

The Nuts and Bolts of a Healthy Food Pantry

A toolkit from Steps to Health that helps make the healthy choice the easy choice

BASELINE ASSESSMENT

Food Pantry Name: _____

County: _____ Date of Assessment: _____

Estimated # of clients served/month: _____

Instructions: In partnership with pantry personnel, please select the answer to the following questions regarding practices at the food pantry.

| | YES Great work! | NO There's room for improvement! |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| Does the pantry allow clients to choose their own meat, dairy, or dry goods? | Yes | No See Section 1 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry allow clients to choose their own produce? | Yes | No See Section 1 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry work with partners (i.e., farmers, wholesale, grocery, etc.) to obtain fresh produce? | Yes | No See Section 2 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry intentionally solicit healthy donations? | Yes | No See Section 2 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry have a policy on nutritional quality of distributed food? | Yes | No See Section 2 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry have the capacity to store perishable items? | Yes | No See Section 3 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry encourage selection of healthy foods through product placement and/or attractive display? | Yes | No See Section 4 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry use signage to advertise healthy options and/or provide education on nutrition? | Yes | No See Section 4 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry use bundling or cross-merchandising strategies to encourage healthy choices? | Yes | No See Section 4 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry regularly provide recipes or nutrition handouts to clients? | Yes | No See Section 5 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Does the pantry regularly provide healthy samples or cooking demonstrations? | Yes | No See Section 5 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |
| Do the pantry staff and volunteers encourage and support healthy choices when interacting with clients? | Yes | No See Section 6 of the Resource Guide for suggestions. |