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The Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior Announces Leslie Cunningham-Sabo, PhD, RDN as the 2018 Nutrition Education Research Award Recipient

The Nutrition Education Award is given annually to a member of the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB) who conducts extensive research with a significant contribution to the field of nutrition education. Leslie Cunningham-Sabo, PhD, RDN more than fits these qualifications and has been an active member of SNEB for since 1992, making her a worthy recipient of this honor.

SNEB applauds Cunningham-Sabo's cutting-edge approach to nutrition research and public health needs. She has conducted many studies and research projects, but her work in cooking intervention research is particularly impressive. One of Cunningham-Sabo's many successful projects is the Fuel for Fun: Cooking with Kids Plus Parents and Play initiative. The project received \$2.5 million in USDA funding to study and improve the pattern of health found in the classroom. Cunningham-Sabo led this school program which include cooking lessons, Sports, Play and Active Recreation for Kids (SPARK) active recess, initiatives in the cafeteria, an online health resource for parents and family events on and off the school campus. This program impacted change in healthy eating habits, starting with the school and students, and worked its way to the family and home setting.

Cunningham-Sabo earned her bachelor's degree in Medical Anthropology at Michigan State University before earning her master's in Human Nutrition at the University of Arizona and her doctorate in Health Education at the University of New Mexico. After earning her MS, Cunningham-Sabo went on to complete a dietetic internship at the University of Arizona. She then relocated to work at the Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of New Mexico. Her first position here was as a research scientist before earning her PhD and the title of Research Assistant Professor.

For the past 11 years, Cunningham-Sabo has been a faculty member in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at Colorado State University. She also serves as Director of the Coordinated Master's Program Dietetics and an Affiliate Associate Professor for the Department of Community and Behavioral Health at the Colorado School of Public Health.

Cunningham-Sabo is highly regarded as having impeccable research standards and studies in cooking interventions. She has gained an international reputation, including collaborating with European colleagues to organize two recent Cook and Health conferences and conduct several systematic reviews to determine the impact of cooking interventions on diet quality and other health outcomes for both adults and youth. Over the course of her career, Cunningham-Sabo has received over \$5 million in competitive funding awards. Additionally, she has authored 43 articles throughout her career, being published by The Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior, BMC

Public Health, Health Behavior and Policy Review, the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Journal of Maternal and Child Health, American Journal of Preventative Medicine, and the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.

ABOUT THE SOCIETY FOR NUTRITION EDUCATION AND BEHAVIOR

The Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior is an international organization of nutrition education professionals who are dedicated to promoting effective nutrition education and healthy behavior through research, policy and practice with a vision of healthy communities, food systems and behaviors. To learn more, visit www.sneb.org.