



SNAP-Ed

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

**Region 3: Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom Counties
FFY18 Annual Report: October 2017 – September 2018**

Region 3 SNAP-Ed FFY18 Annual Report

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Implementing Agency (IA): Washington State University

Reporting Period: Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2018

Executive Summary

Washington State University is located in Pullman, Washington; with Extension offices in each county. The Region 3 Implementing Agency leads are headquartered in Whatcom and Snohomish WSU Extension offices, with administrative support from staff in the Pullman and Puyallup offices.

The WSU Extension mission is to “engage people, organizations, and communities to advance knowledge, economic well-being, and quality of life by fostering inquiry, learning, and the application of research”. WSU Extension is the bridge between university-based education, research, and expertise to meet the needs identified by members of our communities.

In FFY2018 WSU Extension has contributed to SNAP-Ed goals by:

- Connecting participants to other WSU programs such as: Master Gardeners, food preservation information, community-based agriculture and gardens, Master Composters, 4-H youth development, and Strengthening Families.
- Connecting and leveraging resources from the academic arm of WSU such as: School of Medicine, Nutrition and Exercise Physiology, emerging Food Systems work, Navigating Difference, EFNEP, Western Region Land Grant University SNAP-Ed Team, and WSU Land Grant University SNAP-Ed advocacy support in Washington DC.
- Providing technical assistance to local SNAP-Ed programs with needs assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of PSE and direct education strategies to improve nutrition and physical activity behaviors among SNAP eligible audiences.
- Conducting annual program monitoring and follow-up training to ensure fiscal accountability, program quality and compliance with SNAP-Ed guidance.
- Determining unique strengths of each local SNAP-Ed program and developing a model for sharing resources across our region. That model, to be implemented in FFY2019 will include three regional in-person meetings, topical site visits, opportunities to shadow and work one-on-one with experienced SNAP-Ed staff, and information sharing via weekly updates and the wasnap-ed.org website.
- Providing regional staff to support specific Region 3 goals in the areas of:
 - Farm to Community with 0.75 FTE dedicated to coordinating efforts to improve regional awareness of, and access to Washington grown foods.
 - Latino Outreach with a 1.0 FTE Spanish Speaking Program Coordinator to provide culturally relevant direct education, PSE strategies and messages that speak to our growing Latino community.
- Revising funding to expand tribal support, increasing funding to the Tulalip Tribes to support a 1.0 FTE Program Coordinator.

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Geographic Counties Served

Region 3 is a five county region in the northwest corner of Washington State. Comprised of the following counties:

- Snohomish (urban)
- Skagit (rural)
- Island (rural)
- Whatcom (rural)
- San Juan (rural)

Number and Type of Sub Grantees

In FFY2018 ten local programs received funds to conduct SNAP-Ed programming in Region 3.

Four programs are housed within the WSU Extension land grant university system:

- WSU Snohomish County Extension
- WSU Skagit County Extension
- WSU Island County Extension
- WSU Whatcom County Extension

Six programs are sub-grantees:

- Snohomish Health District (local health jurisdiction)
- Tulalip Tribes (Tribal)
- United General District 304 (local health jurisdiction)
- Island County Public Health (local health jurisdiction)
- Common Threads Farm (non-profit)
- San Juan County Health and Community Services (local health jurisdiction)

Interventions Conducted

*See **Appendix A: R3 SNAP-Ed Interventions Table**, for interventions detailed by program, domain and partner type

Based on local needs assessments, Region 3 has focused on reaching youth and their parents, to improve the number of youth who meet guidelines for physical activity and fruit and vegetable consumption. Interventions, reach, and demographics are outlined in the tables below.

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Table: Region 3 Interventions by Domain

	Direct-Ed	PSE	Indirect-Ed	Social Marketing
Learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing Healthy Habits • Choose Health: Food Fun and Fitness (CHFFF) • Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH) • Read for Health • Kids in the Kitchen • Plan Shop Save Cook (PSSC) for teen parents • Eating Smart Being Active (ESBA) for parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm to School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School gardens ○ Harvest of the Month ○ After-school Cooking Clubs • School District Wellness Committees • Physical Activity Brain Breaks • Smarter Lunchrooms • Walking School bus • Shared-use policies and programs • Student Nutrition Action Councils • CSPI Childcare Playground Audits • Grocery tours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Nights • Newsletters, recipes and educational handouts • Social Media • Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvest of the Month
Shop		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers Markets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EBT promotion ○ FMNP and Senior FMNP promotion ○ Farm to Tribe partnerships • Retail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health Bucks fruit and veggie Rx ○ Grocery tours ○ Complete Eats promotion • Food Banks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Healthy Food Pantry Assessments ○ Backpack programs ○ Healthy donation policies ○ Environmental changes and cues ○ Gleaning program ○ Grow-a-row donation campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulletin boards • Newsletters, recipes and educational handouts • Recipe demonstrations at food banks and farmers markets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvest of the Month

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Live	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eating Smart, Being Active (ESBA) Plan Shop Save Cook (PSSC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm to Community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community, Military and Tribal gardens Youth Cooking Clubs Military to Farming career planning Tribal walking groups Active transportation: Walkability and bike-ability audits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletters, recipes and educational handouts Newspaper articles Recipe demonstrations and environmental cues at CSOs 	
Play		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bike-ability audits Public bike safety events 		
Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan Shop Save Cook (PSSC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grocery tours 		

Table: Estimated vs. Actual Reach

	FFY18 Estimated Reach		FFY18 Actual Reach	
	Total	SNAP-Eligible	Total*	SNAP-Eligible**
Direct Education	4,525	3,776	1,862	1,285 (69%)
PSE Strategies	75,106	53,289	34,668	28,081 (81%)
Total Indirect Education	0	0	39,447	N/A
Indirect Education Newly Reached	0	0	25,714	N/A

*Source: PEARS, **Estimated based on Local Project Annual Reports, information not available in PEARS

Direct education reach was less than projected for the following reasons:

- Several programs removed direct-ed programming after the start of the FFY18 program year, in favor of a focus on PSE programming.
- The Tulalip Tribes program predicted a large direct-ed reach as part of a planned train-the-trainer program; a model that did not end up being practical in the community.
- The definition of direct education was clarified by DSHS and the Evaluation team mid-year, resulting in programs counting only lessons using approved curricula, 20 minutes or longer in duration, as direct-ed. This removes the counting of any recipe demonstrations, and events now counted as one-time events such as Cooking Matters in Your Community, which may have been estimated in plans as direct education.

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PSE reach was less than projected for the following reasons:

- A few programs experienced staff retirement and/or partner withdrawal, which led to a shortage of staff to conduct programming, and/or partners with which to conduct programming.
- PSE work is ongoing, often taking more than one year to establish partnerships and get to the intervention stage, resulting in a delay in reporting reach numbers.
- The definition of indirect education was clarified by DSHS and the Evaluation team mid-year, resulting in programs reporting some activities/reach that had been planned as PSE, as indirect education instead. Some of these activities include recipe demonstrations, social media message campaigns, and environmental cues.
- Many local programs continue to ask for additional guidance on estimating reach numbers in their plans, and Region 3 IAs would appreciate an opportunity to collaborate with other IAs and the Evaluation team on strategies to support our local programs with consistent reach estimation practices.

Table: Demographics of participants reached with Direct Education

Age		Gender		Race/Ethnicity	
0%	< 5 yrs.	56%	Female	8%	American Indian or Alaskan Native
81%	5-17 yrs.			2%	Asian
16%	18-59 yrs.	44%	Male	4%	Black or African American
3%	60+ yrs.			1%	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
				55%	White
				30%	Hispanic or Latino

*Source: PEARS Unit Snapshot

Table: Demographics of participants reached with PSE Strategies

Age		Gender		Race/Ethnicity	
2.5%	< 5 yrs.	57%	Female	10%	American Indian or Alaskan Native
52%	5-17 yrs.			3%	Asian
32%	18-59 yrs.	38%	Male	2%	Black or African American

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Age		Gender		Race/Ethnicity	
11%	60+ yrs.			1%	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
2.5%	Unknown	5%	Unknown	60%	White
				23%	Hispanic or Latino

Regional Focus Area Highlight: Latino Outreach

In March 2018, a regional Spanish Speaking Program Coordinator was hired to conduct direct-education and PSE outreach in Latino communities. In the six months since she was hired, Mariah Brown-Pounds has helped local programs in all 5 counties resulting in:

- Direct-Ed, PSE, and Indirect-Ed events in 4 counties
 - 6,553 participants reached
 - Approximately 52% Latino/Spanish-speaking
- Many recipes, newsletters and promotional materials translated into Spanish, allowing programs to better recruit and share nutrition and physical activity information with our Latino communities.

Regional Focus Area Highlight: Farm to Community

During FFY18, the Farm to Community team built relationships with each Region 3 SNAP-Ed provider and explored opportunities to increase farm-to-where-you-are activities. The team conducted a regional Farm to Community needs assessment in each county and identified activities and partnerships to support in FFY19. Highlights from FFY18 include:

- In Island County, the team continued work that was started in FFY17, focused on Farm to School garden based education and work with community gardens at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. Gardens in both locations continued to be integrated into the food and nutrition environment to support healthy lifestyles for students, families, and enlisted personnel.
- The team participated as a key stakeholder in the Statewide Farm to School Network Formation Committee, the Whatcom Food Network Steering Committee, the Oak Harbor School District Garden Steering Committee, the newly formed Skagit Farm to School Network and the WSU Food Systems Team. As stakeholders in these groups, the Farm to Community Team integrates SNAP-Ed activities into broader efforts and connects local providers with other organizations to collaborate and share resources.
- The Farm to Community team also met and worked with the Washington State Farmers

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Market Association (WSFMA) – Regional Leads program director and Snohomish and Skagit County Regional Leads to strengthen local farmers market programs and identify areas for ongoing collaboration to improve the number of SNAP-eligible individuals who use their EBT benefits at our farmers markets.

Principal Partners

Principal partners integral to planning, implementing and evaluating our SNAP-Ed work include:

- School Districts and individual schools
- Childcare centers
- Farmers Markets
- Retail Grocery
- Food Banks and mobile food banks
- Tribal communities
- Military base
- Community Service Offices (CSO) and Community Resource Centers
- Low-income and Transitional Housing
- Government agencies such as Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Department of Transportation
- Job Training sites such as Goodwill Industries

Funding Level

IN FFY2018, Region 3 was allocated \$1,485,811 for SNAP-Ed programming and administration. Our local projects will submit final FFY18 expenses by October 31, 2018. Once final billing is complete, we will be able to complete the below table.

FFY2018 Region 3 Billing

	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Total Billing	\$213,254.19	\$364,481.76	\$367,351.57	
On target?	14.4%	24.5%	24.7%	
Cumulative \$s		\$577,735.95	\$945,087.52	
Cumulative %		38.9%	63.5%	

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Success Stories

Success stories have been selected to show the breadth and variety of SNAP-Ed work in Region 3. Stories have been categorized into PSE, Partnerships or Direct Education, as requested. However, it is difficult to separate partnership from PSE and Direct Education, and in most of these stories, partnership is a key element to success.

Success Stories Highlighting PSE Projects

Domain: Shop

WSU Snohomish County Extension Connecting food bank customers and farmers markets – Tori Sorenson, MPH, RD, SNAP-Ed Program Coordinator



The Snohomish County WA State Farmers Market Lead and WSU Extension SNAP-Ed presented at a Snohomish County Food Bank Coalition Meeting in Spring 2018. The presentation included background on the Farmers Market EBT Match Program and how to use EBT at the farmers markets. The intent of the presentation was to raise awareness about the match program, provide sufficient information so food bank directors could share market info with staff, volunteers and customers and to answer questions and hear feedback about the farmers market match program. Following the presentation at the coalition meeting, WSU Extension SNAP-Ed followed up with individual food bank directors and provided information to food bank customers in Snohomish County during cooking demonstrations and at a special food bank farmers market 'promo' event. WSU Extension also provided cooking demonstrations and recipe sampling at the Everett Farmers Market each month during the summer. These outreach efforts resulted in over 7,500 Snohomish County residents receiving healthy recipes and information on using EBT benefits at farmers markets, through their local food banks.

Domain: Learn

Snohomish Health District Encouraging Active Transportation at Challenger Elementary (Safe routes to school) – Krystofer Hernandez, MPH, CHES, Health Communities Specialist

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Snohomish Health District has conducted walking audits of elementary schools throughout Snohomish County between 2013 and 2018. With funding from SNAP-Ed, there has been the ability to revisit and update many of the older walking audits. Snohomish Health District worked with community partners and Challenger Elementary, to improve safety and promote active transportation. Pedestrian crossing signs were purchased with SNAP-Ed funding for this site. There were logistical concerns about where the signs would be stored, but a partnership could allow the creation and storage of these signs on a property owned by the City of Everett. Signs are displayed at the crosswalks near the school at a nearby park. We will continue to work with our community partners and Challenger Elementary on education and policies that encourage students to walk or bike to school.

Domain: Shop

WSU Whatcom County Extension Expands Food Bank Support to Reach More Rural and Latino Participants at Lynden Project Hope Food Bank – Amber Noskoff, Ashley Meyer and Karla Anderson



WSU Whatcom County SNAP-Ed program participates in monthly Whatcom County Food Bank Coalition meetings to discuss food access and food banking in Whatcom County. WSU Whatcom County SNAP-Ed has been expanding reach to food banking clients throughout the county by offering to provide monthly recipe demonstrations and tastings, rotating informative bulletin boards, and information to share with

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clients on how to store and cook foods distributed at the food bank and how to stretch their food dollars. After participating in the Whatcom County Food Bank Coalition and hearing praise of SNAP-Ed from other coalition members, the director at Lynden Project Hope Food Bank agreed to collaborate with WSU Whatcom County SNAP-Ed staff to highlight seasonal produce and other available foods with monthly recipe demonstrations.

WSU Whatcom County SNAP-Ed staff met with the Lynden Project Hope Food Bank director in January to tour the facility, access the bulletin board purchased for our (SNAP-Ed) use, and make detailed arrangements. Monthly recipe demonstrations began in January of 2018, as well as the bulletin board installation. Project Hope Food Bank clients have positively responded to WSU Whatcom SNAP-Ed recipe demonstrations, saying they now have more ideas on what to do with the foods they bring home from the food bank. As our partnership with the Project Hope Food Bank has progressed and client needs have been assessed, WSU Whatcom County Ext. SNAP-Ed is now including Spanish materials on each monthly bulletin board and all recipes and handouts translated into Spanish to increase reach to the high Hispanic/Latino population utilizing the food bank.

Success Stories Highlighting Partnerships

Domain: Learn

San Juan County Health and Community Services Partners to Implement Backpack Program at San Juan Island Elementary School – Kristen Rezabek, MS, RDN, CD, CDE Health and Nutrition Coordinator

Nourish to Flourish: a Coalition to end hunger on San Juan Island was formed in April of 2018 to explore initiatives that ensure low-income children are able to access healthy foods. One strategy identified was to start a Backpack program called 36 Weekends. In partnership with community volunteers, the Rotary, and the San Juan Island Elementary School, this program sends home nutritious food for kids who might otherwise go hungry over the weekend during the school year. The SNAP-Ed coordinator worked with the Coalition to develop guidelines for the Backpack program, food purchasing and storage, as well as secure funding for 36 Weekends. In partnership with community volunteers, the Rotary, and the San Juan Island Elementary School, this program sends home nutritious food for kids who might otherwise go hungry over the weekend during the school year. This weekend backpack program started on Orcas Island and starting September of 2018 has expanded on San Juan to low income children at the elementary school. Letters went out to all those who qualify for free or reduced lunches in late spring. A website was created, <https://www.sji36weekends.org/> and the Coordinator was able to purchase food orders, gather volunteers from the community and obtain food storage at the Key Bank. Rotary has allocated \$23,000 for the next four years to ensure sustainability of the program. Another \$1,500 was allocated by United Way in the 2018-2019 school year. At this time, there are 18 students signed up. The first ten weeks is estimated to cost about \$1500. We have a small handful of volunteers to pack small bags for the participants every Friday and bring to the school. The office staff distributes paper bags to the students with their weekend meals.

Newspaper article highlighting the success story: <https://www.sanjuanjournal.com/life/friday-harbor-elementary-school-students-to-receive-free-weekend-meals/>

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Domain: LEARN

Island County Public Health Partners with School District to Fund Sustainable School Gardening Program – Laura Luginbill, Assessment and Healthy Communities Director



In August 2018, the SNAP-Ed Garden Steering Committee met at our usual location at Oak Harbor Public Schools. Gathered around the table were representatives from Oak Harbor Public Schools, Island County Public Health, WSU-Extension staff and Master Gardeners, and we were there for our monthly meeting to continue planning for the start of the school year. As we began, the Superintendent of Oak Harbor Public Schools stepped in, and asked to speak. After two years of the SNAP-Ed program at Olympic View and Crescent Harbor Elementary schools, Dr. Gibbon announced that the District was committing their own investment to expand the garden environmental change to all of their elementary schools, placing a teacher on garden and sustainability special assignment, and contracting with a new food service company that could better align with the District's goal to serve fresh healthy foods. This is a perfect example of where a small investment of SNAP-Ed funds can inspire and leverage change and investment in the community.

Domain: Shop

WSU Skagit County Extension Partners with Safeway and Complete Eats Program to support Grocery Tours – Talea Price, SNAP-Ed Program Coordinator

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We use our local Safeway Store to facilitate the Grocery Store Tours we offer in conjunction with our adult ESBA and PSSC classes. Safeway is a great location as they provide wonderful unit pricing on their products as well as a beautiful produce section with local produce. We were in contact with the produce manager to start a Harvest of the Month promotion as well as talking with the general manager to schedule our tours. I decided to write the Safeway Corporation located in Seattle to request \$10 gift cards as an incentive for our programming, clients would be given a gift card if they participated in the class series and attended the Grocery Store Tour. The Safeway Corporation generously agreed to donate 20, \$10 gift cards to our program. They were very supportive of our work in the area and wanted to provide encouragement to our clients to make healthier choices. The gift cards may be used in conjunction with their EBT Benefits to stretch their dollars. Through July of 2018 our participants were able to take part in the Safeway Complete Eats Program, giving clients \$5 worth of free fruits and vegetables for every \$10 of fruits and vegetables purchased. This was a great way of combining the two programs, enabling our clients to increase their purchasing power to buy more fruits and vegetables. The partnership between Safeway and WSU Skagit SNAP-ED has allowed Safeway's donation to go to the people who need it the most within our community. The gift cards will allow our clients to use their new shopping skills and knowledge to better nourish their families.

Direct Education

Domain: Work

WSU Skagit County Extension Builds Relationship and Increases Reach Among Latino Participants with Job Training Partner – Mariah Brown-Pounds, Regional Spanish-Speaking Program Coordinator

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In the summer of 2018 the Skagit County SNAP-Ed program asked me to teach a 4 week Plan, Shop, Save, Cook series in Spanish at the Goodwill Training Center in Mount Vernon. This was a new relationship that Skagit SNAP-Ed was fostering and the first programming that they had scheduled with Goodwill. I began teaching the series with 3 participants and by the last class that number had grown to 14. More and more students came to my classes because of word of mouth and because of the positive reputation the class was gaining. The participants enjoyed the cooking demonstrations and new recipes. The manager was thrilled with the first set of classes, "The classes are always starting on time and the participants are always happy when they leave one of your classes. Thanks for your effort!" The Skagit office and I are proud of this partnership because it has taken a long time to establish, build trust and create a working relationship with Goodwill. They requested a second series of classes in English. I taught that class as well and had a smaller but dedicated group of 6 students who were engaged throughout the lessons and shared their successes in reading the ingredients label at the grocery store and looking for the unit pricing. We ended the series with a grocery store tour. The students were enthusiastic about the hands-on learning experience and asked many pertinent questions. It was rewarding to see one student's curious pride when she learned that popcorn is a whole grain and can be a healthy snack to eat. Goodwill has now scheduled a third class that will be bilingual English/Spanish. I look forward to the challenge of teaching in two languages and the satisfaction of facilitating new learning.

Domain: Learn

Tulalip Tribes First Successful Eating Smart Being Active (ESBA) Class on the Tulalip Reservation – AnneCherise Jensen

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The Tulalip SNAP-Ed program conducted our first Eating Smart Being Active classes on the Tulalip Reservation in FFY2018. The classes took place at the historic Tulalip Dining Hall, a beautiful building located on the beach of the Tulalip Bay. The target audience for this group, was anyone affiliated with the Tulalip Community (tribal members, spouses, employees, health clinic patients). We used the 2018 updated version of the Eating Smart Being Active (ESBA) Curriculum, with 9 weekly classes, from 5-7pm. We held a few one-time events earlier in the year, to get people interested in ESBA, and found this was the best time for people to meet, and also, that if we were going to offer an evening class during dinner time, a meal would need to be provided to get people there. We were able to partner with the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) to provide extra funding for food, allowing us to cook a family meal together each night, and to send our participants home with a bag of groceries to recreate the meal at home each week! And, our classes were consistently attended by 20-25 people!

We were blessed to have Senator Patty Murray's Assistant, Ann Seabott, visit one of our ESBA Classes in early March. She was very interested in the work we were accomplishing - and wanted to bring it back to Senator Murray to advocate for SNAP-Ed in the Farm Bill at Senate. Being Native country, the Tulalip SNAP-Ed Program has invested a lot of time and resources into building relationships and gaining trust with Tribal members and Tribal Departments to be able to conduct such work. Continued partnership with the DPP program has resulted in our part-time Tribal SNAP-Ed program coordinator, Brooke, being offered a full time position with DPP. Brooke is still assisting the SNAP-Ed program, but now through sustainable funding from the DPP. This is an excellent example of how an initial SNAP-Ed investment in a Tribal community can result in additional resources to expand nutrition and physical activity resources, and even provide employment to Tribal members.

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Evaluation

Formative and Process evaluation that occurred in Region 3, outside of the statewide evaluation effort includes:

Region 3 IA:

Formative Evaluation: Local program support and technical assistance needs

- Purpose: Determine needs for local program training and technical assistance with direct education, PSE assessment and implementation, PEARS, fiscal and budgeting, plan amendments and report writing
- Tools: Surveys at regional meetings, Quarterly report question, Program monitoring checklist, Site visit checklist

Island County Public Health:

Formative Evaluation: USDA Summer Meal Program alignment at Crescent Harbor Elementary

- Purpose: To evaluate opportunity for alignment with CHE School Garden PSE, including parent engagement
- Tools: Stakeholder interviews, direct observation

Process Evaluation: Elementary School Teachers and Administration Strategic Planning

- Purpose: To evaluate school garden program to date, and gain feedback from teachers and staff on goals and how to improve
- Tools: Systems Mapping, Prioritization, Action Plans

San Juan Health and Community Services:

Process Evaluation: FMNP and market incentives program delivery and expansion plan

- Purpose: To ensure timelines and tasks identified for a more efficient delivery and expansion of vendors as well as market incentives to match both WIC and Senior FMNP on all three islands.
- Tools: Stakeholder interviews, Policy and procedure review

Challenges

Understanding how to accurately estimate and report program reach for PSE projects has been an issue repeatedly cited by local programs. For example, when reporting reach numbers for multiple interventions at a particular school, it is difficult to know whether the reach of each intervention at that school should be reported separately – resulting in duplicates when the same individuals are reached through more than one intervention – but accurately representing the breadth of programming at that site; or whether the whole population of the school should be counted only one time.

- **Solutions:** It would be extremely beneficial for the IAs to have quarterly and annual reporting templates from DSHS at the beginning of each program year, so that we can

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tailor our local report templates to capture what will be asked for in PEARS, and on those reports. This will help our local programs to collect, track, and report their reach numbers in the way that the Evaluation team and DSHS would like them to be reported quarterly and at the end of the year.

- **Solutions:** We would appreciate an opportunity to collaborate with other IAs and the Evaluation Team to standardize a reach estimation process that ensures we are using the same methods to estimate and report reach for direct-ed, PSE and indirect activities, across the state.

Island County SNAP-Ed Staffing in Island County Public Health and WSU Island County has undergone significant change in 2018. These programs rely on a strong partnership between Island County Public Health and WSU Extension. In February 2018, ICPH lost their SNAP-Ed coordinator. That same month they led a strategic planning meeting with teachers and administrators at Oak Harbor Public Schools, which energized some lofty goals but required that they reconsider the structure of how SNAP-Ed was delivering services. Then WSU-Extension's SNAP-Ed coordinator announced she would be retiring before the end of the year.

- **Solutions:** In August 2018, Island County Public Health filled their SNAP-Ed Coordinator position. The person in this position is very knowledgeable in the social determinants of health and passionate about health equity, and is already continuing the strong partnership with WSU and community partners. WSU Island County Extension is in the final stages of hiring their SNAP-Ed Coordinator, and this person should be on board by December, 2018. Region 3 IAs work closely with program coordinators to support hiring and initial training of new staff.

Snohomish Health District staffing During FFY2018 the original SNAP-Ed lead was promoted to a supervisory role in Snohomish Health District. This left a gap for completing work for SNAP-Ed programming. The Snohomish Health District hired on a full-time employee to oversee the SNAP-Ed programs for Q4 of FFY2018. This employee will carry on SNAP-Ed work into FFY2019. However, the lengthy hiring delays during this process caused a shortage in the use of SNAP-Ed funding. Due to two consecutive years of underspending, the Snohomish Health District funding level for FFY2019 was reduced significantly. Though there is decreased SNAP-Ed funding, the Health District has leveraged other funding sources and the new SNAP-Ed coordinator will carry on several of the programs started in previous years.

Several local SNAP-Ed programs have reported programming changes due to partners being unresponsive, or champions not being available due to time constraints.

- **Solutions:** We continue to advise local programs to adjust their plans to fit local needs and readiness, including reaching out to new partners, as those changes occur.

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Several local SNAP-Ed programs were found to have inconsistencies in procedures, discovered during annual program monitoring site visits. Some inconsistencies included how receipts for SNAP-Ed purchases are recorded and submitted, how SNAP-Ed hours are reported, use of required SNAP-Ed disclaimers on promotional materials, use of “approved” SNAP-Ed recipes, and use of civil rights posters during classes/events.

- **Solutions:** We provided technical assistance to correct these inconsistencies at the time of the program monitoring meetings. Also, we provided training with all local providers at the Region 3 FFY2019 Kickoff meeting in September 2018. We will continue to evaluate partner needs, and provide training via in-person meetings or via webinars, to be sure that everyone receives technical assistance and training as needed to meet SNAP-Ed guidance.