COLORADO SNAP: BY THE NUMBERS

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a powerful tool for ending hunger in the United States. SNAP benefits are provided on an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card and can only be used to purchase food items from grocery stores, farmers’ markets and other food retailers.

These benefits help low-income families put enough food on the table and reach the state’s most vulnerable residents, including children, seniors and people with disabilities. Here is a look at the impact this program has in Colorado.

RESOURCES
- USDA, 2016 SNAP Retailer Management Year End Summary.

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SNAP BENEFITS ARE LOW

$1.38 PER PERSON PER MEAL IN COLORADO

IN A NATIONAL SURVEY, 8 IN 10 AMERICANS FAVOR RAISING SNAP BENEFITS, INCLUDING MAJORITIES IN BOTH PARTIES.

SNAP PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN COLORADO’S ECONOMY

Households on SNAP spend their benefits quickly, which effectively boosts the local economy. Benefits can be used at local retailers and farmers markets, which in turn supports local business and agriculture.

SNAP SUPPORTS WORKING FAMILIES

82% PERCENT OF SNAP HOUSEHOLDS IN COLORADO THAT ARE WORKING OR HAVE WORKED WITHIN THE PAST YEAR

10 MONTHS AVERAGE AMOUNT OF TIME FAMILIES SPEND ON SNAP

19,000 NUMBER OF COLORADO FAMILIES THAT SNAP KEPT OUT OF POVERTY IN 2016

NUTRITION EDUCATION

SNAP-Ed is the nutrition education and obesity prevention component of SNAP. SNAP-Ed funding supports programs that equips low-income Americans with the skills they need to make healthy food choices on a budget through cooking classes, grocery store tours and educational materials.

Research shows that the skills learned through SNAP Ed can have a significant impact on the number of days families face hunger during the month. It also leads to healthier food choices; two thirds of families participating in nutrition education are more likely to eat more fruits and vegetables and read ingredient lists to find whole-grain options.

Although this funding helps families more effectively stretch their food budgets and create healthier eating habits, less than 1% of the SNAP budget goes to nutrition education. Learn More at http://bit.ly/SNAPEd.

66% REPUBLICAN & 93% DEMOCRAT

68% PERCENT OF PEOPLE REPORT EATING MORE FRUITS & VEGETABLES AFTER TAKING NUTRITION EDUCATION COURSES

2,812 AUTHORIZED SNAP RETAIL LOCATIONS IN COLORADO

$763 MILLION SNAP DOLLARS PUMPED INTO COLORADO’S ECONOMY IN 2016