

IRP RIDGE News: Summer 2014

2014–2015 FUNDED RIDGE GRANTS

The IRP RIDGE Center for National Food and Nutrition Assistance Research awarded funding to four food assistance research proposals following a national competition held in conjunction with the RIDGE Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The focal theme is “The Impacts of Food Assistance Programs on Food Security, Consumption Patterns, Food Choices, Nutritional Outcomes, and Other Diet-Related Health Outcomes.” The \$40,000 grants run from July 1, 2014, through December 31, 2015. Winning proposal abstracts are linked in the list of awards below.



The Effects of the WIC Food Package Revisions on the Healthfulness of Food Purchases among WIC Households: Analysis of Grocery Store Scanner Data

PI: Tatiana Andreyeva, Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity, Yale University

[Abstract](#)



The Impact of Food Stamps on Age at Onset of Adverse Health Conditions

PI: John Fitzgerald, Department of Economics, Bowdoin College

Co-PI: Rachel Connelly, Department of Economics, Bowdoin College

[Abstract](#)



Patterns of Food Assistance Program Participation across Early Childhood and Associations with Child Food Insecurity and Kindergarten Well-Being

PI: Anna Johnson, Department of Psychology, Georgetown University

[Abstract](#)



The Dynamics of Food and Housing Assistance Programs Before and After the Great Recession

PI: Melissa Wilmarth, Dept. of Consumer Sciences, University of Alabama

Co-PI: Martin Seay (pictured center), School of Family Studies & Human Services, Kansas State University

Co-PI: Robert Nielsen, Dept. of Financial Planning, Housing & Consumer Economics, University of Georgia

[Abstract](#)

2014–2015 VISITING FOOD ASSISTANCE SCHOLARS



Darcy Freedman will be in residence at IRP for a week during fall semester of the 2014-2015 academic year. She is Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, School of Medicine; Core Faculty, Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods; and Associate Professor, Mandel School for Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University. She has a transdisciplinary background in community psychology, public health, and women's and gender studies and practice experience forming and directing the Community Food Advocates food security coalition. She is a co-investigator on the "Midlands Family Study," one of the largest USDA-funded studies of children experiencing very low food security.



Jonathan Schwabish will be in residence at IRP for a week during the spring semester of the 2014-2015 academic year. He is a Senior Research Associate in the Income and Benefits Policy Center at the Urban Institute. His primary research includes earnings and income inequality, immigration, disability insurance, retirement security, data measurement, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). His food assistance projects include an examination of the characteristics of children who receive meals through the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and a study of the earnings patterns of SNAP recipients before, during, and after their SNAP spells.

FOOD ASSISTANCE RESEARCH-RELATED RESOURCES



Recent additions to the IRP RIDGE Center Website include links to the latest online media coverage of food assistance programs, and research-related IRP publications in the *Focus* newsletter, *Fast Focus* research briefs, and discussion papers.

See also our RIDGE News page, which features select recent food-assistance-related news articles.

IRP DISCUSSION PAPERS

Food Assistance During and After the Great Recession in Metropolitan Detroit

Scott W. Allard, S. W., Danziger, S. K., and Wathen, M.

DP 1420-14. 2014. 59 pp.

Trends in Poverty with an Anchored Supplemental Poverty Measure, IRP DP No. 1416-13

Christopher Wimer, Liana Fox, Irv Garfinkel, Neeraj Kaushal, and Jane Waldfogel

The Effect of SNAP on Poverty, IRP DP No. 1415-13

Laura Tiehen, Dean Jolliffe, and Timothy Smeeding

Why Are So Many Americans on Food Stamps? The Role of the Economy, Policy, and Demographics, IRP DP No. 1414-13

James P. Ziliak

PODCASTS



“Using Insights from Participatory Research to Inform Poverty Policy,” Mariana Chilton, Director of the Center for Hunger-Free Communities and IRP RIDGE Center Visiting Scholar (April 2014)

“Family Change, Father Involvement, and Child Food Insecurity,” Daniel Miller, Assistant Professor in the Boston University School of Social Work and IRP RIDGE PI (June 2013)

“Food Security Trends and an Introduction to the Wisconsin Food Security Project,” Judith Bartfeld, IRP RIDGE Center Director (August 2012)

IRP SOCIAL MEDIA



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IRP RIDGE Center for National Food and Nutrition Assistance Research

The U.S. Department of Agriculture established the RIDGE Center for National Food and Nutrition Assistance Research at the Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2010, following a nationwide competition. The USDA also established a second center at that time, the RIDGE Center for Targeted Studies, at the Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University.

The RIDGE Centers provide renewed focus on economic aspects of food and nutrition assistance research; stimulate new and innovative research on food and nutrition assistance issues; and broaden the support of both established and emerging food and nutrition assistance scholars.

Institute for Research on Poverty

The Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP), the nation's original poverty research center, was established in 1966 at the University of Wisconsin–Madison as a university-based, multidisciplinary research center into the causes and consequences of poverty and social inequality in the United States. IRP is nonpartisan and nonprofit.

Major funding for IRP is provided by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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