

Food Security Council September 28, 2023

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Healthy People. Healthy Communities.



Agenda

- Welcome
- Progress Update
- Definition Discussion
- Presentations + Discussion
- Additional Proviso
- Next Steps

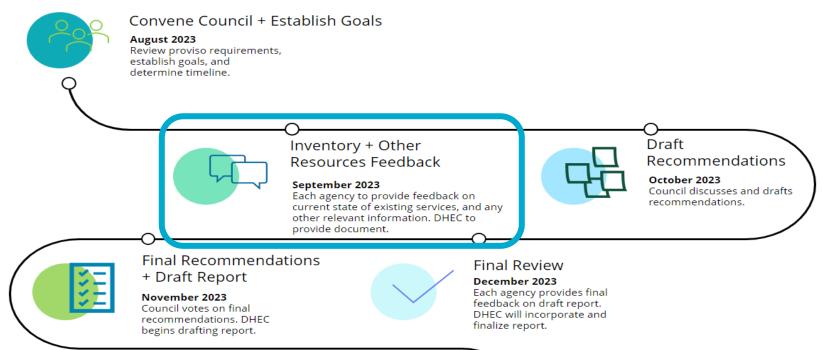


Welcome

Edward Simmer, MD, MPH, DFAPA Director, DHEC



Progress Update





Final Report Submitted to Legislature

January 2024 Report containing final recommendations submitted by January 31, 2024.



Definitions

Food Security	Nutrition Security
High Food Security ¹ – no reported indications	Nutrition Security ¹ – All Americans have
of food-access problems or limitations.	consistent and equitable access to healthy, safe,
	affordable foods essential to optimal health
	and well-being.
Marginal Food Security ¹ – One or two	Food and Nutrition Security ² – Having reliable
reported indications – typically of anxiety over	access to enough high-quality food to avoid
food sufficiency or shortage of food in the	hunger and stay healthy. Improving access to
house. Little or no indication of changes in diets	nutritious food supports overall health, reduces
or food intake.	chronic diseases, and helps people avoid
	unnecessary health care.
Low Food Security ¹ – Reports of reduced	
quality, variety, or desirability of diet. Little or	
no indication of reduced food intake.	
Very Low Food Security ¹ – Reports of multiple	
indications of disrupted eating patterns and	
reduced food intake.	

¹ https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-u-s/definitions-of-food-security/

² https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/healthequity/sdoh-and-chronic-disease/nccdphp-and-social-determinants-of-health/food-and-nutrition-security



Presentations

- Clemson Extension Weatherly Thomas + Michelle Altman
- Clemson/DHEC Statewide Food Map Keisha Long (DHEC)
- SC Food Policy Council Allisa Duncan
- SC State Nutrition Action Coalition Kate Gerweck



Additional Proviso

Proviso 1.68 of H.4300 – Student Meals (Department of Education):

- School districts to conduct updated analysis to identify students in poverty
- Increase access to free school meals for identified students
- Local board of trustees of district in which all schools are eligible to receive free federal reimbursement rate for all reimbursable breakfasts and lunches shall adopt resolution indicating participation
 - If district unable to participate because of financial hardship, resolution shall be adopted demonstrating that hardship
- School districts to ensure parents or guardians of eligible students receive necessary applications and instructions and receive assistance with completing paperwork upon request.
- Schools shall not publicly identify or penalize students who are unable to pay for meals or accrue meal debt.



Discussion

- Are there any follow-up questions for today's presenters?
- What does a draft report and recommendations look like?
- What additional information is needed?
- How can we best support Council members?
- How would the Council like to move forward?



Next Steps

Next meeting -

- October 16th-20th
- Inventory completion
- Be prepared to discuss gaps + provide recommendations to address those gaps





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S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control