

# Making the Most of your School Breakfast Program: Tap into Grant Dollars, Draw down Federal Funds, and Fuel Hungry Minds for Student Achievement









## Schools are on the front lines of hunger in our communities

- 1 out of 5 American kids struggle with hunger
- 3 out of 5 teachers say they teach kids who regularly come to school hungry
- 56% of teachers who witness hunger say the problem is getting worse

Source: www.nokidhungry.org

## State of school breakfast participation in Massachusetts

 MA ranks 44 out of 50 states and DC in school breakfast participation

Source: FRAC School Breakfast Scorecard: SY2012-2013

 While ~80% of children in our state who qualify for F/R school food participate in lunch, less than 40% of those children eat breakfast at school

Source: MassBudget School Meal Participation, May 2014

• ~\$25 million of Federal reimbursement funds left on the table by MA Source: Mass Budget and Policy Center (MBPC): May 2014

## A thoughtful BIC communication and implementation plan yields immediate results

NKI District School	Free and Reduced- Price Eligible Students	ADP in Breakfast before UF ATB BIC	ADP in Breakfast with UF ATB BIC
Brockton Brookfield Elementary	79%	38%	87%
Taunton Elizabeth Pole Elementary	64%	28%	96%
Webster Park Avenue Elementary	69%	30%	86%
Worcester Jacob Hiatt	75%	17%	91%

These gains are typical of the growth in participation when a school operates a UF ATB BIC program

#### **Academic & Social benefits of UF ATB BIC**

- Students learn better when well-fed
  - Perform better on standardized tests
  - Have improved concentration, alertness, comprehension, memory and learning



- Time on learning is increased
  - Tardiness rates go down
  - Reduction in the number of classroom disturbances and disciplinary referrals (no more "hangry" students)
  - Fewer visits to school nurse
- Social skills and sense of community is built;
   younger children develop and refine motor skills
- All children offered a breakfast and no child is stigmatized for needing food

#### **Components of a school breakfast**

- 2010 HHFKA overhauled federal and state guidelines for portion size and nutritional content
- On average, students who participate in a school meal program benefit from higher intakes of many nutrients

 Compared with non-participants, children who eat breakfast at school typically have a lower intake of

added sugars



## BIC also benefits the bottom line for districts' Food & Nutrition Services (FNS)

"A Healthy School Breakfast Initiative means a healthy fiscal position - and many districts are not in a healthy fiscal position"

- Donna Lombardi, Director of Nutrition, Worcester Public Schools

- Fixed costs associated with running a DESE mandated school breakfast program are high
- Marry those costs with low cafeteria participation and many school breakfast programs run at a deficit
- BIC will increase participation, increase federal reimbursements, cover those fixed cross and, in most cases a BIC program will run a "profit"

Takeaways – (1) BIC helps ensure a healthy FNS budget, (2) Healthy FNS budget can invest in improved meal quality

## Eos is committed to expand BIC statewide by 2020 - funding available

Eos provides up to \$12,500 per school to launch BIC + technical assistance

- One-time grant
- Eligible schools recommended to have 60%+ free- and reduced- price meal eligible student populations
- January 2016 next RFP release for SY16-17 implementation

Schools with at least 80% BIC participation also receive a Healthy Start Award and unrestricted grant for \$500

- Grant offered every year Eos runs the program
- No free- and reduced- price eligible requirement

#### **Thank You**

# Appendix Panelist contact information & Additional resources to launch BIC

#### **Panelist Contact Information**

NKI District	Contact
Brockton	Tom Minichello, School Committee Member  tjm@sm-llp.net  Mary Ellen Kirrane, Director of Wellness K-12  MARYEKIRRANE@bpsma.org, (508) 894-4369
Taunton	Dr. Julie Hackett, Superintendent <a href="mailto:jhackett@tauntonschools.org">Jhackett@tauntonschools.org</a> , (508) 821-1100
Webster	Carrie Wallace, Principal, Park Avenue Elementary <a href="mailto:cwallace@webster-schools.org">cwallace@webster-schools.org</a> , (508) 943-4554
Worcester	Donna Lombardi, Director of School Nutrition LombardiD@worc.k12.ma.us, 508-799-3132

## **Eos Foundation NKI Funding Opportunity – Key Facts**

#### All applicants must:

- Serve children in grades PreK-8
- Form a Breakfast Implementation Team to help ensure a successful implementation
- Be willing to serve BIC to all classrooms within the school building <u>after</u> the school bell
- Utilize a share table/basket in all classrooms
- Strive for 80% or greater BIC participation
- Comply with the grant requirements as specified in the RFP

#### **NKI Funding Opportunity – Key Dates**

### For schools interested to introduce BIC at the beginning of SY2016-2017

2016 RFP dates		
January 11, 2016	RFP released	
February 11, 2016	Intent to apply email to indicate interest in applying for grant	
March 10, 2016	Proposals due	
March 21 – May 19, 2016	Interviews with finalists	
May 20, 2016	Grant recipients notified	

#### Massachusetts School Breakfast Challenge

Launched January 2013 as a partnership among several stakeholders

- State-wide focus on the importance of school breakfast and call to increase participation
- Friendly competition and resource sharing opportunity to all schools in the Commonwealth
- Highlights funding opportunities to support school breakfast efforts
- Contact: visit <u>www.MASchoolBreakfast.org</u>