

OLR Brown Bag Lecture Series

"Access to Healthy Food in Low-Income Communities"

Thursday, September 29 from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

Room 2600, LOB

Panelists will discuss the most important aspects of accessibility, barriers that low-income populations face, strategies for increasing access, and legislative recommendations.

Expert Panelists

Dr. Tatiana Andreyeva is Director of Economic Initiatives at the Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity at Yale University. Dr. Andreyeva's current research focuses on the determinants of access to healthy foods in low-income communities and the role of economic incentives in food choices and diet, including food prices and taxation, and the federal assistance and nutrition programs. Dr. Andreyeva's research also examines the effects of food marketing on children's diet and obesity and economic implications of weight stigma in youth. Before joining the Rudd Center, she worked at RAND Corporation on a variety of health policy issues, including health promotion, retirement behavior, health care systems, obesity, and mental health. Dr. Andreyeva completed her PhD at the Pardee RAND Graduate School in Santa Monica.

John Frassinelli is director of Connecticut's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (better known as the WIC program) at the Department of Public Health. He was the Founding Chair of the National Council of Fruit and Vegetable Nutrition Coordinators, is a board member of the National Association of State and Territorial Public Health Nutrition Directors, and serves on the CT Food Policy Council and the UConn Department of Allied Health Sciences Advisory Committee. He is a registered dietitian and holds a Masters Degree in Health Promotion and a Bachelors in Dietetics from UConn, and a Bachelors in Political Science from Southern CT State University.

Jiff Martin is the Sustainable Food System Associate for University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension. Prior to this position, she was the CT State Director of American Farmland Trust (2006-2010). She also served as Project Director for Working Lands Alliance (2002-2010), a statewide coalition that supports farmland preservation.

Lucy Nolan is the Executive Director of End Hunger Connecticut! - a non-profit organization dedicated to ending hunger in Connecticut. Lucy's expertise on food security, hunger, and poverty as it relates to hunger has brought her before Congress and the Connecticut legislature to testify on issues ranging from food stamps to school nutrition to farmer's markets. Successful legislative initiatives include increasing school breakfast funding and food stamp accessibility, and as lead advocate on passage of the country's toughest school nutrition legislation. Lucy testified before the US Senate Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Committee on out of school children's food programs. Lucy received her BA from Ohio Wesleyan University, and her JD from the University Of Connecticut School Of Law.