EXPANDING HEALTHY FOOD INCENTIVES ACROSS COLORADO

THE RETURN ON INVESTMENT

For more than a decade, healthy food incentive programs have increased the purchasing power of low-income families to buy fruits and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers’ markets, thereby helping to reduce hunger, improve nutrition and support Colorado’s agriculture and retail.

Imagine the economic impact of healthy food incentives, if they were available across Colorado¹

**FAMILIES**

$8M – $15M

Extra in their pockets to spend on fruits and vegetables each year

**STATEWIDE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION**

$20M – $38M

**ECONOMIC MULTIPLIER**

2.5

Contribution to Colorado’s economy for every $1 spent on incentives

**LABOR INCOME**

$4M – $8M

$129K – $243K for Agricultural sector

$326K – $637K for Retail sector

The research highlighted in this brief is based upon analysis conducted by a team of economists at Colorado State University, led by Dr. Dawn Thilmany, in partnership with SPUR, Fair Food Network, and a coalition of ten additional implementing partners across nine states in the US, including Nourish Colorado. For the full details of methodology and findings see: fairfoodnetwork.org/incentivesimpact

¹ The ranges presented here reflect low-bound and high-bound scenarios based on assumptions of annual SNAP participation; the percent of grocery stores, corners stores, and farm-direct retail outlets that would offer incentives; and whether a program encourages purchases of locally-grown produce.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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