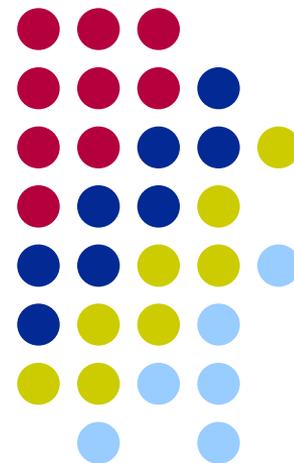


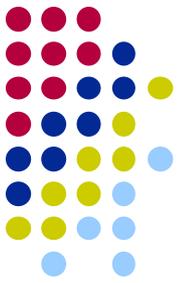
Study of the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)



Presentation at
NAFDPIR Annual
Conference

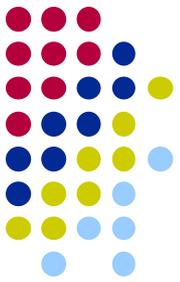
June 25, 2012
Niagara Falls, NY





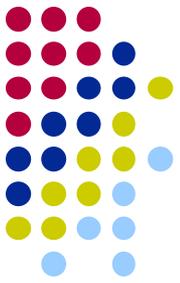
Presentation Outline

- Thank you for this opportunity
- Study overview
- Study design
- How the study will be conducted
- Current status and next steps



PART I.

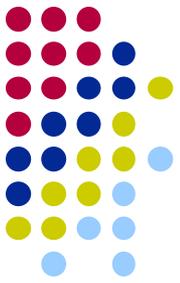
STUDY OVERVIEW



Purpose of the Study

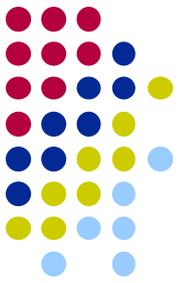
- Provide an updated description of participants and programs
- Gain a better understanding of why FDPIR participation has been declining
- Give USDA FNS the information necessary to improve the program

Study Benefits for FNS & Tribes



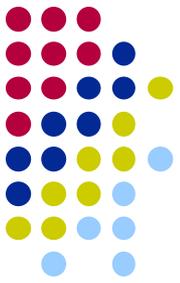
- Provide current information to help FNS improve the program
 - Identify needs of participants
 - Identify ways to make the program more beneficial to participants
- Provide knowledge that can be shared among Tribes and ITOs

Tribal Participation



- Consultation sessions held in January 2012
- Follow-up consultations with Tribes in study sample
- During the study, will need assistance from Tribes in study sample to make it a success
- Materials and updates on FNS' public website
- FNS' dedicated email address for questions: tribalaffairs@fns.usda.gov

Project Organization & Personnel



- Study Sponsor: USDA FNS Office of Research and Analysis (ORA)
 - Bob Dalrymple, Project Officer
- Close collaboration with the Food Distribution Division (FDD)
 - Dana Rasmussen, Chief, Policy Branch
- Project Review-USDA and Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

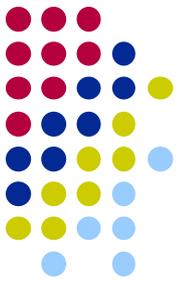
Project Team

- **Urban Institute** – nonprofit research organization based in Washington, DC
 - Nancy Pindus, Diane Levy, Chris Narducci
- **NORC at the University of Chicago*** – premier survey research organization with offices in Chicago, IL, and Bethesda, MD, and field operations staff around the country
 - Carol Hafford, Suzanne Bard
- **Support Services International, Inc. (SSI)** – Native American-owned research firm in Silver Spring, MD
 - Walter Hillabrant

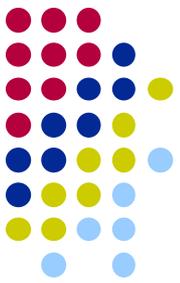


* NORC was founded in 1941 as the National Opinion Research Center

Study Snapshot: Tentative Timeline

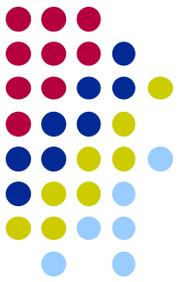


EVENT	DATE
Initial Consultations	January 2012
Instrument Design	January 2012 – August 2012
Contact Selected FDPIR Programs	August 2012
OMB Review	late August 2012 – April 2013
Data Collection	June 2013 – November 2013
Briefing	August 2014
Project Report	September 2014
Follow-up consultations with Tribes in study sample	Fall 2012 - Spring 2013 (dates TBD)



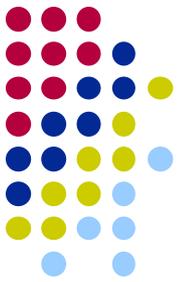
Final Report

- **Final Report in late 2014**
 - Will combine findings across Tribes (demographics, eligibility, food products, delivery options, nutrition education, access to supermarkets)
 - Will include illustrative examples of programs
- **Dissemination**
 - FNS will publish the Final Report and post it on the website
 - FNS will share findings during stakeholder meetings
 - Tribes and ITOs can also share and disseminate the Final Report



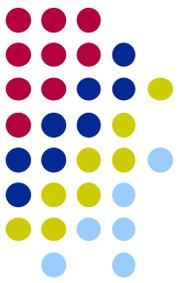
PART II.

STUDY DESIGN



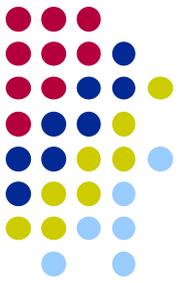
Study Design: Key Topics

- Profile of participants
 - Demographic characteristics
 - Household composition
 - Employment
 - Economic hardship
 - FDPIR eligibility



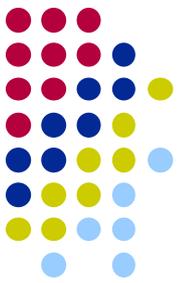
Key Topics (continued)

- Other FDPIR Participant Information
 - Food storage and preparation
 - Accessibility to FDPIR (distance, transportation)
 - FDPIR contribution to food supply
 - Other sources of food assistance
 - Satisfaction with the program
 - Reasons for participation in FDPIR and other programs



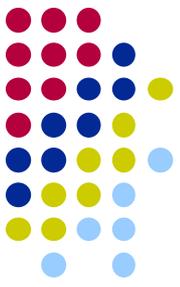
Key Topics (continued)

- **Program information**
 - Nutrition education activities
 - Food distribution methods
 - Factors affecting participation
 - Reasons for declining participation



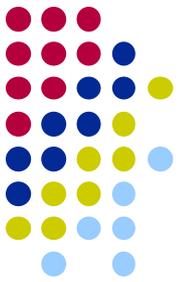
Study Design: Sampling

- Sampling is a statistical method to obtain representative information about a population when it is not possible to collect information from everyone (e.g., a census)
- Nationally representative sample of participating households in 26 FDPIR programs
- Sampling factors and options
 - Size - probability proportionate to the number of households participating in the FDPIR program
 - Region and program participation trends



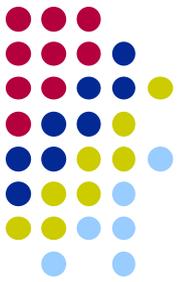
Sampling (continued)

- Study results may be grouped by categories of sites, such as large versus small programs
- No study results will be discussed in terms of a single Tribe/Consortium
- We will need to work with Tribes to select the sample of participants at each site



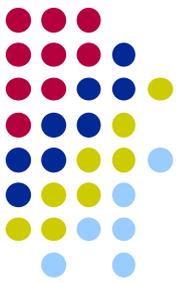
Sources of Data

- Census and other secondary data
- FNS administrative data
- Case records
- Participant survey
- Site visits



PART III.

HOW THE STUDY WILL BE CONDUCTED



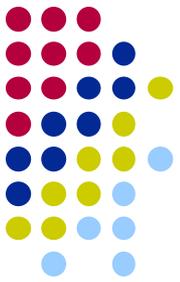
Case Record Reviews

- Demographic and eligibility information about a sample of FDPIR participants and household members for the reference month (TBD)
- Case records will be reviewed for each household selected for the survey (about 32 per site, a total of 832 case record reviews)
- Method for collecting case record data will be worked out with each Tribe to minimize burden

Participant Survey



- Topics include: program participation, participation in other nutrition assistance programs, access to food stores, facilities for storing and preparing food, perspectives on FDPIR customer service
- Respondent will be the household member that applied for FDPIR(Head of Household)
- About 32 interviews will be completed per site, either by telephone or in-person, a total of 832 interviews
- A NORC Field Interviewer assigned to the site will conduct interviews



Site Visits

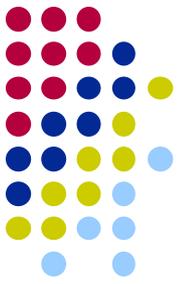
- Staff interviews
- Discussion groups with FDPIR participants and non-participants
- Tour of facilities



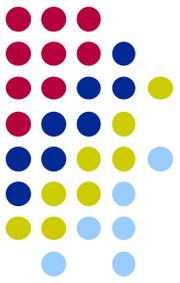
PART IV.

NEXT STEPS

Your Participation will Make this a Successful Study



- **Tribes selected for the sample will be asked to:**
 - Work with our outreach staff to tailor information materials, procedures, and schedules for their tribe
 - Advise us about Tribal research protocols
 - Encourage participation in the survey and site visits
- **Upcoming tasks**
 - Select study sample
 - Submit data collection request to OMB
 - Consultations with leaders of sampled Tribes to be scheduled



In Conclusion

- **We request your input on:**
 - Strategies for encouraging participation by FDPIR staff and program participants in the sampled Tribes
 - Areas of potential concern about the study
 - Topics/questions to include that would help us to better understand why participation is declining
- **We welcome other comments and ideas**
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