May 8, 2025

By Electronic Mail

The Honorable John Boozman Chairman, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry 328A Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510	The Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson Chairman, House Committee on Agriculture 1301 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515
The Honorable Amy Klobuchar Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry 328A Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510	The Honorable Angie Craig Ranking Member, House Committee on Agriculture 1301 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515
Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	Members of the House Committee on Agriculture

RE: SNAP Nutrition Education: A Vital Tool Making America Healthy Today

Dear Chairs, Ranking Members, and Committee Members:

On behalf of the nearly 400 undersigned organizations, the Association of SNAP Nutrition Education Administrators (ASNNA) is pleased to share information highlighting the critical role of the SNAP-Ed program in advancing national food security and nutrition goals. SNAP-Ed is a cost-effective strategy that complements SNAP – our nation's cornerstone food and nutrition security program – by delivering nutrition education and health promotion interventions that empower families to make healthier choices. It represents a proven investment that improves the health and food security of low-income individuals and families, supports the agricultural economy, contributes to the reduction of long-term healthcare costs, and helps build more resilient communities nationwide. The organizations listed below are deeply engaged in SNAP-Ed implementation or partnership and bring direct experience with the program's transformative impact at the local, state, and national levels.

SNAP-Ed is a highly effective, evidence-based program that helps individuals and families make more nutritious food choices, stretch limited food budgets, increase physical activity, and make healthy choices easier in the community. Lead agencies work in partnership with trusted community organizations—including schools, healthcare, food banks, community centers, faith-based groups, and food retailers—to bring science-based, practical, culturally responsive education directly to the places people live, work, learn, and gather and to improve connectedness within the food system by bridging the gaps between local agriculture and communities. The result is a ripple effect of healthier habits, stronger food systems, and empowered communities.

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Across the country, SNAP-Ed is delivering measurable, meaningful results:

- In Arkansas, SNAP-Ed has led to significant behavior changes: in FY21, 88% of adult participants adopted better food resource management practices, and 58% increased their vegetable intake. Youth engagement is equally strong, with 84% of students intending to follow MyPlate guidance. Additionally, the state's Double Up Food Bucks program has increased revenue for over 125 farmers by connecting SNAP participants directly with local produce.
- In Pennsylvania, students participating in school-based SNAP-Ed programs are trying and enjoying more fruits and vegetables thanks to school gardens, healthy food tastings, and hands-on nutrition lessons. Parents, too, are reporting improved understanding of food labels and nutrition basics, making better choices for their families.
- In Minnesota, SNAP-Ed has partnered with the White Earth Nation's Maternal Outreach and Mitigation Services (MOMS) Program to deliver culturally grounded nutrition education to mothers in recovery from substance use. Of the 75 women who participated in the first year, 95% reported improvements in their ability to prepare healthy meals.

SNAP-Ed programs in other states offer equally compelling results. Here are just a few:

- In Alabama, *Live Well, Alabama*, partnered with communities and used social marketing to make the healthy choice the easy choice in homes, schools, and communities.
- In Colorado, the University of Colorado and Nourish Colorado focus on early childhood education, school wellness, and signature agriculture programs.
- In Illinois, SNAP-Ed contracted for a multi-year evaluation that demonstrated significant Return on Investment.
- In Maine, SNAP-Ed works with community, state, tribal, and national partners to meet hunger, nutrition, and health goals.
- In Michigan, SNAP-Ed has contributed to reduced food insecurity and better nutrition among older adults in rural communities.
- In New York, store-based education and cultural food access initiatives have increased the relevance and impact of SNAP-Ed in diverse neighborhoods.
- In Oklahoma, SNAP-Ed works in schools, clinics, FDPIR sites, farmers markets, senior centers, youth camps and social marketing campaigns, often with sovereign tribal nations.
- In Texas, food bank partnerships have helped families pair nutrition education with healthier groceries and meals.
- In California, *CalFresh Healthy Living* is delivered through local health departments, the University of California, Catholic Charities, and Area Agencies on Aging.

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• In Oregon, the SNAP-Ed social marketing campaign, Food Hero, is research-backed and delivered through multiple channels, designed to increase vegetable and fruit consumption and build food resource management skills.

SNAP-Ed is transparent and shares its results from all the states. The searchable SNAP-Ed Library (<u>SNAP-Ed Library</u>) shows over 700 locally developed interventions customized for the communities in which they were delivered. ASNNA's website compiles recent state impact reports and infographics (<u>State Highlight Reports | ASNNA</u>).

SNAP-Ed is more than a program—it is a catalyst for change, connecting nutrition policy to real-world outcomes that improve lives every day. It bridges the gap between federal nutrition programs, U.S. agriculture, and chronic disease prevention, advancing the broader mission of making America healthy. Whether helping a child discover the joy of growing their own food, a senior to prepare balanced, nutritious meals, empowering families to choose fresh produce on a limited budget, helping children be more physically active by creating safer routes to walk or bike to school, or revitalizing the only grocery store in a rural town, SNAP-Ed plays a vital role in strengthening communities.

At a time when diet-related diseases impact millions of families, driving up healthcare costs and placing an unsustainable burden on our healthcare system and the U.S. taxpayer, SNAP-Ed stands out as one of the nation's most strategic and effective tools to promote individual, family, and community health and economic resilience.

As Congress advances the next Farm Bill and considers funding priorities through the budget reconciliation process, understanding the role and impact of SNAP-Ed is critically important. SNAP-Ed delivers broad benefits: improving health outcomes, reducing hunger, saving public resources, supporting American farmers, and equipping communities with practical, integrated solutions to address today's food and health challenges.

We appreciate the Committees' commitment to sound nutrition and agriculture policy and remain available to provide information, share program successes, and highlight the critical role SNAP-Ed plays in advancing America's nutrition, health, and food security goals. Please do not hesitate to contact ASNNA leadership at Leadership@ASNNA.us.org if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

National and Multistate Organizations:

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Alliance to End Hunger American Public Health Association The Honorable John Boozman and The Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson The Honorable Amy Klobuchar and The Honorable Angie Craig Members of the House and Senate Agriculture Committee **RE: SNAP Nutrition Education: A Vital Tool Making America Healthy Today** May 8, 2025 Page 4 of 15

American Society for Nutrition Association of SNAP Nutrition Education Administrators (ASNNA) Association of State Public Health Nutritionists Baby Friendly USA, Inc. **Brighter Bites** Center for Science in the Public Interest **Common Threads** Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (Cooperative Extension) Farm Sanctuary For Our Health Healthy Places by Design National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners National League for Nursing Nyaa Scientific Research Services PHI Center for Wellness and Nutrition **Public Health Institute** Public Health Management Corporation **Rescue Agency** Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior

The Food Trust

State and Local Organizations:

18 Reasons (California) 5th Media (Michigan) A Red Circle (Missouri) ACCOA (Michigan) Active SGV (California) Adagio Health (Pennsylvania) Ads-N-Motion (Michigan) Adventist Health Glendale (California) Advocate Health (Illinois) Agricultural Community Events Farmers Markets (California) Agricultural Institute of Marin (California) The Honorable John Boozman and The Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson The Honorable Amy Klobuchar and The Honorable Angie Craig Members of the House and Senate Agriculture Committee **RE: SNAP Nutrition Education: A Vital Tool Making America Healthy Today** May 8, 2025 Page 5 of 15

Alameda County Nutrition Services (California) Alameda County Public Health Nutrition Services Program (California) ALBA (California) Alcona County Commission on Aging (Michigan) Alice Aycock Poe Center for Health Education (North Carolina) American Indian Health and Family Services (Michigan) Antelope Valley Partners for Health (California) Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance (Arkansas) Ascentria Care Alliance (Massachusetts) Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, Inc. (California) Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement (California) ATCAA Food Bank (California) Advocates for Better Children's Diets (District of Columbia) AVPH (California) Barkers Tiny Tots Daycare (Michigan) Battle Creek Family YMCA (Michigan) Baywell Health (California) **Bilingual Horizons (Indiana)** Boyne Falls Preschool (Michigan) Boyne Falls Public School (Michigan) Boys & Girls Club of the Muskegon Lakeshore (Michigan) Bradley Learning Center (Illinois) Brimley Area Schools (Michigan) Bronson Health Foundation (Michigan) BronxWorks (New York) CAB (Illinois) CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE Alameda County (California) CalFresh Healthy Living, University of California (CFHL, UC) (California) Calhoun ISD (Michigan) California Association of Food Banks (California) California Department of Social Services (California) Calmeca Academy, Chicago Public Schools (Illinois) Camas Farmer's Market (Washington) Canopy, a Public Benefit LLC (Kansas)

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Care and Share Food Bank (Colorado) Carnation Farmers Market (Washington) Carolina Hunger Initiative (North Carolina) Catholic Charities of Chicago (Illinois) Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County (California) Center for Ecoliteracy (California) Center for Healthy Communities (California) Center for Indigenous Health Research and Policy (Oklahoma) Ceres Community Project (California) Chicago Food Policy Action Council (Illinois) Chicago Grows Food (Illinois) Children's Council of San Francisco (California) City Green, Inc. (New Jersey) City of San Leandro, Senior Community Center program coordinator (California) Clemson University Learning Institute - SNAP-Ed (South Carolina) Coalition for Food and Health Equity (New Jersey) Coharie Tribe of North Carolina (North Carolina) Community Action Marin (California) Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK) (California) Community Church of God Food Pantry (Michigan) Community FarmShare (Maryland) Community Food Bank of NJ (New Jersey) Community Partnership for Child Development (Colorado) Community Service Solutions (California) Concerned Citizen (Illinois) Connecticut Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Connecticut) Connecticut Department of Public Health SNAP-Ed Program (Connecticut) Copper Country Mental Health (Michigan) Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County (New York) Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County (New York) Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben (New York) Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County (New York) County of San Mateo (California) Create Better Health (Utah's SNAP-Ed) (Utah)

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Creative Technology (Michigan) Crim Fitness Foundation (Michigan) Crop Swap LA (California) CT SNAP ED (Connecticut) Danbury Farmers Market Community Collaborative (Connecticut) Deeply Rooted Gardens Inc. (Michigan) Del Norte Department of Health and Human Services- Public Health Branch- CalFresh Healthy Living (California) Detroit Food Policy Council (Michigan) Nutrition/DINE, Durham County Department of Public Health (North Carolina) Diversified Management Services, LLC (Michigan) Diversity Nurtures Achievement Community Youth Center (North Carolina) Down East Partnership for Children (North Carolina) Downtown Marquette Farmers Market (Michigan) Dufelmeier LLC (Illinois) East Bay Township & Farmers Market (Michigan) Eastern Market Partnership (Michigan) Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District (Michigan) Escanaba Area Schools (Michigan) EveryChild (Illinois) Farm Fresh Rhode Island (Rhode Island) Farm2People (California) Federation of Virginia Food Banks (Virginia) Feeding Colorado (Colorado) Feeding Florida (Florida) Feeding Illinois (Illinois) Feeding Pennsylvania (Pennsylvania) Feeding the Carolinas (North Carolina) Food & Health Equity Coalition of Essex County (New Jersey) Food Access LA (California) Food and Health Equity Coalition (New Jersey) Food Bank of Western Massachusetts (Massachusetts) Food, Fitness & Opportunity Research Collaborative at UNC Chapel Hill (North Carolina) FoodRight, Inc (Wisconsin)

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Foodshed Alliance (New Jersey)

- Freestore Foodbank (Ohio)
- Fresh Approach (California)

Friends of the Mill Valley Children's Garden (California)

Fulton Street Market (Michigan)

Garden-Raised Bounty (GRuB) (Washington)

Genesee ISD (Michigan)

GenesisHOPE (Michigan)

GenesisHOPE CDC (Michigan)

Georgetown Management Company, LLC (New Jersey)

Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan (Michigan)

Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports (Michigan)

GRACE End Child Poverty California (California)

Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. (Wisconsin)

Green Wagon Farm (Michigan)

Grief Educator. (Indiana)

Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities (Michigan)

Grow Your Own Meal, Inc. (Colorado)

Growing Hope (Michigan)

Habitat for Humanity Greater Newark (New Jersey)

Hand, Heart, + Soul Project (Georgia)

Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks! (Hawaii)

Haymaker Farmers' Market (Ohio)

Health + Nutrition First (South Dakota)

Health Department of Northwest Michigan (Michigan)

Health Promotion Council of Southeastern Pennsylvania (Pennsylvania)

HealthMPowers (Georgia)

healthTIDE (Wisconsin)

Healthy Community Alliance of East Central Indiana (Indiana)

Healthy Community Food Systems (Colorado)

Helen Newberry Joy Hospital and Healthcare Center (Michigan)

Hilltop Community Resources (Colorado)

Hispanic Center of Western Michigan (Michigan)

HOPE GARDENS (Michigan)

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Hope Village Revitalization (Michigan) Humble Heart Linkage Services, NFP (Illinois) Hunger Action Los Angeles (California) IECO Illinois Early Childhood Outdoors (Illinois) Illinois AHPERD (Illinois) Illinois Public Health Association (Illinois) Illinois Public Health Institute (Illinois) Illustra Impact (Florida) Impact Pantry of Southwood High School (Indiana) Innovative Health Solutions (California) Integrated Community Services (California) Jamestown Happiness Project - a Tribal health and safety initiative (California) Jefferson A Better Start Eat Right Philly (Pennsylvania) Jefferson County Food Policy Council (Colorado) John C Fremont Healthcare District (California) Kiowa Tribe FDPIR (Oklahoma) LAHC-Leaders Advancing and Helping Communities (Michigan) Lake Stevens Farmers Market (Washington) Lakeshore Depot L3C (Michigan) Lao Community of Michigan (Michigan) Leah's Pantry (California) Leo Catholic High School (Illinois) Lincoln Consolidated Schools (Michigan) Little Bud Thorbs Economic Development Association for Minorities in Sports and Human Enrichment (North Carolina) Local Environmental Agriculture Project (Virginia) Long Valley Farm LLC (Michigan) Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (California) Los Angeles County Medical Association (California) Los Angeles Food Policy Council (California) Love Yourself for Life (LY4L) (Michigan) Manistique Farmer's Market (Michigan) Marin City Climate Resilience (California) Marin City Community Development Corporation (California)

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Mariposa Certified Farmers' Market (California) Mariposa Health and Wellness Coalition (California) Marquette County Health Department (Michigan) Marguette-Alger RESA (Michigan) Mary Ann Swetland Center for Environmental Health, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine (Ohio) Mary B. Wellness, LLC (Michigan) Maven Collective Consulting (Oklahoma) Meals in Motion (California) Merced & Mariposa Counties WIC Program (California) Metro Caring (Colorado) Michigan Community Action (Michigan) Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA) (Michigan) Michigan Fitness Foundation (Michigan) Michigan State University Extension (Michigan) Mid-Ohio Food Collective (Ohio) Millard School District (Utah) Mineral Springs Improvement Council, Inc. (North Carolina) Minnesota Farmers' Market Association (Minnesota) Mission of Our Lady of the Angels (Illinois) Mississippi State University Extension (Mississippi) Missouri Association of Area Agencies on Aging (Missouri) Missouri Council for Activity and Nutrition (Missouri) Missouri Council for Activity and Nutrition (MOCAN) (Missouri) Missourians for Responsible Transportation (Missouri) MoCAN Missouri Council for Activity and Nutrition (Missouri) Mom to Mom Nutrition, LLC. (Michigan) Montana State University Extension Nutrition Education Program (Montana) Montbello Organizing Committee (Colorado) Mt Elim Baptist Church (North Carolina) Mt. Pleasant Farmers' Market (Michigan) MultiCare Health System (Washington) N.C. A&T State University (North Carolina) National Grocers Association (District of Columbia)

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National Health Foundation (California) National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (Michigan) NC DHHS-Division of Child & Family Well Being (North Carolina) Negaunee and Ishpeming public schools (Michigan) Neighborhood Farmers Markets (Washington) New Kensington CDC (Pennsylvania) New Kensington Community Development Corporation (Pennsylvania) New Kensington Community Development Corporation (NKCDC) (Pennsylvania) New Mexico's Prevention Research Center (New Mexico) NJ Food Democracy Collaborative (New Jersey) North Harvest (Michigan) North Star Montessori Academy (Michigan) North West Initiative (Michigan) North West Initiative Lansing (Michigan) Northwest Education Services (Michigan) Northwest Lansing Healthy Communities Initiative d/b/a NorthWest Initiative (Michigan) Northwoods Test Kitchen (Michigan) Nourish Colorado (Colorado) Nutrition First (Washington) Nutrition Policy Institute, University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (California) NW Goldberg Cares (Michigan) Ohio Association of Foodbanks (Ohio) Ohio Farmers Market Network (Ohio) Oklahoma State University (Oklahoma) Oklahoma Tribal Engagement Partners (Oklahoma) Oklahoma Tribal Engagement Partners (OKTEP) (Oklahoma) One Family Illinois (Illinois) Open Hand Atlanta (Georgia) Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS), SNAP Nutrition Education Program (Oregon) Oregon Farm to School Network (Oregon) Oregon State University Extension Service (Oregon)

Partridge Creek Farm (Michigan)

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Partridge Creek Farm Inc (Michigan) Pennsylvania Nutrition Education Network (PA NEN) (Pennsylvania) Pennsylvania Public Health Association (Pennsylvania) Pennys Patch & Pasture (Michigan) Peoria City/County Health Department - WIC (Illinois) Pinnacle Prevention (Arizona) Plumas County Public Health Agency CalFresh Healthy Living (California) Produce Perks Midwest (Ohio) Project Healthy Community (Michigan) Providence Farm LLC (Michigan) Public Schools First NC (North Carolina) Raw Roots Farm (California) RCCG Jesus Assembly (California) Redhead Creative Consultancy (Michigan) Republic-Michigamme Schools (Michigan) RI Farm & Sea to School Network (Rhode Island) RI Healthy Schools Coalition (Rhode Island) Rutgers University-Cooperative Extension (New Jersey) Sacramento County (California) Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services (California) Saginaw ISD (Michigan) San Francisco-Marin Food Bank (California) San Joaquin County Public Health Services (California) San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department, California (California) San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition (Colorado) Santa Cruz County Public Health (California) Santiago Home Improvements (Pennsylvania) Seattle Farmers Market Association (Washington) Second Harvest Food Bank CCL (Ohio) Second Harvest Inland Northwest (Washington) SEEDS (Michigan) SEEDS Ecology & Education Centers (Michigan) Seven Generations Ahead (Illinois) Shared Harvest Foodbank (Ohio)

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Sharkar Farm (Michigan) Shasta County Public Health (California) Sierra County Public Health (California) Sierra Harvest (California) Signarama Novi and Flint (Michigan) Snohomish Farmer's Market (Washington) South Dakota Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (South Dakota) South Dakota Public Health Association (South Dakota) South Side Community Coalition (Michigan) Southern Illinois Resource and Advocacy Center (Illinois) Southern University Ag Center SNAP-Ed Program (Louisiana) Sparta Community Food Pantry (New Jersey) Special Olympics Washington (Washington) SSM Health (Illinois) Stanislaus County Health Services Agency (California) Stein Learning Gardens (Illinois) Superior Charter Township Parks and Recreation (Michigan) Sustainable Agriculture Education (SAGE) (California) Switch Gears Farm (Colorado) Tahqua Journey Drop- In Center (Michigan) Tahquamenon Area Schools (Michigan) Teacher (Michigan) Thai Community Development Center (Thai CDC) (California) The Access Youth Center (Indiana) The Children's Collective (California) The Food Basket Inc., Hawai'i Island's Food Bank (Hawaii) The Foodbank, Inc. (Ohio) The Guyman Community Home (California) The OrganWise Guys Inc. (Georgia) The People's Farmstand (Vermont) The Produce Ambassador. LLC (California) The South Side Community Coalition (Michigan) The Whole Child (California) Traverse City Area Public Schools (Michigan)

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Tuolumne County Public Health (California) Tuscola Intermediate School District (Michigan) UConn Husky Nutrition & Sport (Connecticut) UI Health Mile Square Health and Wellness Center (Illinois) UNC Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (North Carolina) UNC Chapel Hill, Food Fitness Opportunity Research Collaborative (FFORC) (North Carolina) University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff 1890 Extension FCS-Programs SNAP-Ed (Arkansas) University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture (Arkansas) University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (California) University of Delaware Cooperative Extension (Delaware) University of IL Extension (Illinois) University of Illinois- Extension (Illinois) University of Minnesota Extension (Minnesota) University of Minnesota Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute (Minnesota) University of Rhode Island SNAP-Ed (Rhode Island) University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension (Wisconsin) Utah Food Security Council (Utah) Utah State University Extension - Home and Community Department (Utah) Utah State University Hunger Solutions Institute (Utah) Utah State University Institute for Disability Research, Policy & Practice (Utah) Utahns Against Hunger (Utah) Valley Food Partnership (Colorado) Van Buren ISD (Michigan) Venice Family Clinic (California) Ventura County Public Health (California) Vermont Foodbank (Vermont) Vermont Garden Network (Vermont) Veronica Vigil (California) Vetri Community Partnership (Pennsylvania) Virginia Cooperative Extension Family Nutrition Program (Virginia) Virginia Farmers Market Association (Virginia) Virginia Fresh Match (Virginia) WA Farm to School Network (Washington)

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WALKSacramento dba Civic Thread (California) Washington Department of Social and Health Services (Washington) Washington Food Coalition (Washington) Washington State Farmers Market Association (Washington) Washington State University (Washington) Washtenaw ISD (Michigan) Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency (Michigan) Wello, Inc. (Wisconsin) Wentworth Haven Homes (Illinois) West Marin Community Services (California) West Marin Fund (California) Western Upper Peninsula Health Department (Michigan) Whispering Wild Market Farm (Michigan) Wyoming Food Coalition (Wyoming) Wyoming Hunger Initiative & First Lady of Wyoming (Wyoming) Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic (Washington) YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids (Michigan) Yolo County Health & Human Service Agency (California) Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency, CalFresh Healthy Living (California) Youth-Led Quartz Hill Food Pantry (California)

Zufall Health Center (New Jersey)