



LSU AgCenter SNAP-ED IMPACT FY2024



EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Our program teaches SNAP recipients and other limited-resource audiences how to make healthy choices with a limited budget. Through SNAP-Ed, people can learn how to prepare nutritious, affordable meals and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Below are highlights from our educational outreach in 2024.



90,578

total audience reach



2 OUT OF 3

participants report eating healthier*



3 OUT OF 4

youth participants report being more active



2 OUT OF 3

adult participants report being more active

*Eating healthier includes positive changes to eating habits such as drinking less soda and eating more vegetables.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

SNAP-Ed agents support parish-level Healthy Communities initiatives to implement policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) changes, providing long-term, sustainable solutions to the health challenges our communities face. Learn more about Healthy Communities at www.LSUAgCenter.com/HealthyCommunities.



1,158

total partnerships



195

Healthy Communities coalitions



167

policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) changes implemented



\$95,700

in outside funding to support PSE changes



2,894

volunteer hours valued at \$73,594!

FIND YOUR AGENT!

<https://bit.ly/LSUAgent>



Rural Complete Streets Summit

The LSU AgCenter Healthy Communities initiative, with support from SNAP-Ed staff, hosted the second Louisiana Rural Complete Streets Summit in Baton Rouge and Ruston. Rural community teams shared ideas, explored funding opportunities, and identified areas of need. The previous summit helped small towns secure over \$13 million in funding. This year's summit aims to replicate that success in more rural towns across Louisiana, ensuring safer transportation for all residents, including older adults, people with disabilities, bicyclists, and pedestrians.



Cullen Square Community Garden

Dr. Shakera Williams, Webster Parish SNAP-Ed agent, led a garden project to improve food access at the Cullen Square Senior Apartment complex. SNAP-Ed provided funding, hands-on garden assistance, and quarterly nutrition education classes on food dollar management, food safety, and healthy eating. Over 40 participants attended the lessons, and residents reported increased access to vegetables and a stronger sense of community.



Colfax Trail Makeover

Madison Willis, a SNAP-Ed agent in Grant Parish, worked with the mayor of Colfax and a local health coalition to enhance a local walking trail. LSU AgCenter SNAP-Ed provided signs with simple exercise prompts, added a new bench, painted playground stencils like hopscotch, and created a Silly Walking Track for kids. These additions significantly increased park usage. As a result, the town has now assigned staff to maintain the trail, and the community uses the space for events like local health fairs.



Facen Park Facelift

The Ouachita Healthy Communities Coalition, led by SNAP-Ed agent Cathy Agan, used an LHCC grant to transform a neighborhood park in West Monroe. SNAP-Ed organized volunteers to install new amenities, creating a welcoming space for play. The neighborhood celebrated the improvements with a block party, demonstrating their new pride in the park. The City of West Monroe has committed to maintaining the park, and the project's success has inspired similar initiatives in other parks.



Safer Streets for Abbeville

SNAP-Ed agent Mandy Armentor worked with the City of Abbeville to improve pedestrian safety downtown. The project used Well-Ahead funds to demonstrate Complete Streets concepts, including improved pedestrian crossings and parking, bike lanes, and reduced speeds. These changes were tested and refined based on community feedback, resulting in a safer and better connected area around the courthouse. The project has inspired more improvements throughout Abbeville, with the city committed to integrating these concepts into future road work.