# Seattle-King County | Year 5 Recipient Profile



Public Health Seattle-King County (PHSKC) is a recipient of the CDC-funded Sodium Reduction in Communities Program (SRCP), which supports 8 recipients to implement sodium reduction strategies in conjunction with food service partners.



**Population** 

2,252,782

Award Amount

\$339.700 (Year 3)

### Prevalence of High Blood Pressure

20.0% of adults in Seattle have high blood pressure (CDC, 500 Cities Project, Local Data for Better Health, 2017)

# **Key Partners**



**Schools** 

74 Schools within Highline School District, Renton School District, Auburn School District, Seattle Public Schools, and Kent School District



**Emergency Food Venues** 

18 Food Banks and Food Pantries



**Food Sector Partners** 

Washington State University (WSU) Department of Agriculture Regional Markets Program, Northwest Harvest, WSU King County Extension, Seattle King County Food Coalition, Seattle Food Committee, and Food Lifeline

# **Program Implementation**

# Under SRCP, PHSKC is partnering with food service organizations to increase the availability and purchase of lower-sodium food options by

- Implementing food service guidelines/nutrition standards that include sodium
- Changing procurement practices to include lower-sodium options
- Making meal and/or menu modifications to reduce sodium
- Implementing environmental strategies/behavioral economics approaches for lower-sodium products

262,931 individuals reached in Seattle-King County



This profile provides an overview of activities and key achievements through Year 5 (September 30, 2016 - September 29, 2021) of SRCP. Data comes from recipient performance measure reporting and annual performance reports.



#### **Guidelines and Nutrition Standards**



18 entities implementing comprehensive nutrition standards and practices that include sodium

Examples of PHSKC activities included supporting food service organizations to

- Develop language for nutrition standards and policies
- Adopt an implementation plan and develop policy implementation worksheets for individual food banks

#### Meal and Menu Item Recipe Modification



**10** meal/menu items affected by recipe modification to reduce sodium content

Examples of PHSKC activities included supporting food service organizations to

- Identify and transition to a new chef consultant who aids in incorporating recipe changes and staff training
- Implement flavor stations, which highlight the use of spices to improve flavor of meals without increasing sodium
- Teach new skills to Auburn School District Staff to develop cooking techniques, such as preparation of vegetables

# **Procurement Changes**



**64** products/ingredients replaced with a lowersodium alternative

Examples of PHSKC activities included supporting food service organizations to

- Establish a farm that will grow fresh produce for the 12 food banks in the South King County Food Coalition
- Develop donor messaging to encourage lower-sodium donations to food banks

# **Environmental and Behavioral Economic Strategies**



**39,274** people exposed to environmental choice architecture and placement interventions for lower-sodium foods

Examples of PHSKC activities included supporting food service organizations to

- Implement the Healthy Food Environment Project which promotes food banks to change layout to operate more like a grocery store
- Use "Rinse to Reduce" posters for canned goods and shelf labels with sodium reduction messaging
- Refresh the messaging of school meals to promote students' selection of lower-sodium foods

# Intermediate and Long Term Outcomes



Decreased Sodium Content of Purchased Products

**567mg** 

reduction of sodium on average per meal



**Decreased Sodium** Consumption

38,112

individuals purchasing or selecting lower-sodium items

Note: SRCP recipients vary in size and scope of work, so performance measures are not necessarily comparable across recipients.

