

## **SNAP-Ed Rebuttal to the Statement That SNAP-Ed is Ineffective and/or Duplicative**

We are sharing this message to respond to remarks provided at today's House Agriculture Committee business meeting related to SNAP Nutrition Education (SNAP-Ed). Given comments raised about the program's effectiveness and duplication with CDC initiatives, we wanted to respectfully share important clarifications and data points.

### **SNAP-Ed is Effective and Produces Measurable Results**

Contrary to the comments made during today's business meeting, the SNAP Nutrition Education program consistently demonstrates positive outcomes backed by substantial evidence:

#### **Improves food security:**

- A peer-reviewed study in Nutrition Reviews shows SNAP-Ed significantly improves food security and dietary choices among low-income households, directly addressing hunger and nutritional challenges.  
[Nutrition Reviews, Dec 2019]  
(<https://academic.oup.com/nutritionreviews/article/77/12/903/5488130>)

#### **Evidence-based interventions:**

- SNAP-Ed exclusively uses USDA-validated interventions, proven to improve nutrition and increase physical activity. This rigorous, evidence-based approach ensures accountability and effective use of taxpayer resources.  
[USDA SNAP-Ed Toolkit] (<https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/administration/evidence-based-SNAP-Ed-interventions>)

#### **Positive behavioral changes:**

- USDA evaluations demonstrate that SNAP-Ed participants make meaningful improvements in diet quality, consuming more fruits and vegetables and better managing food resources—skills that foster self-reliance.
- [USDA SNAP-Ed Evaluation Report] (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/research/snap/education-and-evaluation-study-wave-i-final-report>)

#### **Rigorous program evaluation framework:**

- SNAP-Ed employs a standardized, nationally recognized USDA evaluation framework, ensuring consistent measurement, accountability, and continuous improvement.  
[USDA SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework]  
(<https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/administration/evaluation-framework>)

Moreover, statements referencing the GAO indicating SNAP-Ed's ineffectiveness are outdated and do not reflect recent program enhancements made by USDA in direct

response to earlier GAO recommendations. In fact, USDA has explicitly implemented multiple improvements:

- **Enhanced Evaluation System:** USDA established the SNAP-Ed National Program Evaluation and Reporting System to systematically aggregate data on program effectiveness nationally. This addresses prior GAO concerns directly and provides measurable outcomes demonstrating the program's effectiveness ([GAO-19-572, USDA actions closed-implemented, 2021](#)).
- **Formal Coordination Established:** USDA created the Nutrition Promotion Working Group to enhance coordination across USDA's nutrition education initiatives, ensuring streamlined operations and preventing duplication ([GAO-19-572, USDA response implemented July 2020](#)).
- **Leveraged USDA Nutrition Expertise:** USDA now actively integrates internal nutrition expertise into SNAP-Ed, following the USDA Science Blueprint (2020–2025) and current Dietary Guidelines, ensuring all SNAP-Ed efforts reflect cutting-edge nutritional science ([USDA Science Blueprint](#)).

### **SNAP-Ed is Not Duplicative—It is Essential**

During the committee discussions, SNAP-Ed was inaccurately characterized as duplicative of CDC initiatives. Unfortunately, recent policy actions have eliminated these CDC programs:

Specifically, President Trump's FY2026 Budget proposal released in May 2025 explicitly calls for eliminating CDC's Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, including the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity Prevention. Therefore, SNAP-Ed is now uniquely positioned as the only remaining federal program delivering nutrition education to SNAP eligible individuals and families in community venues including retail stores, churches, schools and other community venues nationwide.

Given this critical context, SNAP-Ed's continuation is not only justified but essential for our collective goal of supporting healthier families and stronger communities. Its mission also aligns with the current administration's goal of making America healthier again. Nutrition education is a key component to educating and implementing significant and sustainable changes.

Thank you for considering this important information. We hope that this is helpful in any rebuttal opportunities you may see. We are available to provide further data or connect you with SNAP-Ed program leaders in your district or state.