### **SNAP Pathways to Head Start**

Ellen Vollinger, FRAC SNAP Director June 27, 2022



#### SNAP FACTS



- Nationally in March 2022 SNAP served more than 41 million individuals
- In an average month in FY 2019, SNAP served more than 3 million children ages 2 to 4
- SNAP provides benefits for food purchases via Electronic Benefit Transfer cards for use at authorized retailers
- Each \$1 in SNAP benefits during a downturn generates between \$1.50 and \$1.80 in economic activity



# SNAP Is Targeted to High Need Households

- Like Head Start/Early Head Start, SNAP is an antipoverty program
- Gross income below 130-200% poverty <u>and</u> net income at or below 100 percent of poverty (net after SNAP deductions, e.g., child care expenses)
- Average gross cash income for SNAP households in FY 2019 was only \$872 a month



#### **SNAP Benefits Are Modest**

- --In March 2022 the average SNAP allotment was only \$7.35 a person a day
- --When temporary COVID-19 benefit boosts end, the average per person per day SNAP allotment will fall to a mere \$5.50.
- --At that "hunger cliff" point, most SNAP participants will lose \$82 a person a month in SNAP benefits.



# SNAP Streamlines Pathway to Head Start

- --EBT card with SNAP ID # or
- -- Copy of notice of approval or
- --Other documentation of benefits or eligibility

from SNAP agency

https://nhsa.org/resource/webinar-snapping-our-fingers-for-snap/

https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/im/acf-im-hs-22-03

https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/eligibility-ersea/article/snap-public-assistance-head-start-eligibility-faqs

https://nhsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/SNAP-Toolkit.pdf



### Closing SNAP Gaps

- SNAP gap: nearly 1 in 5 eligible people missed
- State SNAP gaps vary widely
- https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/reaching-those-need-estimates-state-2018
- Closing SNAP Gaps reports outline strategies

https://frac.org/programs/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap/closing-the-snap-gap



## SNAP Stakeholders Value Outreach and Partnerships

USDA reimburses states for half of SNAP outreach projects' costs

Many local non-profits partner with states on SNAP outreach

Annual state SNAP outreach plans are due by August 15

https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/SNAP Outreach Guide %20July 2017.pdf



Head Start – SNAP Partnerships

Data Sharing & Matching

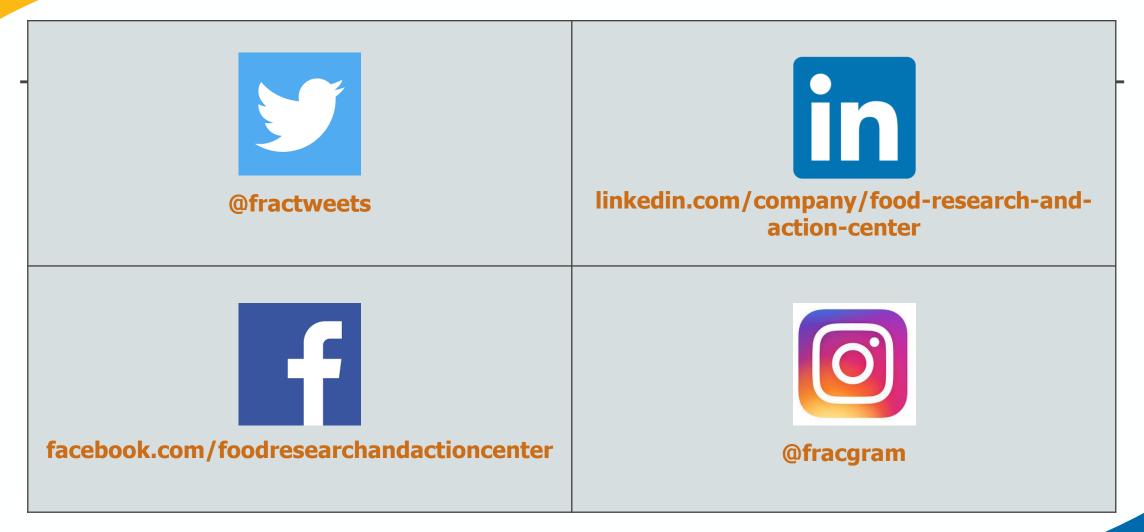
 Conduct Outreach & Awareness

Establish Coordination –
Referral Streams

Cross Training



### **Connect with FRAC!**



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