

# United States Department of Agriculture

Sample Projects Evaluated by PEER

## **Professional Standards Training Grant Assistance Program (\$111,000, 2015–2018)**

This United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)- Food and Nutrition Service grant awarded to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services provided professional standards training for school lunch personnel within rural districts of Florida. While some of the larger school nutrition programs in Florida have established training programs contributing to employee retention and satisfaction, many of Florida's smaller school nutrition programs are unable to provide structured training schedules due to lack of time available outside of the normal workday, dedicated training staff, and capacity to develop training materials. For the Professional Standards Training Assistance program, the Division of Food, Nutrition and Wellness sought to cultivate a series of school nutrition program curricula using current materials developed by the National Food Service Management Institute and Cornell University that focused on operation efficiency, marketing effectiveness, and customer service. The developed materials were used to impart knowledge of on-the-job- training approaches to current kitchen management and/or staff who served as instructors working toward developing a well-educated team of employees, without the need for additional classroom or online continued education hours, to meet the Professional Standards requirements.

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