

### **NUTRITION NEWS**

Nutrition and Education Program
February 2024



### Heart Health Month

## Make Good Choices When it Comes to Fats

- Use small amounts of oils such as olive or canola in recipes and for sautéing.
- Limit saturated fats
- Choose protein sources that are lower in saturated fats.
- Cut back on processed meats such as bacon, hot dogs, and salami.

- Eat foods that contain
   Omega-3 fatty acids
- Add walnuts to cereal, salads, and muffins.
- Eat two 4oz. portions of fatty fish per week. These could include salmon, tuna, and lake trout.

# Include Dietary Fiber

- Make half your plate fruits and vegetables at each meal.
- Choose whole grains when ever possible
- Include plant-based foods as sources of protein, including beans, lentils, seeds, and nuts.

## Reduce Sodium Intake

- Prepare foods at home so you can control the amount of salt in your meal.
- Use salt substitutes like Mrs.
   Dash to spice things up without adding salt.
- Use herbs and spices to add flavor to your cooking.

#### **No Bake Peanut Butter Bars**

servings: 20 prep time: 10 MINS chill time: 1 HR

#### Ingredients

#### For The Peanut Butter Base

- 2 cups Graham Cracker Crumbs
- 1 1/2 cups Peanut Butter
- 1 1/2 cups Powdered Sugar

#### For The Chocolate Peanut Butter Topping

- 1 1/2 cups Milk Chocolate Chips
- 1/4 cup Peanut Butter



#### Instructions

#### TO MAKE THE PEANUT BUTTER BASE

- Place the graham cracker crumbs, peanut butter, and powdered sugar in a large mixing bowl and stir together until
  combined.
- Press the mixture into an even layer in the bottom of a parchment-lined 9×13" pan.\*\*

#### TO MAKE THE CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER TOPPING

- Place the milk chocolate chips\* and peanut butter in a medium bowl and microwave\*\*\* in short, 20-second bursts, stirring until smooth.
- Pour the mixture over the peanut butter base and smooth into an even layer with a spatula.
- Chill for 1 hour, or until set, before cutting into bars.

#### **Notes**

\*Dark or white chocolate chips may be substituted.

\*\*Can also be made in an  $8\times8''$  or  $9\times9''$  square pan (bars will be thicker).

\*\*\*May also be done over a double boiler.

Recipe can be found at https://bakingamoment.com/peanut-butter-bars/#wprm-recipe-container-84964