

Washington SNAP-Ed

2025

# Annual Report

Increasing Access to  
Nourishing Food and Physical Activity



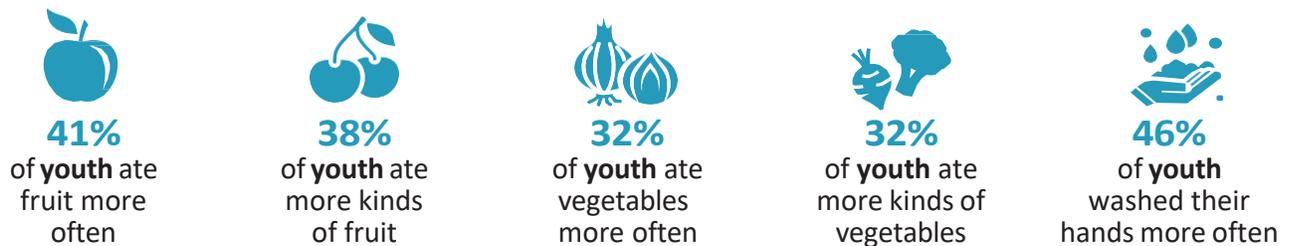
# Working Together for a Healthier Washington

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) is a federally-funded program with a mission to increase access to healthy food and physical activity for people eligible for SNAP in Washington. Partnerships between SNAP-Ed provider organizations and communities support this mission through **Direct Education (DE)** and **Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE)** change activities. Additionally, social marketing campaigns and indirect activities promote and provide educational messaging to Washingtonians.

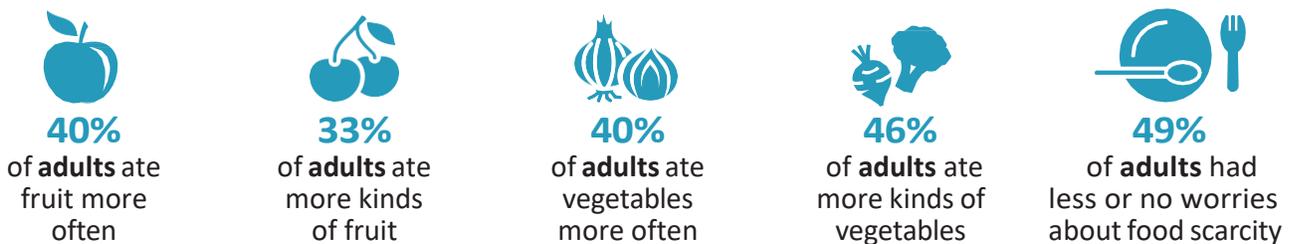
**In FFY25, WA SNAP-Ed implemented 265 direct education activities.**

*The percentages below reflect Direct Education participants who reported an increase in healthy behaviors or maintained the highest frequency at pre- and post-survey.*

**There were 5,356 YOUTH participants in FFY25.**

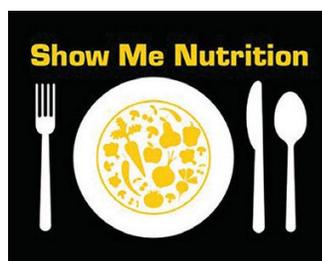


**There were 502 ADULT participants.**



**There were 10 direct education curriculums implemented across the state.**

The most frequently used curriculums were:



[Show Me Nutrition](#)



[Food Smarts](#)

# Policy, Systems, and Environmental Activities

Washington State SNAP-Ed utilizes comprehensive, multilevel strategies to conduct PSE work. This includes implementing changes that reach SNAP-Ed eligible populations at various levels and reinforce nutrition and physical activity messaging. The most frequent PSE change topics across all intervention spaces included: Food Access, Food Quality, Gardens, Food Procurement, and Marketing.

**In FFY25, WA SNAP-Ed implemented 253 PSE activities, through 1,015 PSE changes, reaching 749,424 individuals.**

*Note: “reach” refers to the number of people who encounter a PSE change.*

**Policy:** a written statement of an organizational position, decision, or course of action.

**Systems:** a group of related parts that move or work together within a whole organization or a network of organizations.

**Environmental:** built or physical environments, which are visible or observable and may include economic, social, normative, or message environments.



## Schools and Childcare

PSE activities reached **79,704** individuals at **93** unique sites

- Policy Changes: **22**
- Systems Changes: **283**
- Environmental Changes: **191**



## Retail and Food Access

PSE activities reached **625,535** individuals at **90** unique sites

- Policy Changes: **16**
- Systems Changes: **206**
- Environmental Changes: **88**



## Community Spaces

PSE activities reached **44,185** individuals at **52** unique sites

- Policy Changes: **4**
- Systems Changes: **120**
- Environmental Changes: **85**

# Additional Statewide Activities



## Statewide Farmers Market Initiative

Working with state and local partners, the Washington State Farmers Market Association (WSFMA) helped SNAP-E eligible people throughout Washington use SNAP, SNAP Market Match, WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Programs (FMNP), and WIC Fruit and Vegetable Benefits to buy healthy foods from local farmers at **135** farmers markets in Washington.

WSFMA's SNAP-E activities include:

- o Hosting five virtual Farmers Market Food Access Forums between November 2024 and April 2025, with **260** attendees.
- o Hosting food access workshops and trainings at the WSFMA's Annual Conference in Bremerton, WA, featuring key SNAP-E partners and serving over **130** participants.
- o Printing and distributing over **56,000** Farmers Market Directories in four languages (English, Spanish, Russian, and Vietnamese) so that SNAP recipients could know where and how to buy fresh fruits and vegetables and other eligible foods from local farmers.



## Tribal SNAP-E Needs Assessment

In FFY 2025, Washington SNAP-E worked with Tahoma Peak Solutions (TPS), a native-owned organization, to launch a Tribal Needs Assessment to uplift the voices, priorities, and lived experiences of American Indian and Alaska Native communities across the state. The assessment's purpose is to inform government agencies how to best engage and support native communities in their food, nutrition, community food systems, and physical activity efforts.

In May and October, TPS conducted talking circles with **37** participants from over **13** Tribal Nations and native-led organizations. Participants included tribal leaders, elders, native producers, educators, program administrators, youth mentors, and policy experts. Discussions centered around food sovereignty, community strengths and challenges, and visions for the future. Participants also helped develop a survey for tribal members on nutrition, food security, and physical activity needs and barriers.

With SNAP-E no longer funded, TPS is exploring other avenues to complete the assessment, including launching the tribal member survey. In the meantime, findings and recommendations from the talking circles will be summarized in a report and shared with other government-funded nutrition programs.



# SNAP-Ed in Action

Success stories highlight how SNAP-Ed providers engage with partners and community members to overcome challenges and make impact around food access, nutrition, and physical activity.

**Retail and Food Access:** In a powerful collaboration between WSU Whatcom County SNAP-Ed and Flynn Farms, a new wave of food sovereignty and nutrition education is taking root in Whatcom County. In the spring of 2025, 2,400 food-producing and culturally appropriate plant starts—grown organically by Flynn Farms, a woman veteran-owned AAPI farm—will be planted in two vital community spaces: the Foothills Food Bank Garden and the Lummi Tribal Health Center Garden.

These plants not only provide fresh produce; they are symbols of empowerment, offering individuals and families in food deserts and tribal communities autonomy over their own nourishment. For many, access to fresh, culturally familiar foods is limited, leading to health disparities such as diabetes and other chronic illnesses. By coupling the plant distribution with cooking demonstrations and nutrition education, WSU Whatcom County SNAP-Ed is ensuring that individuals not only receive food but also the



WSU Whatcom County SNAP-Ed staff helping prepare planting areas for Flynn Farms plant starts

knowledge to cultivate, prepare, and enjoy it in a way that aligns with their heritage and health needs.  
– *WSU Extension Whatcom County*

**Schools and Childcare:** Northeast Washington Education District 101 has been working closely with the Food Service Director, at Washtucna School District, with the goal of increasing the variety of vegetables, whole grains, and scratch cooked meals offered to students, while reducing food waste by making informed food purchasing decisions. These goals are being achieved through farm to school activities such as purchasing beef from a local rancher, working with a nutrition mentor and using software to analyze nutrients, and incorporating Chef Kent’s recipes.

– *Northeast Washington Education District 101*

**Community Spaces:** In Summer 2025, WSU Clark County SNAP-Ed partnered with the Boys & Girls Club Keystone Program to deliver a meaningful, hands-on learning experience for teens at the 78th Street Heritage Farm.

Over six weeks, the teen participants helped build the new children’s garden that will be used for school and youth farm tour events. Through the physical work of filling and planting beds, attaching trellises, and installing drip irrigation, participants gained valuable life skills and a deeper understanding of where their food comes from.

Each session included a garden-based nutrition lesson and fruit and vegetable tastings, reinforcing the connection between growing food and making healthy choices. The teens also participated in a SNAP-Ed led farmers market tour. Each teen was enrolled in the Sun Bucks program and learned how to match their market currency, select and weigh produce, and calculate the total cost of their purchases. Each teen chose something special from the market, interacted with local vendors,



WSU Clak County SNAP-Ed and Boys & Girls Club staff at the 78<sup>th</sup> Street Heritage Farm

and enjoyed being outside in the community.  
– *WSU Extension Whatcom County*

# Partners Make SNAP-Ed Possible

The quality, reach, and accessibility of SNAP-Ed programming is enhanced through strong community partners across the state. Washington SNAP-Ed partnered with **652** agencies in Federal Fiscal Year 2025.

## Top 3 agency partner agency types:



**Food  
Banks/Pantries**



**Schools  
(PreK-12)**



**Agricultural Organizations  
(Including Farmers Markets)**

## Partner Success Story: Building Healthy Futures for Tacoma’s Youth

“In an inspiring effort to boost physical activity among Tacoma youth, **MultiCare’s Center for Health Equity and Wellness SNAP-Ed** team partnered with **Tacoma Public Schools**, the **YMCA**, and the **Tacoma Run Club** to launch the Fit for Sound to Narrows Program. A school training program that prepares elementary students, ages 12 and under, for the annual **MultiCare Sound to Narrows** organized run.

Teachers and volunteers from Tacoma and surrounding school districts lead practices before, during, and after school. Not only did students typically practice running twice a week, for eight weeks, but they also learned about nutrition, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

SNAP-Ed’s funding, support, organization and strong partnerships facilitated all participants receiving free race registrations, running journals, water bottles, and more – making the program fully accessible for all youth participants. At this year’s 53rd Sound to Narrows, more than 6,000 runners filled Vassault Park, including over **600** Fit for Sound participants. Families and coaches cheered as students crossed the finish line with medals in hand and a sense of pride.

Looking Ahead, Fit for Sound plans to expand to middle and high schools, giving even more students the opportunity to stay active during key years of growth and to build lifelong habits of movement, healthy living, and community connection. Fit for Sound shows how community partnerships can open doors and create healthier futures for Tacoma’s youth.



Fit for Sound youth participants in the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sound to Narrows.

– *MultiCare Center for Health Equity and Wellness, Pierce County*



### DOH 940-075 November 2025

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