USDA FOODS PLANNED ASSISTANCE LEVEL (PAL)

- Value of USDA Foods an SFA is allotted each school year
  - Calculated using Previous SY reimbursable lunches and effective Federal Meal Rate
- Three options to spend PAL
  - Direct Distributions (DD) – traditional method - automatically enrolled
  - Department of Defense Fresh Fruit and Vegetable (DoD) – Sign up Early Spring of SY before
  - Diverted Foods (DF) – Sign up Early Spring of SY before

DIRECT DISTRIBUTIONS (DD)

- Open to all NSLP participants with available PAL $$$
- Allows ordering of bulk and minimally processed domestic agricultural products
- Six orders per year (A-F)
- Annual survey of available items

DD: BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING

- Access to high quality agricultural products that meet meal pattern requirements
  - Specifications available online
- 180+ items available
- The bulk of the cost is paid for by your PAL dollars
- Can pick up items, if needed

DD: CONSTRAINTS TO PARTICIPATING

- Only order 6 times per year
- Storage space can be limited
- Less flexibility on delivery days and times
- Additional delivery sites cost extra

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE (DoD)

- (Not the FFVP grant program for elementary schools)
- Open to all NSLP participants with $2,000 or more PAL $$$
- Partnership between USDA and the DoD Defense Logistics Agency
  - Current vendor Loffredo Fresh Produce
- Allows ordering of domestic seasonal produce
**DoD: BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING**

- Allows more variety to the USDA Foods you receive
- Fresh fruit and vegetables — bulk and minimally processed (chopped, sliced, etc)
- All produce is US no. 1 or higher grade
- Your PAL dollars pay for everything — value of food plus 4.5% distribution/admin fee
- Weekly deliveries
- Can have multiple delivery sites at no extra cost

**DoD: CONSTRAINTS TO PARTICIPATING**

- Assigned a delivery day by Loffredo
- Must order 3 full business days ahead
- Minimum order $50
- Only domestic produce — so variety changes throughout school year
- After each delivery have to login and confirm receipt
- Must be approved as part of DoD/Vendor Contract

**DIVERTED FOODS (DF)**

- Open to all NSLP participants with available PAL $$
- The process of diverting bulk raw material to a processor, who then makes processed end products for purchase.
- Processing Services have been procured by the State Agency
- For SY 16-17 there are 47 different end products available

**DF: BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING**

- Increases the variety of your USDA Foods
- Can receive products from commercial distributor
- Timely ordering
  - lower storage requirements

**DF: CONSTRAINTS TO PARTICIPATING**

- Administrative time needed
- Tracking pounds (K-12 and Processor Link)
- Verification of invoices
- Only specific processed products available
  - 47 items for SY 16-17

**PROGRAM PARTICIPATION SY 16-17**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>PAL $$ by Program</th>
<th>SFAs by Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DD</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoD</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
QUESTIONS?

- Sarah White
  - Sarah.white@iowa.gov
  - 515-281-4032

- Keerti Patel
  - Keerti.patel@iowa.gov
  - 515-281-3353