



To: County Extension Directors

Subject: SNAP-Ed Funding Crisis and Local Program Impacts

Dear CEDs,

As you plan for the coming year, I want to be sure you are fully aware of the urgent and significant threat to our Family, Consumer, and Health Sciences (FCHS) programming: **SNAP-Ed funding is at serious risk of being eliminated** at the federal level. As it stands, it is currently defunded in both the House and the Senate versions of the federal budget reconciliation bill.

As you know, SNAP-Ed supports our community nutrition education programs in 12 counties, with **\$4.1 million annually in salary funding** and an additional **\$1 million in operating funds**. This funding currently supports **nearly 53 FTE across 79 positions** in our system. A loss of this scale would have unprecedented impacts on our FCHS workforce, programming, and community partnerships.

Please review the direct impact on your unit in the table below (this does not include operational funding):

County	Positions	FTE	Salary + ERE
Apache	10	4.0	\$243,460
Cochise	4	3.4	\$218,602
Graham	3	1.9	\$112,301
Greenlee	3	1.3	\$83,333
La Paz	2	1.1	\$70,090
Maricopa	23	17.6	\$1,257,163
Mohave	2	1.3	\$80,118
Navajo	7	3.0	\$172,591
Pima (Garden Kitchen)	9	6.7	\$463,376
Pinal	5	3.9	\$278,644
Santa Cruz	3	2.3	\$147,509
Yavapai	1	0.6	\$35,591

What I strongly suggest you do now:

1. **Coordinate with your FCHS agents and staff** to fully understand the impact of this potential funding loss in your county.



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2. **Inform your Boards of Supervisors and other key stakeholders** about the seriousness of the situation and the local implications.
3. **Begin considering funding scenarios at the county or state level** to help preserve critical positions and services.

I am working closely with Dr. Shea Cantu (our Director of SNAP-Ed), our FCHS agents and program leads, Extension Administration, and other campus colleagues and state-level stakeholders to identify potential funding streams. However, there is no viable path to fully replace the combined **\$5.9 million** we currently receive for salary, operations and IDC.

This means **we will need to make difficult choices**, and I am asking each of you to work with your Agents to prioritize positions for potential county support, or, where appropriate, to include in your state request. This includes special attention to the three counties—**Mohave, Graham, and Cochise**—where the county program lead is currently largely funded by SNAP-Ed. If no alternative funding is secured, these leadership positions may be at risk.

We are also working with our state funding partners in ADHS and First Things First to assess the potential impact of changes in federal funding on the recent Child Care Health Consultation expansion in **Gila, Mohave, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai, and Yuma**.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or to discuss local planning. I will continue to share updates and guidance as we navigate this challenge together.

With appreciation for your leadership,

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