Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Small Grants Program: Executive Summaries of 1998 Research Grants. By Ann Vandeman (editor). Food and Rural Economics Division, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Report No. 10.

Abstract

The Economic Research Service Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP) offers a Small Grants Program designed to stimulate new and innovative research on food assistance and nutrition issues and to broaden the participation of social science scholars in these issues. ERS created partnerships with five academic institutions and research institutes in administering the program. This report presents a summary of the research findings from the first set of small grants, which were awarded in the summer and fall of 1998.

Keywords: Food assistance, nutrition

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Preface

The Economic Research Service's Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP) offers a Small Grants Program designed to stimulate new and innovative research on food assistance and nutrition issues and to broaden the participation of social science scholars in these issues. ERS created partnerships with five academic institutions and research institutes to administer the program. The partner institutions competitively award small grants for 1-year research projects. Most grants are for $20,000 to $40,000. The Small Grants Program seeks to give junior scholars an opportunity to gain research experience in the field of food and nutrition assistance and to encourage more senior scholars to apply their skills and knowledge in this area as well.

This report presents summaries of the research findings from the first set of small grants, which were awarded in the summer and fall of 1998. These findings were presented at a workshop at ERS in Washington, DC, on October 14 and 15, 1999. The completed research papers can also be found on the web sites of the administering institutions, listed below:

Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin

Focus: The effects of food assistance programs on food security, income security and other indicators of well-being among low-income individuals and families.

Web address: http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/irp/home.htm

The Joint Center for Poverty Research, University of Chicago and Northwestern University

Focus: Interactions between food assistance programs and other welfare programs; and the effects of the macroeconomy on the need for food assistance, the level of participation, and costs of food assistance programs.

Web address: http://www.jcpr.org/usdarfp.html

The Department of Nutrition at the University of California, Davis

Focus: The impact of food assistance programs on nutritional risk indicators (anthropometric, biochemical, clinical, and dietary), food purchasing practices, and food insecurity.

Web address: http://nutrition.ucdavis.edu/usdaers.html

Southern Rural Development Center, Mississippi State University

Focus: Food assistance research issues for rural people, families, and communities in the South.

Web address: http://ext.msstate.edu/srdc/activities/food.htm

The American Indian Studies Program, University of Arizona

Focus: The relationship between food assistance programs on reservations and family poverty.

Web address: http://w3.arizona.edu/~aisp/projects.html

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