

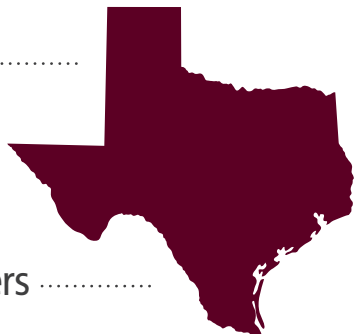
EXPANDED FOOD AND NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM

Educating Families Since 1969

2023 // Cameron County Outreach

1,281
participants

4,914
family members



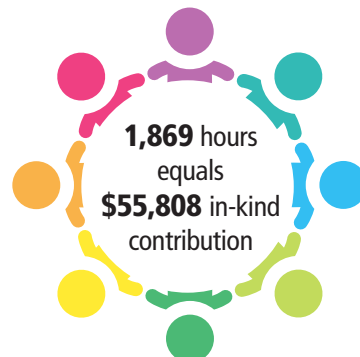
90%

made a positive
change in one or
more food groups



172 volunteers

1,869 hours
equals
\$55,808 in-kind
contribution



Adult Outreach

57% increased
physical activity behaviors



42%
checked for
sales more
often before
shopping



89%
practice better
food resource
management

MyPlate Practices



94%
changed diet
quality
behaviors



40%
ate dark-green
vegetables more
often



74%
improved
food safety
practices

Youth Outreach



4,114
Kinder – 12th

88%

improved ability
to choose
healthy food

68%

improved safe
food handling
practices

62%

improved
physical activity
behaviors





Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program Cameron County

SUPPORTING TEXAS FAMILIES WITH GREATEST NEED SINCE 1969

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) helps young families and youth with limited resources—those most at risk to suffer from hunger, food insecurity, and the inability to connect with available support systems. EFNEP offers practical lessons in basic nutrition, food preparation, food budget management, and food safety in settings convenient for the participants. Program graduates reflect significant, lasting improvement in eating behaviors and healthy food habits. Texas has a need for EFNEP - 2021 data shows that nearly 20 percent of Texas children under the age of 18 live in families that have income below the poverty level, compared to 17 percent of U.S. children.

EFNEP REACHES DIVERSE AUDIENCES

In Texas, ethnically diverse EFNEP nutrition assistants reach youth and adult groups whose principal language may be English or Spanish.

In 2023:

- 1,281 families enrolled in EFNEP;
- 4,114 youth contacts were made through the EFNEP youth program;
- 68% of EFNEP participants have children under the age of 19;
- 50% of families were at or below 100% of federal poverty level; and
- 54% of families enrolled in one or more food assistance programs.



EFNEP MAKES A REAL DIFFERENCE

Adult Program

Using “hands-on” experiences, EFNEP adult participants complete at least a four-lesson series on stretching food dollars, improving eating habits, and practicing food safety principles. As a result of participation in EFNEP, participants will learn to prepare more meals and snacks at home, be more active, control portion size, and have more energy.

Youth Program

The EFNEP – Youth program is directed toward low-income school-age youth. These students participate in a series of fun and educational lessons on good nutrition and food safety as part of summer programs and classroom and after-school activities. Through fun and engaging activities, youth learn to build a healthy plate, set limits on sugar, fats, and sodium, be active, food safety, and to practice healthy behaviors.



COST-BENEFIT OF EFNEP

Studies have shown that for every \$1 spent on EFNEP, \$10 were estimated to be saved in health care costs and \$2 saved in food costs by participants. For Texas, this is \$45 million in estimated health care cost savings and almost \$9 million in food costs.

VOLUNTEERS STRENGTHEN EFNEP

In 2023, 172 volunteers donated 1,869 hours of work to EFNEP in Texas. At the Texas rate of \$29.86/hr, this volunteerism has a minimum dollar value of \$55,808. Volunteers make a difference in their own communities and contribute to EFNEP’s continued success.

For more information visit efnep.tamu.edu.



TexasEFNEP



TX_EFNEP



Texas EFNEP

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