



# Shaping up SNAP in Kansas

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# First SNAP meeting in February 2003

- Kansas Department of Health and Environment, WIC Program
- Kansas Department of Education, Child Nutrition and Wellness
- Extension, including the Family Nutrition Program and the Kansas Nutrition Network (KNN)

*Since these agencies were KNN partners, it was decided that KNN would be the lead agency*

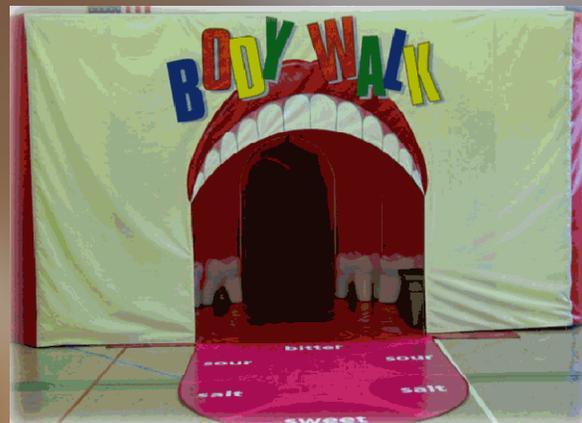


# Body Walk "Events"



**The Brain**

**The Mouth**





- Use Body Walk as an event around which we could motivate people.
- Choose one school that would be hosting Body Walk and in which the majority of the children are low income (free/reduced price eligible).
- Invite other agencies in the community to have nutrition and/or physical activity events during the month that Body Walk would be at the elementary school. KNN would invite all our partner agencies to provide items that might be used in the local community to promote nutrition and physical activity among all ages.



Goals were to increase awareness about nutrition and physical activity in the community, and provide a project that would include all KNN partners.



In March 2004 KNN worked with the Barton County Extension Office, Barton County WIC, one of the elementary schools that would be hosting Body Walk, the Team Nutrition Consultant in that area, and many local community agencies to host nutrition and/or physical activity events.



# Power Panther

Power Panther is the Spokes Character for Body Walk and his message is Eat Smart. Play Hard.

People of all ages in Great Bend were encouraged to Eat Smart. Play Hard.

Power Panther stickers, tattoos, window clings and other items were provided to the community.

[www.fns.usda.gov/eatsmartplayhard](http://www.fns.usda.gov/eatsmartplayhard)



WIC and the local public television station did a community event featuring Sesame Street characters and Clifford the Big Red Dog.



Heartland SHARE did speaking engagements at two community agencies that serve mostly low income seniors. Two free SHARE boxes were donated as door prizes.

[www.heartlandshare.org](http://www.heartlandshare.org)



The Kansas Wheat Commission provided speakers at two events and contributed many handouts and free items for distribution.



TEFAP provided trail mix for each of the children who went through Body Walk with information on how to participate in the programs.



Many other events took place throughout the county, using door prizes, handouts, and other free items donated by KNN partners.



The evaluation is only anecdotal of how many people attended events. The local agencies have all asked to participate again. We would like to do in-depth evaluations of behavior change, but we have no means of doing that at this time.



During 2005 we expanded to three counties, again choosing schools with predominantly low income children where Body Walk would be. We're now choosing schools for 2006.



Kansas SNAP could be easily replicated in other states – just need a lead agency to gather resources and distribute them as needed. This is a win-win for everyone. The local agencies receive “goodies,” and the KNN partner agencies can easily distribute their materials and educate people about resources that are available.