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SNAP-Ed Intervention Submission Form and Scoring Tool (0584-0639)

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Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education Intervention Submission Form and Scoring Tool

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General Comment

The feedback provided below is what was received from our California Implementing Agencies for the SNAP-Ed Program, known as CalFresh Healthy Living in California.

1) FNS-886 Intervention Submission Form

In Section II, Intervention Overview, remove “Breastfeeding” and “Food Insecurity” and add “Food Resource Behaviors” as a Target Behavior category, remove four questions on evaluation and evidence base, and add a question on the core intervention components.

In Q14, Target Behaviors, as opposed to removing "Food Insecurity" as a Target Behavior, we recommend updating to "Food Assistance Program Use." The availability of food assistance programs is essential to support nutrition security, and the utilization of these programs by eligible individuals is a key SNAP-Ed outcome for individuals and communities.

It is unclear what four questions on evaluation and evidence base are being proposed for removal. However, proposed changes to the Scoring Tool include dropping the 'emerging' category of evidence; if this is also under consideration for Q15 in the Intervention Submission Form, we strongly oppose this modification. It is essential to retain the 'emerging' category of evidence, as this reflects the dynamic and innovative nature of SNAP-Ed work and its ability to be reflective of the needs of multi-sector partners and of the community. The removal of the 'emerging' category would limit the submission of multi-sector approaches that are central to the SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework.

In Q20 and 21, we suggest replacing the term 'target audience' with more inclusive language, such as

'intended audience' and aligning the response options with N-PEARS.

In Section IV, Evaluation and Outcomes, add a new question asking submitters to identify tools they used to evaluate their intervention, simplify a question on which outcomes the intervention achieved, and increase the character limit on a question about evidence findings included in the submission. Update section for readability and renumbering to reflect the newly inserted questions.

It is unclear what specific modifications are proposed to simplify the question on which outcomes the intervention achieved; however, in any modifications, it is essential that the Submission Form continue to reference and collect SNAP-Ed Framework Indicators.

2) FNS-885 Intervention Scoring Tool

In Section I, Intervention Overview and Development, add three questions on (1) the intervention's ability to address the needs of the target population, (2) the target population and community partner involvement in the intervention development, and (3) SNAP-Ed educators, target population, and/or partner involvement in testing the acceptability of the intervention.

As mentioned previously, we suggest replacing the term 'target audience' with more inclusive language, such as 'intended audience'.

Among the list of factors for scoring reach, we encourage the addition of a consideration for reaching smaller, historically under-served groups and settings. The current focus on high total reach presents a barrier for inclusion of equity-focused interventions serving specific communities or geographic regions, and for emerging community-based approaches that have not yet reached large numbers of people.

In Section II, Evaluation and Outcomes, remove “emerging” as an evidence base category from the scoring tool, add a question on the use of behavior change theories in the intervention development, and clarify the scoring of intended outcomes and alignment with the SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework.

As mentioned previously, we strongly oppose removing the 'emerging' category of evidence as this would limit the submission of innovative, community-driven interventions as well as multi-sector approaches that are central to the SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework.

In factors for scoring outcomes, we suggest reducing the focus on statistical significance, which may be an impractical measure for complex, multi-level community-based interventions.