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NACo Human Services and Education Steering Committee:

Questions and recommendations for federal agency partners

***U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF)***

1. How can HHS ACF better engage with counties prior to implementing federal programs?
2. In states where human services programs are county-administered, what does the process and structure look like when it comes to counties working with the state? What are the barriers?
3. Are there certain partnerships between state and local governments (or non-profit and private sectors) that are the most effective when it comes to the administration and funding of these programs and services?
4. How can ACF’s Office of Child Care (OCC) coach states that would help them work more effectively with counties?
5. What are some of the best practices or notable programs in your county when it comes to strengthening early childhood development? Or best practices for quality child care?
6. What questions would you like HHS ACF to answer? Please list your questions in the space provided below.

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NACo Human Services and Education Steering Committee:

Questions and recommendations for federal agency partners

***U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)***

1. How can USDA FNS better engage with counties both prior to and during the implementation of SNAP or other nutrition assistance programs?
2. What do you think the current strengths of SNAP are? Should they consistent as Congress works towards farm bill reauthorization?
3. As discussed during our HSE Meeting at the NACo Annual Conference, USDA FNS’ relationship is with the state and therefore sometimes lacks the county perspective. That being said, can you provide concrete recommendations or examples of how USDA FNS may require states to engage and work more effectively with counties?
4. If you reside in a state where federal human services programs and services are state-administered, what are some of the challenges you experience?
5. What are some of the success stories as well as the challenges counties face in helping SNAP recipients get back to work? How do SNAP Employment & Training (SNAP E&T) programs work in counties (e.g. county relationship with American Job Centers)?

* *Success stories:*
* *Challenges:*

1. Please provide an example/best practice that demonstrates a state and county working together successfully to implement or provide SNAP services. **USDA FNS would like to highlight these best practices to other states to promote increased coordination between states and counties.**
2. What questions do you have for USDA FNS? Please list your questions in the space provided below.