The Importance of SNAP in Times of Economic Decline

Kerry Kelly - FBNN Programs Manager
Introduction to SNAP

• Since it was launched in the early 1960s (known then as the Food Stamp Program), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) has proven to be the singularly most effective anti-hunger program in the country.
• It responds to hard economic circumstances and provides modest benefits that help millions of hard-working Americans put food on the table.
Video

http://www.thisissnap.org/snap-helps-millions-of-workers/

SNAP Helps Millions of Workers

SNAP, the nation's largest anti-hunger program, helps millions of workers feed their families. Many hard-working people you meet each day are SNAP participants.
SNAP is evidenced to improve food security, strengthen health outcomes, and reduce poverty.

- For every meal provided by the FA network, SNAP provides 9 meals.
- SNAP reduces overall prevalence of food insecurity by as much as 30%.
- SNAP reduces medical care costs/year for low-income adults on SNAP by $1.4k.
- 2/3 of recipients are children, elderly, or living with a disabled.
- Boost in working family’s take-home income to <15% of income.

Source: Center for Budget and Policy Priorities.
SNAP Equivalent Averages

1 Approved SNAP Application=
- 469 Meals
- 563 Pounds
- $1,432- estimated benefits generated
- $2,205- estimated economic impact

Numbers Generated using the FBNN Approval Rate of 83% on the Feeding America SNAP Impact Calculator
SNAP Nationally & in Nevada

Whom Does SNAP Reach?

In fiscal year 2019, it reached:

- **423,000** Nevada residents, or **14%** of the state population (**1 in 7**)
- **38,000,000** participants in the United States, or **12%** of the total population (**1 in 9**)

**NEVADA**

- **almost 62%** of SNAP participants are in families with children
- **more than 30%** are in families with members who are elderly or have disabilities
- **more than 44%** are in working families

**NATIONALLY**

- **more than 66%** of SNAP participants are in families with children
- **almost 36%** are in families with members who are elderly or have disabilities
- **almost 42%** are in working families
FBNN SNAP Team

• 4 SNAP Outreach Workers (+ 1 manager)
  – 3 focused on Washoe County
  – 1 focused on Rural Nevada Counties
• SNAP at Mobile Harvest
• SNAP Call Center
Your FBNN SNAP Team
New COVID-19 SNAP Call Center

- FBNN’s SNAP Team assists clients with SNAP applications over the phone.
- Call 775-331-3663 X 152 and leave a message for assistance.
- 95% of physical SNAP sites closed March-October
Trends in the prevalence of food insecurity and very low food security in U.S. households, 2001-2019

Food Insecurity in Nevada 2001-2019

Feeding America projects that 42 million people (1 in 8), including 13 million children (1 in 6), may experience food insecurity in 2021.
FBNN’s SNAP Team Following the Great Recession

Food Bank of Northern Nevada – SNAP Outreach Results

- Approved
- Total Cases Submitted

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www.fbnn.org | Food Bank of Northern Nevada
FBNN’s SNAP Team in 2020

- July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020: 1,425 applications
- July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021 (annualized): 1,428 applications

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2021 and beyond

• FBNN will continue to work along side DWSS to help with SNAP/Medicaid Applications.
• Feeding America will continue to provide projections
• SNAP Call Center
How can you help?

Improving Perceptions

Improving the perceptions of SNAP is critical to ending hunger in our communities. This work includes both building and growing allies and champions for SNAP and amplifying the voices of the people we serve in our advocacy to strengthen the program and to become the spokespeople to advance policies around SNAP.

- Changing perceptions with conservatives and liberals
- Building advocacy campaigns where the people we serve are central to the decision making and as spokespersons to advance policies
- Providing grants to external organizations who may have credibility with key audiences to fight misinformation about the program

Credit: Feeding America
How can you help?

• Host an FBNN SNAP Outreach worker at your pantry site!
• Give out the FBNN SNAP Phone Number, we can supply flyers!
• 775-331-3663 X 152
• Be a SNAP champion!
Questions?

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