



COUNTY BOARD ADDENDUM

County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois
Thursday, December 18, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.

Shields-Carter Meeting Room
Bennett Administrative Center
102 East Main Street, Urbana, Illinois

Agenda Items

Page #'s

XVI. Other Business

- A. American Rescue Plan Act
2. Approval of funding request from the University of Illinois Extension Office for the SNAP-Ed Program in FY2026

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University of Illinois Extension

Serving Champaign, Ford, Iroquois and Vermilion Counties
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Stephanie Fortado
Champaign County Board
fortadoccb@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Fortado:

Thank you again for your time and for the County Board's concern regarding the elimination of the SNAP-Education Program (SNAP-Ed). I am grateful for the thoughtful conversation with you and Director of Administration at Champaign, Michelle Jett.

The potential loss of this program is more than just a funding issue; it represents a loss of vital support for families and social service agencies in Champaign County, who rely on SNAP-Ed to build healthier futures. Without this program, many of our most vulnerable neighbors, children, seniors, and working families will be left without the tools and resources they depend on to put nutritious food on the table.

The federal funding cuts, totaling \$785,000 and ending in February 2026, also mean the loss of dedicated staff positions in Champaign County. These educators build trusted relationships with families, teach in our schools, and support local food pantries and health partners. Preserving these jobs not only protects the livelihood of local employees but also ensures that their skills and commitment continue serving our community rather than being lost to budget cuts.

We are actively seeking long-term partnerships and creative funding solutions, but in the immediate future, we urgently need local support to bridge the gap. We respectfully request consideration of \$125,000 to allow Extension to continue providing critical services and to preserve local jobs while we work toward sustainable alternatives. Each local dollar provided is amplified by an 85% state match, multiplying the impact of your investment in families and workers in Champaign County.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ginger M. Boas'.

GINGER BOAS

County Extension Director

Illinois Extension serving Champaign, Ford, Iroquois & Vermilion Counties
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
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Proposed Budget

Budget Item		Total Cost
Salaries-/ Benefit Cost- 1-2 Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	These positions would work identify gaps in services, work with partners engaged in food access and education to prioritize community needs and leverage community resources to improve access to safe and healthy food.	\$95,000
Mileage	Partnerships and programming efforts targeting Champaign, Rantoul and rural communities throughout Champaign County.	\$5,000
Supplies / Equipment		\$8,000
Space		\$17,000
TOTAL		\$125,000
State Matching*	Local funds may be matched at ~85%	\$100,000

Goals:

1. Continue to provide opportunities to promote healthy families, health equity and family resiliency by maintaining and improving education and learning partnerships.
2. Work with Champaign County coalitions and partners to identify needs for families in areas of health and food accessibility.
3. Develop action plans to improve the health and wellbeing of Champaign County residents.