

WEB TRANSCRIPT

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Sheila Fleischhacker: This really

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00:00:02.129 --> 00:00:11.429

Sheila Fleischhacker: This really builds on prior webinar series our Institute has offered and really today and in the future is really just trying our best to introduce you to many

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00:00:11.610 --> 00:00:26.970

Sheila Fleischhacker: familiar faces, but also some new faces to NIFA, including today our special guest our new director Dr Castille. My name is Sheila Fleischhacker I'm one of the new faces at NIFA and I'm in a new role here at NIFA, which is a National Science liaison for nutrition and food safety.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: I have the honor to work with Dr Helen Chipman who you'll hear from today co leading a growing nutrition security team.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: And as you can see, part of our team approach is really building across the diverse agricultural sciences that NIFA brings to the table to address these issues of food and nutrition security.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: This really is an administration priority that we're proud to embrace.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: We've worked on setting the tone for what that means to us at NIFA and how we might build a framework across our diverse programs.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: To really help prioritize this new idea of nutrition security, I wanted to start with defining it, I had the

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Sheila Fleischhacker: honor of working with Dr Mozaffarian and Chef Jose Andres on a commentary that called attention to nutrition security. It's not a new concept but we really are trying to elevate its role, particularly during the

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Sheila Fleischhacker: Covid-19 pandemic when we saw such skyrocketing rates of nutrition and food insecurity.

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00:01:31.500 --> 00:01:38.790

Sheila Fleischhacker: So nutrition security means having consistent access availability and affordability of foods and beverages that promote well being

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00:01:39.090 --> 00:01:46.830

Sheila Fleischhacker: and prevent and, if needed, treat disease, particularly among our nation's most socially disadvantaged population and so here, I just want to emphasize

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Sheila Fleischhacker: food security is something we're still working towards, and still monitoring.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: But we really want to elevate the difference between nutrition security and food security is that we're not just maintaining

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Sheila Fleischhacker: a healthy and active lifestyle. Nutrition security recognizes that the majority of Americans are not healthy and are battling one, if not more, diet-related chronic diseases.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: We want to also recognize, as we launched this series, that food insecurity is something that our nation's been battling pre-pandemic, but obviously during the COVID-19 pandemic we saw skyrocketing rates.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: Because of the variety of federal nutrition assistance relief programs in effect right now, we are seeing declines in these skyrocketing rates, which is promising.

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00:02:30.180 --> 00:02:38.100

Sheila Fleischhacker: But disparities exists, so a lot of our effort here at prioritizing nutrition security really takes that into effect that these disparities affect

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00:02:39.240 --> 00:02:46.440

Sheila Fleischhacker: Black, Latinx and Native Americans more disproportionately, our rural communities more disproportionately, and other socially disadvantaged communities.

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00:02:48.090 --> 00:02:55.200

Sheila Fleischhacker: So, as noted and as you'll hear today and throughout this series, we've been really working across 20 different programs at NIFA that are

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Sheila Fleischhacker: connected to nutrition security. Some might be more surprising or interesting than others for folks that are not necessarily traditional programs.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: And that I think is going to be the fun part of this series is seeing how various programs such as our local economies program and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers program.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: And our more traditional programs are really embracing this concept of nutrition security and many of them have been doing it for years so it's really exciting to lift up their work.

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Sheila Fleischhacker: Some of our emerging team priorities are things that many of us in the nutrition field are working on this includes supporting innovative inter- and trans-disciplinary solutions, really harnessing a holistic research agenda from farm to fork,

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Sheila Fleischhacker: integrating climate smart agriculture – we'll definitely have some series that dive deeper with our climate team on this area – and really throughout all this empowering individual, community agency, particularly among our most socially disadvantaged communities.

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00:03:46.800 --> 00:03:51.570

Sheila Fleischhacker: So, today I have the honor of kicking off this series and, as you can see from our panelist list,

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Sheila Fleischhacker: a great group of scientists and it includes our new director Dr Carrie Castille. She's going to give us an overview of how NIFA is

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00:03:59.970 --> 00:04:13.800

Sheila Fleischhacker: attacking this issue. And our goal for kicking off this series is to get to know all of the people behind these programs a little bit better. So I'm going to transition now to you seeing Dr Castille live and getting to know her better.

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Carrie Castille: Thank you so much, and thanks, Sheila, for your introduction and your leadership on NIFA's nutrition security team.

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Carrie Castille: This new team is an incredible group of people who are working hard to make a difference in people's lives.

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Carrie Castille: I'm Carrie Castille. I'm the Director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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Carrie Castille: I was born and raised in a little community called Breaux Bridge, Louisiana with about 9000 folks. So I'm actually in Louisiana right now, Lafayette. We moved to Lafayette.

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Carrie Castille: I really have a great appreciation being from rural Louisiana and knowing firsthand the food and security needs

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Carrie Castille: that we've seen in Louisiana and knowing the impact that you could have, and these educational series are just, I think, a great opportunity to be able to showcase what we're doing at NIFA and emphasize our partnerships.

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Carrie Castille: Working in Cooperative Extension and USDA Rural Development also gave me an opportunity to learn more about the root causes of the national issues.

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Carrie Castille: In an area famous for food, the Mississippi Delta is also known as an area where people often suffer the health impacts of unhealthy diets through no fault of their own. Food is a part of our culture, our tradition, and our social life.

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00:05:37.740 --> 00:05:49.800

Carrie Castille: In one of the richest agriculture regions in the nation, it's also an area where accessing nutritious food is not always easy. People eat what they have and prepare it the way that they that they've been taught.

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Carrie Castille: So I have a very personal interest in the work of the nutrition security team.

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Carrie Castille: We built a diverse and talented team to leverage NIFA's assets to help our country prosper.

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Carrie Castille: We must use our combined expertise and resources to address the unprecedented rates of food insecurity among our fellow Americans.

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Carrie Castille: I'm so impressed with our agency's ability to quickly mobilize expertise in nutrition security, in climate, economic recovery, and racial equity, amongst others.

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Carrie Castille: But it's not just the expertise that NIFA staff bring to the table; it's their passion to really, really make a difference.

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Carrie Castille: Earlier this month, at one of our NIFA All Hands meetings, I heard from members of our staff as they voiced their thoughts on hunger in America. They shared a variety of ways NIFA does and can help prioritize nutrition security in America.

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Carrie Castille: At NIFA, we believe that promoting nutrition security is a critical ingredient to recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic,

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Carrie Castille: to rebuilding the rural economy, to addressing the impacts of climate change, and ensuring racial justice and equity.

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Carrie Castille: From our Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, EFNEP, that you will hear about next

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Carrie Castille: to our Farm Food Safety Training, the strong focus that USDA is putting on addressing the hunger and food security crisis in our country is our chance at NIFA to shine together.

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Carrie Castille: Without question much of our work truly depends on our external stakeholders' expertise and insights.

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Carrie Castille: NIFA has used a variety of formats, such as NIFA Listens and the Calls to Conversation meeting series to share agency overviews and gather input from our stakeholders.

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Carrie Castille: We designed this monthly NIFA Nutrition Security Series as one approach for our external stakeholders to hear more from us on this important priority area. We will also use the series to highlight our partners efforts in nutrition security as well.

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Carrie Castille: From our initial assessments, NIFA has great potential to accelerate our department's efforts to prioritize nutrition security.

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Carrie Castille: For fiscal year 2021, our agency is estimated to invest more than \$122 million to promote nutrition security

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Carrie Castille: through the following five primary priority programs that you will hear about today: first, our Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, or EFNEP; second, our Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program, or GusNIP;

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Carrie Castille: our Community Food Projects; our Food and Agricultural Service Learning Program; and Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program Diet, Nutrition and the Prevention of Chronic Diseases.

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Carrie Castille: NIFA supports 17 additional programs that also promote nutrition security and future webinars will dive deeper into each of these efforts.

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Carrie Castille: A key ingredient to our nutrition security activities is developing and leveraging a diverse interdisciplinary workforce through our support of our AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellowships, our USDA Internship Programs, our USDA 1890 National Scholars Program.

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Carrie Castille: Our Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Education and Workforce Program, NIFA's Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program, and the Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) Education Grants Program, among others.

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Carrie Castille: During meetings with our staff and stakeholders, I've been impressed with our consistent inter- and trans-disciplinary methods to develop a holistic approach to nutrition security.

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Carrie Castille: This work takes into consideration how the Covid-19 pandemic constrained traditional approaches to research, extension, and teaching

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Carrie Castille: which were compounded by skyrocketing food insecurity and unprecedented food supply chain disruptions.

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Carrie Castille: I am also pleased that NIFA is very mindful, to foster sustainable business models for innovative approaches to promote healthy food and beverage choices, particularly amongst SNAP and WIC authorized retailers.

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Carrie Castille: We're examining the potential for every link of the food chain to help build more sustainable, resilient, equitable, and nourishing food systems from first, production.

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00:10:09.570 --> 00:10:13.890

Carrie Castille: (which includes agroecology, community and home food gardening,

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00:10:14.310 --> 00:10:22.380

Carrie Castille: urban agriculture, and farmers markets) to preparation (ensuring efficient, safe, and nutritious food preparation in culturally,

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Carrie Castille: contextually, and economically sensitive ways, including disaster preparedness) to consumption

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Carrie Castille: (enabling positive and sustained healthy eating behaviors to decrease the health and financial burden of diet-related non-communicable diseases and health disparities)

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00:10:39.870 --> 00:10:49.830

Carrie Castille: to increasing access to and improving the nutritional quality of our federal nutrition safety net, and also disposal (limiting food waste while ensuring food safety).

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Carrie Castille: NIFA is truly leveraging all of our assets to spark transformative discoveries in education and engagement with the greatest potential to promote nutrition security, while also fostering better integration with climate smart food and agriculture.

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Carrie Castille: NIFA continues to believe that a critical component for all of these efforts is people.

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Carrie Castille: We build on our outstanding Extension legacy to promote nutrition security, particularly among our nation's most socially disadvantaged populations. This includes working with the USDA Office of Tribal Relations to help promote food sovereignty.

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Carrie Castille: Thank you for joining us today as we kick off this very important series. I'm very excited about NIFA's current efforts and potential to prioritize nutrition security,

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Carrie Castille: and look forward to working with each of you in the future. Now we will officially begin this new webinar series. First up is Dr Helen Chipman and Dr Carinthia Cherry with EFNEP. Thank you so much.

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00:12:00.270 --> 00:12:07.260

Helen Chipman: Thank you Carrie and thank you to all. It looks like we have more than 200 people on this webinar today, and we are thrilled to be able to

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00:12:08.520 --> 00:12:18.660

Helen Chipman: visit with you and talk a little bit about this part of our programs that are so important to so many of us and we've been asked to share a little bit about

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Helen Chipman: ourselves as well as about the programs. I oversee the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, among other things, known as EFNEP.

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Helen Chipman: I'm going to share some of my time with Dr Carinthia Cherry who also provides leadership to the program, and I'll be speaking from a domestic context, since that EFNEP is for the 50 states and the US territories.

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Helen Chipman: So on a personal level, from my earliest years my parents have said that I am a champion of the underdog. I am drawn to people who are who are struggling

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Helen Chipman: and my desire is to help them in their efforts to experience success in their lives, that seems to be part of my DNA.

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Helen Chipman: So the Expanded Food Nutrition Education Program, or EFNEP, is a really good fit for me.

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Helen Chipman: I've been involved with EFNEP for most of my professional career and even did some of my graduate work in evaluating this program.

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Helen Chipman: I've also worked actively with other organizations and agencies to share in this space, because we need to have a cooperation and synergy through our respective in our combined efforts.

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Helen Chipman: Perhaps many of you know that EFNEP is the nation's first and longest lasting nutrition education program.

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Helen Chipman: It has been part of the fabric of this country for more than 52 years and counting. It is a program that remains nimble and is also continually evolving.

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00:13:48.870 --> 00:13:57.690

Helen Chipman: And it is a program with results. Later we're going to do a deeper dive and we'll be able to talk more specifically about more of the details on EFNEP.

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Helen Chipman: But I think it's important to also recognize the history. EFNEP arose out of concerns that were raised in the 1960s, when a face was given to what it meant to be hungry and poor.

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00:14:10.530 --> 00:14:26.910

Helen Chipman: We are addressing those same concerns today, but we are doing so with this broader perspective of trying to improve nutritional insecurity. We have greater understanding and we're trying to approach it in a more comprehensive way as Carrie just noted.

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00:14:28.560 --> 00:14:39.150

Helen Chipman: EFNEP is at the heart of addressing food security by NIFA and its partners and collaborators, as it reaches families youth and children with limited financial resources

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Helen Chipman: and helps them gain skills to improve the quality and the adequacy of their diets and thus their nutritional health and wellbeing.

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00:14:47.760 --> 00:14:57.600

Helen Chipman: Importantly, when we talk about nutrition education, diet, and health, within EFNEP we are talking about much more than nutrients and nutritional value.

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Helen Chipman: We recognize that food is important to people on many levels, so we take into consideration social, emotional, cultural, and other aspects of food and health in what is taught and how that information is shared.

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00:15:15.240 --> 00:15:23.340

Helen Chipman: EFNEP is also about relationships. Peer educators, people who come from those same neighborhoods and who come from those same experiences,

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00:15:23.850 --> 00:15:34.920

Helen Chipman: are hired to provide this learning and to interact with those that we are trying to reach so that we can teach people in the context of their lives. And we teach to support change

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Helen Chipman: because our intent is to help others have greater success in their efforts to improve the nutritional health and wellbeing of themselves and their families and even extending into larger groups such as extended families and even communities.

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00:15:52.860 --> 00:16:04.890

Helen Chipman: Carinthia will speak more about EFNEP and nutritional security, specifically, I just want to end with a personal goal of mine, and that is that in all that we do, we do not leave some people behind.

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Helen Chipman: That in our efforts as a nation and across the globe, we are mindful of those who are experiencing challenges, such as poverty,

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Helen Chipman: and do what we can to help them experience greater success and greater confidence

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Helen Chipman: in their efforts to provide for themselves and their families and their communities, such that they can be part of the solution for achieving greater success and greater nutrition security in this nation. Carinthia if I can turn it to you now.

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Carinthia Cherry: Thank you, Helen! Good afternoon everyone again. My name is Carinthia Cherry and I serve as the EFNEP national coordinator, and I'm another one of those new faces having just come on board

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Carinthia Cherry: in the spring of 2020. Still learning but glad to be here and glad to be a part of the nutrition security efforts

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Carinthia Cherry: at NIFA. So I'm new to NIFA, but not new to this area of nutrition security and nutrition education.

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Carinthia Cherry: I'm a product of the land grant system for the past nine years. I worked as a nutrition specialist at an 1890 institution, North Carolina A&T State University.

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Carinthia Cherry: In that role, I worked to develop nutrition education programs specifically for those who are in limited resource communities or in limited resource audiences, so working to develop nutrition education or for youth and adult audiences. As a part of that role, one of the key

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Carinthia Cherry: responsibilities was working with community-based organizations and helping those organizations implement sustainable programs

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Carinthia Cherry: that would help them to improve nutritional health for those living, working, and playing in their communities. So again, not new to this area but new to NIFA and glad to be a part of EFNEP.

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Carinthia Cherry: I worked with EFNEP as part of the Cooperative Extension program before, and now I'm here and it's an exciting time to be here with this focus, that we've had in the past and will continue to have in the future, on what nutrition security is and how we can improve

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Carinthia Cherry: the nutritional health of our nation. So here we just have a couple of examples of the programming that we've done and again it illustrates to us, as Helen said,

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Carinthia Cherry: in her comments as well, EFNEP has been around for about over 50 years now, so we've been in this realm. We're not new to nutrition security and we're going to continue and we're poised to do great work in this area, so these are just two examples of those programs here.

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Carinthia Cherry: Moving to the next slide, we're going to talk a little bit about EFNEP. So we have our goal here. What's the priority of EFNEP?

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Carinthia Cherry: It's the nutrition education program, and our goal is to reduce nutrition insecurity, and our audience is families, youth, and children with low incomes.

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Carinthia Cherry: What we want to do is we target behavior change and that's going to be really important when you think about how we're going to improve nutritional health.

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Carinthia Cherry: The core areas for EFNEP include diet quality, physical activity, food resource management, food safety, and again, food or nutrition security.

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Carinthia Cherry: That's going to be the key, that's what we really want to make sure of. As we've noticed, it was highlighted for us during the pandemic that nutritional health can have a huge impact on overall health as well.

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Carinthia Cherry: So our EFNEP program operates through our Cooperative Extension System at 76 institutions. It is at all 1862 and all 1890 Land Grant institutions

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Carinthia Cherry: in all 50 states and, also as Helen said, operates in our six territories and the District of Columbia. We use that peer educator model

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Carinthia Cherry: that helps to build and support trust when individuals can see others in their community and receive that messaging from them.

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Carinthia Cherry: So I'm going to talk about a little bit of REACH for EFNEP. More than 88,000 adults and 300,000 youth and children participate annually.

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Carinthia Cherry: And so we've been around and we've been able to impact the lives of over 34 million individuals.

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Carinthia Cherry: One of the strengths, several of the strengths of EFNEP that we just want to highlight, is that there is proven success. We have the program data that supports program effectiveness and efficiency.

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Carinthia Cherry: What we've done over the past year or so about how we've transitioned during the pandemic looking at how we operate our programs.

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Carinthia Cherry: One of the things that we've tried to do and we've helped our audience to do is to be nimble.

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Carinthia Cherry: We understand that things have changed. We understand that how we did things before we might have to do them a little bit differently. So we've worked with our community partners, our university partners

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Carinthia Cherry: to talk with them and see what some of the needs that we could meet in a different way. So this nutrition security program,

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Carinthia Cherry: the nutrition security team that's here today, also all of the

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Carinthia Cherry: nutrition programs associated with NIFA are a great example of how we're poised to move forward in this area and how we can make sure that our nation is nutritionally healthy as well. With that, I will turn it over to Mallory for GusNIP.

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Mallory Koenings: Thank you very much, Carinthia.

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Mallory Koenings: And thank you all for joining us this afternoon. I'm Mallory Koenings. I serve as the national program leader for the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program and for the Diet, Nutrition, and Prevention of Chronic Diseases program area within our AFRI portfolio.

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Mallory Koenings: I have been part of the NIFA family for over six years now. I completed my graduate and postdoctoral training on national research initiative and AFRI childhood obesity prevention projects which is

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Mallory Koenings: really what led me to be aware of the federal career opportunities with NIFA, the path that that I've pursued for my career now.

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Mallory Koenings: So it's wonderful to share my passion for

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Mallory Koenings: improving and promoting health and preventing chronic disease with you all, and to be a part of this webinar series as we're kicking off our portfolio

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Mallory Koenings: and how it relates to nutrition security. So the first program area that I'm going to speak briefly about to you all, is the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program.

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Mallory Koenings: What I want to provide as an overview now is that this program includes three distinct grant types. The Nutrition Incentive Grants

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Mallory Koenings: which focus specifically on providing fruit and vegetable incentives to consumers participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

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Mallory Koenings: Those fruit and vegetable incentives are provided to consumers at the point of purchase so where they're purchasing fruits and vegetables.

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Mallory Koenings: Within our Nutrition Incentive Grants, there are pilot projects, standard projects, and large-scale projects. I'll give an example of each.

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Mallory Koenings: Pilot projects are in the early stages of development and are testing some new and innovative strategies, for example, a curbside mobile grocery truck

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Mallory Koenings: to improve access and affordability of fresh produce. Our standard projects are established fruit and vegetable incentive programs that are working at a multi-county or maybe a state level.

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Mallory Koenings: An example of one of our standard projects and investment portfolio is one that supports 45 local farmers in bringing all of their produce to farmers markets where the fruit and vegetable incentives are used to increase the purchase power of SNAP consumers.

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00:24:54.690 --> 00:25:00.390

Mallory Koenings: For large-scale projects, these are generally multi-state or regional.

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00:25:01.740 --> 00:25:18.480

Mallory Koenings: An example might be one that we have, where there are 118 different food outlets participating that include supermarkets, corner stores, pharma markets, farmers markets, as well as mobile markets.

141

00:25:19.410 --> 00:25:31.770

Mallory Koenings: And the project's focus is not only, of course, providing the fruit and vegetable incentive, but also increasing fruit and vegetable consumption and

142

00:25:32.430 --> 00:25:51.120

Mallory Koenings: also capture nutrition education opportunities to really again focus on that health promotion and how we can improve the affordability and accessibility of healthy foods in all of our communities and preserve and sustain health.

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00:25:52.230 --> 00:26:01.050

Mallory Koenings: The next grant type I want to provide an overview for you all are the Produce Prescription Grants and these projects are

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00:26:01.740 --> 00:26:09.570

Mallory Koenings: exciting and they're early on in in their livelihoods. We have about two years' worth of these

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00:26:10.200 --> 00:26:21.720

Mallory Koenings: right now active in the community. They focus on increasing fruit, vegetable consumption, improving overall dietary patterns, reducing food insecurity,

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00:26:22.260 --> 00:26:34.740

Mallory Koenings: and decreasing health care costs and healthcare utilization, so fruit and vegetable prescription programs that are part of this portfolio are ongoing throughout the country

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00:26:35.430 --> 00:26:50.940

Mallory Koenings: could serve a number of families. One example, we have a fruit and vegetable project in Navajo Nation that, in their first year, served 200 families and distributed almost 10,000 fruit and vegetable prescriptions.

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00:26:52.080 --> 00:27:08.400

Mallory Koenings: And this has been a wonderful project. These projects specifically target participants who are at risk of a diet-related health condition or who are managing a diet-related health condition.

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00:27:09.900 --> 00:27:11.790

Mallory Koenings: Next slide please, Sheila.

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00:27:12.990 --> 00:27:13.260

Mallory Koenings:

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00:27:15.180 --> 00:27:27.330

Mallory Koenings: The third grant type the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program supports are the Cooperative Agreements and the Cooperative Agreement is specifically for the

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00:27:27.960 --> 00:27:40.710

Mallory Koenings: GusNIP Training, Technical Assistance, Evaluation, and Information Center. The Center supports GusNIP applicants and grantees through that technical assistance piece,

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00:27:41.760 --> 00:27:51.510

Mallory Koenings: and also, through that evaluation information piece, it collects and aggregates national outcome data

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00:27:52.140 --> 00:28:01.200

Mallory Koenings: whether it's the food outlets, firms, or sites where these nutrition incentives or produce prescriptions are provided to participants,

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00:28:01.800 --> 00:28:13.800

Mallory Koenings: or participant-level data to look at fruit and vegetable consumption and dietary patterns, the health outcomes

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00:28:14.250 --> 00:28:22.590

Mallory Koenings: depending on what the target audience is. All of these core metrics are collected and aggregated by the Center

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00:28:23.190 --> 00:28:40.380

Mallory Koenings: to help get a really nice picture of GusNIP on the national level, identify best practices, and work hand-in-hand with NIFA and our partners at the Food and Nutrition Service to continually improve this program.

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00:28:40.890 --> 00:28:51.450

Mallory Koenings: What's also wonderful about this partnership through the Cooperative Agreements is that these data are available

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00:28:52.320 --> 00:29:01.590

Mallory Koenings: for the broader public. These core outcome measures that GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Grants and Produce Prescription Grants utilize

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00:29:02.010 --> 00:29:09.690

Mallory Koenings: are also publicly available, so any practitioners who are working in the nutrition incentive or produce prescription field

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00:29:10.050 --> 00:29:27.570

Mallory Koenings: may also want to take advantage of these data out there and be part of this community utilizing these measures to improve the evidence base of our programs can all really be part of this program. Thank you, Sheila, next slide please.

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00:29:28.710 --> 00:29:36.600

Mallory Koenings: I also want to take this opportunity to highlight for you today the Diet, Nutrition and Prevention of Chronic Diseases Program.

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00:29:37.230 --> 00:29:48.450

Mallory Koenings: So this program is part of the broader AFRI, or Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, portfolio. It's part of that

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00:29:49.110 --> 00:29:58.500

Mallory Koenings: Foundational and Applied Sciences RFA for those of you who are familiar with AFRI. This program is

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00:29:59.430 --> 00:30:11.580

Mallory Koenings: inviting projects that are integrated. You heard Director Castille talk about our research, education and extension focus that we have in NIFA.

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00:30:12.150 --> 00:30:25.050

Mallory Koenings: And integrated projects are those that address two out of those three functions of agriculture in their project design. So those are the types of projects that are provided by this program.

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00:30:25.500 --> 00:30:40.530

Mallory Koenings: This program supports not only standard grants but new investigator grants, seed grants (which are very much like pilot grants), as well as conference grants. Sheila, if you would go to the next slide please.

168

00:30:41.880 --> 00:30:49.560

Mallory Koenings: You'll see here what the program area priorities are for the Diet, Nutrition and Prevention of Chronic Diseases Program.

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00:30:50.340 --> 00:31:10.890

Mallory Koenings: I'll highlight for you sort of the breadth of the types of projects that have been funded in the past by this program. These include interventions of trials that are based in school food service looking at improving student health as well as the environmental health supports,

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00:31:12.150 --> 00:31:20.100

Mallory Koenings: DASH diet and physical activity intervention trials focusing on the prevention of hypertension in older adults,

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00:31:21.600 --> 00:31:30.030

Mallory Koenings: Trials that focus on preventing type two diabetes and food insecurity through specific interventions,

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00:31:31.050 --> 00:31:44.970

Mallory Koenings: maternal and childhood obesity prevention trials that look at outcomes starting in the third trimester of gestation through preschool age, as well as

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00:31:45.510 --> 00:32:03.870

Mallory Koenings: urban 4-H afterschool advanced cooking education programs. There is a great variety and a great breadth in the kind of science that we invite in the Diet, Nutrition and Prevention of Chronic Diseases Program.

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00:32:05.190 --> 00:32:18.150

Mallory Koenings: And it is now my pleasure to introduce you to my colleague Dr Lydia Kaume who will be speaking to you all about the Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program.

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00:32:22.920 --> 00:32:24.120

Lydia Kaume: Thank you, Mallory.

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00:32:26.490 --> 00:32:37.050

Lydia Kaume: Good afternoon, everybody, and thank you for joining us today. My name is Lydia and I'm a national program leader. I started with NIFA

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00:32:37.680 --> 00:32:50.520

Lydia Kaume: in March of this year, and my education and research background is in nutrition specifically focused on the role of dietary bioactive compounds in prevention and management of chronic diseases.

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00:32:51.210 --> 00:33:10.410

Lydia Kaume: And previous to this year in NIFA I had the opportunity to work in various positions in the broad nutrition field, and most recently with the Land Grant Universities and research, education and extension, extension being the last role that I held.

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00:33:12.360 --> 00:33:20.100

Lydia Kaume: I joined NIFA because it gives me an opportunity to work with researchers and people in community

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00:33:21.000 --> 00:33:28.320

Lydia Kaume: as well as stakeholders to make a difference in communities. That's always been my passion as it relates to nutrition,

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00:33:28.710 --> 00:33:35.160

Lydia Kaume: and nutritional program and the portfolio of NIFA allows that opportunity for me.

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00:33:35.610 --> 00:33:56.760

Lydia Kaume: One of the programs I currently support, and my passion aligns with is the Community Foods Project Competitive Grant Program and competitive grants for this project area is one that is critically important for reducing unprecedented rates of food insecurity among

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00:33:57.930 --> 00:34:01.740

Lydia Kaume: socially disadvantaged communities.

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00:34:03.150 --> 00:34:04.470

Lydia Kaume: Next slide please.

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00:34:07.530 --> 00:34:16.650

Lydia Kaume: Thank you, Sheila. So this week, CSP, which is the Community Food Project, celebrates 25 years of existence.

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00:34:17.220 --> 00:34:28.140

Lydia Kaume: Actually, we got this article by Mark Winne that was a community food activist and writer and trainer that has started an article featuring

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00:34:28.770 --> 00:34:39.030

Lydia Kaume: a project by Garden City Harvest in Montana. Garden City Harvest is one of those organizations that received one of the very first grants

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00:34:40.110 --> 00:34:51.660

Lydia Kaume: through the CFP program, and that program continues in the community in Montana and continues to fight food insecurity. I just like to highlight that and if you're interested, you could go to

189

00:34:52.320 --> 00:35:10.440

Lydia Kaume: markwinne.com and look at the article that celebrates 25 years of Community Food Projects in the in the country. So CFP is a program I want to just highlight some of the goals of the program so that you know.

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00:35:12.390 --> 00:35:22.110

Lydia Kaume: It is designed to increase food security in communities by bringing whole food systems together to assess strength,

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00:35:23.010 --> 00:35:35.340

Lydia Kaume: establish linkages and create sustainable systems that improve self-reliance of communities. That really actually is one of the things that really speaks to me and that

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00:35:36.240 --> 00:35:47.160

Lydia Kaume: is a good way to have sustainable food programs. So going through this slide, I'll just highlight some of those things that we look for

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00:35:47.880 --> 00:35:53.850

Lydia Kaume: for programs applications that are coming through. The goal is that it should be

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00:35:54.480 --> 00:36:03.900

Lydia Kaume: an application that looks at fighting food insecurity through developing or implementing community food projects that will help food sufficiency,

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00:36:04.260 --> 00:36:21.390

Lydia Kaume: and it's for low income communities or disadvantaged communities – socially disadvantaged communities, increase food security in communities by bringing the whole food system together, and creating food systems that improve self-reliance.

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00:36:23.070 --> 00:36:31.230

Lydia Kaume: The program also looks to meet food needs of individuals living under the federal poverty line through food distribution,

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00:36:32.160 --> 00:36:47.100

Lydia Kaume: outreach to increase participation in federally assisted nutrition programs or improve access to food. It also looks at creating community lead or local or neighborhood food and cultural programs.

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00:36:48.090 --> 00:36:58.500

Lydia Kaume: And an application can include equipment, as would be necessary to make a program efficient and operational. This year,

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00:36:59.730 --> 00:37:00.510

Lydia Kaume: we had, let's see.

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00:37:01.980 --> 00:37:15.000

Lydia Kaume: This year, the program received over 200 applications compared to 124 last year. We think this has been a result of a pandemic.

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00:37:20.280 --> 00:37:45.300

Lydia Kaume: This grant requires 100% match, and should not exceed \$400,000 in 48 months, and there is also a component of our planning grant which should not exceed \$35,000 and can be approved up to 36 months. Next up is Lisa and she will talk about our next program. Thank you.

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00:37:52.740 --> 00:38:04.410

Lisa Jahns: Thank you Lydia! I'd like to say good afternoon everyone again and thank you for the opportunity to talk about another of our exciting programs here at NIFA that focuses on nutrition security.

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00:38:05.610 --> 00:38:20.370

Lisa Jahns: I'm Lisa Jahns, a new NPL in the division of nutrition. Well, I still feel new. My background is in epidemiology and human trials, mostly focusing around characterizing and increasing vegetable and fruit consumption.

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00:38:21.780 --> 00:38:22.860

Lisa Jahns: Am I not on cam?

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00:38:26.610 --> 00:38:26.970

Lisa Jahns: Okay.

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00:38:28.680 --> 00:38:36.360

Lisa Jahns: And I'm going to talk a little today about our Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program, which is part of my portfolio here at NIFA.

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00:38:36.750 --> 00:38:47.130

Lisa Jahns: But first I'd like to tell you a little bit about why our focus on nutrition security is so personally salient to me, and the reason why I'm so excited about these programs that we have.

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00:38:47.550 --> 00:38:54.450

Lisa Jahns: You see, I spent some time homeless living off the street or in residential hotels and I ate at the local soup kitchen.

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00:38:54.870 --> 00:39:07.620

Lisa Jahns: Now, once a month, they would give out five pound blocks of cheese. I have nothing against cheese, but I had no way to store it after making a couple of sandwiches, so it really did not address my food security issues

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00:39:08.010 --> 00:39:16.530

Lisa Jahns: highlighting to me the importance of not just food availability to people, but also the means with which to prepare it as an aspect of nutrition security.

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00:39:17.400 --> 00:39:26.310

Lisa Jahns: The end of my story is that I found a local sandwich maker, who had purchased the cheese from me, so we did make good use of that donation and put it back into the local economy.

212

00:39:27.600 --> 00:39:38.640

Lisa Jahns: And although I know that many other recipients had to throw theirs out, and I believe that these experiences helped to shape my passion for nutrition security for all in the US. First slide, Sheila.

213

00:39:47.700 --> 00:39:48.240

Lisa Jahns: Thank you.

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00:39:49.530 --> 00:39:55.860

Lisa Jahns: So again, the Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program. The goal of this program is to increase the

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00:39:56.280 --> 00:40:02.820

Lisa Jahns: knowledge of agricultural science and improve the nutritional health of children K through 12. There's

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00:40:03.450 --> 00:40:25.380

Lisa Jahns: two aims under this goal. One is to improve leadership and knowledge among children about agricultural sciences, and the other is to improve the nutritional health of children by either improving school meals and lunches or improving access to school meals and lunches. Next slide please.

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00:40:28.020 --> 00:40:45.630

Lisa Jahns: So all projects must involve underserved rural and/or urban communities and facilitate a connection between elementary schools and secondary schools with agricultural producers in the local and regional area. So many times, we see projects where the older secondary

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00:40:47.010 --> 00:40:59.520

Lisa Jahns: students will learn some leadership skills, learn about nutrition and agriculture, and then be mentoring the younger kids as well. There are some pretty exciting leadership programs out there. Next slide please.

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00:41:03.900 --> 00:41:13.740

Lisa Jahns: So, by increasing the capacity for food garden and nutrition education within host organizations or entities, such as school cafeterias in classrooms,

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00:41:14.160 --> 00:41:24.570

Lisa Jahns: while fostering higher levels of community engagement between farms and school systems by bringing together stakeholders from distinct parts of the food system. Next slide please.

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00:41:29.700 --> 00:41:46.710

Lisa Jahns: This RFA is intended for eligible applicants to scale up or further develop existing farm to school initiatives and other food and agricultural experiential learning initiatives within a distinct area of communities and schools in a state or region. So these are community-based.

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00:41:47.940 --> 00:41:58.200

Lisa Jahns: There are lots of best practices used, but in a lot of cases, you have to go to your community and find out what their needs are, first. This is why these are smaller programs.

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00:41:58.950 --> 00:42:05.850

Lisa Jahns: The applicant should also add to the existing activities or include new activities such as training and technical assistance,

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00:42:06.240 --> 00:42:18.600

Lisa Jahns: evaluation activities, curriculum development, or incorporating farm to school strategies and trainings and professional opportunities, while working closely with agricultural producers.

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00:42:20.220 --> 00:42:42.450

Lisa Jahns: What we see is a lot of our grantees have had to pivot with their training and technical assistance programs from face-to-face to being web-based, and the COVID-19 pandemic has affected most of our grantees in this way. We're really proud that they've been able to

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00:42:43.470 --> 00:42:48.300

Lisa Jahns: adjust to these strange circumstances. Next slide please.

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00:42:50.580 --> 00:43:02.190

Lisa Jahns: Okay, some examples of our grantees are expanding farm to school programs beyond lunch to bring local products and to school breakfast program,

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00:43:03.180 --> 00:43:11.010

Lisa Jahns: again, providing technical support with webinars, developing promotional campaigns and supportive farm to school initiatives,

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00:43:11.610 --> 00:43:22.200

Lisa Jahns: establishing new or strengthening existing community partnerships, so working with different personnel at schools and in agriculture to identify appropriate suppliers,

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00:43:22.800 --> 00:43:30.540

Lisa Jahns: encouraging increased consumption of fruits and vegetables through promotional activities, taste tests, and other activities with kids,

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00:43:30.930 --> 00:43:38.580

Lisa Jahns: and expanding their experiential or agriculture based learning opportunities such as creating school gardens, farm to

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00:43:39.330 --> 00:43:52.980

Lisa Jahns: agriculture and food clubs or increasing exposure to on farm activities. So we see a lot of people who are creating this blend of bringing the kids to the farmers, but also the farmers to the kids.

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00:43:53.670 --> 00:44:03.810

Lisa Jahns: And also developing and evaluating integrated curriculum to reinforce food and nutrition based learning throughout the school environment. Next slide please.

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00:44:07.980 --> 00:44:17.400

Lisa Jahns: Now, the Food and Agriculture Service Learning Programs, each award is about \$225,000. There are no matching funds required in this case.

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00:44:17.820 --> 00:44:29.610

Lisa Jahns: Last year we had 53 applications and made five awards. Our funding rate was about 9% but that's because our budget was only appropriated at \$900,000.

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00:44:31.110 --> 00:44:40.710

Lisa Jahns: Here in FY2021, our budget is \$1.9 million so we'll be able to fund a good deal more projects and our applications rate for this year was 58.

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00:44:42.360 --> 00:44:45.150

Lisa Jahns: And now I'll turn it over to Giselle.

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00:44:47.100 --> 00:44:54.600

Giselle Caceres: Thank you so much, Dr Jahns. Hello everyone, my name is Giselle Caceres. I'm the public affairs intern in NIFA's Office of Communications.

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00:44:54.990 --> 00:45:03.540

Giselle Caceres: So, as we wrap up today, I just want to highlight a few takeaways that you can share when asked by neighbors, colleagues, or your kid about hunger in America.

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00:45:04.170 --> 00:45:10.740

Giselle Caceres: So you could share that far too many Americans face food insecurity, particularly socially disadvantaged populations.

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00:45:11.190 --> 00:45:15.450

Giselle Caceres: And that promoting nutrition security is a critical ingredient to building back better.

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00:45:15.990 --> 00:45:27.120

Giselle Caceres: And last but not least, that you are part of prioritizing nutrition security. So with the remaining time, we welcome questions and thoughts about NIFA's current effort to prioritize nutrition security.

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00:45:27.810 --> 00:45:36.360

Giselle Caceres: So now we'll dive into some Q and A, and so far we've had some really great questions so I'll invite our panelists to chime in and share their insights.

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00:45:38.370 --> 00:45:51.360

Giselle Caceres: So I'll go ahead and read some of the questions we have here, so the first one. We've talked a lot about GusNIP, so who exactly was or is Gus Schumacher? Sheila, do you want to take the lead on that one?

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00:45:52.680 --> 00:45:54.840

Sheila Fleischhacker: I'll let Mallory do that one as the program lead.

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00:45:59.250 --> 00:46:10.560

Mallory Koenings: Sure, so Gus Schumacher is no longer with us. He was a leader in the

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00:46:11.370 --> 00:46:31.800

Mallory Koenings: nutrition incentive field. He worked very closely with practitioners and establish the pilot program that preceded GusNIP, the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program. So when that program after being successful was reauthorized, it was renamed in his honor after his passing.

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00:46:33.420 --> 00:46:43.080

Sheila Fleischhacker: We got many attendees texting me and chatting that they're happy for that shout out, so he's missed, and we love to see his legacy moving forward. Giselle, you want to ask the next question.

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00:46:44.010 --> 00:46:54.960

Giselle Caceres: Sure, thank you Mallory. Alright, so the next question: does the Produce Prescription Grants have to be for a multi-state or regional partner, or could have food bank covering multiple counties apply?

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00:46:56.100 --> 00:47:10.440

Mallory Koenings: That's a great question, so the Produce Prescription Grant type within GusNIP does accept pilot projects as well as standard projects, so anyone working at that smaller scale

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00:47:11.190 --> 00:47:21.870

Mallory Koenings: just establishing a produce prescription program within a county or building up to that multi-county level is absolutely welcome to apply to the Produce Prescription Grant.

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00:47:26.430 --> 00:47:42.810

Giselle Caceres: Okay, thank you Mallory. Alright, so the next question: I'm a healthy food access food policy evaluator and I'm wondering, what is the best way for me to be in the loop when evaluation RFPs are issued?

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00:47:44.070 --> 00:47:55.170

Mallory Koenings: Yes, I'll take this one too. This is a great question, and the best way to always be in the loop is to go to grants.gov and register there for

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00:47:55.680 --> 00:48:07.320

Mallory Koenings: notifications that come from any federal agency that are focusing on evaluation, that are focusing on nutrition. You can enter whatever keywords you like. You could specifically

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00:48:07.620 --> 00:48:24.450

Mallory Koenings: look for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture programs that have been mentioned today, but my number one recommendation would be to set up exactly the search you want, exactly the alerts that you want to get as soon as something hits the presses in grants.gov.

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00:48:27.240 --> 00:48:41.340

Giselle Caceres: That's a great tip. Thank you so much, and we have been seeing a lot of questions about the recording. So a full recording will be posted to NIFA's YouTube channel, as well as on NIFA's website so if you don't know the website is nifa.usda.gov.

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00:48:43.020 --> 00:48:44.580

Giselle Caceres: And I'll go back to the chat box.

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00:48:45.630 --> 00:48:46.770

Giselle Caceres:

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00:48:47.190 --> 00:48:51.930

Sheila Fleischhacker: Giselle's being humble and not really introducing herself, but we've been really lucky to have her

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00:48:52.380 --> 00:49:00.000

Sheila Fleischhacker: with support from Faith Peppers, the Director of Office of Communication. Giselle's spending most of her spring and summer with us as a summer intern and really

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00:49:00.450 --> 00:49:06.150

Sheila Fleischhacker: having a nutrition background, helping our nutrition security team across a variety of things. So there'll be new websites in the works,

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00:49:06.630 --> 00:49:10.080

Sheila Fleischhacker: a variety of social media, some of it will be clipped from this webinar recording or

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00:49:10.800 --> 00:49:22.080

Sheila Fleischhacker: similar recordings of our staff, particularly our new director. So I am greatly appreciative of her for this summer and so, hopefully, on this launch we're working through Zoom technology stuff as we get started here at NIFA,

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00:49:22.470 --> 00:49:26.190

Sheila Fleischhacker: coming soon hopefully you'll see a variety of stuff about the nutrition security in the weeks to come.

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00:49:28.080 --> 00:49:43.830

Giselle Caceres: Thank you so much, Sheila, and I did see earlier you posted an answer to a question posed by a student in Master of Public Health program. So I'm definitely going to recommend that person to reach out to Sheila, she's a really great resource just for further in your career.

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00:49:44.580 --> 00:49:52.530

Sheila Fleischhacker: And our nutrition team. So as you see today really spotlighted all of our nutrition National Program Leaders and our EFNEP coordinator and Dr Cherry.

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00:49:53.070 --> 00:50:01.770

Sheila Fleischhacker: A part of what we do is help build the next generation of nutrition scientists and really all scientists and practitioners who are engaging in agricultural sciences.

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00:50:01.950 --> 00:50:06.420

Sheila Fleischhacker: So please feel free to reach out to me, I will connect you with a variety of educational support that

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00:50:07.050 --> 00:50:15.090

Sheila Fleischhacker: NIFA supports and broadly the federal government supports, including what I've highlighted was the healthy eating research which is a national program that Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

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00:50:15.480 --> 00:50:19.020

Sheila Fleischhacker: and also the CDC supported Nutrition and Obesity Policy Research and Evaluation Network.

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00:50:19.290 --> 00:50:27.000

Sheila Fleischhacker: NOPREN's students series. This is a series I helped create last year, this year. It's a nine series a nine week series throughout the summer.

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00:50:27.210 --> 00:50:33.870

Sheila Fleischhacker: And I think a great opportunity for those who are in an early stage of their career to get a sense of public health, nutrition, vocational opportunities.

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00:50:34.260 --> 00:50:41.670

Sheila Fleischhacker: So feel free to email me and I'll make sure you get the registration link, but really do put that in as a plus for early stage career folks.

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00:50:43.980 --> 00:50:45.090

Giselle Caceres: Yes, highly recommended.

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00:50:45.150 --> 00:50:51.600

Giselle Caceres: Okay, so for the next question for the Diet, Nutrition, and Prevention of Chronic Disease program area.

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00:50:52.050 --> 00:51:04.050

Giselle Caceres: Is there a directory of projects and/or results of the projects publicly available? And are there any ways in which it coordinates with the CDC, HRSA, or NIH nutrition or dietary research?

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00:51:04.620 --> 00:51:12.870

Giselle Caceres: So perhaps each has a complimentary or do they share intelligence databases or research results? I'll open the floor for any of our panelists.

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00:51:14.880 --> 00:51:34.350

Mallory Koenings: So this is Mallory. I'll go ahead and share that yes, there absolutely is a publicly available database of funded projects, and what that is called is the Current Research Information System. You might hear NIFA staff call it CRIS for short.

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00:51:34.860 --> 00:51:54.090

Mallory Koenings: It's linked on our website that provides information on all of the projects that NIFA has funded as well as the annual progress reports on their outcomes, publications, accomplishments, and impacts.

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00:51:58.050 --> 00:51:59.790

Giselle Caceres: Okay, anybody else want to add to that?

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00:52:03.810 --> 00:52:15.540

Giselle Caceres: Okay all right, and then the next question, let's see. So is there a list available of the upcoming presentations in this monthly series? So this is the first installment of the series.

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00:52:16.230 --> 00:52:23.370

Sheila Fleischhacker: Yes, part of our goal with launching this series was to model the NIFA Institute for Food Safety and Nutrition, which Mallory and many of our

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00:52:24.000 --> 00:52:27.840

Sheila Fleischhacker: NIFA staff work really intimately on, so we want to use that model of a monthly series.

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00:52:28.080 --> 00:52:36.510

Sheila Fleischhacker: So we'll likely have a second series late July. We wanted to figure out if this time or another modification of a late afternoon time works for kind of national

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00:52:36.750 --> 00:52:43.380

Sheila Fleischhacker: time sensitivity. So we're looking at late July, for our second of the series. We have mapped out about 10 different webinars

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00:52:43.860 --> 00:52:47.310

Sheila Fleischhacker: for this coming year and so based on popular demand if that works

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00:52:47.730 --> 00:52:55.470

Sheila Fleischhacker: we'll continue with that, but it will be deep dives initially with our programs just getting to know our program staffs and our programs and how they're relevant to nutrition security.

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00:52:55.710 --> 00:53:00.930

Sheila Fleischhacker: And then also thinking through you know these more deeper dive and pressing issues like climate change and

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00:53:01.440 --> 00:53:15.450

Sheila Fleischhacker: nutrition and how best we can learn from thought leaders and other federal agencies about how best to tackle these issues. So do be looking forward to more save the dates and we hope to continue to record keep all the recordings so you can see them archived as well.

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00:53:18.240 --> 00:53:21.720

Giselle Caceres: Okay, and we'll keep going through questions, so the next one.

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00:53:22.260 --> 00:53:29.520

Giselle Caceres: So I think this is something that a lot of people encounter. So applying for these federal grants took so much time, energy and confusion.

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00:53:29.910 --> 00:53:42.150

Giselle Caceres: And this comes from a multi-agency and organization team whose members all had graduate degrees in various fields. So what is being done to make applications more equitable for organizations of all sizes and background.

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00:53:46.380 --> 00:53:53.310

Sheila Fleischhacker: This is a big thing we've heard just even launching the nutrition security team when we thought through kind of budget asks that we could ask for

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00:53:54.870 --> 00:54:01.290

Sheila Fleischhacker: first FY 2021 and now FY 2022, is this idea of how do we make our programs more approachable?

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00:54:01.680 --> 00:54:08.220

Sheila Fleischhacker: So we have a variety efforts across NIFA that are working on how-to videos both to how to apply to grant and also how to administer grants.

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00:54:08.790 --> 00:54:14.490

Sheila Fleischhacker: We're also thinking through, and Mallory I hope will expand next, I'm kind of thinking through match requirements and ways that we could

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00:54:14.880 --> 00:54:22.740

Sheila Fleischhacker: potentially make these programs more approachable to folks. Some of these things we could do, some of these things are outside of NIFA control and would be a congressional

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00:54:23.190 --> 00:54:30.960

Sheila Fleischhacker: change, but they are definitely areas that we're thinking through in terms of making our programs more accessible, particularly with that diversity equity inclusion lens.

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00:54:34.470 --> 00:54:36.030

Helen Chipman: If I could speak up as well.

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00:54:37.800 --> 00:54:44.220

Helen Chipman: I think, several things are going on here. One is absolutely we're looking at how can we better.

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00:54:45.840 --> 00:54:55.110

Helen Chipman: communicate within our RFAs. So part of it is you know that that the plain language: the simpler, the cleaner. We're taking a very

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00:54:55.590 --> 00:55:07.200

Helen Chipman: hard look at our RFAs to make sure that anybody who wants to apply, it's going to make sense to them as are they eligible, what are the requirements, what is the scope, some of those things.

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00:55:07.950 --> 00:55:17.520

Helen Chipman: Additionally, I would not be discouraged, if you don't find that you get funded right away. These are incredibly competitive grants, based on the amount of funding that we receive.

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00:55:18.690 --> 00:55:32.640

Helen Chipman: And, as Sheila said a moment ago, you know we're lifting up and and throughout the country we're seeing this, the importance of this work, but as well if

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00:55:33.960 --> 00:55:45.510

Helen Chipman: it's a tough one to necessarily get an award always in the first round, and so just not be discouraged. Keep trying, work with us. There are efforts to improve.

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00:55:47.010 --> 00:55:57.930

Helen Chipman: One thing I run into, I oversee several competitive awards, and I find that there's differences among potential grantees in terms of their understanding how to even write a grant and

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00:55:58.980 --> 00:56:03.480

Helen Chipman: certain types of grants and so we're working on that and as well that kind of technical assistance.

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00:56:05.370 --> 00:56:18.360

Mallory Koenings: I'll follow up what Helen said and reiterate that, if it happens to be the Gus Schumacher nutrition incentive program that you're interested in,

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00:56:19.080 --> 00:56:34.500

Mallory Koenings: in addition to the resources you have in the NIFA staff wall of the funding opportunity, it is open to ask the questions that you have, in addition to grants.gov and their help desk their resources.

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00:56:35.310 --> 00:56:51.210

Mallory Koenings: There is also that technical assistance Center that can provide another level of support, of resources in navigating these applications.

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00:56:56.040 --> 00:57:08.640

Giselle Caceres: Okay Thank you so much. Alright, so the next question so someone noted that funding in isolated communities, states, and territories are really limited, so how does NIFA address that.

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00:57:11.460 --> 00:57:15.420

Helen Chipman: Again, NIFA is really looking closely at

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00:57:17.670 --> 00:57:22.830

Helen Chipman: these socially disadvantaged communities, if you will, and we're

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00:57:23.370 --> 00:57:32.790

Helen Chipman: using that lens in terms of our next round of RFAs, how can we do that better. We've actually already been doing that, to some degree.

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00:57:33.450 --> 00:57:40.350

Helen Chipman: I oversee another program area, Food Safety Outreach Program, and have already been built into ways to incentivize

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00:57:41.010 --> 00:57:56.610

Helen Chipman: reaching out to certain communities, based on what again the funding allows, what the legislation supports, and so there are ways in some cases of doing that. We do have some examples models and we are seeing some success, but it's not

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00:57:58.050 --> 00:58:06.450

Helen Chipman: going to happen in a day, these changes that we're making. It's just that we need to continue and have a very concerted effort, because we know that there is this need that is being lifted up.

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00:58:10.890 --> 00:58:17.190

Giselle Caceres: Okay, thank you, Dr Chipman. All right and do we have time for one more question? We do, okay so let's see.

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00:58:18.120 --> 00:58:37.110

Giselle Caceres: Okay, and this is a Mallory question. So for GusNIP, what is the thinking about the results of building an evidence base on incentives for FV? So is that grocers or suppliers that would build such promotion or price reductions into their ongoing marketing of selected healthy food.

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00:58:39.270 --> 00:58:45.060

Mallory Koenings: Sure, if I understand the question, I think I want to first

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00:58:46.140 --> 00:58:54.930

Mallory Koenings: clarify what we mean in the context of the government program when we use the word incentive.

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00:58:55.650 --> 00:59:14.280

Mallory Koenings: We actually mean a fiduciary incentive, so providing an immediate financial discount or providing, once a purchase is completed, additional financial funding. So you spend \$2 you get \$4 to

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00:59:14.850 --> 00:59:30.930

Mallory Koenings: use to purchase fruits and vegetables. So that's the kind of way that incentive is defined specifically in that program. But also getting to the core of your question about grocery stores as an example. One of the

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00:59:32.340 --> 00:59:39.480

Mallory Koenings: services provided by the GusNIP NTAE, that technical assistance and evaluation Center,

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00:59:40.050 --> 00:59:51.390

Mallory Koenings: is building communities of practice around specific interests in nutrition incentive and produce prescription plants, and so there is one community of practice that specifically focuses

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00:59:51.690 --> 01:00:02.940

Mallory Koenings: on brick and mortar retailers like grocery stores, corner stores, convenience stores and what kinds of best promotional and marketing practices there are around for.

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01:00:03.630 --> 01:00:13.470

Mallory Koenings: these types of nutrition incentive programs, as well as I'm sure you know, interest from those communities on best practices as a whole.

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01:00:16.470 --> 01:00:19.290

Giselle Caceres: Thank you Dr. Koenings. I'm sorry go ahead Sheila.

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01:00:19.830 --> 01:00:20.370

Sheila Fleischhacker: No finish up.

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01:00:22.380 --> 01:00:26.490

Giselle Caceres: I was actually going to hand it back over to you just for the closing remarks. Thank you all for your question.

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01:00:27.210 --> 01:00:31.920

Sheila Fleischhacker: Well, thank you guys for attending our first launch of this new nutrition security series.

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01:00:32.190 --> 01:00:42.180

Sheila Fleischhacker: We will be in touch with the recording, the slides, and hopefully follow up with a variety of questions that came in, so please be on the lookout for our social media and websites to respond to the

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01:00:42.570 --> 01:00:48.930

Sheila Fleischhacker: remaining questions, and also to the remaining information for continuing education credit from the Commission on Dietetics.

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01:00:49.530 --> 01:00:59.760

Sheila Fleischhacker: We look forward and welcome feedback so feel free to reach out to me if you have feedback on the webinar series or thoughts. We welcome them as we shape future additions and really

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01:01:00.300 --> 01:01:06.810

Sheila Fleischhacker: As we said in the take home, we really do see each of you as a key part to prioritizing nutrition security, so please

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01:01:07.140 --> 01:01:13.320

Sheila Fleischhacker: let us know how best to lift up your talents and efforts in this area, and hopefully NIFA can support that.

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01:01:13.650 --> 01:01:17.940

Sheila Fleischhacker: So I greatly appreciate the support we had from Office of Communications, Faith Peppers and Giselle,

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01:01:18.390 --> 01:01:28.920

Sheila Fleischhacker: for helping us launch this series and our wonderful panelists, including our director Dr Castille for helping us launch today. So thank you again for joining us and feel free to reach out if you have any remaining questions.

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01:01:30.360 --> 01:01:31.320

Mallory Koenings: Thank you all so much.

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01:01:32.970 --> 01:01:33.720

Giselle Caceres: Thank you everyone.

