The SNAP BPRO Committee meet virtually on December 8 2020, 80+ members attended the meeting. Lakeisha Churchill- presented at the meeting with the following updates and information:

* The Restaurant Meal Program is coming in 2021; this is for a limited population (homeless, elderly, and disabled). At this, time unable to announce the vendor. Triggers sent over from information in VaCMS to EPPIC EBT. Customers will not need a new EBT card to use for the restaurant meal program.
* The SNAP unit is looking at an elderly simplified application process; this is for applicants age 60 and older; with no earned income. Interviews required with applications and renewals, no IR for these households. Three-year certification period. Not all the details are finalized; more information to follow once everything is finalized
* SNAP Interview Waiver applies to all applications, reapplications and recertification’s. Agencies must opt into this if they are interested, the waiver ends January 31, 2021. Document interview waived, if you call to clarify or ask questions for unanswered questions document.
* The SNAP unit is requesting every month for the Emergency Allotments, issuance scheduled for December 16 2020 for December benefits. The state makes the request to FNS for approval of the emergency allotments the state plans to request every month as long as the pandemic continues.
* Once the pandemic is over, Work Requirement will stay the way that is currently until we hear from FNS on how to proceed with incorporating it back into the requirement.
* Payment error rate 10.52%, CAPER 34.65% (FFY 2019).
* Payment error thru February 10.64%, CAPER 40.74% (FFY 2020)
* Big 20 meetings have resumed quarterly.
* Error Reduction Initiatives: reformatting the SNAP FUSION page, BPRO workshops scheduled to be offered to benefit staff January-April 2021 virtually, updating reference guides and tools, targeted case readings, working with QC to collaborate in presenting with Regional Engagement meetings. Tentative kick-off is March 2021
* Workshops offered- application processing, IR –Seen in a new perspective, SNAP revision-Re-look at Renewals, Correcting your Eyesight on Timeliness for SNAP, Case documentation
* If your agency is open then customers can pick up EBT vault cards in the agency
* No updates on P-EBT

Committee meetings for 2021: March 9, June 8, September 14, and December 7. All the meetings will be held at 10am.

If you have any workshops that you would like to have for the spring BPRO conference please email or call Carolyn Harlow.