



Protect \$100,000 in DOH's budget for Farmers Market Nutrition Programs to ensure \$900,000 of federal dollars for WIC families, poor seniors and Washington farmers

Background: Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) operate Farmers Market Nutrition Programs (FMNP) which provide vouchers to low-income mothers, children and seniors to purchase healthy food from local growers at farmers markets across Washington. With only \$100,000 in state funds, FMNP leveraged more than \$894,000 in federal dollars in 2011 to support local farms and healthy food for poor families.

DOH's Nutrition Services division provides administrative support for WIC FMNP and, through shared efficiencies with DSHS, for Senior FMNP as well. Without sufficient administrative funds in the DOH budget, Washington will eliminate the Farmers Market Nutrition Programs for WIC families *and* for low income seniors.

By preserving these administrative funds, our state would be able to continue to leverage \$894,000 in federal funds. Farmers Market Nutrition Program funds are highly competitive among states; if Washington eliminates our programs now, we won't be able to bring them back when times are better.

Impact of FMNP in Washington's Communities:

- \$900,000 federal dollars enhancing our state's economy**
- 76,000 low-income seniors, new moms and young kids eat more fresh produce**
- 887 Washington farmers in 38 counties earn an extra \$1.5 million**
- 130 Farmers Markets and 179 farm stores serve more shoppers**
- more sales of fresh local food = more jobs and healthier communities**

FMNP is a food assistance program that promotes health: Low-income seniors, new moms and young kids are able to supplement their families' food budget and eat healthy, fresh WA grown produce.

FMNP is good for Washington's economy –farmers create jobs:

FMNP creates jobs: 115 of the surveyed farmers employ 600 people to grow and sell fresh food
 FMNP keeps farmers farming: 55% of the surveyed farmers earn 75% or more of their family income from farming
 Farmers Markets keep local dollars local: Every **\$100** spent at farmers market, **\$62 is reinvested locally, \$99 stays in state**
 FMNP brings \$900,000 federal dollars into our state

FMNP is good for local communities: FMNP brings more farmers into farmers markets. Losing FMNP would cause 51 markets across the state to lose farmers and sales, threatening the market's economic viability.

For more information, contact:
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The effort to protect WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Programs is supported by a broad array of community leaders, social justice organizations, farmers and markets:

Farming Businesses

Anacortes Farmers Market
Alm Hill Gardens (Everson)
Alvarez Farms (Mabton)
Around the Table Farm
Ballard Farmers Market
Banner Ranch
Bayview Farmers Market
Bellingham Farmers Market
Bills' Bees
Blue Heron Farm
Blue Moon Produce
Bolles Farm
Bothell Farmers Market
Brookfield Farm
Broadway Farmers Market
Calliope Farm
Camas Farmers Market
Caruso Farm
Cascade Harvest Coalition
Central Co-op (Seattle)
Chewelah Farmers Market
Cloudview Eco Farms (Royal City)
Community Farm Connection (Wenatchee)
Columbia City Farmers Market
Coupeville Farmers Market
Crossroad Farmers Market
Dancing in the Dirt Farm
Deep Harvest Farm
Dharma Ridge Farm
Evergreen State College Organic Farm
Ephrata Farmers Market
Ferry View Farm (Clinton)
Finn River Farm
Foxfire Farm
Front Porch Farm
Full Circle Farm (Carnation)
Fussy Hen Flower and Herb Farm
Georgetown Farmers Market
Gibbs Organic Produce
Gig Harbor Farmers Market
Grow Food
Harlow Gardens
Hermiston Melon Co.
Holly Tree Farm
Hungry Robin Garden, Spokane
Institute for Washington's Future
Interbay Farmers Market
Island Meadow Farm (Vashon)
Kingston Farmers Market

Kirkland Wed Farmers Market
Kirsop Farm (Tumwater)
Kittitas Valley Greenhouse
Lake City Farmers Market
Lake Forest Park Farmers Market
Lazy R Ranch (Cheney)
Let Us Farm (Oakville)
Little Gnome Farm
Meadowlark Farm
Madrona Farmers Market
Magnolia Farmers Market
Mercer Island Farmers Market
Molly's Island Garden
Nash's Organic Produce (Sequim)
Naughty Dog Farm (Vashon)
Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance
Nootka Rose Farm
Oak Harbor Farmers Market
Olsen Farms
Ornery Heron Farm (Spokane)
Oxbow Center (Carnation)
P.e.a.c.h. Community Farm
Pheasant Fields Farm
Phinney Farmers Market
Pike Place Market
Pine Stump Farms (Okanogan)
Ponder Farms (Mount Vernon)
Port Angeles Farmers Market
Poulsbo Farmers Market
Proctor Farmers Market
Prosser Farmers Market
Queen Anne Farmers Market
Quillisascut Farm, Rice
Razey Orchards (Naches)
Red Dog Farm
Red Shed Produce
Rents Due Ranch (Stanwood)
River Farm
Salmon Creek Farmers Market
San Juan Farmers Market Association
Seattle Farmers Market Association
Seattle Urban Farm
Secret Garden Lavender Farm (Seabeck)
Serendipity Farm, (Quilcene)
Silverdale Farmers Market
Skagit Flats Farm (Mount Vernon)
Skagit Valley Food Coop (Mt. Vernon)
Snowberry Farm (San Juan Island)
Sno-Valley Tilth (Carnation)
South Perry Farmers Market (Spokane)

Spring Frog Farm
Susie David's Cattle Company LLC
Tacoma Farmers Market
Terry's Berries
Tenino Farmers Market
Terre Verde Farm
The Old Wheelbarrow
Thirsty Goose Farm
Thousand Flower Farm
Tilth Producers of Washington
Tiny's Organic Orchards
Tonnemaker Family Orchard
Twin Springs Farm
University District Farmers Market
Vancouver Farmers Market
Vashon Island Growers Association
Vashon Farmers Market
Viva Farms (Mount Vernon)
Walla Walla Valley Farmers Market
Wallingford Farmers Market
WA Sustainable Food & Farming Network
WA State Farmers Market Association
WA Young Farmers Coalition
West Seattle Farmers Market
Westover Farms
White Tail Produce
Whitehorse Meadows Farm
Woodinville Farmers Market
WSU Organic Farm
Yacolt Mountain Farm

Anti-Hunger and Social Justice Organizations

Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition
Children's Alliance
Community to Community (Bellingham)
Senior Round Table (Walla Walla)
Slow Food: Skagit River Salish
Saint Leo Food Connection, Tacoma
Neighborhoods Matter Governance Council (Spokane)
Northwest Harvest
Nutrition First

Faith Organizations

Faith Action Network
Catholic Charities of Spokane

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