

Washington State SNAP-Ed Needs Assessment FFY24

FNS guidance requires that SNAP-Ed conduct a comprehensive needs assessment every three years. Accordingly, Washington SNAP-Ed is conducting a cyclical assessment process that focuses on a specific group each year. In Federal Fiscal Year 2024 (FFY24), the Evaluation team focused on gathering insights from SNAP-Ed Providers and statewide support staff. These recommendations can be used to help identify the facilitators and barriers that eligible residents face in accessing SNAP-Ed programming, inform partnership building and programming methods, and support progress towards achieving the state priority goals.

Phase 2: SNAP-Ed Provider Participation



Number of interviews conducted: **30**



Average interview length: **44 minutes**

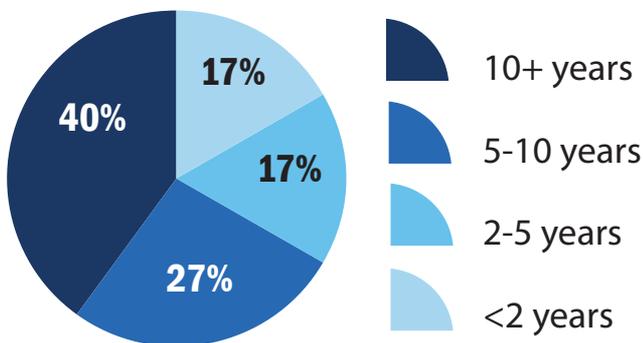


Roles of participating SNAP-Ed staff: **Managers, Coordinators, Educators, and statewide support staff**

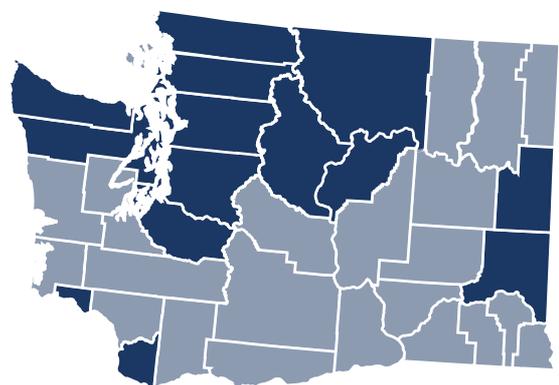


10 statewide perspectives, **16** county perspectives

Provider Years of Experience in SNAP-Ed



Provider County Representation



Recommendations

Programming

- Programming should occur in common places where people already gather.
- Programming should not only prioritize areas where the most eligible individuals live, but also rural areas where people experience barriers to access (food, physical activity space, transportation, etc.).
- Physical and invisible (more nuanced) boundaries should be minimized in an effort to encourage more collaboration.
- Curriculum rubric should be used to determine equitable and applicable curriculums for specific audiences.



“Meeting people where they are, that is our priority – having compassion for where folks are and not expecting them to seek you out...”

Workforce

- Prioritize hiring diverse, representative, bilingual staff with lived experiences in lieu of specific education or required qualification barriers.
- Encourage staff longevity through salary and budget allocations, uplifting successful work, and providing opportunities for professional development.



“We have people who have been a part of this work for a long time, so we’ve got staff expertise or subject matter experts that keep things moving – folks coming into the program right now at the provider level are go getters. They’re good partnerships makers – very open, willing and connected in their communities. I’m really proud of a lot of the providers that we have and all of the great things they do.”

Partnership

- Improve and expand partnerships with CSO’s to enable shared outreach, enrollment, and knowledge of all available programs (SNAP, SNAP-Ed, WIC, Match programs, etc.)
- Prioritize partnerships with organizations that are embedded in and representative of their communities.
- Future partnerships should occur with organizations that have shared goals and values with SNAP-Ed.



“SNAP-Ed work takes a long time. So I think that’s just a good thing to know and acknowledge and think about as we like plan our programming. Some of the work was started, you know, five years [ago]...”

Administrative

- Create a more centralized place on the Washington SNAP-Ed website for common SNAP-Ed resources.
- Conduct a comprehensive review of reporting requirements with an emphasis on minimizing local provider burden.
- Improve contractual processes to stabilize projects that span multiple fiscal years.
- Improve procurement efficiency by implementing a consistent and equitable request process.