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The National Farm to School Network Receives the 2018 ACPP Health Promotion Policy Award

Each year, the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB) and the Advisory Committee on Public Policy (ACPP) rewards an individual or group that aligns with the Society's mission to participate and enact change in nutrition education through policy change. The 2018 recipient of the Health Promotion Policy Award is the National Farm to School Network (NFSN), whose mission is to deliver local, farm fresh food to schools, promote family farms and educate students about proper nutrition.

The NFSN is the center of information and advocacy for communities aiming to implement farm to school food initiatives, and strengthen families and groups around building a healthy lifestyle. Its vision is to use local farming families to support healthy feeding patterns in schools and homes, as well as advocate for environmental and economic causes. Since 2007, NFSN has spread to all 50 states in America in over 42,000 schools. The program has assisted these schools by forming curriculum in nutrition and agriculture, helping local family farms grow, local food sourcing for schools, building school gardens, and more.

As for its policy making initiatives, NFSN achieved the first-ever mandatory funding for the USDA Farm to School Grant program in the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Additionally, NFSN declared October as National Farm to School Month and leads its annual celebrations. Currently, one of NFSN's largest focuses is on the Child Nutrition Act reauthorization. The organization also advocates for farmers and their economic equality. Related policies that NFSN supports include the Food Safety Modernization Act and the Every Student Succeeds Act. At the state level, NFSN has aided in proposing over 200 farm to school policies while producing webinars, working with a policy making group, meetings and conferences and as well as providing the public with various information and education strategies.

ABOUT THE SOCIETY FOR NUTRITION EDUCATION AND BEHAVIOR

The Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior is an international organization of nutrition education professionals who are dedicated to promoting effective nutrition education and healthy behavior through research, policy and practice with a vision of healthy communities, food systems and behaviors. To learn more, visit www.sneb.org.