



## September 2019 update

**New staff:** The Minnesota Department of Human Services Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training team has grown to include two new members. The department welcomes Anastasia Polda as the SNAP Employment and Training supervisor and Nana Boaten as a program specialist for both the SNAP Employment and Training and the SNAP Outreach programs.

**Food and Nutrition Services regional meeting:** State SNAP Employment and Training staff, as well as representatives from Hennepin County, Better Futures Minnesota and the American Indian Opportunities Industrialization Center, attended the Food and Nutrition Service regional meeting on July 30 and 31. The meeting focused on sharing best practices with other Midwest states, and Minnesota had the opportunity to present its work at five workshops over the two days.

**Provider meeting:** The second annual SNAP Employment and Training provider meeting took place Aug. 21 at Como Zoo Conservatory and Event Center, and consisted of state staff, county staff and contracted providers. The meeting included presentations from Ray Prendergast, Food and Nutrition Service analyst for the Midwest, and Liz Jennings, a workforce strategy consultant with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

**State institute:** Five staff from the Minnesota Department of Human Services and Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development will attend the fall 2019 SNAP E&T State Institute from Sept. 10 to Sept. 12. The fall session is titled ["Improving Outcomes with Work- and Skills-Based SNAP E&T Strategies."](#)

**Minnesota's SNAP Employment and Training state plan:** On Aug. 14, the Minnesota Department of Human Services submitted to Food and Nutrition Service its SNAP Employment and Training state plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2020. The plan is being reviewed by Food and Nutrition Service staff and follow-up is being completed.