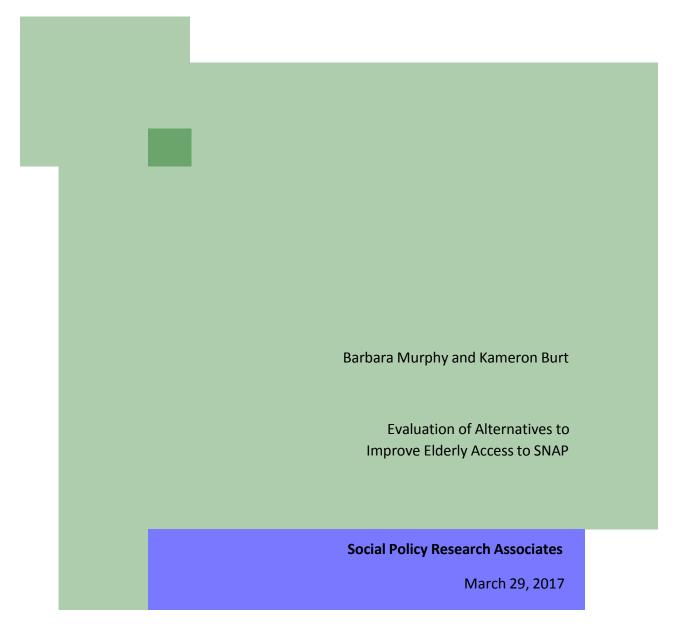
ATTACHMENT J INTERVIEW GUIDE TEST MEMO

# Elder SNAP Access Study Interview Guide Test Memo

**Draft Submission** 



## Table of Contents

| Introduction                                    | 1 |
|---|---|
| Methodology for Instrument Testing              | 1 |
| Results   | 3 |
| Proposed Changes to the Guide                   | 4 |
| mplications for Recruitment                     | 4 |
| mplications for Data Analysis                   | 5 |
| mplications for Training                        | 6 |
| Appendix A: Draft Interview Protocol A-1        |   |
| Appendix B: Draft Field Observation ProtocolB-1 |   |
| Appendix C: Recruitment FlyerC-1                |   |
| Appendix D: Participant Information FormD-1     |   |

## Introduction

This memo describes the results of pilot testing of data collection instruments developed for the Evaluation of Alternatives to Improve Elderly Access to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The study's purpose is to better understand how to maximize access to SNAP for people 60 years of age or older. The evaluation has four key components: (1) an exploratory study consisting mainly of a review of the existing literature that lays the groundwork for and guides the rest of the project; (2) a study of State interventions, based primarily on interviews with State SNAP staff and administrators from ten States; (3) a study of elderly participant perspectives, based on interviews and focus groups with SNAP eligible elders in the same ten states; and (4) a quantitative analysis of the effect of various interventions designed to increase elder SNAP access or enrollment and reduce churn.

Because the instruments for the study of State interventions will be tested during a pilot site visit (in lieu of pilot interviews), this memo is focused mainly on the instrument for interviewing elders over 60 for the study of elderly participant perspectives (component 3). We also tested the use of the observation form and report on the findings of that in the section on data analysis.

For the study of elderly participant perspectives, the study team will use a semi-structured interview guide to conduct 150 – 200 interviews with people age 60 and older who are eligible for SNAP. The interviews will be conducted in 20 counties. Respondents will be classified into three groups: SNAP participants, non-participating applicants, and eligible non-participants. The purpose of the testing was to ensure the feasibility of our approach to recruitment, the interview data collection instrument, and analysis of the elder interviews. Specifically, this memo will explain how we tested the instrument and then examine whether there are any changes needed to the content of the instrument, the recruitment methods, or the data analysis methods. The memo concludes with our reflections on how the results inform our plan for training interviewers.

## **Methodology for Instrument Testing**

#### Recruitment

We recruited participants for six pilot interviews with the assistance of DC Hunger Solutions (DCHS), a grantee of the National Council on Aging, which conducts SNAP outreach in the senior population in the District of Columbia. DCHS connected SPR's researcher to the nutritionist at the Senior Wellness Center in Washington, DC. The center serves DC residents who are 60 and older, and provides a variety of health and wellness programs, the senior nutrition program,

distribution of the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and other supportive services to a mostly low-income population. All services are provided at no charge to participants. The Senior Wellness Center is a vibrant center with high levels of daily participation.

The senior center announced the opportunity to participate in the interviews and receive a \$25 grocery store gift card as an incentive. A sign-up sheet was placed in the center's lobby, and participants signed up for interview time slots. By the end of the first day the list was full, and by the end of the second day, there were 4 alternates signed up. Interviews were conducted with the first 6 individuals that signed up, with the exception of one person who originally signed up but did not appear for his interview. The first person from the alternate list was selected to fill that slot.

#### **Procedures followed**

All interviews were conducted in a private room with comfortable seating on the third floor of the center. Participants completed a written consent form (with the option of having the researcher read it to them) and an information sheet with basic demographic information about themselves (Appendix D). Each participant received a \$25 gift card to a local grocery store.

Each interview was recorded with the permission of the respondent. The researcher also completed an observation form each day to capture impressions and emerging themes from the interviews and interactions with the participants.

#### **Participant Characteristics**

All six participants were females, with two being between the ages of 60 and 64, three between the ages of 65 and 69, and the other two between 70 and 74 years old. Five of the six were African-American and one was Latina. Four participants live alone, and two live in households of two. One participant had monthly household income of less than \$1,000; two had income between \$1,000 and 1,500; two had income between \$1,501 and 1,999; and one had income between \$2,000 and 2,999.

Four participants had been or were currently eligible for SNAP, but hadn't applied. These participants would fall into our "eligible non-participants" group. One had recently applied and been approved, but hadn't yet received benefits. She would be classified into the "non-participating applicant" group. One was receiving SNAP benefits, and she would be in the "SNAP participant" group.

## Results

Overall, the test interviews provided very useful information for refining our approach and interview instrument. The recruitment strategy worked very smoothly, and located participants who fit the categories anticipated for the interviews. This is helpful to confirm because a similar method will be used as our backup recruitment strategy with local partners if we are unsuccessful in our attempts to schedule interviews based on random selection and cold calls using administrative records and third-party data. Each participant was eager to receive the incentive gift, so we found that to be a highly effective means to encourage participation. On the other hand, we observed that using a senior wellness center for recruitment appears to have the tendency to skew the sample of interview respondents to include only those still active enough to attend wellness activities at a public center. For this reason, the instrument was not tested on anyone over 75 years old, and we will examine how we can overcome this challenge in the field through revisions to our backup recruitment strategy.

The interviews lasted 30 to 55 minutes, with most being between 30 and 40 minutes long. This was shorter than the one hour that we had anticipated. Participants were comfortable with the length of the interview, especially as they were prepared to be there for an hour and it took less time. The interviews flowed well, with the order of the questions following in a logical, comfortable manner. None of the questions appeared to be confusing to the participants. No participants requested an explanation of a question or required rewording of a question to be able to respond.

None of the questions seemed to be perceived as invasive to respondents or to cause any discomfort. One participant had difficulty answering questions related to recommendations for improving the program, but the other five did not. Participants did not consistently bring up topics that were not addressed by the instrument. One participant who had been a caregiver until recently for her elderly parents with Alzheimer's disease in her home, pointed out that some elderly recipients might need assistance being interviewed. She recommended that we consider allowing caregivers of SNAP recipients to be interviewed on behalf of (or in conjunction with) elders who are unable to participate fully without assistance.

Overall, most respondents were familiar with SNAP and had favorable views of the program, but they did not think they were currently eligible. Two had recently applied with support from the center. One of them was receiving benefits, and the other was approved but waiting to receive benefits. Respondents reported the following barriers to accessing SNAP: burdensome paperwork, misunderstanding of eligibility rules, embarrassment of the process of using public assistance, and low benefit levels. There was one respondent who had a negative perception of SNAP and government funded assistance programs generally, and she felt ashamed about participating.

## **Proposed Changes to the Guide**

We do not recommend any significant changes to the interview instrument. We recommend one minor change: removing a bullet point in question 1 in the Background section. The bullet point, "Do you live alone or with others?" is not necessary, as it will be documented prior to the interview on the background form.

### **Implications for Recruitment**

The process of testing the interview instrument revealed useful insights for refining our recruitment procedures for the interviews with elders. We confirmed that recruiting interview participants who are eligible but not utilizing SNAP through local outreach partners is a viable method for reaching that population. Locations that provide the senior nutrition program and/or the Commodity Supplemental Food Program attract low-income seniors who may not be aware they are eligible for SNAP, or who choose not to apply for the program. Local SNAP outreach projects targeting seniors are also willing partners to help connect researchers with participants.

However, if we use this recruitment method, we will also need to consider an alternative strategy for reaching elders with disabilities or who are older and less mobile. For community-based recruitment, we can partner with Meals on Wheels or another partner that serves home-bound seniors, such as a grocery delivery service. To ensure that our overall sample includes all age categories, we will stratify the sample by age when calling SNAP participants using administrative data.

The information form that we used to determine whether an individual meets the study criteria was effective for confirming that the respondents were SNAP eligible and classified in the correct participant group. However, once people are in an interview setting, with the expectation of receiving an incentive, it is hard to stop the interview and not give an incentive if it is discovered that the individual does not meet the eligibility criteria after all. For instance, in one case a respondent stated during screening that they lived in a household of 3, but one of them was a grandchild who is legally documented as a member of another household. Given that cases like this are not likely to be very common, the interviewer recommended that the most ethical strategy for addressing this is to complete a short interview and still give an incentive. Because the \$25 incentive was very effective at attracting people to participate, we anticipate that we could reduce the incentive to \$20 and make room in the budget for these additional respondents who attend interviews but turn out to be ineligible for inclusion in the data analysis.

We also propose making small changes to the information form (see Appendix D) based on the interviewer's observations during the pilot interviews. She observed that education levels may be associated with perceptions of SNAP and/or use of SNAP, so she recommended adding educational attainment to the information form. In addition, she recommended that we include disability status, including cognitive disorders such as dementia, because that may also shape the ability of respondents to access the program effectively.

An important insight gained from the testing was that we need to be prepared to encounter situations in which the elderly participant may not be able to participate meaningfully in the study without some assistance from a caregiver, such as a family member who cares for an elder with cognitive impairment or dementia. The perspective of caregivers is very important, as they are the ones who may be doing the day to day household food-shopping and cooking. The research team will consider strategies for accommodating these situations, especially because they are more likely to occur with subpopulations that we hope to include in the study: older elders and elders with disabilities. The study plan will be updated to reflect any changes we decide to make to be more inclusive of these subpopulations.

#### **Focus Group Recruitment**

The success of recruiting participants for these test interviews through a community partner indicates that this is a promising strategy for recruiting focus group participants as well. At the same time, the results indicate that we may face challenges recruiting older elders and elders with disabilities who might find it difficult to travel or participate in a focus group due to physical or cognitive challenges.

## **Implications for Data Analysis**

The collection of data in this small pilot provides the SPR team with early insights into our proposed iterative process of data analysis as well. Specifically, it allowed us to test the usefulness of the field observation form for identifying emergent themes and to consider classifications and coding schemes that we can set up to begin analyzing the interview data.

#### **Field Observation Form**

The interviewer used the observation form to reflect on the day's experiences with interviewing and quickly capture her impressions and insights immediately after completing the interviews. She found the form helpful for identifying themes and patterns in the interviews. These themes will be useful for the interviewers to plan the focus group sessions where she or he will be engaging a broader group of elders in a discussion about the themes to test their validity and to find out about other factors that are influencing SNAP participation. Based on how the test interviews went, the observation forms will provide an effective means to identify themes to discuss in the focus group and gather additional contextual information.

#### **Coding and Classification**

The test interview recordings provided the SPR team with an opportunity to test the coding process that we propose to use in the research. All the interview transcripts will be coded using qualitative data analysis software based on a set of themes that are informed by our research questions and hypotheses. The set of themes that we code for will evolve over time as we continue to conduct and analyze the interviews, because new themes and hypotheses will emerge from the data. In this way, our analysis procedures will reflect our iterative approach to the process of data collection and analysis. Having conducted these test interviews, some respondent characteristics have emerged that will help explain variations in elder perceptions about and access to SNAP. Some examples include:

- Special dietary needs (diabetic, high blood pressure)
- Key points at which elders tend to disengage with the SNAP—e.g., deciding to apply, submitting applications, application processing, interview, recertification, etc.
- Reasons for drop-off (e.g. time lags, length of interview, information being lost, etc.)

These variables will be added to our classification list for the coding process. The test interviews will help refine the classification scheme, and confirm that the interviews will contain a lot of information critical to getting a richer understanding of the "how" and "why" of elderly participation patterns in SNAP.

## **Implications for Training**

As detailed in the Study Plan, all interview recruiters and site visitors will receive in-depth training on data collection and analysis procedures before going into the field. The SPR team will use insights gained in the pilot testing to inform our training of staff who conduct telephone recruitment for interviews, the on-site interviews, and the focus groups.

#### **Study Participant Recruiters**

Staff involved in recruiting interview participants via phone will be prepared to:

• interact with and respond in real-time to elders' questions and concerns, and explain what is required for the interview;

- speak with caregivers and identify the most appropriate way to set up an interview when a caregiver's assistance will be necessary, including assistance in the process of conducting the interview;
- assess SNAP eligibility, which can be a complicated process, without discouraging elders who may need assistance to participate in the study;
- set up interviews in a way that is logistically feasible for the elderly participant and the interviewer, which will require some familiarity with the geography of the area and names and locations of local partners in that area.

#### **Site Visitor Training**

The pilot interviews have informed our understanding of what we will need to provide to site visitors to prepare them adequately for conducting interviews with elders in the field. Specifically, based on the test interviews, the following training topics will be included:

- procedures for completing the observation forms and using them in focus groups to validate and gather more information about emerging themes;
- conducting background research on the local area in advance of their visit on aspects of the region that might be helpful for the interviews to go more smoothly, such as the name of the public transit system in urban areas, names and locations of major supermarkets in the region, and a sense of the local geography and senior-serving organizations;
- procedures for determining when and how to work with caretakers to complete the interviews; and
- steps for verifying eligibility, and how to end the interview quickly and distribute the incentive if a participant turns out to be ineligible for SNAP.

## **Appendix A: Draft Interview Protocol**

## Introduction

Thank you so much for taking the time to talk with me today. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_ and I work for a company called Social Policy Research Associates. I don't work for the Food Stamp program, which you might also know as SNAP – the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – or [locally-appropriate name], but our discussion is part of a research study for the US Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, which administers that program. We are talking with over 150 people like you, who are sixty or older, about the Food Stamp program. The information that you share with us today will go into a report that we will send back to the Food and Nutrition Service and then will be released to the public. Although I do have some specific questions, I would like for this to be more like an informal conversation.

I will take some notes as you talk, but I would also like to ask if it is okay to record our conversation so that I can mostly focus on listening to you. The recording will only be used by me and my team to make sure that we have captured your feedback correctly. We will never use your name or otherwise identify you in a public report, so please feel free to be honest. We really appreciate hearing about your experience with the Food Stamp program because we hope that it will help make it easier for people to use the program and to get enough food when they need it.

Before we begin, do you have any questions for me?

#### Background

- 1. To begin, I'd like to know a little bit about your background.
  - How long have you been living in this area?
  - Do you live alone or with others?
  - Do you have any (other) family members or close friends living nearby?
    - o How often do you see them?
    - If you needed something, like getting a ride to the doctor or getting extra food at the end of the month, would you be able to ask any of these people for help?
  - How often are you able get out of the house/apartment? Is there anything that keeps you from getting out as much as you would like to?
    - Lack of transportation
    - Health problems or disability
    - Long distance from town (isolation)
  - How do you normally get your food?

- Do you walk, drive, get a ride, take the bus or other public transportation? Or is your food delivered to you?
- Do you cook for yourself or does someone else cook or bring you meals?
- Do you do your own food shopping? Are there ever times when someone else will go shopping for you? If so, how often in the last year?
- Are you working?
  - [*If yes*]: Where do you work, what do you do there, and how many hours per week do you work?
- Do you have access to the Internet? If yes, in your home or outside your home? [Note that we'd like to ask additional demographic questions about age, income buckets relative to FPL, nativity, and preferred language over the phone prior to the interview.]
  - [*If yes*]: how often do you go online?
  - o [If yes]: do you find computers and the internet easy or hard to use?
  - [*If yes but no home access*]: where do you go to use the Internet? How long does it take to travel there?
- 2. In the last year, have you found it easy or hard to find food that you can afford?
  - [*If easy*]: Can you tell me about where you get it and what makes it easy?
  - [*If hard*]: What makes it hard? Has that been getting better or getting worse over time?
- 3. If you needed more food or if you could not afford enough food, who would you call or contact for help?
  - Have you contacted them for help in the last year? [*If yes*], can you tell us how that came about and what they did to help you?
  - Where else can people in this community go if they do not have enough food or have a difficulty paying for food?
    - Probe: food banks, churches, meals on wheels, other community organizations
    - What about older people specifically? Is there a senior center that can help or another place in town that older people are likely to go?
    - Have you ever gone to any of these community centers or resources? [*If yes*], can you walk me through how and why you decided to go to the place you chose to go to?
  - Do you think there are enough places for people to go in this community if they are having trouble affording food?
- 4. Now I'd like to learn a little bit about what you know about the Food Stamp program, which you might also know as SNAP the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or [locally-appropriate name]. Can you talk a little bit about what you know about the program?

- Can you tell me what you think the Food Stamp program is?
- Where or from whom have you learned about Food Stamps?
  - o Radio or TV ad?
  - Friend or family?
  - Church or community organization?
  - o Doctor?
  - o Other?
- How and where can they be used to get food?
- Who is qualified to use Food Stamps? What is your understanding of how one qualifies for the program?
- Where do you go to get information about programs like Food Stamps? Who would you ask for more information?
- Do you think they are a good thing?
  - What are the good things about the program?
  - What are the bad things?
- Have you ever used Food Stamps or considered using them? Why or why not?
  - [*If yes*]: Can you tell me about your overall experience? Positive and negative? What was your most recent experience like?
  - [*If yes*]: Are you currently using Food Stamps or have you used them in the last month?
  - o [*If no*]: Why not?
- Are there other programs that you receive benefits from?
  - o [State name for TANF]
  - o Social Security
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
  - o Disability
  - o Unemployment compensation
  - o Meals on Wheels
  - o Medicare or Medicaid
  - Housing assistance / Section 8?
- How do you think these other programs compare with SNAP? Are some better than others?
- Now I have a few questions about people in this community and what the general opinions are about SNAP.
  - Do you think people in this community use Food Stamps a lot? What about friends your age? Is it common?
  - Do people in this area think that SNAP benefits are helpful for getting people the food they need?
  - Does the program have a bad reputation or a good reputation here? Why?

- What do people here think about the amount of the benefits? Are the benefits high enough to help?
- Do you think people would be embarrassed or judged negatively in this community if others found out that they were using Food Stamps?
- Use of Food Stamps is much lower among older Americans who are eligible than it is among younger Americans and families. Why do you think that is?
- 5. If you had a friend who was having hard times, would you tell them that they should look into getting Food Stamps? Why or why not?
- 6. What other recommendations would you have for a friend facing hard times?
  - What people or agencies do older people in this community rely on for help?
    - o Family and friends
    - o Religious leaders
    - Food banks or other charities
    - o Community centers/senior centers
    - Social workers or other government agencies
    - o Anyone else?
  - Is there enough support here for older people who are having financial problems?
    - How could it be improved?
    - What are the biggest barriers older people face to supporting themselves here? (E.g., transportation, lack of medical care/accommodations, lack of jobs, lack of community supports.)

## Application Process [if Applicable]

- 1. Now I want to hear about your most recent experience applying for the Food Stamp program. Can you walk me through how you completed the application?
  - When was it?
  - Over the phone?
  - Online?
  - By mail?
  - In person with a staff person or volunteer?
  - Some other way?
- 2. Can you tell me where you were when you completed the application?
  - At home?
  - At a community organization?
  - At a local social services office?
  - Somewhere else?
- 3. Did anyone else help you fill out the application? Who was it?
  - •Were they helping you in person or over the phone?

- Can you describe how they helped you?
- Did they offer to help you in another language if you needed it?
- How helpful was the assistance you got? What else could they have done to make the process easier for you?
- 4. Do you remember how long it took to finish the application?
  - Did you have to make more than one phone call or visit? [*If more than one,*] can you describe what each call was for?
  - Did it take longer than you expected? Did you have to spend a lot of timing waiting?
- 5. As part of your original application, did you have to do an interview?
  - How did you feel about doing the interview?
  - Was it over the phone or in person? [If in person:] where did it happen?
  - How long did it take?
  - Did you learn anything new during the interview? What information did you receive?
  - Did you have a chance to ask questions?
  - How helpful was the person who interviewed you? Is there anything he or she could have done better to help you?
  - Did you find the interview useful or helpful in any way, or do you feel that it was not necessary?

## *Eligibility Determination [if Applicable]*

1. When you applied for SNAP, did you have to provide any information about your medical expenses?

[*If yes*]:

- What information were you asked to provide?
- How did you feel about providing this information?
- How easy was it for you to find all the information you needed?
- 2. What other information did you have to provide about your income and other resources?
  - How did you feel about providing this information?
  - How easy was it for you to find all the information you needed?
- 3. Overall, what were the positive things that you experienced when you applied?
  - Quality of staff assistance?
  - Time to complete the process?
  - Clarity of rules and steps?
  - [*English Learners*]: Availability of materials in the language you are most comfortable in?
- 4. What were the negative things?

- Quality of staff assistance?
- Time to complete the process?
- Clarity of rules and steps?
- [*English Learners*]: Availability of materials in the language you are most comfortable in?
- 5. Now, I want to ask about what happened after you applied. How did you find out whether or not you were approved for benefits?
  - Letter?
  - Phone call?
  - Other?
- 6. Was your application approved the first time around?
  - [If application was NOT approved]:
    - Were you told why not?
    - Was it clear to you what additional information, if any, would have been needed for you to be approved?
    - At that point, did you try to resubmit your application? Why or why not?
  - [If application WAS approved]:
    - What information were you given about what to do next?
    - Were you told how long were approved for benefits for?
    - Were you told when you would need to provide updates on your financial situation and medical expenses?
- 7. Thinking back over your experience applying, what would have made it easier for you?
- 8. What would you tell a neighbor or friend about how to prepare for the process?

## Receiving Benefits [if Applicable]

Now I want to ask about your experience receiving Food Stamp benefits, and in particular, providing the information you need to keep your benefits.

- 1. Do you mind sharing how much you receive in benefits each month?

s it enough to help you put food on the table for the month?

- 2. Do you have a particular person from the Food Stamp program who you can call with any questions about your benefits?
  - How often do you talk to that person?
  - How easy is it for you to get answers to your questions?
- 3. Regardless of whether you have a specific person you contact, how long does it usually take for someone from the Food Stamp program to get back to you?

\_ s this the right amount of time for you to get the information you need?

- 4. In the last year, have you provided any updates on your financial situation and medical expenses?
  - [*If yes*]:
    - How and when did you provide them?
    - Do you get a letter or phone call?
    - Is it easy to read/ understand the information you receive about providing updates on your finances and medical expenses?
    - Is there anything that would make it easier for you to remember to provide this information?
- 5. What would make it easier to get the information you need about your benefits?
- 6. What would you tell a neighbor or friend about how to make sure to keep their benefits?

## Wrap Up

- 1. How do you think the Food Stamp program could be improved?
  - What do you think would be the best way to help other seniors like you find out about the Food Stamp Program so that they can get help paying for their groceries every month?
  - What would make it easier to apply?
- 2. What else would you like me to know about how the Food Stamp program can better help people like you?

## **Appendix B: Draft Field Observation Protocol**

Date County/State

Interviewer\_\_\_\_\_

Please use this form to record your reflections on the interviews that you conducted on each day that you conducted interviews. The purpose of this data collection activity is to record observations about the interviews that may not otherwise be apparent from the transcripts alone and to encourage the researcher to reflect on emerging trends and themes. There is no need to do a separate form for each interview, just one per day when the interviews and experiences are fresh in your mind. This information will be analyzed along with the transcripts. *Please do not refer to interview respondents by name.* 

- 3. Please describe the local area generally. Is it urban/rural/suburban? Are the elders that you interviewed living in isolated settings or are they connected to community organizations or other service providers? What are the transportation options and how do elders seem to get around?
- 4. Please share your general observations about the interview settings that you experienced today, the tone of your interviews, and how they went. When did you feel more or less comfortable? Did the respondents appear to be comfortable? Why or why not? What seemed to make an interview go well or not as well? Describe the general tone of the conversations and compare/contrast. Provide some detailed examples to support your observations.
- 5. Based on what you have heard from interviews so far, please reflect on the common themes that are emerging (if any) related to the perceptions of SNAP.
- 6. Are there differences or divergent perspectives emerging related to SNAP? What factors seem to shape these differences?
- 7. Please share what you think are the main barriers to access in the county where you are conducting interviews. Is there anything about the local or state context that you think is shaping the barriers to access or helping elders overcome them?
- Are there any other trends emerging from the interviews? 8.
- 9. Please reflect on how the way you present as an interviewer to the respondents may have shaped the outcome of the interview, including how much they were willing to share with you.

## **Appendix C: Recruitment Flyer**

## Elder SNAP Access Study: Interviews March 13-17

We are seeking 6 individuals who are aged 60 or better to interview about their experience with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

- The interview will take about one hour, and will be done at a location of your choice.
- It is confidential and anonymous we will not use your name or any identifying information.
- You will receive a \$25 gift card to a nearby grocery store to thank you for your time.

Social Policy Research Associates (SPR) is conducting the study, which is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service. The study seeks to answer questions such as:

- What barriers exist for people aged 60+ to participate in SNAP?
- What helps make it easier for elders to get SNAP benefits?
- How and why do people aged 60+ decide to use SNAP?
- What do they find most helpful about the program?

We are testing an interview guide that will be used for 200 interviews with elder SNAP applicants, recipients, and eligible non-participants in 10 States in 2018.

Please contact Madeleine Levin at 202-641-4493 for questions or to schedule an interview.

## **Appendix D: Participant Information Form**

## **SNAP SENIOR ACCESS EVALUATION**

## **INTERVIEW INFORMATION SHEET**

Thank you for participating in this interview! To help us learn more about you for our research, please fill out the following information. Only the study team will see this information and the form will be kept completely confidential.

| Zip c | ode:   |  |   |
|-------|--|--|---|
| Sex:  | Male F   | emale  |   |
| Age:  | 60- 64     65 - 69     70 - 74     75- 79     80 + |  |   |
| Race/ | Æthnicity (please check all tha                    | t apply):  | <ul> <li>White or Caucasian</li> <li>Black or African-American</li> <li>Asian/Pacific Islander</li> <li>Hispanic or Latino</li> <li>Native American</li> <li>Other (specify):</li></ul> |
| House | ehold* Monthly Income:                             | Less than<br>\$1,001 - 1<br>\$1501 - 1,<br>\$2,000 - 2<br>\$3,000 or | ,500<br>,999<br>,999  |
| Numl  | per of people in the Household                     | l:   | _   |

\*Household is people who live together, buy food as a group, and prepare meals as a group.