# **“Stories for Better Health” Booth Logistics**

# The *Stories for Better Health Booth* will provide participants with an avenue to share their personal story on diet, nutrition, and/or health. Our vision is to collect personal stories as a source of lived experience for researchers, community organizers, and the public for the benefit of the larger community.

# Description of Booth Set-Up:

* Table with Writing Prompts, Pens, and Media Releases
* 2-3 Chairs if Participants are waiting and/or want to write the story at the table
* ASCEND Cloth Background to hang on wall for photo/video back-drop

# Description of Booth Activities:

1. Welcome to Booth! Explain the options for the story collection and how you can help them to review/prep their story.
2. Have participants sign media release. On media release form give them an ID number to correlate with a number in an Excel spreadsheet to catalog the story with the release. This code can also be placed on the written story if collected.
3. Writing/Finalizing Story
   1. Participants will be given a written prompt handout, which will be introduced early in the agenda, so that they can ‘write’ their story throughout the day.
   2. Once they arrive at the booth, the individuals operating the booth will ask participants to share their ideas. Booth operators will help to review and finalize the story with the participant.
4. Story Collection – Participants will choose the collection method they are most comfortable with. USDA Staff at the booth will then proceed to collect the story from the participant using one of these methods. We want short, concise stories – more like sound bites or if written about 3-4 sentences.
   1. Video
   2. Audio Only
   3. Written with Still Photo
   4. Written Only
5. After the Event
   1. Share the stories, media releases, etc.
   2. Email the participant their photo/video and typed up story as a potential ‘thank you’ for sharing for them to use.

# Written Prompt Handout:

A one-to-two-page handout will be created to help participants create concise, impactful stories. Some details to consider for the handout:

* Space for doodling / getting creativity flowing
* One to three questions, moving the participant from initiating a story concept to sharing a focused story, preferably in no more than three sentences.
* Prompting Questions:
  + What does being healthy mean to you? What is your definition of health?
  + What is one hope you have for your community about health?
  + What is one area USDA can make an impact in health, diet, nutrition, physical activity, and/or food?
  + What is your personal story for better health?

# Materials Needed:

# Large ASCEND Background to be used as background

* USDA Media Release
* Camera to capture still photos
* Phone to capture videos and audio
* Microphone (lapel)
* Computer and/or Excel Sheet for cataloging media releases and stories
* Personnel
  + NIFA Communications Staff (Facilitate the Booth)
    - Take picture
    - Catalog picture with media release
    - Assist with writing and finalizing story
    - Responsible for uploading to Shared USDA file after event
  + 1-2 Students to help take pictures / collect media releases / assist with writing and finalizing story
* Written Prompt Handout for Participants
* Pens
* USDA Tablecloth