



## **WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program**

### ***June 2014***

The Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program works to address issues of poor nutrition and obesity among low-income residents of Washington State. The Washington WIC Nutrition Program operates the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program for WIC clients and provides vendor contracting, training, and monitoring for the Department of Social and Health Services Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program. These programs are funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to encourage seniors and WIC participants to buy local, fresh fruits and vegetables from local growers. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, WIC Farmers Market grant requires a thirty percent state match on administrative activities.

**Mission/Purpose:** Encourage purchase and consumption of local and fresh produce by WIC participants, and support local growers.

**Target Population:** Low-income children through age five, and pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women with a nutrition risk who are participating in the WIC Nutrition Program.

### ***Services***

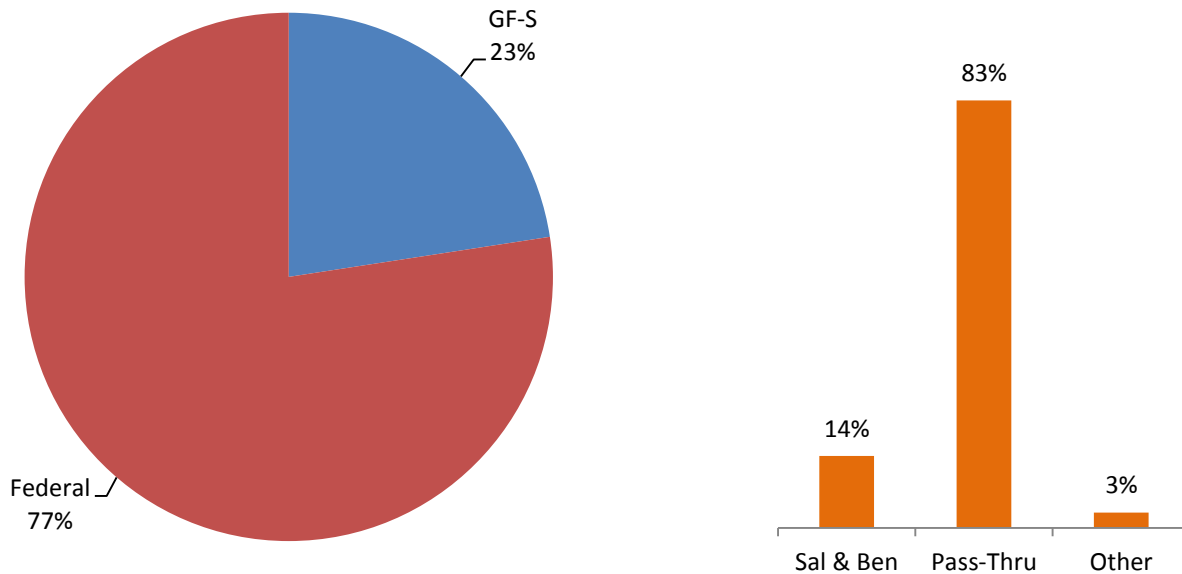
- Contract with local health jurisdictions, community agencies, and tribal organizations to distribute WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program checks of \$20 per participant per market season
- Local agencies provide nutrition education on the importance of eating fresh fruits and vegetables, and how to select and prepare them
- Promote consumption of fresh and local produce
- Recruit and train growers and farmers markets
- Contract with and authorize growers and market managers to accept WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program checks from WIC participants for approved produce
- Monitor growers and markets for compliance, and follow up on complaints and suspected fraud
- Banking and processing WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program checks

### ***Stakeholders***

- WIC participants
- Authorized growers and farmers markets
- Anti-hunger advocates
- Local WIC staff

**2013-15 Biennium**

**WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program Fiscal Information**



	GF-S	Federal	Dedicated	Fees	Total	Sal & Ben	Pass-Thru	Other
Total	312,319	1,071,148	0	0	1,383,467	189,287	1,149,269	44,911

**Recent Funding History**

**2007-09 biennium:**

- Received ongoing funding of \$100,000 in FY09 to support Second Substitute Senate Bill 6483 (local food production)

**2011-13 biennium:**

- Reduce \$100,000 of GF-S for FY12 and \$320,000 of GF-S for FY13

**2013-15 biennium:**

- Received funding of \$100,000 GF-S for FY15. Funding will be used to increase the amount of fresh, healthy, locally grown produce and cut herbs provided to WIC families.