



NatureSeal's Karen Murphy meets with Brian Ronholm, agriculture appropriations associate for Rep. Rosa DeLauro during congressional visits last week.

NatureSeal and United Fresh Talk Child Nutrition in Washington

Passionate child nutrition advocate and NatureSeal marketing manager Karen Murphy hit Capitol Hill full stride last week, advocating for more fresh-cut sliced apples in school lunch programs, salad bars and the *Children's Fruit and Vegetable Act of 2009*. Over three days, Murphy met with more than 15 congressional offices, including Reps. Dennis Cardoza (D-CA) and Sam Farr (D-CA), and Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI).

Highlighting the popularity of fresh-cut sliced apples with students, Murphy emphasized the importance of USDA making them available to all schools through commodity purchasing by next school year. While in Washington, United Fresh President Tom Stenzel joined Murphy and NatureSeal President William Barrie to meet with AMS Deputy Administrator Bob Keeney and other AMS officials, discussing the expansion of the USDA-AMS fresh-cut sliced apple program to all schools.

For more than four years, Murphy and her colleagues at NatureSeal have advocated increasing the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables in schools and are credited with securing the initial funding for Connecticut to participate in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program through their relationship with Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT).

United Fresh salutes the NatureSeal team for their commitment to advancing nutrition policy priorities and welcomes other companies to follow in NatureSeal's footsteps.