

MAINE



SNAP-Ed

Healthy Eating on a Budget

Maine's SNAP-ED Program

Mission: Maine Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Education (SNAP-Ed) aims to improve the likelihood that persons eligible for SNAP will make healthy food choices within a limited budget and choose physically active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Guidance.

Funding: SNAP-Ed is funded by the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, which is administered by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and implemented by the University of New England (UNE). In Federal Fiscal Year 2014 (FFY2014), the second year of the grant, UNE was awarded \$3.7 million to implement programming statewide.



Model: The Maine SNAP-Ed plan is a decentralized model administered by UNE, whereby the majority of the grant funds go directly to the Healthy Maine Partnerships (HMPs), a statewide network of community health coalitions that form Maine's public health infrastructure. The HMPs hire qualified Nutrition Educators to deliver programming to individuals eligible for SNAP benefits.

Programming: Maine SNAP-Ed helps increase community food security and reduces childhood hunger by offering fun and easy classes to help low income families shop, cook, and eat healthier foods while staying on a limited budget. The Nutrition Educators work within their HMPs to reach low-income families through long-standing partnerships created with local community organizations. SNAP-Ed efforts contribute to obesity prevention and overall health for low-income Maine families.

Maine SNAP-Ed provides services in settings that are most accessible to individuals eligible for SNAP, including: schools, food pantries, Head Starts and other child care settings, grocery stores and regional DHHS offices.

For More Information contact your local Healthy Maine Partnership or contact Maine SNAP-Ed at 207-221-4560 or Mainesnap-ed@une.edu