**Logic Model: Northeast Regional Nutrition Education Center of Excellence: Building evidence and taking action in communities**

**Situation:** The goal of the Center is to expand the evidence base that supports effective nutrition education of diverse low-income participants delivered in conjunction with policy, systems and environmental (PSE) approaches that make healthy choices easy choices.

**Inputs**
- NIFA/USDA RNECE funding
- NIFA/USDA RNECE technical support
- RNECE National Coordination Center technical support
- Faculty & academic staff. Nutritional Sciences, Cornell with experience nutrition education + PSEs
- Communications specialist
- Evaluation specialist
- Steering Committee members: EFNEP, SNAP-Ed, research
- Research Advisory Committee members
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee members
- Cornell University Sponsored Funds Accounting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Participation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Build partnerships of researchers &amp; implementers</td>
<td>NE regional EFNEP SNAP-Ed leaders/ implementers</td>
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<td>Manage resources effectively</td>
<td>Research &amp; extension faculty from 21 NE universities</td>
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<td>Establish/maintain information networks</td>
<td>Other partners – public health, food pantries, foundations, non-profits working in nutrition education for low-income participants</td>
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<td>Evaluate existing information via environmental scan &amp; needs assessment</td>
<td>eXtension Community Nutrition Professionals CoP</td>
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<td>Conduct systematic review of research</td>
<td>RNECE National Coordinating Center</td>
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<td>Develop/foster sustainable signature research on diet quality/physical activity/food resource management: direct education + PSEs</td>
<td>Sub-award applicants/recipients</td>
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<td>Develop/administer sub-award process</td>
<td>Program participants</td>
<td>Program participants</td>
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<td>Generate research/ best practices</td>
<td>Policy experts</td>
<td>Policy experts</td>
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<td>Collaborate with national RNECE</td>
<td>Government officials</td>
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<td>Monitor/evaluate res projects</td>
<td>Evaluate Center</td>
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**Short term - Knowledge Change**
- All EFNEP/ SNAP-Ed implementers/ partners affiliates of Center; new partnerships formed
- Emergent & practice-based evidence synthesized
- Research needs prioritized
- Signature Research Program & sub-awards developed/ implemented with open, fair sub-award process
- Center materials on website & social media
- Systematic review & other current research & methods published on website
- New engagement of scientific/ extension/ health experts in addressing needs of low-income communities
- Training/support on PSE use available

**Outcomes – Impact**
- Strong collaboration of implementers, partners & diverse researchers
- NE region local/state collaborations using the Center model
- New evidence-based interventions with PSE approaches
- Research results assessing medium/long term impacts disseminated
- Up-to-date information on current efforts, research results, prof development & best practices disseminated
- Improved food resource management, nutrition & physical activity behaviors in low-income populations
- PSE changes support healthful nutrition & physical activity

**Long term - Condition Change**
- Center recognized for research relevant & applicable to programming
- Expanded evidence base for effective interventions
- Engaged network of professionals to address emergent needs/identify & capitalize on opportunities/deliver effective programs
- Improved quality of nutrition education & obesity prevention interventions
- Increased access to & use of healthful food/activity among regional low-income population
- Improved health of low-income families and communities

**Assumptions**
- Food/physical activity behaviors significantly impact health;
- Evidence-based research improves programs/behaviors/PSEs; Short-term interventions can have longer-term impact; Regional approach key to strong national programs/improved local interventions

**External Factors**
- Congressional funding; Stakeholder input; Emergence of new foods and technologies; Escalating food costs; Changing food and physical activity practices and environments