



Healthy Choices, **Healthy Lives**

FoodWise is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). We advance healthy eating habits, active lifestyles and healthy community environments for Wisconsin residents with limited incomes through nutrition education at the individual, community and systems levels.

The **Landscape**

54%

of population lives in census tracts that are low income & have low access to healthy foods



35%

of adults have obesity



10%

of individuals are food insecure



13%

of households receive SNAP benefits

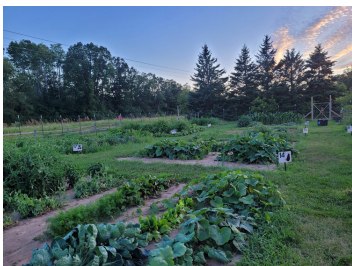


Achieving More **Together**



UW-Madison Division of Extension works alongside the people of Wisconsin to deliver practical educational programs where people live and work – on the farm, in schools and throughout urban and rural communities. In Barron County, FoodWise partners with schools, senior meal programs, food pantries, Barron Farmers' Market and the Barron Community Garden to help make the healthy choice the easy choice in our communities.

Community Impacts **In 2022**



Delivered nutrition education to 768 learners in a variety of settings for HeadStart, and PreK-5 grade school settings.

A Mini Master Gardener/Youth in the Garden class taught kids about vegetables and fruits, and how to grow them in a community garden.

The Barron Community Garden donated 950 pounds of produce between 2 sites, the Barron Food Pantry & the Barron Co. Senior Nutrition Program which increased healthy food access to community members with limited income.

School Education

Young children are the most influential in changing their attitudes and habits. And with 45% of Barron County students being eligible for the Free & Reduced National School Lunch Program, FoodWise has the opportunity to support them in making healthy habits around food.

Consistently, FoodWise educators teach elementary grades 1, 3, & 5, with a series of 5 nutrition education lessons. This frequency aids in a consistent message of healthy eating over the years.

Students show an improvement in knowledge regarding the nutrition education taught in their classrooms.



Andrea, a FoodWise educator, reads a fun book about nutrition to a 1st grade classroom.

Opportunities At the Market

A partnership between Barron County FoodWise and Barron County WIC developed a Farmers' Market EBT and Debit/Credit Program. This effort increases opportunities for individuals experiencing food insecurity to have access to a variety of fresh produce throughout the growing season.

The program began at the Barron County Lane Farmers' Market in June 2022. Support resources come from the community organizations of FoodWise, WIC, Barron County Department of Health & Human Services, Barron Cupboard & Closet, Mayo Clinic Health System, and Country Lane Farmers' Market & Pantry. This program offers increased access to a variety of fresh produce for individuals and families through the purchase of tokens with their EBT card FoodShare dollars. Tokens purchased with their EBT card buy allowable food such as healthy vegetables and fruit. A Debit/Credit program lets individuals who forgot cash use a card to buy tokens to purchase from any participating vendor at the Farmers' Market. Their purchase of tokens helps cover the cost of offering the EBT program.



Representatives of community organizations that participated in the EBT at the Farmers' Market Program.

Connect With Us

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