



Guide to Coordination and Collaboration

Among the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) and Other Federal Programs

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Acknowledgements

This guide was developed by members of the Association of SNAP Nutrition Education Administrators' (ASNNA) Evaluation Committee.

The committee works to advance evaluation practices that align with the SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework (Framework); distill learning to strengthen SNAP-Ed programs; and disseminate evaluation findings that advance methods, support practitioners, and contribute to advocacy efforts. Its 65+ members come from over 35 states, with liaisons from the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA), some of its contractors, CDC, and other ASNNA committees. Subcommittees form to work on complementary components of the Framework and evaluation practice. The Cross-Program Coordination Subcommittee wrote this guide based on interest among ASNNA members to better understand opportunities and models for coordinating and collaborating with other federal programs. Members will continue to identify promising practices for collaboration, evaluation, and reporting, as well as help practitioners connect their coordination efforts with Framework indicators and program reporting requirements. The Framework is available here: <https://snapedtoolkit.org/framework/index/>. For more information on the committee, visit: <https://asnna.us.org/evaluation-committee/>.

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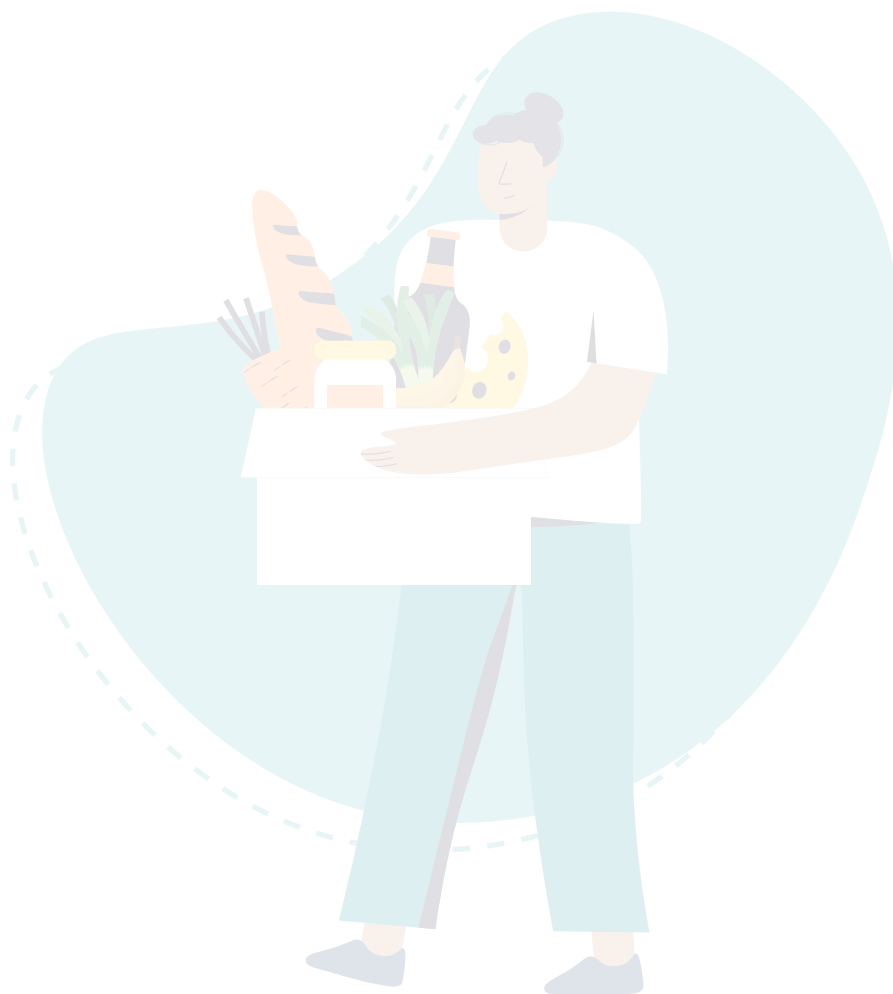
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Guide Overview

The purpose of the Guide to Coordination and Collaboration Among SNAP-Ed and Other Federal Programs is to help support the requirement in the [SNAP-Ed Plan Guidance](#) to plan for and report on significant partnerships with organizations with complementary missions to reach individuals eligible for SNAP-Ed through multiple channels and varied approaches.

The guide includes background information, a table display of other federal programs, case studies and other examples of coordination and collaboration efforts, and evaluation resources. The guide is designed to provide resources to support meaningful partnerships that align with the requirement to engage substantively with other federal programs.



Background

According to the [SNAP-Ed Plan Guidance](#) (see pages 27-34), SNAP-Ed State Agencies (SA) and Implementing Agencies (IA) are expected to coordinate activities and collaborate with community and State Departments of Health, Agriculture, and/or Education on the implementation of related State and federally funded nutrition education and obesity prevention projects. Such collaboration provides the capacity for SNAP-Ed to meet its goal and remain consistent with the FNS mission, while reaching low-income families and individuals through multiple levels of the Social-Ecological Model (SEM). States are expected to plan for and report on significant coordination and collaboration with other federal programs. To be considered significant, regular dialogue and information or resource sharing should be ongoing. For example, only providing space for SNAP-Ed programming or distributing SNAP-Ed materials would not be considered significant coordination or collaboration.

State grants totalling \$516 million (FFY 2024 Estimated Allocations) make the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed) second in budget only to WIC among USDA's nutrition education and promotion programs. Based on income, about [90 million Americans are eligible to participate in the program](#), making it the broadest-reaching among all USDA nutrition assistance programs. The nature of its charge – to use a mix of approaches, from group education to multi-level, comprehensive public health – enables SNAP-Ed to work flexibly in communities to deliver services and enhance the efforts of other organizations.



In accord with SNAP-Ed statute and national policy priorities, coordination within SNAP-Ed should include:

- Comprehensive and multi-level approaches including direct education, changes in policy, systems, and environments (PSE), social marketing campaigns, and multi-sector collaborations to help create conditions that support healthy eating and physical activity in a wide range of settings and communities.
- Projects and initiatives chosen by states based on needs and resources identified with diverse SNAP-Ed partners and participants and aimed toward outcomes based on the Framework.
- Efforts to maximize the collective impact of similarly-focused programs funded through the USDA, CDC, and Maternal and Child Health (MCH) block grants.

Nearly three decades ago, USDA identified the need for its programs to work together to achieve healthier eating and lifestyle choices by funding the first statewide Food Stamp Social Marketing Nutrition Networks (FNS, 1996). In 2010, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act codified SNAP-Ed as using a mix of methods, from direct education to comprehensive, multi-level public health approaches. In 2016, FNS and ASNNA worked together to develop the [Framework](#) which is composed of 51 key, science-based outcomes that

support healthier eating, food security, and physical activity at individual, environmental settings, and sectors of influence levels. Several of its indicators focus on organizational coalitions and multi-sector partnerships.



In the 2018 Farm Bill, Congress required USDA to prepare a report on coordination between SNAP-Ed, EFNEP, and other nutrition education programs administered by USDA. In 2019, the Government Accounting Office (GAO) concluded that USDA should do more with nutrition education and promotion. It called for stronger efforts to assess effectiveness, coordinate programs, and leverage expertise in USDA nutrition education and promotion programs (U.S. Government Accountability Report (GAO) report, [USDA Actions Needed to Assess Effectiveness, Coordinate Programs, and Leverage Expertise, 2019](#)). In 2021, the GAO called for a federal strategy to coordinate diet-related efforts throughout government in order to reduce chronic health conditions. The specific recommendations that are related to coordination call for better defined outcomes, more accountability, defined and sustained leadership, and designated resources (U.S. Government Accountability Report (GAO) report, [Chronic Health Conditions: Federal Strategy Needed to Coordinate Diet-Related Efforts, 2021](#)). As required by the 2018 Farm Bill, the first annual report on nutrition education was released by USDA in August 2022. [USDA's Nutrition Education Coordination Report to Congress, Fiscal Year 2021](#) focuses on new and developing coordination efforts by SNAP-Ed, WIC, Team Nutrition, and EFNEP.

In March 2022, the USDA Actions on Nutrition Security identified four key initiatives to promote nutrition security ([USDA Announces Actions on Nutrition Security](#)). It cited the country's 600,000 deaths from diet-related diseases, the disproportionate impact of poor diet on people and communities historically underserved, and the results on health care costs, military readiness, and U.S. productivity. The approaches USDA identified are intended to address structural barriers and inequities that make access to healthy food hard for many Americans. Popularly referred to as the 'four pillars', these initiatives aim to: provide meaningful nutrition support throughout the life cycle, connect all Americans to healthy food, foster collaborative action through partnership, and prioritize equity. The report highlighted SNAP-Ed's activities that support policies, practices, and physical environments to create large-scale improvements in food security, reducing chronic disease, and promoting health equity. It cited the SNAP-Ed network of 168 State Implementing Agencies and approximately 37,000 local partnerships as having a meaningful impact on local food policies and systems, including efforts to work with other stakeholders to provide fresh, locally grown foods through the establishment of new 'food hubs' ([USDA Actions on Nutrition Security](#)).

Meanwhile, Congress called for the Executive Branch to take a more global approach to improving nutrition and physical activity, resulting in the [2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health](#) that unveiled government-wide coordination efforts among federal programs and announced important multi-sector partnerships. The '5 pillars' aim to accelerate progress that would end hunger, improve nutrition, improve physical activity, reduce diet-related diseases, and close disparity gaps by 2030.

Trends in food security, healthy eating and physical activity, and related chronic diseases are improving only modestly, and disparities remain wide. Reaching the ambitious goals laid out for 2030 will require stronger, more vigorous and higher impact partnerships that work together to track progress across the country. To this end, the guide systematically reviews opportunities among programs already in place and showcases real-world examples that SNAP-Ed leaders undertook with their partners.

Overview of Other Federal Programs

USDA FNS Programs

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	SNAP provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy food and move towards self-sufficiency.	Applicants must meet income eligibility requirements based on household size as established in their state and be a U.S. citizen or qualifying U.S. resident.	Funds provided by the federal government and administered by state programs. States contribute some administrative costs.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program	https://www.fns.usda.gov/fns-101-snap
Online SNAP	The system is developed to allow online purchasing only by SNAP households with electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards issued by their state.	SNAP program participants are eligible to participate in this program at select retailers in their state.	Funds provided by the federal government and administered by state programs. States contribute some administrative costs.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/online-purchasing-pilot	https://www.fns.usda.gov/pressrelease/2019/fns-000319
SNAP Employment & Training (SNAP E & T)	The SNAP E&T program helps SNAP participants gain skills and find work that moves them forward to self-sufficiency. Through SNAP E&T, SNAP participants have access to training and support services to help them enter or move up in the workforce.	In order to receive SNAP E&T services, a participant must be receiving SNAP and not receiving TANF cash assistance. A participant must also be able to work. Eligibility for SNAP E&T will also depend on each State's E&T program requirements. In some states, one may be required to participate in SNAP E&T in order to receive SNAP.	Each state is required to operate a SNAP E&T program and receives federal funding annually to operate and administer the program.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/et	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/RegulatoryE&T_Final-Rule.pdf
SNAP Outreach	SNAP helps low-income people buy the food, such as fruits, vegetables and whole grains, they need for good health. Through its outreach efforts, FNS works with state and local agencies, advocates, employers, community and faith-based organizations, and others to reach out to eligible low-income people who are not currently participating in SNAP to share information about the nutrition benefits of SNAP to help them make an informed participation decision.	State agencies are eligible for 50% reimbursement through this program.	State agencies are reimbursed up to 50 percent for allowable administrative program costs that are reasonable and necessary to operate approved activities (Section 16 of The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended). Outreach is an allowable administrative cost to SNAP.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach	https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/introduction-priority-areas-state-outreach-plans

PART 2: OVERVIEW OF OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides federal grants to states for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age 5 who are found to be at nutritional risk.	To be eligible for WIC, applicants must have income at or below an income level or standard set by the state agency or be determined automatically income-eligible based on participation in certain programs. There are no immigrant eligibility restrictions for WIC.	USDA provides funding for the WIC program to state and local agencies and also covers the administrative costs of the program.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/FNS-101-WIC.pdf
WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)	The WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) is associated with the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, popularly known as WIC.	Eligible WIC participants are issued FMNP coupons/checks in addition to their regular WIC benefits. These coupons/checks can be used to buy eligible foods from farmers, farmers' markets or roadside stands that have been approved by the state agency to accept FMNP coupons/checks.	Federal funds support 100 percent of the food costs and 70 percent of the administrative costs of the program.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/fmnp/wic-farmers-market-nutrition-program	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/WICFMNPFactsheet.pdf
National School Lunch Program (NSLP)	The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day.	Families are eligible to participate in the program based on income requirements identified here: https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/fr-021622	Federal funds support some of the food costs and none of the administrative costs. Some states reimburse additional food and administrative costs.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/nslp	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/NSLPFactsheet.pdf
National School Breakfast Program (SBP)	The School Breakfast Program (SBP) provides reimbursement to states to operate nonprofit breakfast programs in schools and residential childcare institutions. The Food and Nutrition Service administers the SBP at the federal level. State education agencies administer the SBP at the state level, and local school food authorities operate the program in schools.	Families are eligible to participate in the program based on income requirements identified here: https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/fr-021622	Federal funds support some of the food costs and none of the administrative costs. Some states reimburse additional food and administrative costs.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/sbp/school-breakfast-program	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/SBPFactsheet.pdf
Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)	The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas. CEP allows the nation's highest poverty schools and districts to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting household applications. Instead, schools that adopt CEP are reimbursed using a formula based on the percentage of students categorically eligible for free meals based on their participation in other specific means-tested programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).	Schools are eligible to participate in this provision based on area income levels.	Federal funds support some of the food costs and none of the administrative costs. Some states reimburse additional food and administrative costs.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/community-eligibility-provision	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/cn/CEPFactsheet.pdf

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Team Nutrition	Team Nutrition is an initiative of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service to support the child nutrition programs through training and technical assistance for foodservice, nutrition education for children and their caregivers, and school and community support for healthy eating and physical activity.	Schools and community based organizations who carry out childhood nutrition are eligible for this program.	Schools and school nutrition educators receive grants to carry out nutrition education.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/team-nutrition	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/media/image/SL_Infographic_81216a-1.jpg
Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)	The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federally-funded, state-administered program. SFSP reimburses program operators who serve free, healthy meals and snacks to children and teens in low-income areas.	Families are eligible to participate in the program based on income requirements identified here: https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/fr-021622	Participating organizations are reimbursed by SFSP.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/SFSP-Fact-Sheet.pdf
Seamless Summer Program	Although the traditional Summer Food Service Program is still available to schools, the Seamless Summer Option offers a streamlined approach to feeding hungry children in your community.	Schools participating in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program are eligible to apply for the Seamless Summer Option	Meals are reimbursed at the free rates for school lunches, school breakfasts, and afterschool snacks, which are slightly lower than the Summer Food Service Program rates.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/seamless-summer-and-other-options-schools	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/SSO_BulkFoods.pdf
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)	The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) is a federally assisted program providing free fresh fruits and vegetables to children at eligible elementary schools during the school day. The goal of the FFVP is to introduce children to fresh fruits and vegetables, to include new and different varieties, and to increase overall acceptance and consumption of fresh, unprocessed produce among children. The FFVP also encourages healthier school environments by promoting nutrition education.	Elementary schools participating in the National School Lunch Program are eligible to apply. Schools with the highest percentage of children eligible for free and reduced price meals are prioritized.	Funds for this program are allocated to state agencies. Program policy allows agencies to retain a percentage of the funds for administrative costs.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/ffvp/fresh-fruit-and-vegetable-program	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/FFVPFactSheet.pdf
Farm to School	USDA awards competitive Farm to School grants on an annual basis that support planning, developing, and implementing farm to school programs. USDA's Farm to School grants are an important way to help state, regional, and local organizations as they initiate, expand, and institutionalize farm to school efforts.	Grantees may include schools and districts, Indian Tribal Organizations, agricultural producers or groups of agricultural producers, nonprofit entities, and State and local agencies.	This program is funded through competitive Farm to School grants.	https://www.usda.gov/partner-portal/key-programs-catalog/organizations/farm-to-school-grant-program	https://www.fns.usda.gov/f2s/fact-sheets

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Special Milk Program	Schools or institutions must offer only pasteurized fluid types of fat-free or low-fat (1%) milk. These milks must meet all State and local standards. All milk should contain vitamins A and D at levels specified by the Food and Drug Administration.	The program provides milk to children in schools, residential child care institutions and camps that do not participate in other federal child nutrition meal service programs. Schools participating in SLB or SBP may participate in the Special Milk Program to provide milk to children in half-day pre-K and kindergarten programs where children do not have access to the school meal programs. When local school officials offer free milk under the program to low-income children, any child from a family that meets income guidelines for free meals is eligible. Each child's family must apply annually for free milk eligibility.	The Federal reimbursement for each half-pint of milk sold to children in School Year 2012-2013 is 19.25 cents. For students who receive their milk free, the USDA reimburses schools the net purchase price of the milk. For the latest reimbursement rates visit FNS website at www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/notices/naps/NAPs.htm	https://www.fns.usda.gov/smp/special-milk-program	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/SMPFactSheet.pdf
Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)	The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federal program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks to eligible children and adults who are enrolled for care at participating child care centers, day care homes, and adult day care centers.	Child and Adult Care centers deemed eligible by state agencies can apply.	Participating organizations are reimbursed by state agencies.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp	https://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/cacfp-fact-sheet.pdf

Other USDA/FNS Food Assistance Programs

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)	The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) provides USDA Foods to income-eligible households living on Indian reservations and to Native American households residing in designated areas near reservations or in Oklahoma.	Income-eligible American Indian and non-Indian households that reside on a reservation and households living in approved areas near a reservation or in Oklahoma that contain at least one person who is a member of a Federally-recognized tribe, are eligible to participate in FDPIR. Households are certified based on income standards set by the Federal government and must be recertified at least every 12 months. Households in which all adult members are elderly and/or disabled may be certified for up to 24 months. Households may not participate in FDPIR and SNAP in the same month.	USDA purchases and ships USDA Foods, selected from a list of available foods, to the ITOs and State agencies. These administering agencies store and distribute the foods, determine applicant eligibility, and provide nutrition education to recipients. USDA provides the administering agencies with funds for program administrative costs.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir/food-distribution-program-indian-reservations	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/fdpir-program-fact-sheet-2020-for%20website.pdf
Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)	The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) works to improve the health of low-income persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods.	Local agencies determine the eligibility of applicants, distribute the foods, and provide nutrition education. Local agencies also provide referrals to other welfare, nutrition, and healthcare programs, such as WIC, SNAP, Medicaid, and Medicare.	USDA distributes both food and administrative funds to participating states and Indian Tribal Organizations to operate CSFP.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/csfp/commodity-supplemental-food-program	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/csfp-program-fact-sheet-2019.pdf

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The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)	The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost.	(a) Public or private nonprofit organizations that provide nutrition assistance to low-income Americans, either through the distribution of food for home use or the preparation of meals, may receive food as local agencies. They must also meet the following criteria: - Organizations that distribute food for home use must determine household eligibility by applying income standards set by the State. - Organizations that provide prepared meals must demonstrate that they serve predominately low-income persons. (b) Households that meet State eligibility criteria may receive food for home use. States set income standards, which may, at the State's discretion, be met through participation in other existing Federal, State, or local food, health, or welfare programs for which eligibility is based on income. States can adjust eligibility criteria to ensure that assistance is provided only to those households most in need. (c) Recipients of prepared meals are considered to be low-income and are not subject to a means test.	In FY 2020, Congress appropriated \$397.1 million for TEFAP - \$317.5 million to purchase food and \$79.63 million for administrative support for State and local agencies. In addition to USDA Foods purchased with appropriated funds, TEFAP distributes 'bonus' foods purchased by USDA to support agriculture markets. In FY 2018, \$403.2 million of such foods were made available to TEFAP.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/emergency-food-assistance-program	https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/tefap-program-factsheet-2019_1.6.20.pdf
Farm to Institution	Farm to Institution programs give farmers and ranchers the opportunity to develop new markets and sell to local K-12 schools, hospitals, colleges, cafeterias or government agencies.	Grantees may include Indian Tribal Organizations, agricultural producers or groups of agricultural producers, nonprofit entities, and State and local agencies.	Competitive grant.		https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/6-Farmtoinstitution.pdf https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional/research-publications/farm-to-institution-metrics

National Institute of Food & Agriculture (NIFA) Programs

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
Gus Schumaker Nutrition Incentive (GusNIP) Grant Programs	The primary goal and objective of the GusNIP Produce Prescription Program is to demonstrate and evaluate the impact of projects on: (1) the improvement of dietary health through increased consumption of fruits and vegetables; (2) the reduction of individual and household food insecurity; and (3) the reduction in healthcare use and associated costs.	Eligibility to apply for a GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program grant is limited to government agencies and non-profit organizations. Institutions of higher education that are local, county, tribal, territory, or state government agencies must provide documentation in support of eligibility as a government agency.	Competitive grant	https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities/gus-schumaker-nutrition-incentive-program-produce-prescription	https://www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/GusNIP%20Nutrition%20Incentive%20Program%20FAQs-May%202022-508.pdf

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Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
Local Food Promotion or Farmers Market Promotion Grant Programs	The Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) funds projects that develop, coordinate and expand direct producer-to-consumer markets to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products by developing, coordinating, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agritourism activities, online sales or other direct producer-to-consumer (including direct producer-to-retail, direct producer-to-restaurant and direct producer-to-institutional marketing) market opportunities.	Entities that are eligible to apply include: Agricultural businesses and cooperatives, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) networks and associations, Food Councils, Economic development corporations, Local governments, Nonprofit and public benefit corporations, Producer networks or associations, Regional farmers' market authorities, Tribal governments	Competitive grant with 25% match required.	https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fmpp	https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/FMPP_FactSheet.pdf
Regional Food System Partnerships Grant (RFSP)	The Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) program supports partnerships that connect public and private resources to plan and develop local or regional food systems. The program focuses on strengthening the viability and resilience of regional food economies through collaboration and coordination.	Partnerships are eligible to apply to RFSP. A partnership is an agreement between one or more eligible entities and one or more eligible partners. Eligible entities include producers, farmer or rancher cooperatives, producer networks or associations, majority-controlled producer-based business venture, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) networks and associations, food councils, local governments, nonprofit and public benefit corporations, economic development corporations, regional farmers' market authorities, and tribal governments. Eligible partners include state agencies or regional authorities, philanthropic corporations, private corporations, institutions of higher education, and commercial, federal, or Farm Credit System Lending Institutions.	Competitive grant with 25% match required.	https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/rfsp	https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/RFSP_FactSheet.pdf
Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)	EFNEP is a Federal Extension (community outreach) program that currently operates through the 1862 and 1890 Land-Grant Universities (LGUs) in every state, the District of Columbia, and the six U.S. territories – American Samoa, Guam, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA/NIFA), EFNEP uses education to support participants' efforts toward self-sufficiency, nutritional health, and well-being. EFNEP combines hands-on learning, applied science, and program data to ensure program effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability.	Grantees must be land grant universities.	Competitive grant.	https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/expanded-food-nutrition-education-program-efnep	https://www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2020%20EFNEP%20National%20Data%20Reports.pdf

Maternal and Child Health

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
Title V (state health depts)	The Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant Program is a partnership between the federal government and states. Our goal is to support the health and well-being of all mothers, children, and families.	Funding is limited to states and jurisdictions.	Block grant with matching funds requirement. States and jurisdictions must match every \$4 of federal Title V money that they receive by at least \$3 of state and/or local money (i.e., non-federal dollars).	https://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs-impact/title-v-maternal-child-health-mch-block-grant	https://mchb.tvisdata.hrsa.gov/

CDC - Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity (DNPAO)

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
State Physical Activity and Nutrition program (SPAN)	CDC funds selected state recipients to implement evidence-based strategies at state and local levels to improve nutrition and physical activity.	Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), City or township governments, Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments), State governments, Independent school districts, County governments, Private institutions of higher education, Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, Special district governments, Public housing authorities/ Indian housing authorities, Small businesses, Public and State controlled institutions of higher education.	Cooperative Agreement.	https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/state-local-programs/span-1807/index.html	
Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH)	Through REACH, recipients plan and carry out local, culturally appropriate programs to address a wide range of health issues among Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Asian, American Indian, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Alaska Native persons.	REACH gives funds to state and local health departments, tribes, universities, and community-based organizations.	Competitive grant.	https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/state-local-programs/reach/index.htm#:~:text=REACH%20celebrated%20its%2020th,Islander%2C%20and%20Alaska%20Native%20persons.	

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Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
High Obesity Program (HOP)	CDC funds selected land grant universities to work with community extension services to increase access to healthier foods and safe and accessible places for physical activity in counties that have more than 40% of adults with obesity.	Funds are available for land grant universities that work in counties where 40% of adults experience obesity.	Cooperative Agreement.	https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/state-local-programs/hop-1809/high-obesity-program-1809.html	
Building Inclusive, Resilient Communities (BRIC)	As part of the BRIC program, states are engaging more than 60 communities to address food and nutrition security, improve safe physical activity access, and reduce social isolation and loneliness through a policy, systems, and environmental change lens. Social determinants of health, health equity, and social justice principles are integrated into the planning and implementation of all three strategy areas, in addition to accounting for the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.	Available to state health departments and other organizations.	Competitive grant.	https://chronicdisease.org/bric/	
Farm To Early Care and Education (F2ECE)	Farm to Early Care and Education offers increased access to the same three core elements of local food sourcing, school gardens and food and agriculture education to enhance the quality of the educational experience in all types of ECE settings (e.g., preschools, child care centers, family child care homes, Head Start/Early Head Start, programs in K - 12 school districts)	Available to early childhood education centers, Head Start programs, etc.	Competitive grant.	https://www.farmtoschool.org/our-work/early-care-and-education	https://assets.website-files.com/5c469df2395cd53c3d913b2d/61104640f0a95ecc63f8ea9b_Getting%20Started%20with%20Farm%20to%20ECE.pdf

Administration on Aging

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
Older Americans Act Nutrition Services	Through the Older Americans Act (OAA) Nutrition Program, ACL's Administration on Aging (AoA) provides grants to states to help support nutrition services (meals) for older people throughout the country.	Eligibility for these programs is determined almost entirely by states and local entities. The only federal eligibility criterion for participation is age – a person must be at least 60 years old to participate in either the congregate or home-delivered nutrition programs.	Grants provided to states.	https://acl.gov/programs/health-wellness/nutrition-services	

Health and Human Services

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)	Provides equitable health care to the nation's highest-need communities—we serve people who are geographically isolated and economically or medically vulnerable. HRSA programs support people with low incomes, people with HIV, pregnant people, children, parents, rural communities, transplant patients, and other communities in need, as well as the health workforce, health systems, and facilities that care for them.	Public, private, and nonprofit organizations are eligible for most funding opportunities.	Grants and cooperative agreements.	https://www.hrsa.gov/	

Office of the Administration for Children & Families

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	TANF provides funding to states and territories for programs to help low-income families with children achieve economic self-sufficiency. States use TANF to fund monthly cash assistance payments to low-income families with children along with other services.	Eligibility for these programs is determined by states. Eligible applicants must meet income guidelines and have children in the home.	Block grants to states, territories and tribes.	https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf/about	

AmeriCorps

Federal Program Name	Program Overview	Program Eligibility	Funding Method	Website	Factsheet
AmeriCorps	AmeriCorps, a federal agency, brings people together to tackle the country's most pressing challenges through national service and volunteering. AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to the improvement of communities. AmeriCorps helps make service to others a cornerstone of our national culture.	Members must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States; age requirements vary by program. Funding and resource opportunities for organizational partners vary between programs.	Grants to organizational partners and benefits (living allowance, money for college and trade school, etc.) for members and senior volunteers.	https://americorps.gov/	
FoodCorps	FoodCorps partners with schools and communities to nourish kids' health, education, and sense of belonging.	Partner eligibility available upon completion of an inquiry form; Members must be 18 years or older by the start of service, a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States, and hold a high school diploma, GED or equivalent.	FoodCorps service members receive a stipend, health insurance, and other benefits.	https://foodcorps.org/	

Case Studies and Other Examples

The following case studies were collected between September 2022 and February 2023 to illustrate coordination and collaboration between SNAP-Ed and one or more other federal programs. As relevant, each case study includes the following content:

- How the collaboration came to be
- Federal programs involved
- Collaboration overview
- Approach type
- Description of formality of partnership
- Who is reached
- Evaluation indicators and outcome measures tracked and how they are measured



CASE STUDY 1

Colorado SNAP-Ed Collaboration with The Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP)

THE COLLABORATION

Cooking Matters Colorado, a SNAP-Ed implementing agency, has a partnership with Nourish Colorado to support their statewide funding to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables at the point of purchase through Double Up Food Bucks incentives. With USDA funds from GusNIP, Nourish Colorado is reshaping the state's food system by shifting the food supply chain into a true food value chain.

Cooking Matters Colorado and Nourish Colorado have strong mission alignment, which has been fundamental to their seven-year partnership. From the start of the GusNIP (formerly FINI) funding, Nourish Colorado's commitment to nutrition education as a complementary activity in the GusNIP grant cultivated a successful connection to Cooking Matters Colorado's SNAP-Ed funding. This alignment fostered relationships at all levels of implementation, from the directors of the two organizations, to the local implementation partners, and with the nutrition educators who provide market tours at the local level. The state SNAP agency is also key to the successful collaboration, allowing for intentional cross promotion of programs to better direct resources to the partners' shared audience.



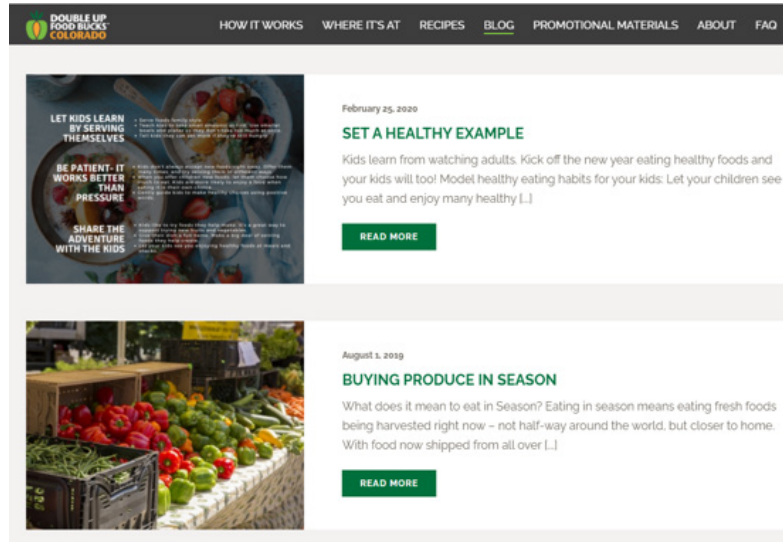
THE SNAP-ED ROLE

Cooking Matters Colorado provides the education for the Double Up Food Bucks incentive program. This education occurs at the Farmers Markets and at the retail sites that accept DUF. Additionally, education is provided through opt-in text messaging and the Double Up Food Buck's website. The SNAP-Ed agency also promotes the GusNIP program to other Cooking Matters participants, serves on Nourish's advisory council, shares resources to support implementation, and contributes to evaluation processes and data. This collaboration enhances the impact of all partners by leveraging the unique contributions that fall within the guidance of the individual partners to have a greater collective impact for Coloradans.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Platform integration and options for engagement is critical. Whether in-person, at the market or retail setting, or delivering programming online or digitally, Cooking Matters Colorado is working to support Nourish Colorado by integrating nutrition education. For example, Cooking Matters Colorado has created seasonal produce cards that can accompany produce boxes that go to homes, as well as digital resources that can accompany social media posts.
- Collaborative work at all levels (local, regional and state-wide) creates successful and supportive integration of the programs.
- Adaptability and flexibility is key to successful partnerships activities and community engagement.



EVALUATION

Evaluation includes data sharing between organizations as well as sharing of summary data for activities led by Cooking Matters Colorado.

SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework indicators addressed: ST1, ST2, ST7, MT5, ST8, MT8

The evaluation data reflect individual-level outcomes, environmental-level outcomes, as well as sector-level partnership outcomes. Reach of direct education tours is also tracked and shared. Based on the collaboration, in 2021, an estimated 933 participants were reached at farmers market direct education tours in 2021. As a result of the partnership...

58% of customers received information about cooking or purchasing fruits and vegetables at the market.

88% of those who received information reported that they were likely or highly likely to buy more fresh produce because of the information they received.



"I think that the tours felt really successful to me and the way that program is run, the combination of the Cooking Matters with the Double Up program, I just think is really accessible to people. You get a little bit of nutrition information, you get to meet your farmers' market folks, and learn about the Double Up program and I just feel like that is just a successful way to get people involved in the program and introduce them to the market as well as give them a little nutrition information. People just leave that class feeling so excited about the market and the things they have learned, so it is a really filling activity. I don't know how we can continue to do that in the future, but I think that's just a really great way to get people at the market and to promote the programs."

— DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS COMMUNITY ADVOCATE

Submitted by Christina Miller, Cooking Matters Colorado, <https://co.cookingmatters.org/>

CASE STUDY 2

Rhode Island SNAP-Ed: Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Collaboration

THE COLLABORATION

A collaboration between two USDA programs, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) and SNAP-Ed, is a complementary relationship as both have the same goals of increasing the amount and variety of fruit and vegetable consumption, but the methods differ to elicit the behavior change. FFVP introduces new fruits and vegetables to elementary-aged youth through a tasting program in the classroom setting. There is a strong encouragement to have a fruit and vegetable nutrition education component alongside the tasting program, which is a major education topic of SNAP-Ed.

In Rhode Island (RI), the FFVP is administered through the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE). RIDE administers several child nutrition programs that are complemented by SNAP-Ed programming and policy, system and environmental efforts. This relationship has grown over the years to maximize and enhance the benefit for those receiving the child nutrition programs.














THE SNAP-ED ROLE

When the program started in RI, RIDE and the University of Rhode Island (URI) SNAP-Ed discussed the nutrition education component of the program, deciding that URI SNAP-Ed would create a curriculum to accompany the tasting program. This curriculum evolved over the years, starting as a graduate student pilot program in 2010 and today serving as a practice-based curriculum available for RI SNAP-Ed eligible schools as hard copies and for download to all FFVP participating schools through the URI SNAP-Ed website. For each grade, Kindergarten through 5th grade, there are eight brief, interdisciplinary and developmentally appropriate nutrition lessons, each 20-30 minutes in length, developed for health teachers, classroom teachers or nurses to implement in the classroom. The lessons include hands-on, interactive activities, as well as a family newsletter in English and Spanish to involve the family in the learning process. Fruit and vegetable topics include amount and variety, how they grow, MyPlate and “Go, Slow, & Whoa”, and more.



For RI SNAP-Ed eligible schools, URI SNAP-Ed provides professional development training for new teachers onboarding the curriculum, as well as technical assistance and supplementary materials (such as posters, activities, and story book kits) to all teachers implementing the program. Selected classrooms complete baseline and post-assessment surveys to assess changes in fruit and vegetable knowledge, behavior, and self-efficacy, categorized as the indicator ST:1 Healthy Eating.

 USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program 		
APRIL 2023		
Teachers: When the fruits and vegetables are provided to your students, please read the fun fact. Thank you!		
Date	Fruit or Vegetable	Fun Fact
April 3 April 4	Pineapple & Honeydew Cups 	A pineapple grows as a small shrub. One pineapple can take over 2 years to grow! Keep colds away with vitamin C in honeydew. Have a sweet slice if you want to try something new.
April 5 April 6	Sugar Snap Pea Bags 	They are like regular peas, but taste a little more sweet. The pod holds peas inside and both parts you can eat.
April 17 April 18	Green Bean Bags 	Green beans are not just green! They can be yellow, purple or even speckled with red.
April 19 April 20	Orange Smile Bags 	This very popular fruit has enough vitamin C for a day. Sprinkle orange peels in the garden to help keep bugs away!
April 21	Apple Smile Bags 	Red, yellow and green—a great snack for on-the-go. Seven thousand different kinds, on trees are where they grow.
April 24	Mango Cups 	Mangoes are the most popular fruit in the world. In some cultures, giving someone a basket of mangoes is considered to be a gesture of friendship.
April 25 April 26	Celery & Carrot Stix Bags 	Celery keeps you full with all the fiber it packs. Eat with peanut butter or hummus, it makes a great snack! Carrots are usually orange, but can be purple, red, yellow or white, the vitamin A that's in them helps you see at night.
April 27 April 28	Strawberry & Blueberry Cups 	There's about 200 seeds that a strawberry can't hide. It's the only fruit we know of that has seeds on the outside. Blueberries are considered to be a "superfood" because they are loaded with nutrients and can help fight disease.

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  This material was funded by USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Aside from the 8-lesson curriculum, there are additional nutrition education opportunities. The first are monthly “Fun Facts”. URI SNAP-Ed coordinates with the FFVP food service provider to learn the tasting schedule for the month and with RIDE for printing the “Fun Facts”. From this information, monthly “Fun Facts” are created and disseminated to each classroom of participating schools. The “Fun Facts” provide brief, fun information about the fruit and/or vegetable served each day. These “Fun Facts” are intended to be read by the classroom teacher while the students taste their fruit and/or vegetable.

The second additional nutrition education opportunity is a “Rainbow Challenge”. Classroom teachers receive an uncolored rainbow poster and colored stickers. Each time a student tries a fruit or vegetable, they put a colored sticker that corresponds to the produce color on the rainbow. At the end of the designated time, the classroom with the most stickers, wins! For the “prize”, URI SNAP-Ed goes into the winning classroom and provides a one-time nutrition education workshop with recipe demonstration and tasting.

This SNAP-Ed work has Policy, System and Environment (PSE), direct education and indirect education components.

PSE:

URI SNAP-Ed’s involvement with the FFVP program has a strong PSE component including working with the FFVP food service vendor to increase variety of kid-friendly fruits and vegetables provided; collaborating with the state administrator, RIDE, to produce and disseminate monthly “Fun Facts” statewide; and providing train-the-trainer assistance to new teachers and ongoing support to participating teachers to integrate the FFVP Nutrition Education curriculum into the schools.

Direct and Indirect Education:

Most of the education is through a train-the-trainer model that increases the reach of students and families throughout the state. A small opportunity for SNAP-Ed direct education occurs as the “prize” of the “Rainbow Challenge” classroom initiative.



CASE STUDY 3

USDA Program Collaborations Increase Access to Local Produce in Maine

PARTNERSHIP

Partnering with the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition and Commodity Supplemental Food Programs

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides funds through the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) and Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) to improve access to nutritious foods for adults ages 60 years or older who are experiencing low income. In Maine, the programs are administered by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. SFMNP is called the Maine Senior FarmShare Program (MSFP). It provides eligible seniors with low income the opportunity to receive a free share (worth \$50) of fresh, local produce directly from local Maine farmers during the growing season. CSFP provides monthly boxes of nutritious foods to older Mainers with low income.

In addition to promoting these programs, SNAP-Ed can enhance them and increase their impact through nutrition education programming and policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) change strategies.

COLLABORATION

Collaborations Across USDA Programs for Seniors

Nutrition educators in one Maine county worked with the local MSFP program director to create a blog titled "Harvest Hints: Holding onto the Tastes of Summer," which provided tips for storing and preserving tomatoes. The blog was posted on RealMaine.com, part of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, with a goal to connect Mainers with Maine farmers and food producers. The blog was adapted to a newsletter format and distributed in CSFP Senior Food Boxes, as well, to ensure wider dissemination – especially for seniors who may lack broadband internet access. The educator also contributed to quarterly newsletters in collaboration with the leadership of a local town, providing tips about growing produce in elevated garden beds, which the town was providing to some CSFP recipients.

In another Maine county, an educator has been working with local farms to add fresh produce to the monthly commodity boxes. To build off that success and further promote access to fresh local foods, the educator connected with two farms to provide shares and assisted with transporting the shares so the food could be distributed at the CSFP pick-up location. New MSFP recipients were also recruited to participate in the educator's SNAP-Ed nutrition classes.



EVALUATION

Evaluation includes monitoring and outcome reporting in line with the indicators in the SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework (Framework). The evaluation data reflect individual-level outcomes, environmental-level outcomes, as well as sector-level partnership outcomes. Reach of direct education and PSE programming is also tracked.

SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework indicators addressed: MT1, MT2, MT3, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8, MT5, LT5, and LT10.

In 2021, Maine SNAP-Ed collaborations with other USDA-funded programs successfully:

- recruited **23** adults to sign up for MSFP while distributing USDA Commodity Boxes to **300** CSFP recipients;
- reached **4,675** Mainers through a blog about storing and preserving summer tomato harvests on RealMaine.com;
- reached **100** CSFP recipients through a quarterly newsletter; and
- resulted in **four** direct education series with seniors, supplementing the resources being provided by the USDA partner programs.



At the state level, Maine SNAP-Ed supports USDA collaborations through the members of its State Nutrition Action Council (SNAC), which fosters awareness of aligned programming and value-added partnerships. Additionally, there is a formal letter of commitment with the MSFP that outlines efforts to be undertaken by the Maine SNAP-Ed program, such as providing nutrition education and information and identifying PSE change initiatives that work to impact Maine seniors experiencing low income.

CASE STUDY 4

Cross-Program Case Study: Farm to ECE in Lee County, North Carolina

THE COLLABORATION

Farm2ECE was a Kellogg-funded project run by the [Center for Environmental Farming Systems](#) that has brought together many partners around the state. Through this program, the team works with county-level Partnerships for Children (also known as Smart Start) to identify participating childcare centers, and ask them to bring together a team to work with this center. Each team is asked to participate in three Collaborative Learning Sessions, where teams around the state come together to receive technical assistance and learn from one another.

Lee County Cooperative Extension was approached by North Carolina State University (NCSU) that funding was available through the USDA Regional Food Systems Partnership grant to support the statewide Farm to Early Care and Education work. We've had funding from the Kellogg Foundation to do this work since 2016, and the Partnership for Children in Lee County has been involved since 2017. We also have a Farm to ECE Work Group under the Local Food Program Team that is developing resources to integrate Farm2ECE into Extension.

THE PARTNERSHIP

For the USDA grant, NCSU and NC A&T worked with five different counties for two years to really dig deep into the local food procurement aspect, while still providing support to centers with all the other aspects of Farm2ECE. The Lee County FCS Agent was asked to provide support and technical assistance to centers around Farm2ECE, in collaboration with the Partnership for Children in an effort to spread our mission of teaching children, families, and communities the importance of healthy eating habits. These habits can take the form of purchasing local fruits and vegetables from area farmers, cooking with and for children/families, the importance of how racial equity affects our local food systems, and how to produce their own gardens.

Steps to Health, the NCSU SNAP-Ed program, was asked to partner in the Farm2ECE work to provide the Color Me Healthy curriculum and Farm2ECE kits. Color Me Healthy is a nutrition and physical activity program for children ages four and five. It is designed to stimulate all the senses of young children: touch, smell, sight, sound, and of course, taste. It uses color, music, and exploration of the senses to teach children that healthy eating and physical activity are fun. The Farm2ECE kits include blenders, gardening tools, cutting boards, and other tools to help implement activities throughout the curriculum. Steps to Health also provided garden funding opportunities to install or expand on a learning garden for students to learn, be physically active, and improve access to locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables.



- Funding was available through the USDA Regional Food Systems Partnership grant to support our statewide Farm to Early Care and Education work.
- Steps to Health is the NCSU SNAP-Ed programing and is funded by SNAP-Ed.
- Other funding:



- Lee County Farm2ECE had funding from the Kellogg Foundation to do this work since 2016, and the Partnership for Children in Lee County has been involved since 2017
- Partnership for Children is the Smart Start program. Smart Start is North Carolina's nationally-recognized initiative to ensure that every child reaches his or her potential and is prepared to succeed in a global community. Smart Start helps working parents pay for child care, improves the quality of child care and provides health and family support services in every North Carolina county. Smart Start is funded through state and private funds and provides a variety of services for children less than 6 years of age and their families.
- The collaboration involved a multi-layered multi-sector approach including direct education, policy, system, and environment work, and involving all agents within the county extension office. In 2021, Lee County Cooperative Extension office committed within a greater extent to support the Farm2ECE programming with childcare centers-- as centers establish their gardens, determine the systems to purchase local foods, and enhance the health of the center. The below positions at Lee County's Cooperative Extension participated in the collaboration.
 - FCS agents contributed nutrition education/taste tests for children, parents, and cooks at the centers. This work included assembling the curriculum for clear and concise lesson plans, evaluating impact measures, provide a "train the trainer" session for center staff, and going over the curriculum.
 - Horticulture Agent provided technical assistance to each center to utilize the garden funds in a way that would create a sustainable garden environment built to their needs. The agent continues to provide time-relevant information to help create garden

maintenance plans for the staff at the centers as well as resources for the centers in how to engage children and families in their gardens.

- Local Food Agent helped connect centers with local farmers and CSAs to provide fresh food and provided technical support for the centers related to gardening.
- The County Extension Director and 4-H Agent helped guide and provide content-area expertise.
- All the Extension staff helped guide trainings that demonstrates some of the hands-on activities related to gardening, foods and nutrition.
- Partnership for Children and Families provided the sites where the work was completed as well as provide assistance for further implementation with a focus on helping centers apply GO NAPSACC assessments. They were essential in helping Lee County Agents first connect with the childcare centers and help build the trust between all collaborators.

A letter of support was drafted by the Extension Director outlining the commitment and roles that Agents would take to help sustain the CEFS mission of Farm2ECE. The Extension Center committed to supporting the 2021 Strengthening Food and Agriculture Value Chains in NC Through Farm to Child Care Collaborations, for the period of 2021-2024 in the following way(s):

FCS Agent: Conduct Farm2ECE trainings for the participating childcare centers, provide technical support for cooking and nutrition education programs, Facilitate connections to local farmers and food businesses.

Horticulture Agent: conduct garden trainings for participating childcare centers and provide technical support in garden education.

Director: will provide connections to local farming community and food-related businesses.

With the addition of a local foods agent and the hiring of a new FCS agent and horticulture agent in 2022, the Lee County Extension Center was able to expand the capacity in support and reach to the children and staff in education and trainings.



Those reached included:

- Partnership for Families and Children sites
- In 2022, FCS Agent taught the CMH curriculum to **4** childcare centers where a total of **67** 4-5 year olds were reached in a combined **378** educational hours. The CMH curriculum was only taught in 1 classroom at each center, however, the outcome of this collaboration has the potential to reach all **298** children enrolled at the sites.

Evaluation components included:

- Color Me Healthy retroactive evaluation
- County pre-surveys with all the components of Farm to ECE to get baseline numbers and will be conducting a post-survey once the grant ends in 2024
- Go NAPSACC is required for Farm to ECE

CASE STUDY 5

Iowa Department of Health and Human Services SNAP-Ed Partnership with Area Agencies on Aging

THE COLLABORATION

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) SNAP-Ed team and the Iowa Department on Aging (IDA) partner closely to deliver the direct education program, Fresh Conversations. Iowa HHS and IDA have worked closely together for over ten years. IDA was an integral part of the development of the Fresh Conversations program, helping with content creation and program implementation. IDA oversees the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) across the state that operate the congregate meal program. When the program first began, it was exclusively delivered through AAAs at meal sites in over two-thirds of Iowa's counties.



THE PARTNERSHIP



Currently, Iowa HHS and IDA meet regularly to discuss strategies to reach older adults, discuss new settings, share findings and data, collaborate on presentation, and explore new ways to leverage resources. Iowa HHS manages Fresh Conversations, and program materials promote the **Senior Farmers Market program** and the nutrition services available from IDA. This is an effort to promote SNAP-Ed older adult Fresh Conversations participants to better utilize resources that IDA offers. IDA's meal sites, café's and home delivered meal programs also help promote attendance to the Fresh Conversation's program.

In addition to collaboration with the Fresh Conversations program, Iowa HHS and IDA also work closely together through state partnerships. Iowa HHS used to manage the Iowa Senior Hunger Partnership until it dissolved in 2020. The partnership met regularly and hosted an annual conference that IDA actively participated in and assisted with. The Iowa HHS team also has managed the Iowa Nutrition Network Partnership for over 20 years that operates as

Iowa's SNAC. Prior to the pandemic, this group met quarterly and included members like the Department of Education, Iowa State Extension, and IDA. This group is currently undergoing a re-branding that includes the development of the first-ever strategic plan, and IDA has been and continues to be engaged in this process.

Submitted by Haley Huynh, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services

Additional Examples of Coordination and Collaboration Efforts

- [Maine Harvest Bucks Promotion Project Success Story](#) - SNAP in Maine
- [The Food Security Project Success Story](#) - SNAP in Virginia
- [Wisconsin Takes a Stand for Fruits and Veggies with Social Marketing Campaign Success Story](#) - SNAP in Wisconsin
- [Measuring Food Security in Remote Villages Success Story](#) - SNAP, WIC in Alaska
- [Community Eligibility Provision Success Story](#) - CEP in Maine
- [Fresh Produce and Recipes Distributed through Maine's Commodity Supplemental Food Program Success Story](#) - CSFP in Maine
- [Maine SNAP-Ed Collaborates with other USDA programs to Increase Access to Local Produce Success Story](#) - CSFP in Maine
- [Cafeteria Promotions Enhance Farm to School Efforts Success Story](#) - F2S in California
- [Older Adults in North Carolina Stay Healthy and Active with SNAP-Ed Success Story](#) - Senior Congregate Meals in North Carolina
- [Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education](#) - FDPIR in multiple states
- [SNAP-Ed and School Gardens: Growing Together](#) - F2S in multiple states
- [Detroit Public Schools Community District Farm-to-School initiatives grow through SNAP-Ed](#) - F2S in Michigan
- [SNAP-Ed and Farm to School](#) - F2S in Florida
- [Serving Kids and Supporting Local Foods in the National School Lunch Program](#) - F2S, NSLP in Michigan
- [Find Food Illinois: Enhanced Interactive Map Helps Those in Need](#) - WIC, SFMNP, NSLP, SFSP, Senior Congregate Meals in Illinois
- [Development of a Summer Food Service Program Evaluation Checklist for SNAP-Ed](#) - SFSP in Arizona
- [AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteers to Help with Shepherd SNAP-Ed Program](#) - AmeriCorps in West Virginia
- [Safe Routes to Health AmeriCorps Program at the Michigan Fitness Foundation](#) - AmeriCorps in Michigan



Strategies directly related to coordination and collaboration with other federal programs included in the PEARS PSE Module include:

- Food programs (CACFP, TEFAP, summer meals, emergency food, NSLBP, etc.) including improvements in referral and enrollment procedures
- Acceptance and use of SNAP/EBT/WIC
- Initiation, improvement, expansion, reinvigoration or maintenance of edible gardens (if gardens are a part of F2S or F2ECE)
- Onsite garden produce for meals/snacks provided onsite (if gardens are a part of F2S or F2ECE)
- Use of the garden for nutrition education (if gardens are a part of F2S or F2ECE)

Evaluating Coordination and Collaboration Efforts Using the SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework

Site-Level Coordination and Collaboration

To evaluate SNAP-Ed program interventions implemented through collaborative partnerships and designed to influence healthier choices at a site-level, agencies should use the [environmental settings indicators and outcome measures](#) in the Framework.

Sector-Level Coordination and Collaboration

Coalitions are used extensively in SNAP-Ed to partner with other organizations for planning and delivering policy, systems, and environmental change interventions, social marketing campaigns, and multi-sector initiatives. Whether at a statewide, regional, tribal, or local level, coordination usually starts with recruiting aligned partners, choosing among initiatives, developing a plan, implementing it together, evaluating results and adjusting approaches over time based on experience, resources, and new opportunities. As noted in the SNAP-Ed Plan Guidance, State Nutrition Action Councils (SNACs) can serve as a model for coalescing State programs around nutrition education and obesity prevention efforts. Several States have established SNAP-Ed Advisory Committees that include representatives from the FNS nutrition assistance programs but have the SNAP State agency taking the lead role. FNS encourages States to engage in these types of collaborative efforts. For more information, see the [State Nutrition Action Council \(SNAC\) Toolkit, Public Health Institute, 2019](#).

Finding solutions at scale to the type of complex, long-standing and difficult public health problems that SNAP-Ed addresses requires organizations to think creatively about how to mobilize their collective resources for synergy and impact. Research on a variety of diverse, multi-sector efforts finds that five 'collective impact' factors are associated with success. These are: agreeing on a common agenda, choosing and using shared measurements to mark progress together, conducting mutually reinforcing activities, communicating continuously about the work, and having one or more organizations that provide backbone support (Stanford Social Innovation Review). These factors enable organizations to make their contributions efficiently and to provide the accountability that keeps partners committed. The presence of these factors is evidence of a high-functioning collaboration. As a permanent, long-term program, SNAP-Ed can help provide these essential functions. <https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/overview/models-for-community-health-and-development/collective-impact/main>
https://broadleafconsulting.ca/uploads/3/4/0/8/3408103/tools_for_measuring_collaboration.pdf

Accomplishments in coordination and collaboration can be reported in terms of Framework outcomes and measures. In the Framework, the sectors of influence chapter addresses assessment of capacity and readiness for multi-sectoral partnership. For more information on Framework indicators and outcome measures that best align with coordination and collaboration efforts see the [sectors of influence overview](#).

*This material was created with funding from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP.
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Putting Healthy Food
Within Reach

USDA
Supplemental
Nutrition
Assistance
Program