

#### **United States Department of Agriculture**



Cooperative State, Research, Education and Extension Service

## **Establishing a Foundation:** Legislation and Policy

Helen Chipman, National Program Leader, Food & Nutrition Education EFNEP National Conference March 2008, Crystal City, Virginia

## History

- 1969 First year of EFNEP
- 1980s Program Policy
- 1990s Data Collection
- 2000s Nesting of EFNEP within other Systems





Program Policy Guidelines

# Starting Point



Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program Policies

### **EFNEP Policy Key Points - Legislation**

- Part of Smith Lever funding
- To enable low-income individuals and families to engage in nutritionally sound food purchasing and preparation practices





### **EFNEP Policy Key Points - Legislation**

- To provide for the employment and training of professional and paraprofessional aides to engage in direct education of low-income families and in other appropriate nutrition education programs
- To the maximum extent practicable, such aides shall be hired from the indigenous target population.



## **EFNEP Policy Key Points - Legislation**

- Part of Smith Lever funding
- Low-income individuals and families
- Nutritionally sound
- Food purchasing and preparation practices
- Employment and training of professional and paraprofessional aides
- Direct education
- Other appropriate nutrition education programs
- Hired from indigenous target population





#### **EFNEP Policy Key Points - Objectives**

- Assist low-income families & youth in acquiring knowledge, skills, attitudes, and changed behavior
- Nutritionally sound diets, improvement of total family diet and nutritional welfare
  - Diet Quality and Physical Activity (Dietary Guidelines)
  - Food Resource Management (select, purchase, prepare, food budgets)
- **USDA** Food Security (other supporting resources) Food Safety (Fight BAC!, etc.)



#### **EFNEP Policy Key Points - Audience**

- Low-income adults responsible for planning/preparing family's food
   – Emphasis on family
- Low-income youth
- Non-discrimination





## **EFNEP Policy Key Points – Subject Matter**

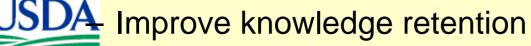
- Nutritional needs and cultural heritage
- Research (evidence) based
- Reflecting USDA recommendations, current knowledge, and other relevant information
- Should meet the objectives
- Referrals to other resources/programs





#### **EFNEP Policy Key Points - Delivery**

- Direct teaching group and one/one
- Mailings/telephone <u>complement</u>; not replace
- Mass media raise awareness & involvement
- Use of volunteers
- Referrals
- Other innovative ways
  - Constrained resource
  - Expand contacts





## **EFNEP Policy Key Points – Funding Allocation**

- Formula-based\*
- University contact Extension Director/Administrator
- Specific amount determined after Appropriation Bill has been passed
- At least 60% of total Federal Appropriation to be used for paraprofessionals and their support

\*Current allocations based on recent legislation USDA not captured in 1983 Program Policy document

#### **EFNEP Policy Key Points – Use of Funds**

- Appropriate Use of Funds
  - Professionals proportionate to time spent
    <u>on EFNEP</u>
  - Paraprofessionals primarily to teach participants; seek minimum travel and maximum efficiency in recruitment and teaching
  - Secretarial/clerical support

USDA Other – new administrative officers' handbook



## **EFNEP Policy Key Points – Reporting**

- History Major developments in 1990s and early 2000s
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved ERS4-NEERS5
  - Working on re-approval at this time
  - Discuss in more detail next two days
- Other periodic requests





#### **EFNEP Policy What about Other Questions**







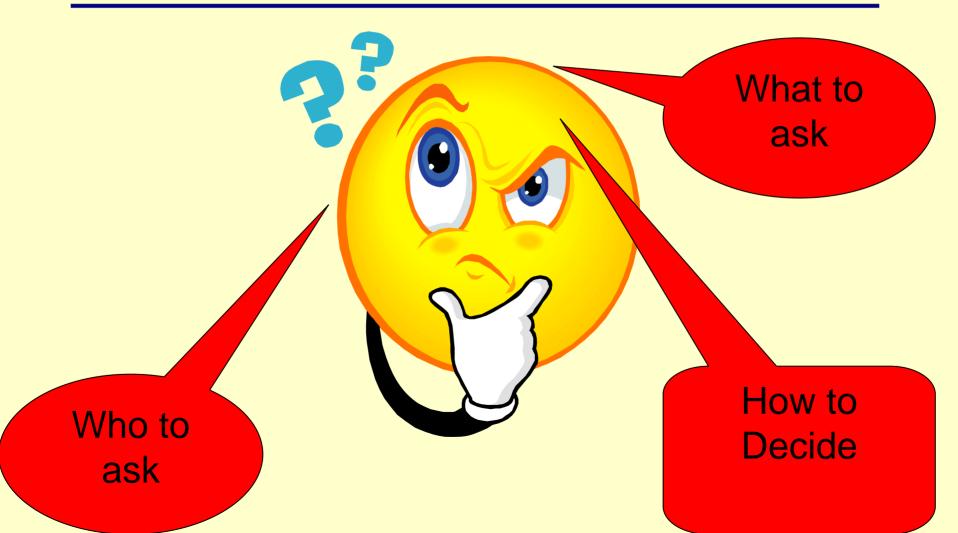
#### **Federal Guidance**

- Provide broad brush strokes
- Recognize that legislation and policy exist on multiple levels
- Respect Partner integrity and wisdom
- Need Systems to demonstrate fiscal and program accountability and transparency
- Determine details at State/Institutional
  Ievel

USDA . UNCATALA. . CSREES

Good ideas still need to fit within policy

#### **EFNEP Policy What about Other Questions**

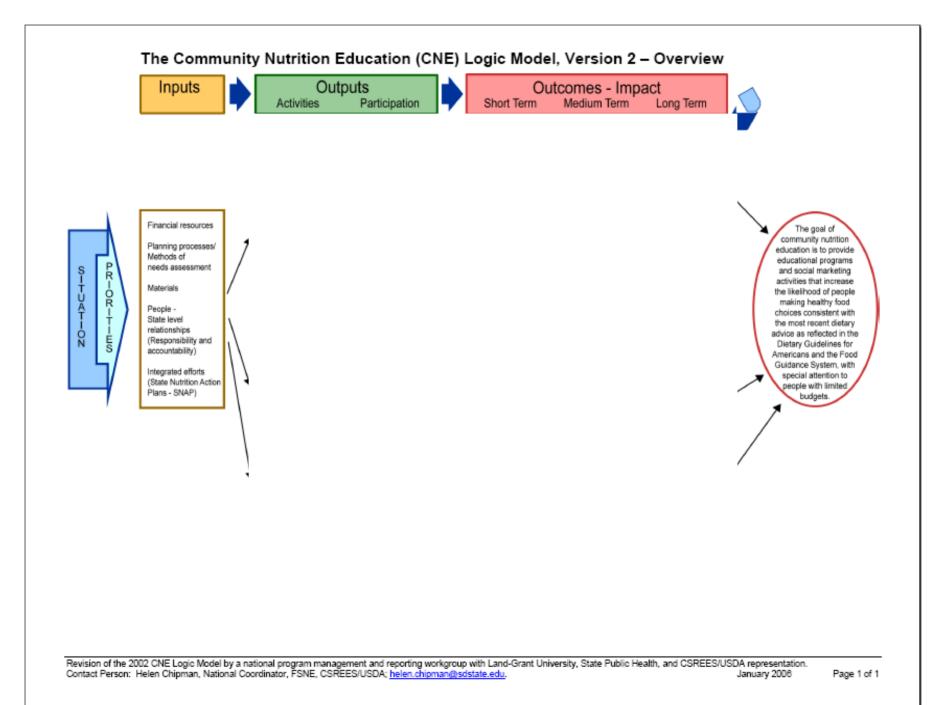


#### **Program Planning and Management**

- Stephanie Blake National Guidance for Program Planning
- Planning Team Program Inputs
  - Fiscal management
  - Curricula resource management
  - Personnel management
  - Relationships (Partner) management







**Additional Questions** 

