

Advocating for Farm to Early Care and Education in WA

Developing a Farm to ECE Success Story Template and Producing Subsequent Success Stories



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INTRODUCTION

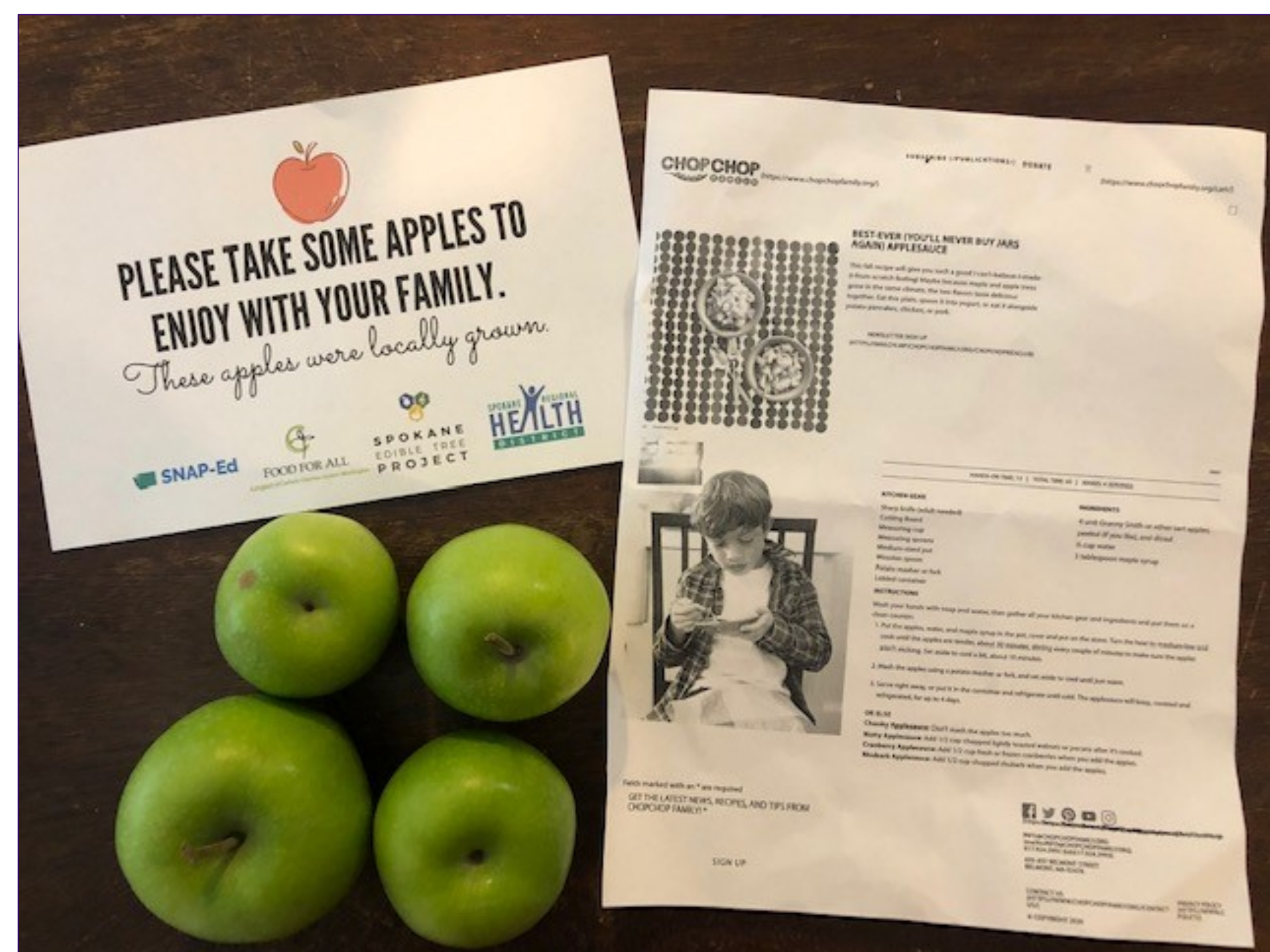
BUILDING SUSTAINABLE FARM TO ECE NETWORKS

Farm to ECE incorporates:

- > School Gardens
- > Agricultural Education
- > Locally-Produced Foods

into Early Care and Education (ECE). WA Department of Health (DOH) and Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition (COPC) formed a statewide farm to ECE coalition. The coalition will produce a **Success Story Template** and **Success Stories** to:

- > Highlight important farm to ECE work
- > Engage new farm to ECE stakeholders
- > Advocate for farm to ECE practice
- > Help achieve the coalition's goals



LOCAL APPLES AND RECIPES DISTRIBUTED TO HEAD START FAMILIES AS PART OF FARM TO ECE WORK IN SPOKANE, WA

METHODS

Success Story Development Process:

- > Review background information
- > Reviewed existing success stories
- > Gather feedback from the coalition
- > Created Success Story Template
- > Engaged farm to ECE programs
- > Wrote Success Stories
- > Shared stories with stakeholders for feedback



LOCAL PRODUCE FOR HEAD START LUNCH IN SPOKANE, WA

RESULTS

Produced three farm to ECE Success Stories based on:

- > Food for All and Spokane Head Start, Spokane
- > The Suquamish Nation's Marion Forsman-Boushie Early Learning Center, Suquamish
- > Skagit/Islands Head Start and Viva Farms, Mt. Vernon

Additional results:

- > Photos collected from each program
- > Stories shared to each program for feedback
- > Stories to be finalized/published later in 2021
- > Success Story Template available for more stories

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

SUCCESS STORIES BENEFIT FARM TO ECE PRACTICE
DOH and COPC will use the Success Story template for more stories. Finalized stories to be shared with participating programs to:

- > Share with parents
- > Share with funders or grantors
- > Share with local partners
- > Share in a newsletter
- > Publish on their website

Stories to be disseminated through statewide farm to ECE website to:

- > Inspire new farm to ECE programs
- > Connect existing programs to new partners
- > Share resources with stakeholders



CLAMSHELL SHAKERS TEACH INFANTS ABOUT SALMON AT THE SUQUAMISH NATION'S EARLY LEARNING CENTER IN SUQUAMISH, WA

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