

Washington State SNAP-Ed Quarterly Report

Implementing Agency / Statewide Initiative: **Region 3, Washington State University Extension**

Reporting Period: **Quarter 1: October – December 2018**

Milestones

Major successes that took place during the quarter and tie back to objectives outlined in year one of your FFY18-20 State Plan project summaries.

Year 1 Focus – Progress Updates:

1. Identify opportunities for program sustainability and expansion, including leveraging community and regional partnerships and funding
 - Encouraging and providing technical assistance as needed to local programs incorporating broader systems approaches and train-the-trainer models. Examples include:
 - Skagit County WSU Faculty assisted with a school district effort to obtain grant funds to sustain their school garden program over the summer via innovative robot technology. Grant funds awarded, and SNAP-Ed is supporting in a technical assistance role.
 - Region 3 Farm to Community team assisted with coordination of WA State Farm to School Food and Ag Education and School Garden workgroups to improve collaboration and resource sharing among farm to school programs across the state.
2. Practice regional resource sharing based on models developed in year 1 and highlight regional programs and success stories
 - Developed Regional Resource Sharing plan based on surveys of needs and opportunities conducted in FFY2018. Plan includes:
 - A combination of in-person meetings and web-based meetings and resources.
 - Collaboration with the statewide Curriculum and Evaluation teams.
 - Presentations from experienced state, regional & local SNAP-Ed staff; themed topical collaboration events, zoom meetings, email and website messages and resources.
 - A focus on topics identified by local staff: equity and poverty training, farm to community, strategies for educators, food banks/access, and evaluation planning and support.
3. Participate in evaluation as directed by the Washington State SNAP-Ed Evaluation team to show effectiveness of interventions for SNAP-Ed participants, progress towards state, regional and local SNAP-Ed goals and objectives; and to determine areas for growth (ongoing)
 - Communicated with Region 3 local program staff about required Evaluation trainings, and statewide FFY2018 outcomes data
 - Collaborated with Evaluation team to offer sites for survey piloting.
4. Review and incorporate changes to direct education and PSE programming (ongoing)
5. Facilitate support of local CSO offices by coordinating with DSHS to distribute CSO contact information to local SNAP-Ed programs not already working with their county CSOs

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- Coordinated with local programs in all 5 counties to determine a lead agency for CSO contact, and disseminate CSO contact information.
- Documented new/exciting CSO programming and partnership happening in Skagit County, shared with DSHS, and plan to highlight at an upcoming regional meeting as part of resource sharing.

Special Focus Areas

Farm to Community: Quarter one activities included:

- **Statewide Farm to School Activity** - Helped coordinate and participated in WA State Farm to School Food and Ag Education and School Garden workgroups; working with schools, non-profits, teachers, OSPI, WSDA, SNAP-Ed partners, and more to discuss statewide efforts to improve collaboration and growth of Farm to School Programs in the state
- **Farmers Markets** - Continued working with the Snohomish/Skagit WSFMA regional lead to explore opportunities to expand SNAP/EBT access, promotion and use at the farmers markets. Began planning to expand SNAP/EBT at the farmers market information outreach to food banks, schools, CSOs, and housing partners in Snohomish County.
- **Harvest of the Month / School Gardens Material Sharing** – Responding to needs identified through surveys with local providers, Region 3 Farm to Community is working to consolidate HOM and garden resources used by SNAP-Ed partners to facilitate resource sharing and support program growth in Region 3.
- **Oak Harbor School Garden Committee** - Began coordination with new school district funded Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) that is dedicated to school gardens across the district. This partnership will help to connect garden activities in the SNAP-Ed school gardens to broader efforts to improve the nutrition and physical activity environment across the district. Began working on increased coordination with the newly assigned Nutrition Services Director for the district. This partnership will help us to move toward the ultimate goal of including produce from the school gardens in the cafeteria.

Physical Activity: Five local SNAP-Ed providers are working on physical activity PSE and community events, with an additional three local providers focusing on physical activity through gardening, and an additional two providers offering direct-education that includes a focus on physical activity. Seven have projects that are complete, ongoing, or in process. Three are yet to begin, with activities planned for later in the year. These activities range from community walking audits to walking and biking community events.

Food Banks: Five local SNAP-Ed providers are working on food bank PSE strategies. Three have projects in process, and two have activities planned for later this year. These activities range from recipe demonstrations featuring healthy foods available at the food bank, to healthy food pantry assessments that lead to changes in policy, procedure, and the variety of healthy foods available in our food banks.

Target Audiences

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Military Base: Island County WSU hired a new SNAP-Ed program coordinator in November. Already she has begun developing a relationship with the Naval Air Station Whidbey Island community, and worked with the community on creating recipes from produce grown on base. As relationships with Navy families and staff continue to grow through gardening on-base, we continue to learn more about Navy culture and needs, to determine additional roles SNAP-Ed can play in helping young military families eat well on a budget, and potentially transition to careers in farming.

Tribal Community: This year, the Tulalip Tribes SNAP-Ed team is collaborating with the Lushootseed Language Department, with the vision of including traditional language in their direct-ed and PSE interventions. The team continues to expand their partnership with the Diabetes Prevention Program to include more preventive outreach to the community, in culturally relevant ways. Exploring ways to reach more youth and seniors have led to additional partners requesting SNAP-Ed, including the Tulalip senior center, and increased programming with youth at the Tulalip Youth Center and TANF, and potentially tribal schools.

Latino Outreach: In quarter 1, our Regional Spanish-speaking Latino Outreach has supported 5 local programs (Common Threads Farm, United General District 304: CHOP, WSU Skagit, WSU Whatcom, WSU Snohomish) with direct education, food bank recipe demonstrations/tastings, Harvest of the Month activities, or translation of materials and/or interpreting at classes and events. In this quarter she reached 2,586 people, at least 50% of whom were Latino or Spanish-speaking.

Local SNAP-Ed Program Activities Status:

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Region 3 SNAP-Ed Direct-Ed and PSE Activities, FFY19 Quarter 1		Island		San Juan	Skagit		Snohomish		Whatcom		
		Island County Public Health	WSU Island County Extension	San Juan County Health & Community Services	WSU Skagit County Extension	United General District 304 - CHOP	Snohomish Health District	Tulalip Tribes	WSU Snohomish County Extension	Common Threads Farm	WSU Whatcom County Extension & Lummi Nation
Direct-Ed	Youth				in process			yet to begin	in process		in process
	Adults				in process			yet to begin	yet to begin		in process
Farm 2 Community	Promote EBT, FMNP, SFMNP, WIC at Farmers Markets	yet to begin		in process	ongoing			yet to begin	planning	ongoing	
	Gleaning			in process							
	Grow a Row	yet to begin	planning								
	Gardens: School, Community, Food Bank, Military		in process					ongoing	planning	ongoing	yet to begin
	Local foods procurement		yet to begin			yet to begin					
	Military to farming careers		yet to begin								
	Community coalition or task force	ongoing	ongoing	ongoing	ongoing	ongoing	ongoing	ongoing	ongoing	ongoing	ongoing
	Retail environmental assessment			in process				yet to begin			
Health Bucks (retail, farmers markets)					yet to begin						
Physical Activity	Environmental assessment/audits			complete							
	Community Physical Activity Events			planning		yet to begin		in process			yet to begin
	Shared-use Agreements						yet to begin				
Food Banks	Healthy Food Pantry Assessment				yet to begin			yet to begin	planning		yet to begin
	Environmental Changes				yet to begin				in process		yet to begin
	Policy/Procedure								yet to begin		
	Backpack programs				in process				ongoing		
	Recipe Demonstrations				in process			yet to begin	in process	yet to begin	in process
Schools	Smarter Lunchrooms				Complete	yet to begin			in process		yet to begin
	Student Nutrition Councils								yet to begin		yet to begin
	Healthier US Schools Challenge				in process						
	Farm to School	in process	in process		in process	in process				ongoing	in process
	Brain Breaks (PA)				yet to begin	yet to begin					
	Wellness Advising/ Councils			complete					in process		yet to begin
Social Marketing	Harvest of the Month	in process		in process	in process	in process					in process
	Food Hero						in process				
	Champions for Change			in process							

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Discussion of Program activities not yet “in process”

All activities not yet in process, are planned to occur later in the year, or are dependent upon relationship development currently in process.

Challenges

Please share opportunities for improvement that adversely affected programming in your region during the quarter, along with planned solutions/response.

Several local SNAP-Ed programs have reported programming changes or delays due to partners being unresponsive, or champions not being available due to time constraints. We continue to advise local programs to adjust their plans to fit local needs and readiness, as those changes occur.

We have been noticing a decrease in the percentage of kids qualifying for Free & Reduced Price meals at some schools. Some school partners are concerned that the additional requirement of social security # on the FRP application might be affecting the number of Latino families who apply.

Budget

Complete the table for each quarterly billing. If you are not on target with spending (either over/under), please provide a brief explanatory paragraph below the chart.

	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Total Billing	267,115.21			
On target?				
Cumulative \$s				
Cumulative %	18%			

Region 3’s first quarter expenditures are under the expected 25%. This is due to the lag in subcontractor billing. We expect to be closer to 50% at the end of the second quarter.