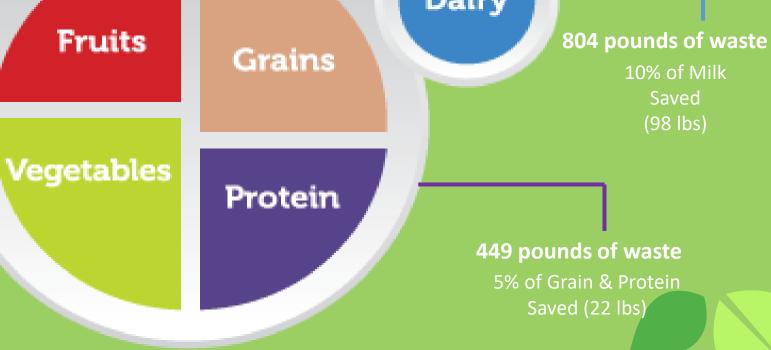
# What does this mean?

- That is approximately 84 pounds of waste per school per day
- Which means it can be as much as
   14,838 pounds of waste a year per school.
- 623,196 pounds of food waste for the whole district for the year.

# Food Waste: Post-Intervention

**380 pounds of waste** 28% of Fruit Saved (150 lbs)

**490 pounds of waste** 14% of Vegetables Saved (80 lbs)



# 350 pounds

of food saved after our training





# What does this mean?

- ⊷ That is approximately **12** pounds of waste **SAVED** per school per day
- Which means it can be as much as
   2,160 pounds of waste SAVED a
   year per school.
- 90,720 pounds of food waste
   SAVED for the whole district for the year.

# \$76,452

cost savings for the school district per yea















# **Panel Discussion**





**David Buchholtz Director of Food Services**, Paterson Public Schools

#### **Jennifer Apostol Director of MCFOODS**



#### **Jennifer Shukaitis**

Family & Community Health Sciences Educator,

**Rutgers University** 



#### **Dr. Shilpa Pai**

Director, Resident Education in Advocacy & Community Health,

Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School













# School Food Waste Design-a-thon















# **Thank You**

