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## WHO?

FNP is the Florida component of USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly called the Food Stamp Nutrition Education program. At the state level, it is a partnership between SNAP, Florida Department of Children and Families, and the UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension Service. The Pasco FNP program is made possible locally by a strong partnership between UF/IFAS-Pasco County Extension and the Pasco County Health Department as well as an extensive collaboration of many local agencies and organizations (including the District School Board of Pasco County).

## WHAT?

It is a program designed to teach basic nutrition education and related information (including the promotion of physical activity) to improve the health and quality of life for local citizens.

## WHERE?

Pasco County began its program in Fall 2007 and joined 22 other counties in Florida. There are now FNP programs in 59 counties for 2010-2011!



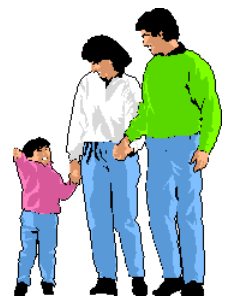
## WHEN?

A grant for approximately \$600,000+/year was approved for October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2010. Half of that amount comes from in-kind (match) donations and the other half is matched with "real" dollars from USDA. We now have seven full-time program assistants on staff to serve 53 eligible schools.

## WHY?

### Family Nutrition Program goals:

- 1) To increase the nutrition security of Florida families.
- 2) To provide practical programs about general nutrition, food selection, food safety and sanitation.
- 3) To assist clients in gaining meal planning and preparation skills and to manage food resources effectively.
- 4) To promote the message of good nutrition and food resource management using strong social marketing.



## HOW?

The Family Nutrition Program (FNP) provides educational programs in food and nutrition to food stamp recipients and food stamp eligible individuals and families. This involves teaching in classrooms/cafeterias/gyms/media centers and school clinics of schools where free/reduced lunch participation is 51% or more. It also includes Parent-Teacher Organization meetings, health department clinics, elderly nutrition sites, food pantries, county libraries and summer camp programs at county parks.

Classes involve hands-on activities, singing/dancing/relays, and food demonstrations to make learning lots of fun! Introduction of creative new materials such as the "Organ Wise Guys" (puppet-like characters, videos/DVDs, workbooks, etc. for all ages) and Sesame Street characters in "Healthy Habits for Life" (preschool) add to the excitement of this program for everyone involved.