

### **Online Tools**

Increasing Access
of Low-Income
Moms to Relevant
and Realistic
Messages

Judy F. Wilson, MSPH, RD Senior Nutrition Advisor Office of Research and Analysis FNS-USDA

October 29, 2012



### **Presenter Disclosures**

**Judy Wilson** 

"No relationships to disclose"

### **Co-Authors**

### Paul McConaughy, MA

Michigan Fitness Foundation Michigan Nutrition Network Lansing, MI

### Catherine S. Copley

Planning & Research
Porter Novelli Public Services
Washington, DC

### Joyce Patterson, MPH

University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

### Patricia Jordan, RD, CDN

Bureau of Supplemental Food Programs N.Y.S. Department of Health NYS WIC Nutrition Coordinator, Albany, NY

### Linda Melcher, MS, RD

Nutrition Education Consultant, Laramie, WY

### Session Objective

- Describe the key research findings
- Describe developmental process of messages and communication tools
- Identify ways to integrate the audience-tested communication tools
- Discuss and apply the process used in developing these resources in practice

# The "Digital Divide" Internet Usage by Income



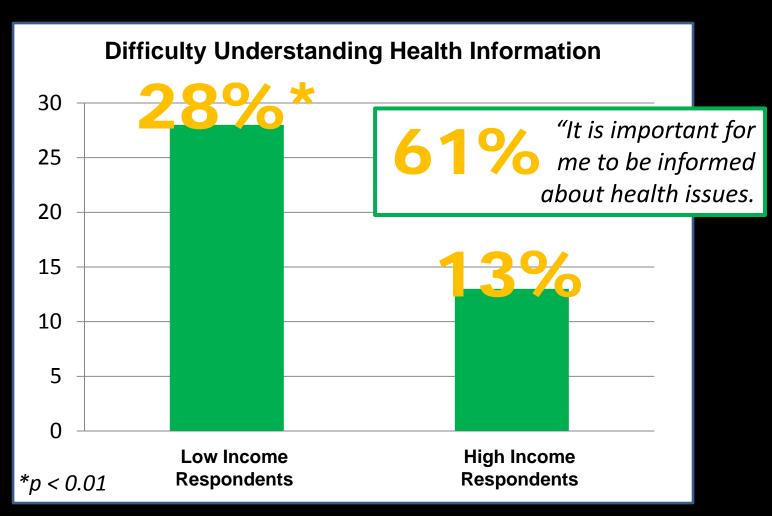
### US Census Bureau Statistics

Percent of persons 18 years old and over.

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2011</u>
<\$30,000	35%	63%
\$50,000 to_\$74,999	74%	89%
Difference	39%	26%

ource: US Census Bureau, Adult Computer and Adult Internet Users by Selected Characteristics: 2000 to 2011, Statistical Abstract of the US www.census.gov, accessed September 27, 2012

### **Health Confusion**



Source: Weber & Burns, Social Media's Role in Bridging the Health Information Gap, 2012 Styles Survey.

### Overview and Background

Core Nutrition Messages

Helping Moms & Kids Make Healthier Food Choices



### Purpose

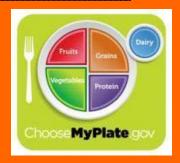
### **Empowering People**

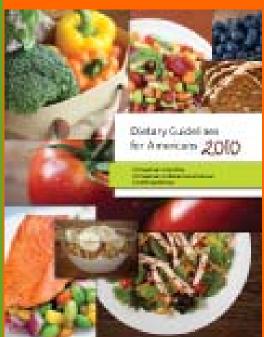
- Consumer-tested, relevant and actionable messages and tips
- Help participants understand and apply the DGAs
- Support UDSA priorities and program polices
- Facilitate collaboration and communication of consistent messages across the nutrition programs.

### **Program Policies**

WIC Food Package Rule; School Meal...

### **Federal Guidance**





### Audience

### **Low-income Moms**

of Preschool (2-5) and Elementary School Kids (6-10) and Kids (8-10)





### **Target Behaviors:**

- Mothers and kids consume recommended amounts of:
  - Fruits and Veggies
  - Whole Grains
  - Milk products choosing primarily fat-free or low-fat milk
- Mothers use child feeding practices that support development of healthy eating habits





### Developmental Process

### Collaborative, Audience-Focused Approach

### **Core Message Workgroup**

WIC, CND, FDP, CNPP, SNAP, NWA, SNA, NDC, CDC, NIH, ASTPHND, State leaders, regional representatives

Porter Novelli

Stakeholder Reviews



Consumer Research

Methodology

2010/2011

36 focus groups in 6 cities

N = 176 Mothers



### **Demographics of Focus Groups**



35% Hispanic

45% African American

About 80% participate in one nutrition assistance program

45% participate in WIC

19% White

### **Education**

**Employment** 

49% Not Working

29% FT

22% PT

3% college grad

49% some college/vocation al/ technical school

48% HS or less

# Key Research Findings: Lessons Learned from Moms

Message
Attributes
that Appeal
Most to
Moms



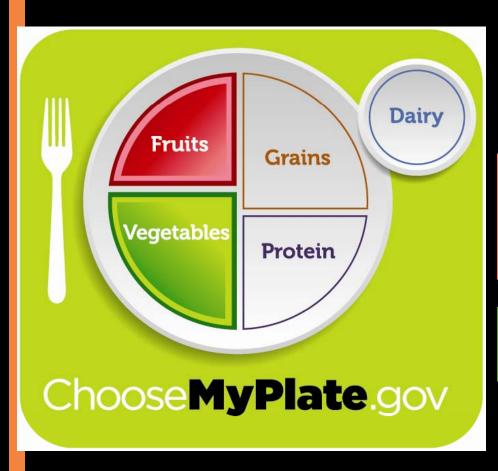
### Messages that resonated with

### mothers:

- Evoked feelings of empowerment
- Spoke to their influence on kids long term health
- Offered practical tips
- Addressed health benefits
- Novel and relevant information and ideas



### Supporting MyPlate



### **Whole Grains**

Fruits & Vegetables

Milk

### Whole Grains

### For All Moms





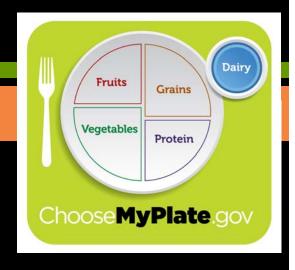
Give yourself and those you love the goodness of whole grains.

Make at least half of the grains you eat whole grains – such as bread, tortillas, pasta and cereals. Whole grains are good for your heart and digestion, and can help you maintain a healthy weight and good overall health.

### Milk

### For Moms of Preschool Kids





# Mom is a child's first teacher.

You teach by doing. Every time you drink fat-free or low-fat (1%) milk, or eat low-fat yogurt, you're giving your kids a lesson in how to eat for better health. It's a lesson they can use for all their lives.

### Child Feeding

Enjoy each other while enjoying family meals



Keep meal time relaxed to nourish the body and help your family make stronger connections. Let your little ones select which foods to put on their plates and how much to eat from the healthy choices you provide.

# Information seeking behaviors and technology use among low-income moms.



**Key Findings** 

### Information Seeking Behavior

Regular computer and Internet access

Many seek info online by visiting multiple web sites

~25% have smartphones



### Communications for Healthy Family

Mothers were asked: "What is the best way to provide you with information to help you and your family eat healthfully?"

Information in the doctor's office

Opt-in email newsletter

Recipes with step by step instructions



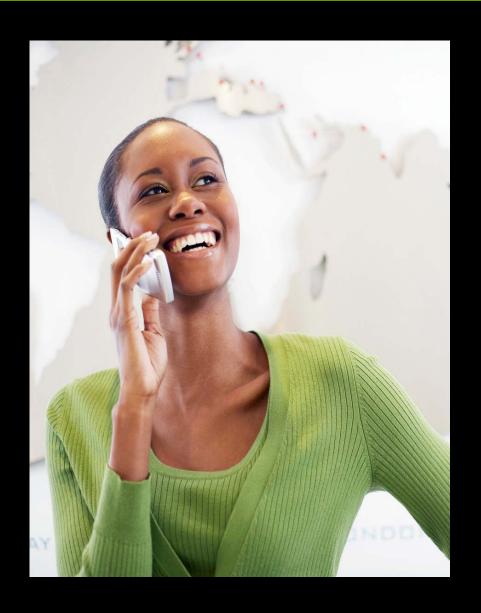
### **Cell Phone Communications**

### **Cell Phones were:**

Not preferred means for communications

Mixed reactions on how info could be received via phone

If positive, like "opt-in texts"



### Sources of Interest

### On health, meal prep, parenting:

- Recipe websites
- Cooking or food TV shows
- Diet or dieting website resources
- Parenting websites & mags



### Where Moms would Like/Expect to see

# information Most common:

**Facebook** 

Online/resource/website

Through email (including newsletters)

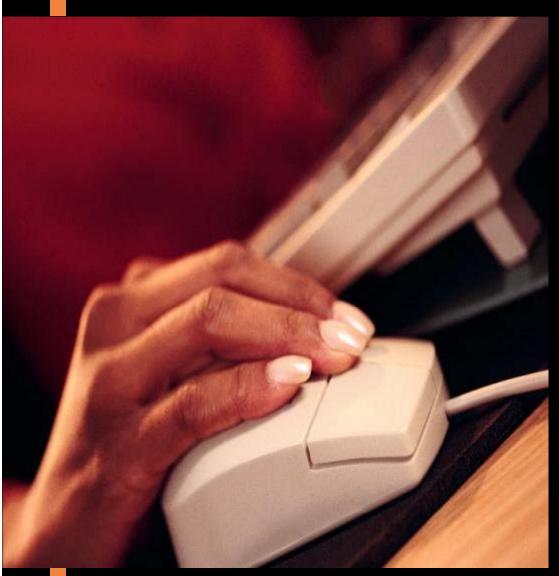
Online or TV news (links on homepages)

Grocery stores, MD offices, schools.



### On Line Communication Tools:

What We Wanted to Achieve



Provide ready-to-go tools

Provide use examples

### Three Test Concepts

Easy Ways
To Eat Healthier

### Easy Ways To Eat Healthier

Low-Fat Milk

Whole Grains

Fruits & Veggies

Money Saving Tips

Family Meals

Videos Widgets Rollovers

### There's no power like mom power.

You are a positive influence in your children's lives. Help them develop healthy eating habits for life. Offer them low fat or fat-free (1% fat or less) milk and yogurt at meals and snacks.

### Recipe of the month

### **BROCCOLI CASSEROLE**

- 1 large head broccoli
- 3 medium shallots
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

### Serve low fat and fat-free milk at meals and snacks.









Consumer's General Reactions



# "Real"

Families



Realistic ways to make changes and involve kids.



# Print, Save or Bookmark







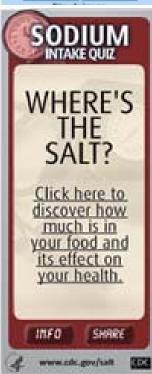




and

Pop Ups







# Control

### Video Concept

### Easy Ways To Eat Healthier

Low-Fat Milk

Whole Grains

Fruits & Veggies

Money Saving Tips

Family Meals

### There's no power like mom power.

You are a positive influence in your children's lives. Help them develop healthy eating habits for life. Offer them low fat or fat-free (1% fat or less) milk and yogurt at meals and snacks.

### Recipe of the month

### **BROCCOLI CASSEROLE**

- 1 large head broccoli
- 3 medium shallots
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

### Serve low fat and fat-free milk at meals and snacks.



### How to tell if it is a whole grain.



### Keep mealtimes easygoing.



### Videos: Suggestions for

**Improvement** 

### **Personally Appealing**

- Bright colors
- More movement
- Animation



### Written Words



### Images of Kids



### Recipes



### Final Videos

http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns/corenutritionmessages/especially\_for\_moms\_page.htm\_\_\_\_\_\_



# Widget Concept

### Easy Ways **To Eat Healthier**

Low-Fat Milk

Whole Grains

Fruits & Veggies

Money Saving Tips

Family Meals

### Give yourself a the goodness o

Make at least half of the grain pasta and cereals - whole gra for your heart, digestion, a he

Recipe of the

**BROCCOLI CASSEROLE** 

2 cups shredded cheddar c

1 large head broccoli

3 medium shallots



Quench their thirst with a frosty glass of low-fat or fat-free (1% fat or less) milk after school or play.

next tip

More tips at USDA website.gov



on the package.

**GIVE THE** 

GOODNESS

**OF WHOLE** 

**GRAINS** 

next tip

More tips at USDA website.gov



Look for bread, cereal, tortillas and pasta with "100% Whole Grain" or "100% Whole Wheat"

Rollover

Low-Fat Milk

Whole Grains

Fruits & Veggies

Money Saving Tips

Family Meals

### Give yourself and those you love the goodness of whole grains.

Make at least half of the grains you eat - such as bread, tortillas, pasta and cereals - whole grains. Fiberrich whole grains are good for your heart, digestion, a healthy weight and overall health.

### Recipe of the month

### **BROCCOLI CASSEROLE**

- 1 large head broccoli
- 3 medium shallots
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

### How to tell if it is a whole grain.



cepts

### Reactions to Widget



Simple
Effective
Easy to Access

### Reactions to Widget



"In the past when I click on something I get 50 different spam emails. I wouldn't click on it, even in my trusted website."

> Mother of an Elementary School-Aged Child, Raleigh

### Reactions to Rollover



"Instead of just zoning out on a video, you actually are interactive with it."

Mother of an Elementary School Aged Child, Catonsville



Give Yourself and Those You Love the Goodness of Whole Grains.

Whole grains are rich in vitamins, minerals and other nutrients to help keep your family healthy. At least half of the grains you eat each day should be whole grains.

### The Rollover Widget

Roll over the images below for tips to help you identify whole –grain foods and include them in meals and snacks.











Choose foods that are whole grain. Some foods are always whole grain, like oatmeal, brown rice, wild rice and popcorn.

### Milk Rollover



### **Milk Matters**

Fat-free and low-fat (1%) milk gives your entire family calcium, protein and vitamin D for strong bones, teeth and muscles.

Roll over the images below for tips to help your family get the milk they need, plus ways to make the switch to lower-fat milk easier.











Prepare snacks and meals with your kids. Make smoothies by blending together 1% fat milk, fruit and low-fat yogurt. Or, make oatmeal with 1% fat milk instead of water.

### The Web Site



A page for each topic area

### **Core Nutrition Messages**



### NEW

### Whole Grains, Milk, and Child **Feeding Messages**

Make an even bigger impact with these new consumer-tested messages and communication tools from the Food and Nutrition Service. These tested messages complement existing messages and the new Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Designed specifically for populations served by WIC, SNAP, Child Nutrition and other federal nutrition assistance programs, the messages can help nutrition educators deliver consistent messages that resonate with moms and kids and motivate them to adopt healthier eating habits.

### Use these resources as part of nutrition education to help:

- •Increase consumption of whole grains, fat-free and low-fat (1% fat or less) milk. and fruits and vegetables.
- •Encourage child feeding practices that foster healthy eating habits.

See background and implementation guide, for information about the target audience, development process, ideas for using messages and more.

Download mese powerful new messages and tools and use to inspire your audience to make positive changes in their eating behaviors!

### lewl

### Milk

- Messages
- Tips , A
- Commur

Whole G

- Messages

New!

### Videos, widget and

Child Feeding

Messages

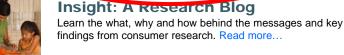
Kids' video game

- Tips, Adv.
- Communication Too



### For Kids

- Messages
- Learning Activities No



### Also See

### Messages, Tips, Advice By Topic

- -Milk
- Whole Grains
- -Child Feeding
- -Fruit & Vegetables

### **About Messages**

- -Background
- -Implementation Guide

**Communication Tools** Research Findings Blog **Training Materials & Tools Especially for Moms** 

### Post, Use, Share

To help you reinforce messages and motivate moms and kids



### Videos





www.fns.usda.gov/fns/corenutritionmessages/default.htm

### Especially for **Moms**

**Recipes Videos Rollovers Fact sheets** 



### **Core Nutrition Messages**

### **Especially for Moms**

As a Mom, we know you want your kids and the entire family to eat the foods they need to grow, develop and do their best at school, play and work. That's why we have provided these recipes, videos, tips, and factsheets just for you! You will find quick and easy recipes kids and other family members will enjoy. Videos, rollover widgets and factsheets tips provide ideas on ways to get your kids to try new foods, eat whole grains, fruits and vegetables and low-fat milk and yogurt.

Recipes: Easy, delicious, and healthy foods your family will enjoy!

### Whole Grains







Fruits & Veggies

· Cooking with Kids

**MyPlate** 

Videos: View these video and learn how moms, just like you, are helping their kids families eat healthier foods.

### Whole Grains





Rollover Widgets: Learn about the health benefits of these foods and get ideas about ways to motivate kids to eat them!







Fact Sheets, Tips, Advice: Get clear and accurate facts and easy ways to : include great tasting whole grains in meals, switch to low-fat milk products in 3 easy steps and simple ways to help kids learn to make healthy foods choices.

- Easy ways to "Make the switch to low-fat milk"

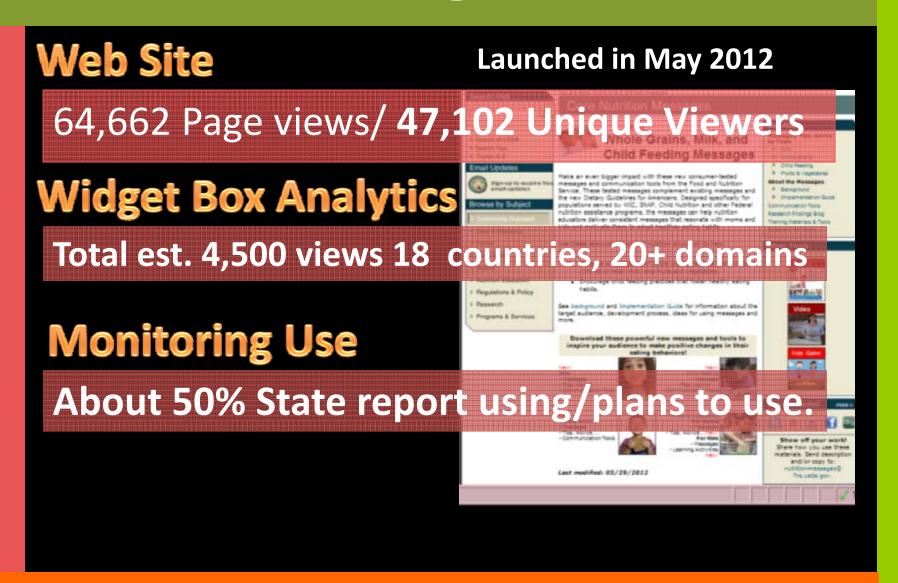


- · Whole Grains
- · Milk
- · Child Feeding
- · Fruit & Vegetables

Fun Ways for Kids to Learn

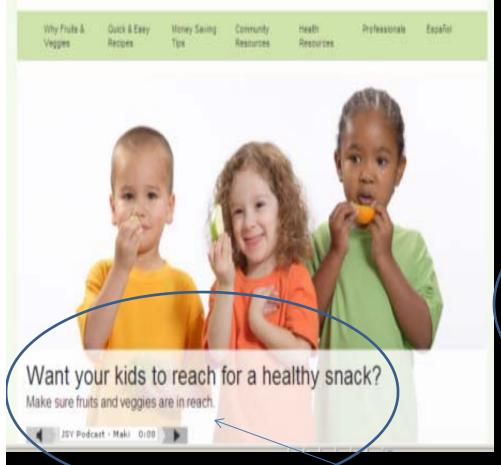
- Messages
- · Game
- · Activity sheets

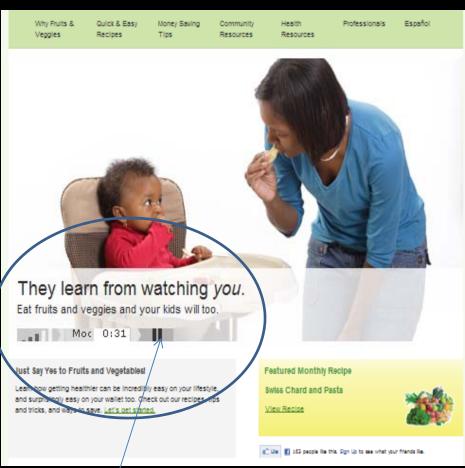
### **Measuring Results**



### Online Education: New York



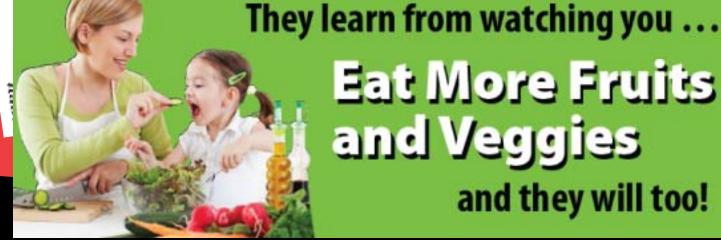




Audio version of mom's stories

### Michigan's Billboards





Eat More Fruits and Veggies and they will too!







## Socorro Soc



### **New Mexico**

Piloting social marketing campaign targeting Spanish speaking audiences.

### Wrap Up

- Support & extend reach of programs
- Extend reach of research-based messages
- Allow use in various formats
- Complement/support traditional approaches



### For more information visit our web pages at: http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns/corenutritionmessages/default.htm



Write to: nutritionmessages@fns.usda.gov