



E-NEWSLETTER PARAGRAPH

The Food Stamp Program (FSP) is our nation's first line of defense against hunger. Each month, FSP helps 28 million low-income people put healthy food on the table. As of October 1, 2008, the new name for the federal Food Stamp Program is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). While SNAP is the federal name for the program, State programs may have different names. The new name reflects the changes we've made to meet the needs of our clients, including a focus on nutrition. Other program improvements include an increase in the minimum benefit (from \$10 to \$14) and standard deduction, elimination of the cap on dependent care deduction and the exclusion of education and retirement accounts from countable resources. Through nutrition education partners, SNAP helps clients learn to make healthy eating and active lifestyle choices. SNAP also stimulates the economy. Research shows that every \$5.00 in new benefits generates \$9.20 in total community spending. With SNAP, healthy food is within reach for low-income Americans. *For more information about SNAP or one of the USDA's Food and Nutrition Services fifteen programs, please visit <http://www.fns.usda.gov>.*



SNAP: Putting Healthy Food Within Reach
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

September 2008