



UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

APR 2 1973

Mr. Edwin L. Kirby, Administrator  
Extension Service  
Department of Agriculture



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Dear Mr. Kirby:

We have completed our survey of the effectiveness and administration of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) authorized by section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 343(d)).

On February 13, 1973, we discussed with you and members of your staff our findings concerning the need to ensure that program funds are spent for activities related to nutrition and the need for more effective monitoring and program review procedures by the Extension Service.

On February 23, 1973, you sent a letter to State Extension Directors outlining our findings and recommending the following procedures to assure that EFNEP funds were being expended in accordance with the intent for which they were appropriated:

- Each State Extension Director initiate an immediate review of the use of EFNEP funds and make any appropriate adjustments in accounts;
- Discuss the use of EFNEP funds at regional meetings of State Extension Directors;
- Each Extension region hold a regional meeting attended by the State Director of Extension, State leader of home economics, State leader of 4-H, and the State EFNEP coordinator, to discuss conditions under which EFNEP funds may be used.

We believe that these actions, if implemented, will result in more effective administration of the program and in more efficient use of EFNEP funds. As discussed with you, however, we believe that, rather than visiting States primarily at their request,

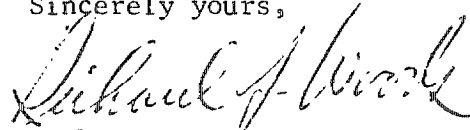
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the Extension Service should revise its program monitoring and review procedures to provide for reviews of EFNEP operations and program effectiveness in the States on a periodic and systematic basis. We believe that such reviews would help ensure that State and local Extension personnel and program aides focus their attention and efforts on EFNEP's nutrition objective.

Although we plan no further review of the program at this time, we would appreciate your advice as to the actions taken as a result of your February 23 letter to the State Extension Directors and the actions taken or planned to improve program monitoring and review procedures.

We wish to acknowledge the cooperation extended to our representatives during the survey. A copy of this letter is being furnished to the Inspector General, Department of Agriculture.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard J. Woods".

Richard J. Woods  
Assistant Director