

## Main Takeaways from the Forum Town Hall with SNAP-Ed Leadership

With the transition away from a regional model, how will you support continuing regional connections?

- Not a full answer yet, we want to make sure these are maintained in a way that works best. We are dedicated to collaboration for continued regional meetings, whether that is geographically or rural or urban or topical areas. Some folks collaborate well outside of IA influence, we want to know how to support this.
- Maintaining virtual connections will be a priority, continue to have Friday forums and in-person geographic / local gatherings.
- Regional connections are encouraged since we know they will help with coordinated, multi-layered collaboration that we are all trying to achieve

How are you & your team/agency planning to support SNAP-Ed in serving more diverse audiences, including dimensions of diversity beyond race & ethnicity such as gender diversity, physical and mental disability, etc?

- Curriculum rubric to try to capture that diversity so we reach folks appropriately
- We hope to pilot a new curriculum that we are collaborating with Leah's Pantry that is for substance use recovery
- The Arizona health style guide will be emphasized for use across all of SNAP-Ed. This presents information on inclusive language specifically for nutrition
- Special Olympics partnership will result in a training on working with groups with physical and intellectual disabilities
- DOH has many partnerships in this area, including with healthy aging/AARP and use of health equity zones
- Formalize eligibility requirements with partners that they must have nondiscrimination. We cannot work with a partner that does not have this formally written out
- We All Count is something the evaluation team is using to incorporate data equity into evaluation plans and materials

What are the next steps and continuing opportunities for input in creating the state 3-year plan?

- Build your three-year plan from listening sessions and feedback from the forum
- Contact your IA if you have things to add, questions, etc.
- Workplan templates input is appreciated, and will be taken into account while those are designed
- The website is there to communicate where things are at and what we've gathered or have to share about the 3-year plan

Can you tell us what you know now about future budget amounts? Can you explain how decisions get made regarding budget allocations across geography, project priority, and organization?

- For now, we want to maintain the status quo as best we can
- DSHS will be hiring a consultant to help us look at the budget – demographics, projects, etc. – we will use this information to offer support to local agencies regarding budgets and spending, etc.
- Ultimately, a big goal given to us from FNS is to reduce underspend so people are not relying on carry-over or supplemental funds, which will create more sustainable, equitable programming

Given the emphasis on the complementary approaches tool, what are the expectations on each individual SNAP-Ed LIA related to involvement in each of the 4 elements? I.e. Does each SNAP-Ed LIA have to provide all 4 elements of every intervention they are working on?

- It is a tool to help us think about the different ways we are reaching our audiences and recognize what we are actually doing. For example, it can help us answer the question “Is this strategy really PSE?”
- We hope this helps think about strategies we’re currently working on
- Strategies are better when they are multi-level, include many strategies
- Helps us connect with others who are working on those other pieces and look at collaboration opportunities
- There is not an explicit requirement to include all 4 elements in every intervention, but there is huge encouragement to try to achieve as much of a multi-leveled strategy as possible

Audience Question: Regarding budget, will we be submitting a plan/budget for just one year and each following year a renewal? Will we continue to have a base amount to work from?

- This year, just submit budget for first year
- We don't know what we'll be able to offer regarding supplemental but there is usually a lot of underspend
- We're hoping the budget consultant will help us figure out how to reduce dependence on underspend / supplemental funds allocation in future fiscal years

Audience Question: Regarding climate change, we know that those most vulnerable are most impacted by climate change. How does this impact our programming, especially while we're working in food systems that go hand in hand with climate change?

- We can communicate up to the federal government that we need to bring this into the conversation since it's important to continue to bring conversations about health and equity into the conversation
- We can emphasize or increase our focus on local foods, food waste reduction, active transportation
- WSDOT partnership has funds for Complete Streets for all new streets being built. This is an area where SNAP-Ed can partner more, and we need to get community voice to support this work

Audience Question: What are positives to the change from regional to statewide model?

- Bigger statewide strategies and collaboration opportunities
- From an evaluation perspective, this will let the state tell a more cohesive story and better represent the work that is happening
- Collective impact – the regional model was great because it forced us to work across agencies and share knowledge, statewide will allow us to better collaborate and share resources
- Regional model allowed really strong relationships which was beautiful; there's hope the statewide model can grow those relationships and encourage new ones
- There will be opportunities to work on broader statewide initiatives – more statewide support and collaboration