



Food Security Council

January 4, 2024

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Healthy People. **Healthy Communities.**

Agenda

- Welcome
- Progress Update
- Review of Draft Report Outline
- Discussion of Submitted Public Comments
- Final Recommendations Discussion + Voting
- Next Steps

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.



Identify Gaps, Draft Recommendations + Draft Report

November 2023

Council determines gaps and discusses initial recommendations. DHEC begins drafting report.



Finalize Gaps + Recommendations, Draft Report

December 2023

Each agency provides and Council votes on final recommendations and gaps. DHEC will incorporate and finalize draft report.



Finalize Report + Submit to Legislature

January 2024

Council reviews and finalizes report containing final recommendations and submits by January 31, 2024.

Draft Report Outline

- **I. Executive Summary**
- **II. Acknowledgments (FSC members and other contributors)**
- **III. Key Terms**
- **IV. Introduction**
 - a. Proviso
 - b. Council Scope + Overview
 - c. Stakeholder + Public Input
 - d. Final Recommendations + Report
- **V. Key Findings**
 - a. Snapshot of current state of nutrition security in SC
 - b. Snapshot of current SC food security programs and initiatives by each agency
 - c. Analysis of existing gaps
 - d. What is currently working that we want to preserve? What are the challenges? What opportunities for improvement exist?
- **VI. Recommendations**
- **VII. Conclusion**
- **VIII. Sources**
- **IX. Attachments**



Public Comments

- Discussion

Recommendations

- Process
 - Discussion for each category
 - Followed by vote for each category

Recommendations #1 and #15

- **#1:** Fund Change SC Program Expansion
- **#15:** Increase the Gross Income Limit for SNAP Benefits

Recommendations #2, #3, #5

- **#2:** SC Food Policy Council Request for Partnership
- **#3:** SC Food Policy Council Funding
- **#5:** Create or invest in a statewide organization to facilitate implementation of the Food Security Council findings and recommendations

Recommendations #4 and #18

- **#4:** Local communities and stakeholders must work collaboratively with the SCDE to increase promotion and awareness of Summer Program Food Service (Summer Break Café) opportunities, which can lead to additional viable sponsors and accessible sites for the program
- **#18:** Recommend implementation and funding of Summer EPT program in Summer 2025

Recommendations #6, #10, #12

- **#6:** Establish a statewide web-based care coordination referral system that addresses food insecurity, among other social determinants of health
- **#10:** Explore the potential of a “no-wrong” door application and/or eligibility system to make it easier for the public to access public programs and services across agencies.
- **#12:** Create a centralized food resource map for combating food insecurity

Recommendations #8, #9, #13, #14

- **#8:** Expand community garden programs in the state
- **#9:** Increase the availability of fresh produce at variety stores
- **#13:** Promote farmers and farmers' market participation in the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)
- **#14:** Expand the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

Recommendations #16 and #17

- **#16:** Increase Coordination between SNAP and WIC
- **#17:** Barrier Removal Strategies

Recommendations #7 and 11

- **#7:** Address challenges facing food donation including liability protection and education
- **#11:** Allow qualifying persons with a drug felony conviction to be eligible to receive SNAP benefits in South Carolina

Next Steps

- January 17th – Council feedback and suggested revisions due to DHEC support staff
- January 22nd – **Council meeting**, report finalized + approved
- January 31st – DHEC submits report to legislature



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