

Tips for Celebrating & Sharing Success

As you review this guide and develop your service plan, you will be looking forward: planning, working toward goals, and evaluating progress. Remember to take time to celebrate each success, big or small! It will be important to schedule time throughout the school year for you to take a step back and look at what you have achieved so far. These moments are important for group morale and to promote teamwork. It is also important to share the successes from within your school with the broader school community. The more you share the positive results of your collaborative efforts, the more you are able to honor and celebrate your relationships, and the more long-term support you will gain. Below are some tips for accomplishing this:

✓ **Involve Students**

It is important for students to have a sense of ownership and responsibility in building a nourishing school food environment. Ask students about what they are proud of and what successes they want to share. They will be the best at representing their personal efforts in the larger school community goals. They're also very popular with local media!

✓ **Celebrate the Small Things**

What may seem small is actually big! When you come to a seemingly small milestone, like building the first raised bed, growing the first tomato, or successfully navigating the first

cafeteria taste test, share these successes. People will be excited to learn about what you are doing! Take photos, get quotes, and document your milestones. Post updates in the hallways, include them in the school newsletter and morning announcements, and share successes at schoolwide meetings and family events.

✓ **Share Your Story**

Once you reach these milestones, connect with the local newspaper, radio, or TV stations. Highlight your success along with your overall goals. Feel-good stories are always popular with local news media, and you never know who may want to lend a hand (or provide a donation) after they learn about your efforts. Remember to share your successes with FoodCorps too—through ongoing reporting, through social media, and by communicating with your program coordinator.