

# SNAP E&T MAWB Notes, April 2022

## Strategic Planning Process:

Strategic Vision Group met in mid-March: identified three primary focus areas: Equity, Covid-19 Recovery, and Time-Limited Participants

Strategic Strategies Groups met three times in late March and early April

Strategic Plan Review Meeting: May 11, 10-11.

## Draft Priorities:

1. **Increase active participation in the SNAP Employment and Training Program:** This goal will prioritize understanding and addressing the causes of low participation, developing outreach and marketing strategies, improving providers' relationship with county and tribal eligibility units, and reducing barriers to participation.
2. **Identify, leverage, and increase non-federal funding sources that are well-matched to SNAP E&T reimbursement:** SNAP E&T providers report a significant need for non-federal funding in order to operate successful programs. Where possible, this funding should be flexible, or aligned with best practices in SNAP E&T and able to be used for innovation. There is a significant specific need for funds that can be used to provide support services for SNAP recipients.
3. **Ensure that SNAP recipients are connected to "best fit" workforce services:** DHS/DEED will work collaboratively to identify ways to ensure all SNAP recipients who want to participate are matched with the services and program design that is the most likely to help them succeed. We will work together to build a screening and referral tool that is easy to access, regularly updated, and provides a bridge for those becoming SNAP eligible or losing SNAP eligibility. In addition, we will identify opportunities for SNAP recipients to benefit from other workforce programs through coenrollment, aligning funding, and advocating for the needs of SNAP recipients within the larger state workforce system.
4. **Improve services for SNAP recipients through data-driven continuous improvement and inclusion of SNAP recipients in program design:** Minnesota will work collaboratively with providers to develop services that are open to design innovation, measure success without overburdening participants or providers, analyze and share data, identify improvements, and put process controls in place. In addition, DHS/DEED will support providers in developing their own internal process improvements and share data regularly at the provider level to allow providers to address issues more rapidly. Improvements will be guided by participants' needs, wants, experiences, and feedback.

## Questions for the Group:

What is missing from these priorities? Are there priority areas you can think of that would not fit under these headings?

What strategies or goals would you suggest DHS, DEED, or providers pursue under these priorities?

Do you see any points where these priorities align or misalign with the workforce system as a whole?