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General Comment

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on: "Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request-Food Program and Reporting System (FPRS)" (OMB Number: 0584-0594).

This comment addresses proposed revisions to the form: "Worksheet FNS-759 Education and Administrative Reporting System"

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) does excellent work to promote dietary quality for low-income Americans through the SNAP-Ed program. Such programs play a central role in important public discussion of how to promote health and reduce chronic disease in the United States.

To enhance the scientific basis for such efforts, and to strengthen their support from a divided American citizenry, it is good that FNS is taking measures to strengthen the key data sources used in evaluation research on this program. The proposed revisions to Worksheet FNS-759 make some advances in this direction.

Yet more can be done to increase the usefulness of this form for program evaluation purposes.

1. The form could request more information about outcomes, and not just process measures of the number of persons served. States could be asked to report what fraction of the participants in these programs were addressed by any evaluation research using outcome measures (Townsend et al., 2006), and whether any evaluations followed participants in the longer term (Wardlaw and Baker, 2013). In cases where some evaluation took place, the form could request a summary and a link to a published source for further information.

2. The form could request more information about expenditures on different types of programs, including the mix of expenditure for direct education and social media type activities. Such information would be useful for cost-effectiveness research (as in Dollahite et al., 2008).

Finally, as the improved data is collected, it may be possible to increase the public health and nutrition community's awareness of this data source through increased publication of results.

Thank you for considering this comments on the excellent FNS data collection program related to SNAP-Ed.

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Sources

Dollahite, Jamie, Donald Kenkel, and C. Scott Thompson. "An economic evaluation of the expanded food and nutrition education program." *Journal of nutrition education and behavior* 40.3 (2008): 134-143.

Townsend, Marilyn S. "Evaluating food stamp nutrition education: process for development and validation of evaluation measures." *Journal of nutrition education and behavior* 38.1 (2006): 18-24.

Wardlaw, M., and Susan Baker. "Long-term evaluation of EFNEP and SNAP-Ed." *The Forum for Consumer and Family Issues*. Vol. 18. No. 1. 2013.