

## **April 2021 Updates**

The USTIRG (United States & Territories IDDSI Reference Group) hosted a Zoom Town Hall with support from AND (Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics), ANFP (Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals), ASHA (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association) and representatives of the USTIRG Formation Task Force on April 14th. It was attended by over 250 colleagues across the US & Territories in preparation for their IDDSI implementation. An excellent PowerPoint share created by the Education workgroup highlighted the different USTIRG workgroups and members. Live questions in addition to pre-submitted questions were enthusiastically tackled by the workgroup members. Many of the questions were centered around food preparation methods to meet IDDSI food testing requirements; more food for thought for future USTIRG Town Halls!

Communications & Newsletters is excited to announce that IDDSI has social media presence on Instagram, Twitter and now LinkedIn! Please be sure to follow IDDSI on these platforms for updates, future events and collegial support.

Implementation & Advocacy will soon be publishing their IDDSI environmental scan survey; please stay tuned to our social media for updates of this release! Your input is vital to helping the USTIRG capture the state of IDDSI implementation across the US & Territories. Kudos to the Implementation & Advocacy group for this monumental endeavor!

The Education and Training Team is currently working on a 101 Powerpoint for your IDDSI Implementation Team to teach a basic introduction to 4 different levels of care givers: 1) front line colleagues, 2) food service operators, RDNS and SLPs 3) nursing and providers and 4) administration. We are also crafting a floor stock pantry guide to ensure food and beverages can be safely issued to IDDSI diets after the dining room and meal service has closed. Look for these to be posted to our site by the end of May!