

## DEFRN Meeting Notes: 10/26/2022

### Participants

- Allison Karpyn
- McKenna Halverson
- Nikko Brady
- Gina Crist
- Nicole Minni
- Leah- Food Bank of DE
- Michelle Axe
- Kristen Kelly
- Kathleen McCallops

### Recommended Resources

- Biden-Harris Administration National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition and Health: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/White-House-National-Strategy-on-Hunger-Nutrition-and-Health-FINAL.pdf>
- New Dietary Quality Questionnaire: <https://www.globaldietquality.org/dqq>
- Connecting Food Resources to Communities in Delaware: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/a49a618a8c154d958df53c5f8f17e451>
- DE Food Resources Data Dashboard: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/a49a618a8c154d958df53c5f8f17e451>
- Healthy Retail Policy Brief: Attached in follow-up email

### Agenda

- Introductions from members
- Allison Karpyn
  - Release of new survey measure called Diet Quality Questionnaire
  - Partnership between Gallup and Harvard Public Health
  - Intended to measure diet quality globally
  - The questionnaire only takes five minutes to complete and easy to administer without training
  - Gives data on 29 food groups with response options: Yes/No
  - Also have screening tools for moms with young children
  - Portal allows for data download:
    - Portal link: <https://www.globaldietquality.org/dqq>
  - Also discussed the White House Conference on Hunger Nutrition and Health:
    - Report here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/White-House-National-Strategy-on-Hunger-Nutrition-and-Health-FINAL.pdf>
- Michelle Axe
  - Program manager for ChristianaCare Department of Health

- Currently focusing on the Food as Medicine program
- Kathleen McCallops- Senior Research Associate at ChristianaCare
  - Also works on the Food as Medicine project
  - Did some preliminary outcome analysis with 25 patients that graduated from the program and found positive results so far
  - Team is also completing Food Environment Assessments
    - Finding positive food replacements in patients' homes (e.g., wheat bread instead of white bread), low fat dairy, lean meats, etc.
  - Working on reaching out to Spanish-speaking participants
    - Translating questionnaires
  - 14 qualitative interviews with caregivers and focus group with employee resource group and made program adaptations based on these results
  - Will start interviewing eight patients that are Hispanic to obtain their perspectives on foods offered
  - Leah Brown from Food Bank of Delaware – asked how we are tackling food insecurity? Is there any way to work with food bank?
    - Michelle - Approximately 75% of patients are food insecure
      - Medically-tailored groceries – Dash diet
      - Choice menu that patients get to select from
        - One of first questions we ask is are you enrolled in SNAP and if you are eligible are you interested in being enrolled?
        - Want to find ways to help patients post-program (6-month program)
        - Michelle and Leah plan to discuss ways to collaborate
  - Nikko asked– program is being piloted in New Castle- have you talked about rollout in other counties
    - Michelle hopes to partner with Hungry Harvest, which is an organization that works with food waste and farmers across country to create tailored food boxes for chronic health conditions
    - They can go all the way to Sussex, Kent and Maryland
  - Allison- what proportion of people are eligible for SNAP that haven't enrolled?
    - Haven't done analyses with baseline- at 105 people nearly 60% wanted to be enrolled, but were not sure on eligibility
    - But our CHW walk them through the process
  - Gina.- needs assessment
    - Gina asked Michelle- Are there trends in Zip codes – people who aren't enrolled? Is there a connection that should be made to DHSS folks
    - SNAP outreach – could connect on this and see if there is a way to increase that number
    - Assist program- is enrollment going up because of this process?
      - WIC will be included now – if they are eligible for this it may be like a referral
        - Blanket eligibility screener
    - Gina sent McKenna resources for SNAP contacts at the state

- Allison – college students not traditionally eligible but waiver but now they are eligible
    - Major push to make it permanent
  - Leah – Outreach program at food bank
    - Healthcare coverage, cash-assistance
      - E.g., Medicaid, CHIP, purchase of care, SNAP, long-term care, etc.
      - Leah will connect McKenna and Allison with Sean from the outreach program– New Castle County
- Gina Crist
  - Community Health Specialist, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension
    - Oversees community health work at the Cooperative Extension and SNAP-Ed
    - Resubmitted RFP for state of DE for SNAP-Ed
      - DHSS is getting SNAP and WIC demographic information
    - Healthy retail project:
      - Piloted in three towns:
        - Farmington, DE Harrington, DE and Dover, DE
        - Exceeded goal of pilot in 1 store
      - Process: Communication from food stores to food bank to farmers
      - Provide stores with refrigeration to display
      - SNAP-ed – organize – tags to showcase new produce
      - 3-4 weeks of deliveries
      - Current project status:
        - Regrouping now to make sure we have what we need for part two spring rollout
          - Plan to meet end of this week to start talking about next spring and launching again
        - Ordering, delivery, consumer outreach
    - Nikko –
      - DE Department of Agriculture and DE Council on Farm and Food Policy
      - Also working on data-based Delaware resource connection project and healthy retail project
    - Healthy retail project updates from Nikko
      - Implementation of pilots and rollout occurred in a few weeks
      - Learned a lot from the pilot project and will apply that to the next phase
      - Worked with a farmer in Seaford DE for pilot
      - Karen shore – consultant – may stay in on more permanent role
      - Strategically – rolling it under farm to school program umbrella
        - Farm to store and Farm to institution

- During ag week in January – be in front of farmers and pitch them and hopefully have them sign up to participate
  - Leah Brown -Food Bank of DE
    - Community nutrition director at food bank and oversees SNAP and WIC
    - asked a question about culturally appropriate foods
      - Karen mentioned data regarding different cultures that were around certain areas
      - Gina stated that they did a survey last spring and gathered 200+ responses around retail preferences, SNAP and WIC usage, healthy retail program, online ordering and local foods
      - Leah- looking into cultural foods for the food bank
        - Graduate class did groundwork on serving pantries and what certain racial/ethnic groups would prefer
        - Distribution of foods – current graduate class is going deeper and looking at religion and surveying local pantry staff
        - Also, looking at foods that come back or that people don't know how to use
      - Allison- mentioned that certain foods are often not taken when the food bank drops off boxes at apartments
      - Gina- there may be opportunity – from SNAP -ED perspective
        - What ed might be helpful from healthy retail side of things
        - Trying to find ethnic grocers
      - Leah
        - Happy to try to identify ethnic grocers near pantries – with DE food rescue hopefully can add food from there can be rescued and sent to pantries in area where cultures go
      - Allison and McKenna
        - Working on a manuscript and policy brief highlighting Healthy Retail In-Store Marketing Practices that are most likely to increase sales of healthier products in stores
        - Resource that may be helpful for the healthy retail project
        - Recommendations specific to stores that accept SNAP and WIC
        - Provide guidance on retail strategies that are effective
        - Guiding Stars or hang tag efforts intended to tell you nutritional value of foods seem to be effective
        - Simple strategies work best
        - Attaching the policy brief to email
- Nicole Minni
  - UD institute for public administration
  - Working with farm and food council with food resource connection
  - Connecting food resources to communities throughout the state
    - Presented at annual farm and food council meeting

- Included Maryland boundary information
  - % of school aged children in poverty
  - Maryland food map – downloadable
    - Farmers markets, food bank and pantry sites, included within map
  - Farm to school and Farm to store
    - Looking at Department of ag website for Farm to school locations
    - DE food map – farm to stores – could include three stores that participated
  - Policy brief is now published
- Delaware Food Resources Data Dashboard
  - <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/a49a618a8c154d958df53c5f8f17e451>
- **Next Meeting will take place after the holidays in January**