

ILLINOIS
WIC AND SENIOR FARMERS'
MARKET NUTRITION
PROGRAM



**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES**

WIC & SENIOR FARMERS MARKET MISSION

- **Encourage** low-income families & seniors to eat more fruits & vegetables
- **Help** family farmers increase their markets for locally-grown fruits & vegetables
- **Educate** low income families about healthful eating

FY08 WIC FARMERS MARKET

- 2008 was the **13th year** for the program in **ILLINOIS**
- **USDA** awarded **ILLINOIS** over \$300,000
- 33,000 **WIC** clients in 34 counties served
- Coupon booklets contain **five \$3 coupons** (\$15 value)
- **One booklet** is distributed to each eligible participant per season

FY08 SENIOR FARMERS MARKET

- 34,000 **Seniors** in 34 counties served
- Coupon booklets contain **seven \$3** coupons (**\$21** value)
- **One booklet** is distributed for each eligible participant per season
- Coupons distributed through the **Department on Aging** area agencies and **Catholic Charities** of the archdiocese of Chicago

FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Coupons must be used to purchase **locally grown** fruits and vegetables
- Farmer applications will not be accepted after **September 30th**
- Program cannot operate beyond **November 30th** of each year
- Farmers must receive **training** on program requirements. New farmers must receive **face to face** training

Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

- **359 farmers at 73 markets**
- **Counties participating in 2008:**

Adams

Kankakee

Peoria

Boone

Lake

Perry

Champaign-Urbana

Logan

Pike

Coles

Macon

Rock Island

Cook (selected areas)

Marion

Sangamon

DeKalb

McDonough

St. Clair

Dewitt-Piatt

McHenry

Union

Edgar

McLean

Vermilion

Franklin-Williamson

Marshall

Washington

Jackson

Morgan

Winnebago

Jefferson

Moultrie

FARMER CERTIFICATION

- Farmer reads current **training/handbook** (refer to last page for steps)
- Completes FMNP application and contract **each year** prior to accepting checks

POSSIBLE WAYS TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE FARMERS MARKET PROGRAMS IN ILLINOIS

- Markets coming to the WIC and Senior agencies **parking lots**
- Continued nutrition education for participants
- Collaborate with the formation of the Illinois Farmers Market Association