



SPINE Scoop | February 2023

Welcome to the SPINE Scoop!

The purpose of this communication is to provide State Partnerships Improving Nutrition & Equity (SPINE) States with regular program updates related to grants administration, evaluation, technical assistance and training, upcoming meetings and events, and other relevant information.

For consistency, the SPINE Scoop will typically be sent the first Monday of each month to streamline the number of emails sent to SPINE state leads; however, time-sensitive and urgent information will be communicated, as needed. We encourage you to share this with your state team members as well.

Please note all links, dates, and resources can also be found on the [SPINE State Internal Hub Webpage](#).

Upcoming SPINE Training & Technical Assistance Opportunities

- **February 8, 2023:** SPINE Special Topic Learning Opportunity: Cultural Competence and Cultural Humility in Nutrition Interventions, 2:00-3:30 PM ET. At least one representative from each state is **required** to attend. [Register now](#).
- **February 15-22, 2023:** 1:1 Support Calls with Individual States. Please refer to the calendar invite for your state's date/time and Zoom meeting details.
- **February 21, 2023:** SPINE Monthly Update Call, 3:00-4:00 PM ET. At least one representative from each state is **required** to attend. [Zoom Meeting Link](#). Zoom Meeting ID: 867 5536 7312.

Non-SPINE Training and Technical Assistance Opportunities

Conferences

- [APHA Annual Meeting](#), Atlanta, GA, November 12-15, 2023. The American Public Health Association is now accepting abstract submissions for oral and poster presentations for the annual meeting. Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts on the meeting theme, Creating the Healthiest Nation: Overcoming Social and Ethical Challenges, and current and emerging public health issues. The abstract submission deadline is March 31, 2023 at 11:59 PM PT. [More info](#).
- [Art and Science of Health Promotion Conference](#), Colorado Springs, CO, March 27-31, 2023. The Wisdom of Rethinking: Promoting & Practicing Intellectual Humility to Advance Health & Well-Being. [More info](#).

Webinars & Meetings

- **2025 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee Meeting.** February 9, 2023, 9:00 AM ET. The meeting will include: a review of operations for the Committee members, an overview of the proposed scientific questions identified to be examined by the Committee, presentations on the evidence-based approaches for reviewing the scientific evidence; and plans for future Committee work. [Register now.](#)
- **A Conversation on Hunger, Nutrition & Equity in America** (prerecorded). Healthy Eating Research (HER) partnered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for a conversation to discuss the importance of those eligible for food assistance programs applying and getting access to vital resources. [Access the recording.](#)
- **Breastfeeding Grand Rounds (prerecorded):** Addressing Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Breastfeeding Through Community and Hospital-Based Approaches recording is now available. This webcast summarizes trends in disparities in breastfeeding measures, identifies contributing factors, describes successful initiatives to increase breastfeeding and reducing disparities, and discusses examples of steps being taken to implement these strategies in New York. [Access the recording.](#)
- **NACDD General Member Webinar.** February 9, 2023, 3:00-4:00 PM ET. Why Psoriasis is Important for Public Health. Through this webinar, public health professionals will gain an understanding of psoriasis as a chronic immune-mediated systemic inflammatory disease and why psoriasis is important for public health. [Register now.](#)
- **Systems for Action Webinar.** February 22, 2023, 10:00 AM MT. This study, funded as part of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Systems for Action research program, investigates whether a novel type of social bond can pool resources across multiple competing health plans and create stable, long-term financing for interventions that address social determinants of health. [Register now.](#)

Resources Pertinent to the SPINE Program

Food and Nutrition Security

- [Conversations on Food Justice](#)
- [Food Insecurity Trajectories in the US During the First Year of the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Local Policy to Promote Healthy Food Access: A Food Systems Framework](#)

Health Equity

- [Exploring the Role and Resilience of Navajo Nation Stories during COVID-19 \(podcast\)](#)

Breastfeeding

- [Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care Assessment Tool](#)

Funding Opportunities

- [Healthy Eating Research](#) call for proposals. This award aims to fund research on supportive family policies and programs that have strong potential to impact equitable access to nutritious food in communities, nutrition security, diet quality, and improved nutrition and health outcomes. Concept papers due by April 5, 2023. [Apply here.](#)

- [Nutrition Incentive Program Training, Technical Assistance, Evaluation, and Information Center](#) had made available grants between \$5,000 and \$25,000 each for capacity building support to organizations who have not yet applied to or not yet successfully been awarded a [Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program \(GusNIP\)](#) or Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) award. Applications are due February 13, 2023. [Apply here](#).
- [WIC Community Innovation and Outreach](#) (WIC CIAO) Project Team is pleased to make available funding through a Request for Application to WIC State and local agencies, including Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs), and nonprofit entities and organizations to develop, implement, and evaluate innovative outreach strategies to increase WIC awareness, participation, benefit redemption, and reduce disparities in program delivery. Up to \$10 million will be available under this WIC CIAO Subgrant RFA. Submit a [letter of intent](#) by February 9. Applications are due March 23, 2023. [Apply here](#).

Other Resources

- [DNPAO NOFO \(SPAN, HOP, REACH\) Helpful Information](#). The Association of State Public Health Nutritionists has a webpage with helpful information for organizations interested in applying for DNPAO's expected SPAN, HOP or REACH 2023 funding opportunities.
- [NACDD Gear Groups](#). Registration is open for three Spring 2023 GEAR Groups. GEAR Groups are an NACDD distance-based, peer-to-peer, professional development offering. They are short-term opportunities held periodically to catalyze planning for longer-term state level action. The foci of the groups being held this Spring will be: Engaging Policymakers and Legislators on Public Health Priorities, Leveraging New Technology to Advance Chronic Disease Programming and Exploring Upstream Strategies to Advance Rural Health. Registration closes on February 21, 2023. [Register here](#).

Please [visit the resource page](#) on the [SPINE Internal Hub](#) for more food and nutrition security, health equity, and breastfeeding resources. Also, remember that you can [submit questions anonymously](#) before SPINE T/TA opportunities (i.e., Special Topic Learning Opportunity, Peer Exchange, Office Hour, & Monthly Update meeting).

Questions? Have a resource to share? Contact [Patrilie Hernandez](#) and [Charita James](#).