



Food Security Council

October 20, 2023

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Healthy People. **Healthy Communities.**

Agenda

- Welcome
- Progress Update
- Pilot Project Presentation
- Today's Focus
- Voting + Report Governance
- Discussion and Consensus
- Initial Recommendations Discussion
- Next Steps



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

Welcome

Edward Simmer, MD, MPH, DFAPA
Director, DHEC

Progress Update



Convene Council + Establish Goals

August 2023

Review proviso requirements, establish goals, and determine timeline.



Inventory + Other Resources Feedback

September 2023

Each agency to provide feedback on current state of existing services, and any other relevant information. DHEC to provide document.



Draft Recommendations

October 2023

Council discusses and drafts recommendations.



Final Recommendations + Draft Report

November 2023

Council votes on final recommendations. DHEC begins drafting report.



Final Review

December 2023

Each agency provides final feedback on draft report. DHEC will incorporate and finalize report.



Final Report Submitted to Legislature

January 2024

Report containing final recommendations submitted by January 31, 2024.



Change SC Pilot Project

Miko Pickett

Executive Director, Pick 42 Foundation

Today's Focus

- Council Governance
- Reporting Structure
- Information, Data and Support Needs
- Our Path Forward

Council Members

- Dr. Rhea Bentley, SCSU PSA
- Virgie Chambers, Dept. of Education
- Amber Gillum, DSS
- Rowan Goodrich, Dept. on Aging
- Dr. Tarana Kahn, CU PSA
- Dr. Kevin Wessinger, DHHS
- Bentley White, DHEC
- Chris Whitmire, SCDA

Voting + Report Governance

- Council members listed in proviso vote on final recommendations
- Consensus is the goal, but may not be possible for all recommendations
 - Simple majority (51%) or 2/3
 - Justification opportunity provided for dissenting opinions
- Recommendations aligning with specific agency/agencies will write that recommendation
 - DHEC will compile all recommendations into report
- Publishing of draft recommendations and final report



Initial Recommendations

Recommendation	From
Participate in Summer EBT.	SC Food Policy Council
Provide Universal School Meals.	SC Food Policy Council
Increase gross income limit for SNAP.	SC Food Policy Council
Repeal drug felon ban on SNAP and TANF.	SC Food Policy Council
Invest in technology infrastructure, and assistance and support for Healthy Bucks.	SC Food Policy Council
Find opportunities to streamline applications and enrollment processes for nutrition and other assistance programs. Create internal referral system.	SC Food Policy Council/SNAC
Data sharing/matching between agencies and third-parties to target outreach for those who may be eligible for more than one program.	SC Food Policy Council
Also pair outreach above with providing more information about how to access services.	SC Food Policy Council
Improve screening to identify individuals who are exempt from losing SNAP benefits.	SC Food Policy Council
Maximize federal waiver and/or matching fund opportunities to expand eligibility or enrollment.	SC Food Policy Council

Discussion and Consensus

- What does a draft report and recommendations look like?
 - Report structure
 - Recommendation prioritization, specificity, legislation requirement
 - Drafting responsibilities
 - Public and stakeholder input
- What additional information is needed?
- How can we best support Council members?



Initial Recommendations

Programs	Transportation	Health Care	Food Infrastructure	Other
Summer EBT	Build/strengthen infrastructure (rural areas, paratransit services)	Support integration of nutrition assistance programs in Food is Medicine efforts	Incentivize farmers markets to accept SNAP and Healthy Bucks	Develop coordinated approach for tracking food and nutrition security data across state
Universal School Meals	Federal matching funds opportunities	Produce prescriptions	Incentivize local food sourcing for school meals	Map web of influence amongst agencies and programs
Increase SNAP gross income limit	Vouchers for accessing transportation	Funding for Food is Medicine pilot across state	Grocery store incentive structure	Direct capacity-building funds to community-based organizations
Repeal drug felon ban on SNAP and TANF		Support health systems in screening and referral processes	Connect retailers with existing health care facilities	Encourage use of community hub model
Increase Healthy Bucks support		Integrate screenings and referrals into DHHS' Quality Achievement Program	Minimum offering of fruits and vegetables in smaller food retailers and dollar stores	Provide funding to support capacity of SC Food Policy Council.
Streamline applications/internal referral system		Integrate Food is Medicine approaches into existing collaboratives (Birth Outcomes Initiative)		Provide funding to continue developing local food policy councils.
Data sharing and matching for outreach + access to services				
Improve screenings for individuals exempt from losing SNAP benefits				
Federal waivers and matching funds opportunities				

Next Steps

Proposed Path Forward:

- **October 30th-November 3rd:** Next Council meeting
 - Overview of other states' initiatives as applicable to draft recommendations
 - Vote on final recommendations and divide work
- **November 6th-17th:** Council members draft specific designated recommendations
- **November 20th:** Council members submit drafts to Brittany + Kayla; they will compile into draft report
- **November 27th-December 1st:** Next Council meeting
 - Finalize draft and any other outstanding items
- **December 4th-8th:** DHEC compiles final report
- **December 11th-15th:** DHEC sends final draft report to Council for review
- **January 8th-12th:** Final Council meeting to vote on approval of report for submission
- **January 31st:** DHEC submits report to legislature



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CONTACT US

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