

## **Chef Ann Foundation**

*Changing the way we feed our kids*

Founded in 2009 by Chef Ann Cooper, a pioneer in school food reform, the Chef Ann Foundation (CAF) believes that *every child* should have access to fresh, healthy food *every day* so that they can develop healthy eating habits to last a lifetime. We think the greatest impact can be had through changing school food. By providing school communities with tools, training, resources and funding, we are able to help schools create healthier food and redefine lunchroom environments. To date, we've reached 6,420 schools and over 2,506,495 children in all 50 states.



We accomplish our mission through our current programming:

- **The Lunch Box:** Many school districts want to transition to healthier school food, but they lack the tools, resources and guidance to make that switch. The Lunch Box is a free online web portal that gives school food professionals free and easy to follow guides to improve kids' nutrition and create sustainable meal programs. Hard-to-get scalable healthy recipes, menu cycles, financial templates, and procurement guides help schools create successful, healthy, and delicious nutrition programs. Since September 2014, 4,502 registered users have downloaded Lunch Box resources 20,802 times.
- **Project Produce:** USDA school food standards require a serving of fruit or vegetables on every school lunch tray, but what happens when students won't eat it? Lunchroom education that includes samplings of fresh fruits and vegetables is a great way to introduce kids to new tastes and help them accept and enjoy the foods that are key for good health. Launched in 2014, Project Produce has helped 41 schools purchase fresh produce to include in their nutrition education efforts, helping 21,399 school kids learn to love fruits and veggies.
- **School Food Support Initiative (SFSI):** Life Time Foundation, Chef Ann Foundation and Whole Kids Foundation have joined forces to provide technical assistance grants to five school districts in 2016. School Food Support Initiative is supporting the selected districts through a technical assistance program that includes a Director's workshop, on-site assessment and strategic planning, peer-to-peer collaboration, and equipment grants. With program services valued at \$118,000, this deep dive into school food reform is helping schools provide 22,321 children with the real, healthy food they deserve by eliminating highly-processed and artificial ingredients from school menus.
- **Let's Move Salad Bars to Schools:** Research shows that incorporating salad bars into school lunches increases children's consumption of fresh produce. To date, Let's Move Salad Bars to Schools has provided 4,486 schools with salad bar equipment and technical assistance, ensuring that 2,243,000 children have daily access to a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables every day.