

## THE NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY MEETING AGENDA

October 15, 2024

1:00 P.M. To Adjournment

### Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

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Meeting ID: 243 285 248 414

Passcode: sXkzdc

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[+1 775-321-6111,,986424027#](#) United States, Reno

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 986 424 027#

For organizers: [Meeting options](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)

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Members of the public wishing to provide public comment during the public comment periods set forth in the following agenda must raise their hand to signal that public comment would like to be made. If using the Microsoft Teams application, an individual may raise their hand by clicking the “Raise Your Hand” button (signified by a hand graphic) on the bottom tool bar of the application. (If utilizing the Teams application on a mobile phone, the “Raise Your Hand” function may be found by clicking the “...” button and selecting “Raise Hand.”

Members of the public utilizing the call-in (audio only) number may raise their hand by pressing \*5.

Note: Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson’s discretion

### 1. Call to order and roll call

Members: Allison Genco (Chair), Dr. Pamela Juniel, Tori Lawson-Boffelli, Deacon Tom Roberts, Vickie Ives, Jeff Duncan, Kelly Cantrelle, Dr. Dorain Stonebarger,

Dr. Julian Goicoechea, Jesus Mendoza Jr., Lisa Swearingen, Maria Menjivar, Charlotte Williams, Dr. Sabina Malik, Gabby Everett, Jill Moe, and Marcia Blake.

2. **Public Comment:** No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item unless the matter is included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. The Chair of the Council on Food Security (CFS) will place a five (5) minute time limit on the time individuals addressing the CFS. To provide public comment telephonically, dial 1-775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter 986 424 027#. Members of the public utilizing the call-in (audio only) number may raise their hand by pressing \*5. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name.
3. **For Possible Action:** Discussion and possible action to approve 2025 meeting dates- Jeff Duncan, Alternate Chair
4. **For Possible Action:** Approval of July 16, 2024, meeting minutes – Jeff Duncan, Alternate Chair
5. **For Possible Action:** Discussion and possible action to review and recommend applications to fill vacant council seats, per [NRS 232.4966\(4\)](#) – Jeff Duncan, Alternate Chair
6. **Informational Item:** Southern Nevada Food Council Presentation-Dr. Sabina Malik, Assistant Professor Extension Specialist, University of Nevada, Reno Extension
7. **Informational Item:** Green Our Planet Presentation- Ciara Byrne, Co-Founder & Co-CEO, Green Our Planet
8. **Informational Item:** The After Market Presentation-Dewayne McCoy, CEO, The After Market
9. **Informational Item:** Nevada Revised Statutes ([NRS 232.4969](#)) Food for People Not Landfills Program (FFPNL) Annual Report-Eser Irshad, Office of Food Security.

10. **For Possible Action:** For Approval 2024 CFS Draft Annual Report – Eser Irshad, Office of Food Security
11. **For Possible Action:** Review and possible recommendations on State Health Improvement Plan Action Steps and Objectives – Jeff Duncan, Alternate Chair
12. **For Discussion:** Remaining 2024 CFS Goals and set 2025 CFS Goals – Jeff Duncan, Alternate Chair
  - Remaining 2024 Goals:
    - i. Subjects/Topics related to Food Insecurity Statistics, such as the pounds of food distributed, and people served.
    - ii. Southwest Regional Food System Project
    - iii. Home Delivered Meals Program
    - iv. Gap Survey to determine federal standards or policies in places that are creating barriers that result in a possible increase in food insecurity. Placed on hold until after SHIP deliverables are met.
13. **For Possible Action:** Discussion and approval of future agenda items- Jeff Duncan, Alternate Chair
  - Standing Agenda Items- FFPNL & SHIP Action Steps
  - SFY24 FHN Hunger Funds Annual Final Report
14. **Public Comment:** No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item unless the matter is included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. The Chair of the CFS will place a five (5) minute time limit on the time individuals addressing the CFS.
15. **Adjournment:** Jeff Duncan, Alternate Chair

**NOTICES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS HAVE BEEN POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health website [at Nevada Council on Food Security Meeting Schedule for 2024 \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov/council-on-food-security)

The Department of Administration's website at <https://notice.nv.gov/>

**The Division of Public and Behavioral Health**  
**4150 Technology Way**  
**Carson City, NV 89706**

**Food Bank of Northern Nevada**  
**550 Italy Drive.**  
**Sparks, NV 89437**

**Nevada WIC Office**  
**680 West Nye Lane Ste. 205**  
**Carson Cit, NV 89703**

**Helping Hands of Vegas Valley**  
**3640 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 130**  
**North Las Vegas, NV 89032**

**Three Square Food Bank**  
**4190 N. Pecos Rd.**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89115**

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are living with a disability and wish to attend the teleconferenced meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify Rory Fuller in writing by email ([r.fuller@health.nv.gov](mailto:r.fuller@health.nv.gov)), by mail (Council on Food Security, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way, Suite 210, Carson City, NV 89706) or by calling (775) 684-2203 before the meeting date. Anyone who would like to be on the CFS mailing list must submit a written request every six months to the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health at the address listed above.

If you need supporting documents for this meeting, please notify Rory Fuller, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness, at (775) 684-2203 or by email at Rory Fuller [r.fuller@health.nv.gov](mailto:r.fuller@health.nv.gov). Supporting materials are available for the public on the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health website at [Council on Food Security Meeting Schedule for 2024 \(nv.gov\)](#) and on the Department of Administration's website at <https://notice.nv.gov/>.

This body will provide at least two public comment periods in compliance with the minimum requirements of the Open Meeting Law prior to adjournment. No action may be taken on a matter raised under public comment unless the item has been specifically included on the agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.

Written comments in excess of one (1) typed page on any agenda items which requires a vote are respectfully requested to be submitted to the CFS at the below address thirty (30) calendar days prior to the meeting to ensure that adequate consideration is given to the material.

**CFS, DPBH, Attn: Rory Fuller  
4150 Technology Way, Suite 210  
Carson City, Nevada 89706**

# Attachment for Agenda Item #4



Joe Lombardo  
*Governor*

Richard Whitley,  
MS  
*Director*

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC  
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



Cody L. Phinney,  
MPH  
*Administrator*

Ihsan Azzam,  
Ph.D., M.D.

*Chief Medical  
Officer*

## COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY (CFS)

July 16, 2024, 1:00 PM

(Draft) Meeting Minutes

Location: In-person at multiple sites and virtual attendance available

Type of meeting: Regular meeting

### Attendance:

#### Members present:

- Allison Genco
- Dr. Pamela Juniel
- Tori Lawson-Boffeli
- Deacon Tom Roberts
- Jeff Duncan
- Kelly Cantrelle
- Dr. Dorian Stonebarger
- Maria Menjivar
- Vickie Ives (present for part of the meeting)

#### Members absent:

- Dr. Julian Goicoechea
- Jesus Mendoza
- Carlos Carrillo
- Lisa Swearingen

#### Other attendees:

#### Staff:

- Sarah Rogers
- Lori Taylor

- Paige Musser (Support Staff)

**Guests:**

- Blanca Ayala (Women, Infants & Children-WIC Program Manager)
- Caitlin Taitt (WIC Operations Manager)
- Adrienne De Lucchi (WIC Nutrition Manager)
- Cassie Snow (MGM Sustainability Manager)
- Kelsey Whitehead (UNR Extension intern)
- Kendra Edwards (American Heart Association)
- Dr. Sabina Malik (University of Nevada Cooperative Extension)
- Marcia Blake (Helping Hands of Vegas Valley)
- Charlotte Williams (Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) research and Innovation Manager)
- Shane Piccinini (FBNN- Government Relations)
- Gabby Everett (Three Square- Director of Advocacy)
- Amber Hise, RD (Chronic Disease Prevention Health Promotion, Section Manager)

\*\*Note: Some Council members' status was pending reappointment by the governor's office at the time of the meeting.

**Call to Order:**

Time the meeting was called to order: 1:03 PM

Name of the presiding officer: Allison Genco, Chair

**Public Comment:***First Public Comment Period:*

- Kelsey Whitehead (UNR Extension intern):  
Discussed projects related to nutrition education for seniors.  
Outlined work on Meals on Wheels program funding and impact.
- Cassie Snow:  
Introduced herself as an applicant for the gaming/hospitality representative position.  
Shared personal background and interest in food security issues.
- Dr. Sabina Malik:  
Noted her presence and that her name was not called during roll call.
- Marcia Blake:  
Noted her presence and that her name was not called during roll call.



## Approval of Previous Minutes:

The April 2, 2024, meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with the following amendments:

Correction of the spelling of Allison Genco's name in the "Board Members Present" section.

Moving Jenny Yeager from "Board Members Not Present" to "Others Present" as her membership had lapsed and she opted not to reapply.

Updating Maria Menjivar's name and location to reflect her new employer, Central Nevada Health District (CNHD).

Motion to approve the minutes with these changes was made by Deacon Tom Roberts.

Seconded by Vickie Ives.

The motion carried unanimously.

## Agenda Items:

### 5. Review and recommend applications to fill vacant council seats.

Discussed applications (Cassie Snow) to represent gaming and hospitality, (Gabby Everett) to represent a Southern Nevada Food Bank, and (Carlos Carrillo) to represent an organization that provides community-based services.

Motion to approve the vacancies: Made by Vickie Ives, seconded by Tori Lawson-Boffeli.

Voting results: Approved unanimously.

### 6. WIC Program Presentation:

Presented by Blanca Ayala, Caitlin Taitt, and Adrian Dellucci

Covered WIC participation numbers: 12,066 women, 13,444 infants, 29,432 children (total 55,649 participants)

Outlined services provided: nutrition education, breastfeeding support, supplemental foods.

Explained WIC's electronic benefits system and vendor partnerships.

Compared WIC to other assistance programs like SNAP and TANF.

No motion required, informational item.

### 7. Presentation from Three Square and Food Bank of Northern Nevada.

Presented by Gabby Everett from Three Square, Charlotte Williams, and Shane Piccinini from the Food Bank of Northern Nevada.

Three Square served 328,000 people (113,000 households) and distributed 49 million pounds of food.

Food Bank of Northern Nevada distributed 25 million pounds of food.

Both organizations discussed the impact of state funding and their legislative priorities.

No motion required, informational item.

## **8. Food for People, Not Landfills subcommittee updates.**

Lori Taylor reported that DBPH has partnered with the National Association of Chronic Disease (NACDD) Public Health AmeriCorps program and hired members to support food security and wellness initiatives. The Subcommittee will research and review how food waste is being addressed in Nevada. No further updates as staff are onboarding.

No motion required, informational item.

## **9. Review of 2024 Council on Food Security Draft Annual Report.**

Discussed content and process for finalizing the report.

- Request data from office of analytics.
- Included in the report: details of how funding is spent, dollar amount associated with work done.
- Highlight successes through each pillar.

Motion to reach out to Office of Analytics for an infographic to be ready by January, reconvene for a special meeting on August 12th, and include information on funding expended and program successes.

Motion made by Jeff Duncan, seconded by Pam Juniel.

Voting results: Approved unanimously.

## **10. Review of State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) action steps and objectives.**

Lori Taylor reviewed SHIP timelines and reported that the 2025 Food Security Conference Survey has been released. A delay occurred due to the workgroups desire to create a Spanish survey. Planning continues for the 2025 Food Security Conference with the workgroup. Ms. Taylor provided graphics outlining survey results in the TEAMS chat \*attached.

Upcoming SHIP Deadlines:

- Identify the funding source and sponsorships no later than December or the 31st 2024.
- Document conferences, efforts, and presentations by January 31, 2025.
- Recommendations for adding seats to the council submitted to DHHS Director no later than January 31, 2025. (Bill Draft Request has already been submitted)

No motion required, informational item.

## **11. Discussion of remaining 2024 Council on Food Security goals.**

Reviewed and discussed current priorities listed on the agenda.

No motion required, discussion item.

## **12. Future agenda items:**

Discussed and approved items for October meeting.

- Standing Agenda Item – FFPNL
- Standing Agenda Item – SHIP Action Steps
- 2024 CFS Annual Final Report
- Add Presentation from Dr. Malik – Southern Nevada Food Council
- Presentation from Dr. Juniel – Statewide homeless app, information is still being gathered, not added to agenda, may be presented as public comment per Chair.
- Add Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy provide an overview of work regarding 1115 waivers.
- Presentation from Green Our Planet
- Presentation from The After Market
- Extend Time of October meeting to accommodate for presentations.

Motion to approve as stated made by Jeff Duncan, seconded by Deacon Tom Roberts.

Voting results: Approved unanimously.

### **Public Comment:**

#### *Second Public Comment Period:*

No public comments were made during the second period.

### **Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn made by Jeff Duncan, seconded by Maria Menjivar

Voting results: Approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 PM.

### **Next Meeting:**

#### **Special Session:**

Date: August 12, 2024

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Remote only (virtual meeting)

#### **Regular Meeting:**

Date: October 15, 2024

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Remote only (virtual meeting)

\*Minutes prepared by **Rory Fuller** using the following reference:

Robert, H. (2020). *Robert's rules of order: Newly revised (12th ed.)*. Da Capo Press.

Nevada Revised Statutes. *Open Meeting Law (NRS 241)*.

### **Attachments:**

Meeting agenda and packet (posted online and at physical locations in accordance with Open Meeting Law).

Draft 2024 Council on Food Security Annual Report (available in the meeting packet).

Resumes of applicants for vacant council seats (included in the meeting packet).

State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) document (link shared in chat during the meeting):

[Lori Taylor: SHIP\\_LAT\\_Updated SR 12.28.23\\_ADA.pdf \(nv.gov\) in](#)

Links to information about the Southwest Regional Food System program (shared in chat by Lori Taylor at the end of the meeting):

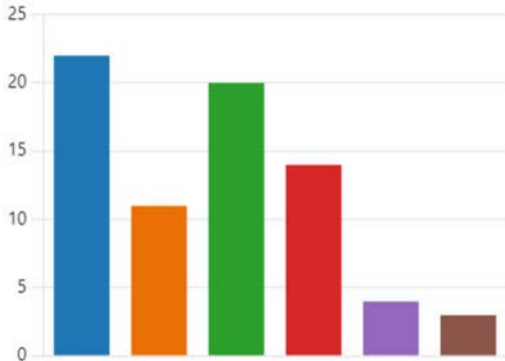
[Lori Taylor: University of Nevada, Reno partners with USDA to bolster regional foo...](#)

[Lori Taylor: USDA Regional Food Business Centers Program | Agricultural Marketing...](#)

Preliminary charts and data from the 2025 Food Security Conference planning survey (shared on screen during the meeting and to be posted online after the meeting):

#### 4. What month would you be most available to participate in Northern Nevada Food Security Conference?

[More Details](#)






## 5. Which day of the week works best for you to attend the conference? \*

[More Details](#)



## 6. What is your preferred conference location? \*

[More Details](#)

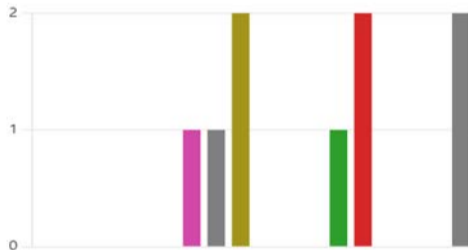
 Reno	41
 Carson City	10
 No Preferences	18
 Other	4



## 10. What is your Tribal affiliation? \*

[More Details](#)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	0
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Ely Shoshone Tribe	0
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shos...	0
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indian...	0
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Lovelock Paiute Tribe of the Lov...	0
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Moapa Band of Paiute Indians	0
<span style="color: magenta;">●</span> Paiute-Shoshone Tribe (Fallon)	1
<span style="color: gray;">●</span> Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	1
<span style="color: olive;">●</span> Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	2
<span style="color: teal;">●</span> Shoshone-Paiute Tribes (Duck V...	0
<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Summit Lake Paiute Tribe	0
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shos...	0
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Walker River Paiute Tribe	1
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Washoe Tribe & California	2
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Winnemucca Indian Colony	0
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Yerington Paiute Tribe (Yeringto...	0
<span style="color: magenta;">●</span> Yomba Shoshone Tribe	0
<span style="color: gray;">●</span> Other	2





## 11. Would your agency like to provide support/sponsorship for the 2025 Northern Nevada Food Conference?

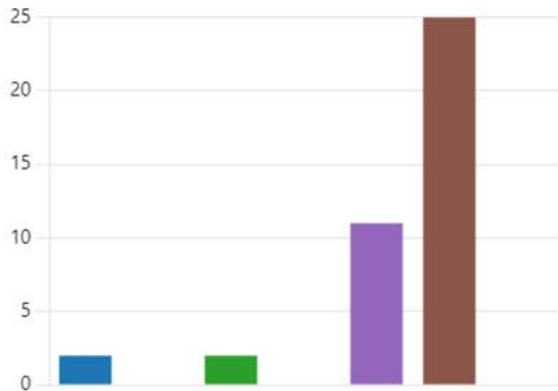
[More Details](#)



## 12. What kind of support or sponsorship would you like to provide?

[More Details](#)

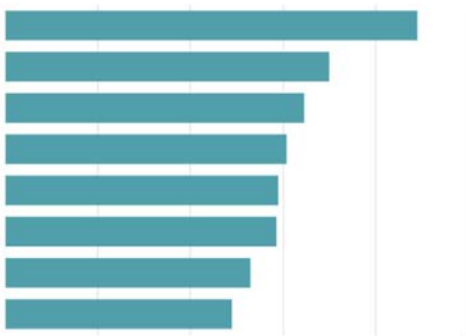
<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Venue	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Conference funding or sponsor...	0
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Materials/ Marketing	2
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Food for the conference	0
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Presentation/Panel discussion	11
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Not sure	25
<span style="color: magenta;">●</span> Other	0



14. Please rank the State of Nevada Food Distribution/Food Access/Food Assistance programs you would like to learn more about (using the arrows in order of importance from 1 to 8). \*

[More Details](#)

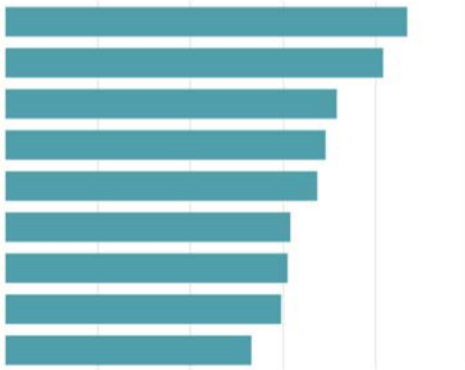
- 1 Supplemental Nutrition Assistan...
- 2 Nevada Department of Agricult...
- 3 Child and Adult Care Food Prog...
- 4 The Emergency Food Assistance...
- 5 The Food Distribution Program ...
- 6 Temporary Assistance for Need ...
- 7 Women, Infants, and Children (...)
- 8 Tribal Entrepreneurial Developm...



15. Please rank the following in order of importance (using the arrows in order of importance from 1 to 9) to interact with local vendors, farmers, and community organizations and learn about local foods and resources (not discussed in the above questions) at the 2025 Food Security Conference. \*

[More Details](#)

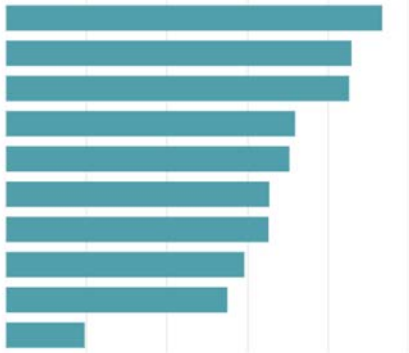
- 1 Food Access Programs
- 2 Food Distribution Programs
- 3 Food Banks
- 4 Food Pantr
- 5 Food Security Policies
- 6 Community Garden
- 7 School Food Programs (i.e., Nati...
- 8 Farming/Agriculture
- 9 Alternative Nontraditional Local ...



16. Please rank the Transportation Topics you would like to be discussed at the 2025 Food Security Conference (using the arrows in order of importance from 1 to 10). \*

[More Details](#)

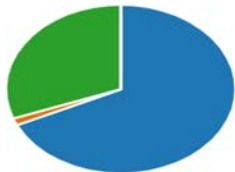
- 1 Mobile Markets/Mobile Food Tr...
- 2 Transportation Hubs
- 3 Rides to Groceries/Grocery Shut...
- 4 Meals on Wheels
- 5 Grant Opportunities
- 6 Food Delivery Service
- 7 Resource Awareness
- 8 Public Transportation (Regional ...
- 9 Complimentary/Free Bus Routes...
- 10 Bike Route Information and Res...



## 18. Do you plan to attend the 2025 Northern Nevada Food Conference? \*




[More Details](#)

 Yes	51
 No	1
 Not sure	23



## 19. Why are you unable to attend? \*

[More Details](#)

 Lack of funding or travel funds f...	7
 Lack of transportation, no vehicl...	0
 Other	13



## 20. Do you plan to attend the 2027 Southern Nevada Food Conference? \*

[More Details](#)



# Attachment for Agenda Item #5



# BETHANY HERZING



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To continue my career in community service work, while serving my local community and expanding my knowledge on how to help people with food and housing insecurities.

## EDUCATION

**AUGUST 2020- PRESENT**

**DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS & VOLUNTEERS**, NORTHERN NEVADA DREAM CENTER

- Oversee all Reach the Hungry food operations
- Manage and schedule volunteers
- Plan and hold special community events
- Client case management
- Program administrative duties

**JULY 2018 - MARCH 2020**

**LANCÔME COUNTER MANAGER**, ULTA BEAUTY

- Advise clients on skincare and makeup routines to best fit their skin goals
- Maintain a clean counter area, and do weekly numbers for business
- Perform mini facials on clients

**MARCH 2017-JULY 2018**

**CLINIQUE BEAUTY ADVISOR**, DILLARD'S

- Advise clients on skincare and makeup routines to best fit their skin goals
- Maintain a clean counter area

## EDUCATION

**2015**

**HONOR ROLL DIPLOMA**, CARSON HIGH SCHOOL

- Graduated with an Honor Roll Diploma, basic diploma, and CTE Diploma
- Participated in National Honor Society for 4 years
- Participated in HOSA for 3 years
- Participated in Link Crew Leadership for 2 years
- Participated in varsity sports for 4 years

## **SKILLS**

- Good communication skills
- Good time management skills
- Oasis Insights Client Management Software
- Honest, hard worker
- Trustworthy
- MS Office Software

## **VOLUNTEER**

**2010 – 2015**

**CHILDRENS SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADER, HILLTOP COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Taught Sunday school to ages 5-9

**2014 – 2015**

**MEDICAL MISSION SUPPLY CORDINATOR, HILLTOP COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Organize medical supply drive and collect supplies for medical missions in Kenya and the Philippines

**2018 – 2020**

**CHILDRENS SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADER, COMMON GROUND CHURCH**

Taught Sunday school for ages 7-10

# Attachment for Agenda Item #6



Governor's  
Council on Food Security

10 / 16 / 24

Southern Nevada  
Food Council Update



**EXTENSION**  
College of Agriculture,  
Biotechnology & Natural Resources

# Southern Nevada Food Council



SNFC has been active since 2014. The council examines the operation of the local food system through outreach, coordination, collaboration, connection, and research to provide recommendations for improvement through systems and policy change.

- We meet every 4th Thursday of the month
- We have 41 different agencies and 90 stakeholders involved
- Website is always up to date on events, policy news, funding opportunities, resources, and research
- Research Projects and Resource Development

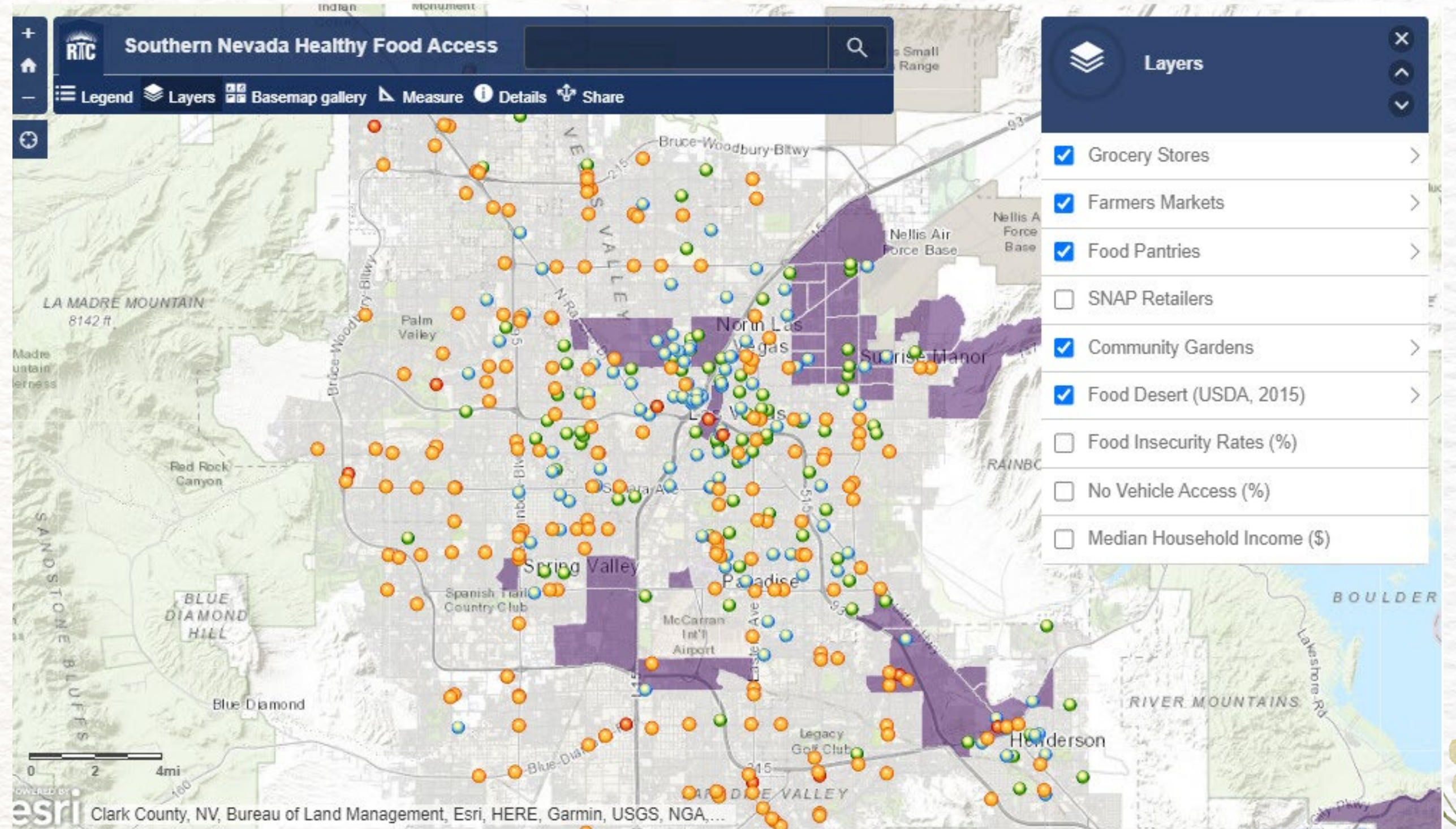
Scan Here for  
our Website



or visit <https://sites.google.com/view/sonvfc/home>

# Healthy Food Access Map

- The 2018 HFAM was posted on the SNFC and RTC websites
- SNFC has collected data for the 2024 update, which RTC is now editing
- Next step will be an impact statement from 2018 to 2024
- NNFC endeavor started for statewide map



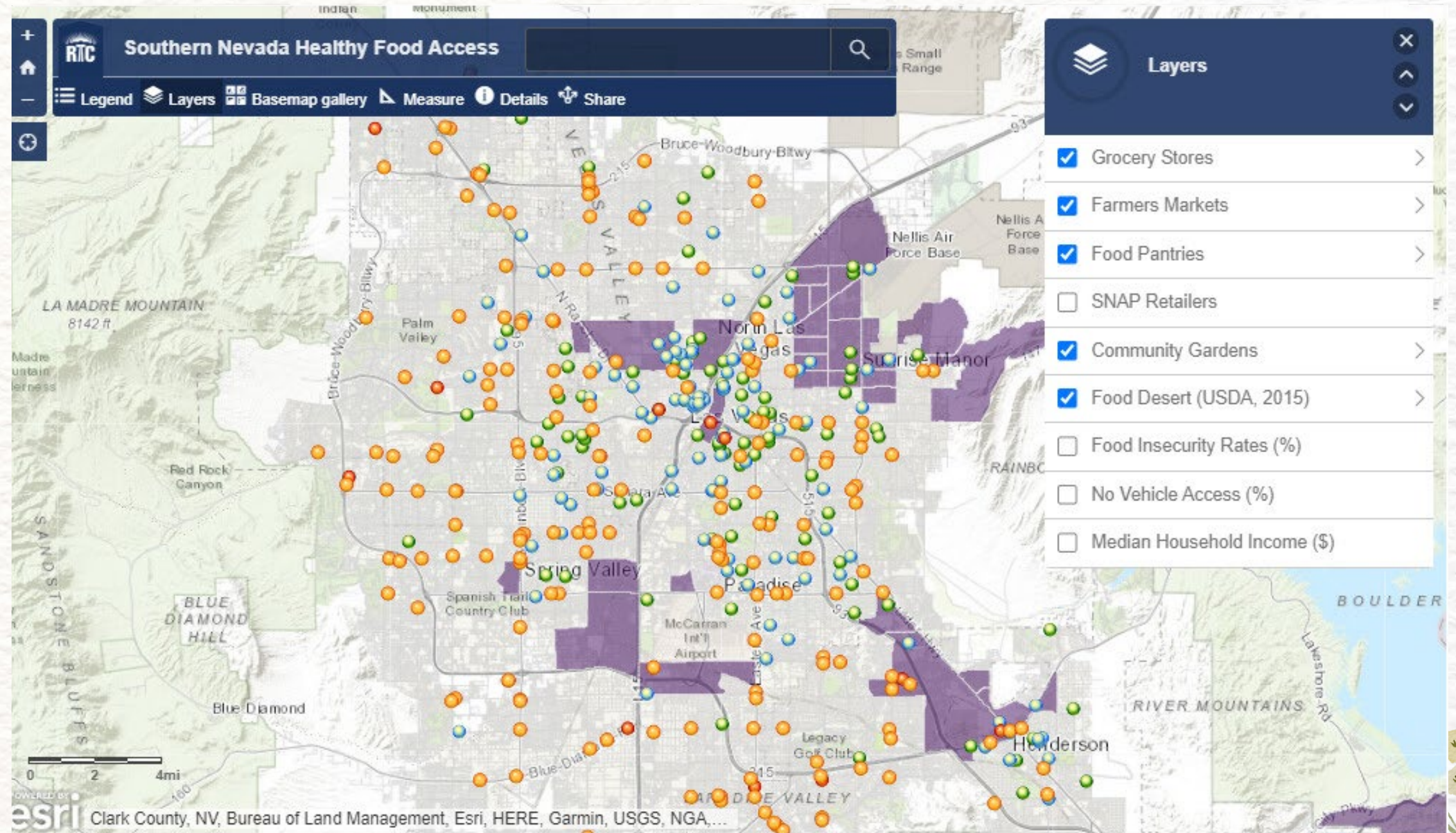
Current map of 2018



# Healthy Food Access Map

## Updates for 2024

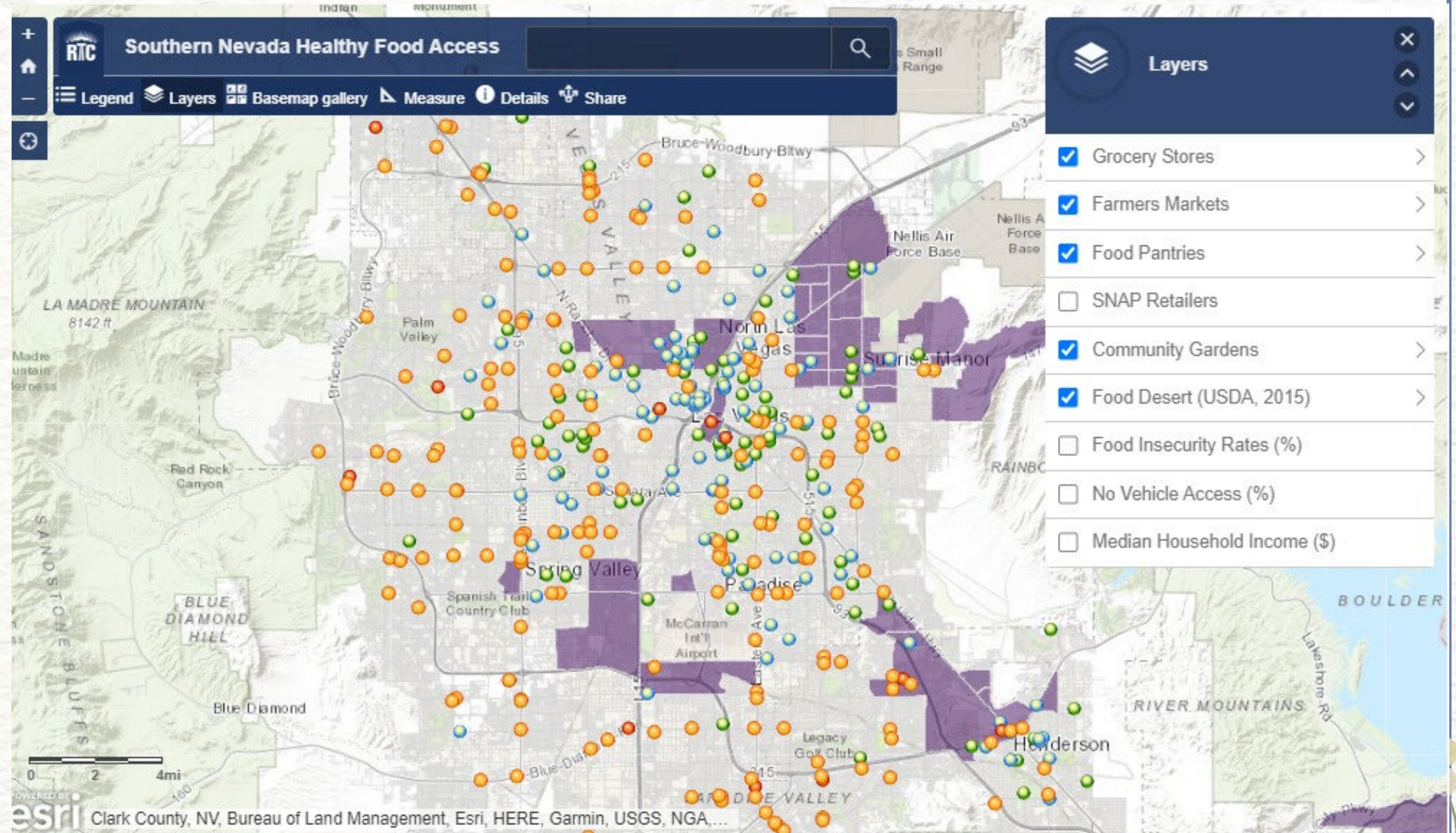
- Addition of data from rural communities
- Addition of federal programs
  - CACFP
  - Community Meals
  - DUFEB
  - WIC
- Retailer specifics
  - Convenience Stores
  - Pharmacies
  - Specialty Stores



# Healthy Food Access Map

Data for 2024

- Population density
- Race
- Age
- Disability
- Income
  - 200% FPG level
  - Families w/ children in poverty
  - SNAP eligibility vs enrollment
- Transit
  - Public Transit Network
  - Biking & walking
  - Household with no vehicle
- Housing % rent burden





# Healthy Food Access Map Methods

- **Team Setup:** Form multidisciplinary team;
  - Admin, RTC, City Planning (NAICS codes & communication), Research Agency & Support
- **Data Collection Tools & Templates:** Create introduction letter & templates for consistency and ease.
- **Data Identification:** Collaborate with the council to identify key partners and data sources.
- **Data Collection:** Follow structured timelines with regular team check-ins & use clearly defined roles.
- **Data Management:** Ensure accuracy through data verification (current food pantries, applicability of retail on the map) and data cleaning.
- **Mapping Support:** Work with RTC for mapping logistics; Keep earlier years for comparison.
- **Intern Support Projects** -
  - Food Security Mapping: Analyze successful strategies and common issues from other cities.
  - Sample Study on Convenience: Assess current availability at non-full-service entities.

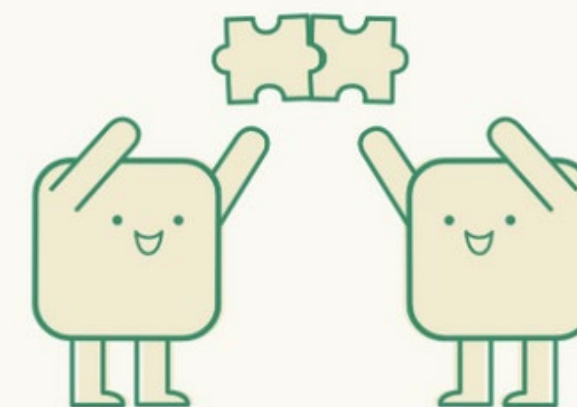
# Food Access Landscape Assessment

The current Food Access Landscape Assessment is a comprehensive study that illustrates what food security efforts are encompassed in Southern Nevada, supporting Lead and Feed goals from the 2023 Food Security Strategic Plan

The last major study was done in 2018 was called Metrics: Racial Equity in Food System (MREFS). The focus was largely on culinary workers rights and maternal care resources.

This report was supported by Cooperative Agreement #NU58DP007746 [Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH)] awarded to the Southern Nevada Health District Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion and funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

**YOU MOVE FAST  
ALONE**



**YOU MOVE FARTHER  
TOGETHER**



# Food Access Landscape Assessment Methods

- Hosted 2 workshops on research training and tool development
    - a. Collectively outlined priorities to encompass food system and indicators that impact hunger: Economic, Health, & Food Access
    - b. Developed assessment tool components through: Program Services, Partners, Impact/Reach, Successes, & Barriers
  - Data Collection
    - Partner meetings to allow for organization clarity
    - Timeline to respond
    - Staff of 5 dedicated to project
  - Data verification and organization into narratives and sections
- 

# Food Access Landscape Assessment

## Results

The assessment includes 41 agencies sharing 101 programs aimed at improving food access across Southern Nevada

Special populations specific programs highlighted

These are split in 4 sections:  
Production, Policy, Distribution, and Consumption

Currently we are working on evaluation and edits

### PRODUCTION



FARMS



PRODUCER EDUCATION

### PROCESSING AND PLANNING



POLICY



FOOD WASTE RECOVERY

### DISTRIBUTION



RETAIL



PANTRIES



FARMERS MARKET

### CONSUMPTION



NUTRITION EDUCATION



PRPX



NUTRITION INCENTIVE



FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

### LEGEND

#### AUDIENCE FOR PROGRAMS



CHILDREN



WOMEN



ADULTS



OLDER ADULTS (55 AND ABOVE)



PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



PEOPLE RECEIVING LOW-INCOME

#### PROGRAM TYPES

PRODUCTION



PROCESSING AND PLANNING

CONSUMPTION




DISTRIBUTION





# Food Access Landscape Assessment

## Next Steps

- Publish Assessment Report in sections and as comprehensive book
  - Focus Group: Consumer Perspectives
  - Outreach: Conference to raise awareness and enrollment
- 

# Thank You



@snvfoodcouncil



# Attachment for Agenda Item #7



# Food Security Council

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October 15, 2024





# Agenda



01

Who We Are, What We Do and Where We Grow

02

How we are addressing food insecurity

03

How we collaborate with communities

04

Green Our Planet & Nevada DHHS Initiatives

05

How we bring stakeholders together

# 01 Who We Are, What We Do and Where We Grow





# Mission

At Green Our Planet we are building a movement to create joy and equity in communities by empowering people to grow food and by connecting them to the magic and majesty of the universe.

# Core Values



Together.



We plant the seeds.



We tend the gardens.



We reach for the stars.



We green our planet.



# Who We Are

We fulfil our mission by running two STEMworks accredited programs, a hydroponics STEM program called HydroConnect and an outdoor garden program called GardenConnect in schools across the United States.



# What We Do

## HydroConnect

Our Hydroponics Program



## GardenConnect

Our Outdoor Garden Program



# Three Pillars of Programming

1

Content

2

Community

3

Coaching

# Our Impact

93%

of students show an increase in academic achievement in STEM

83%

of students are more engaged and excited about STEM

79%

of students show an increase in consumption of vegetables and fruit

66%

of teachers using our programs perceived an improved school culture and climate



# Where We Grow

44

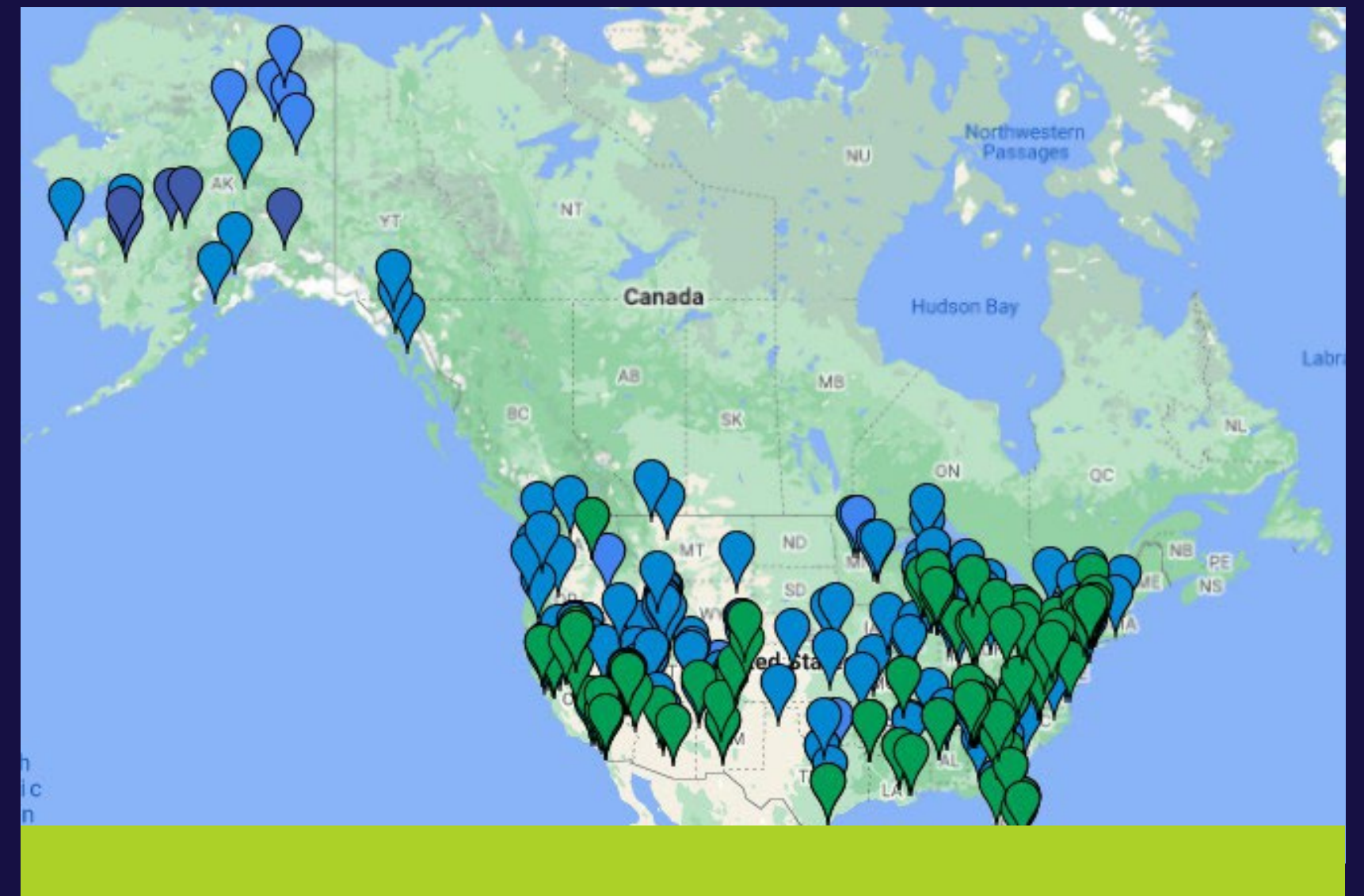
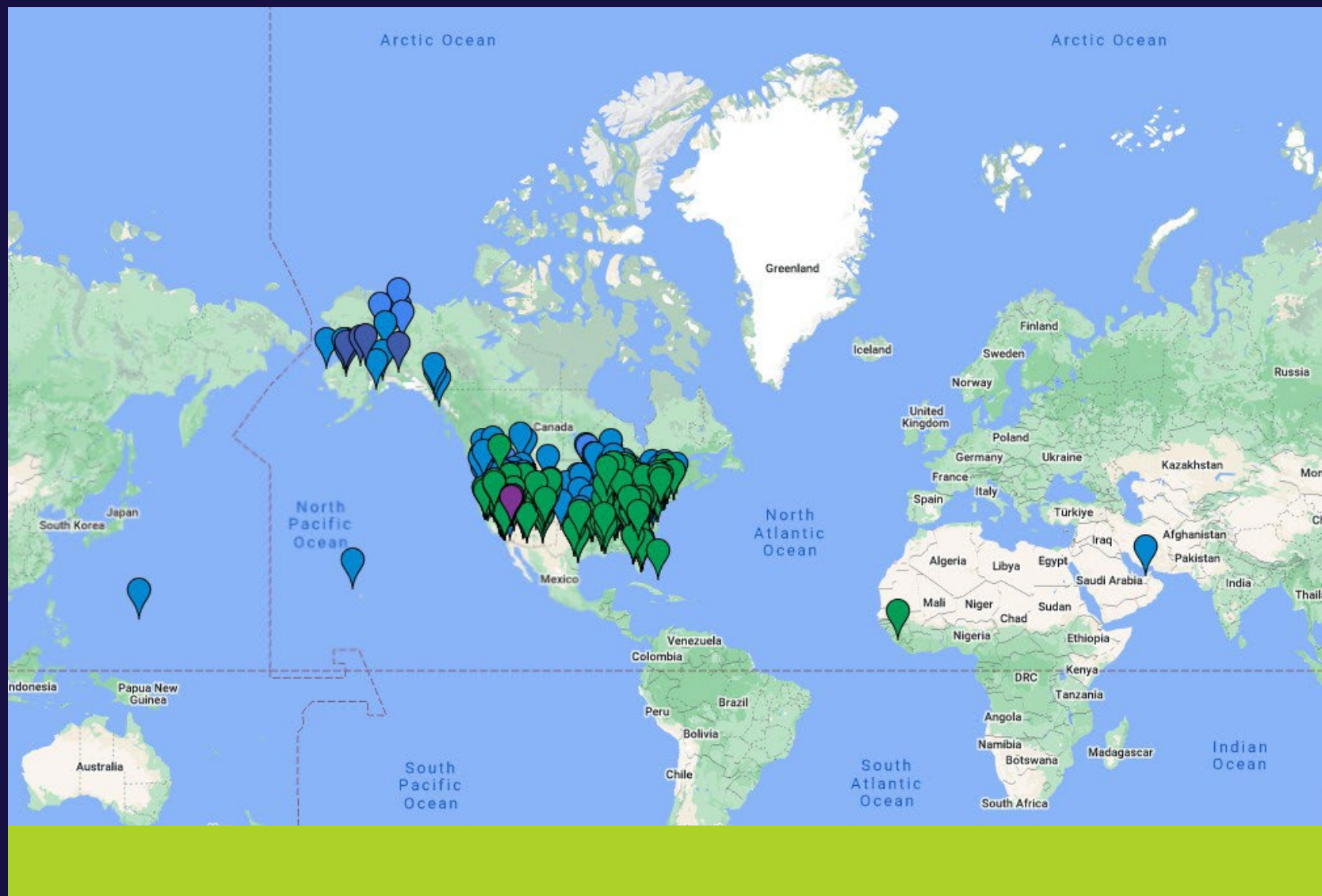
states, 5 countries

1100+

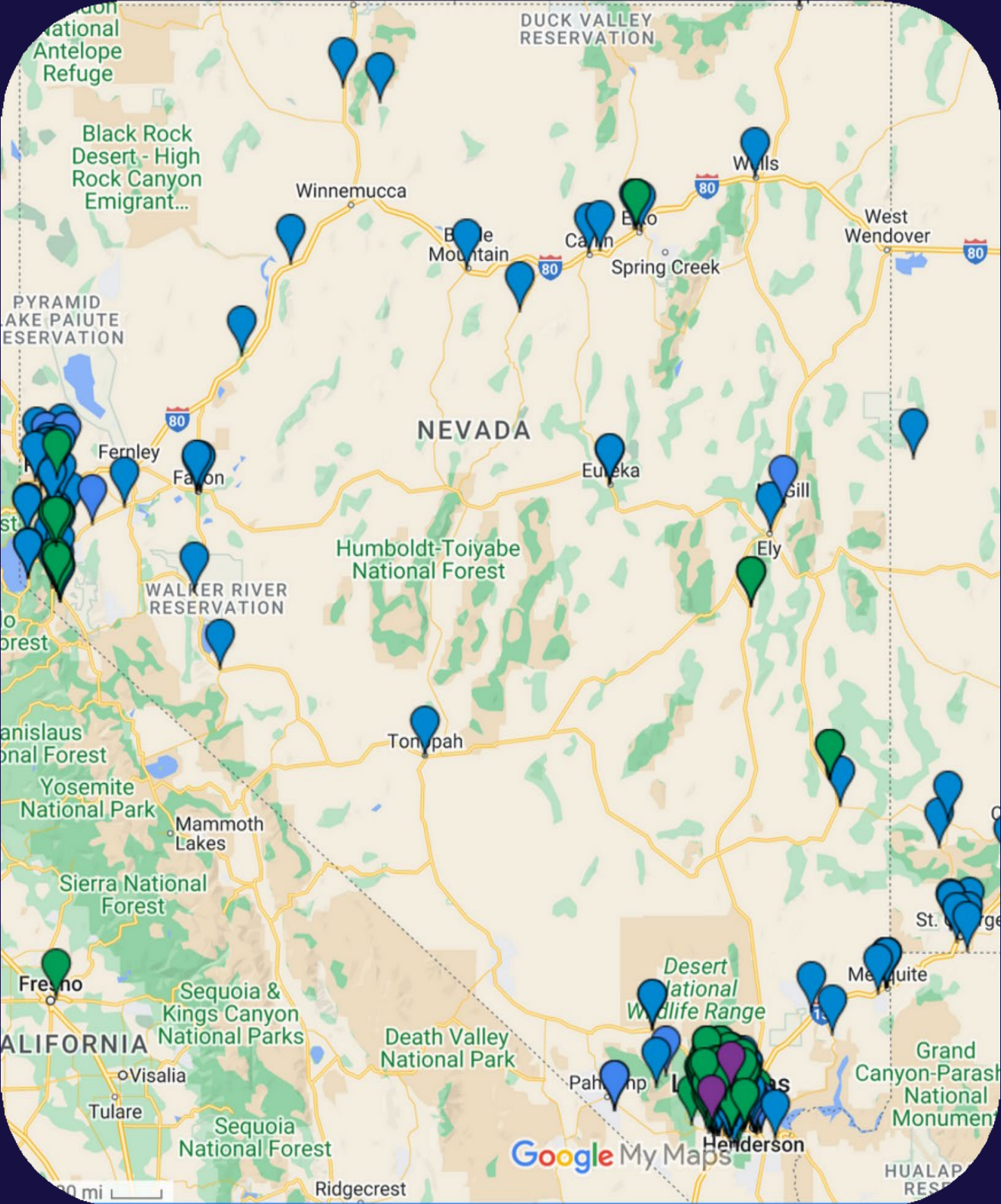
schools

300,000+

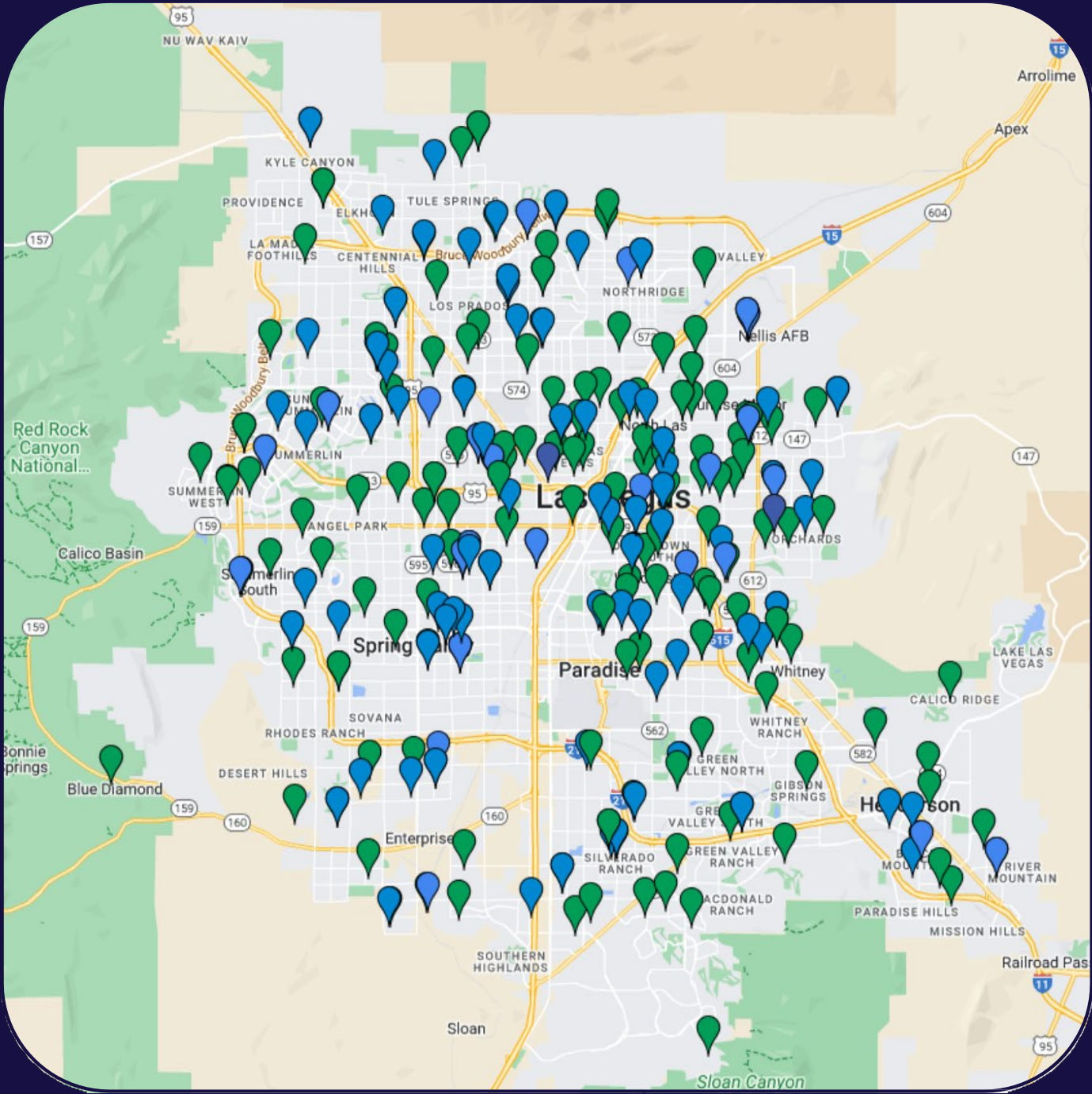
students impacted



# 400+ Nevada Schools



Nevada



Las Vegas



# ARPA Grant

Starting in 2023 ARPA allowed us to expand HydroConnect to an additional 250 Nevada schools in 17 counties



# 02

## How We Are Addressing Food Security



# Venetie Alaska, 2021





# HydroFarm Pilot Program

Empowering Nevada students to  
provide fresh food for their  
communities

[Play Film](#)



# Three Main Goals for HydroFarms:



Increase in student academic achievement in STEM



Workforce development for students



Students provide food for the community



# Current Pilot Implementations



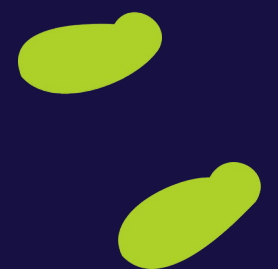
Executed first year with 2 CCSD high schools



2 Indigenous communities in Utah



2 additional communities in Utah





03

How we are  
collaborating with  
communities



# Green Our Planet Headquarters



In Partnership with Clark County  
Commissioner Marilyn Kirkpatrick



[Play Film](#)

# Headquarter Community Offerings



Show Design

04

# Green Our Planet & Nevada DHHS Initiatives





# Planting the Roots of Wellness Together

**Green Our Planet & Nevada DHHS**

Green Our Planet will bring the 5210 wellness initiative to schools, families and communities by bringing hydroponics gardens to the classroom, the workplace, and homes.



# 5210 Garden+Wellness Programming

- Hydroponics Gardens
- Wellness Workshops & Challenges
- Partnering with Schools
- Home Extension
- Data Collection & Impact Analysis

05

How we bring  
stakeholders  
together



# Community Involvement and Impact



Giant Student Farmers Market Fall 2023

Farmers Markets not only impact the school community, but also give students real world experience in:

- Business Planning
- Sales
- Marketing
- Profit and Loss
- Customer Service
- Cash Handling
- Budgeting
- Entrepreneurship



[Play Video](#)



# Thank You!



# Attachment for Agenda Item #8

**Agenda Item 8: The After Market Video and Intro**

<https://www.canva.com/design/DAGH5bTOZSw/ZPFTz9xyuP1MhAg0nDyFNQ/watch>

Attachment for Agenda Item  
#10

# NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024



*Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
Department of Health and Human Services  
State of Nevada*

Joe Lombardo  
*Governor  
State of Nevada*

Cody L. Phinney, MPH  
*Administrator  
Division of Public and Behavioral  
Health*

Richard Whitley, MS  
*Director  
Department of Health and Human  
Services*

Ihsan Azzam, PhD, MD  
*Chief Medical Officer  
Division of Public and Behavioral  
Health*

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

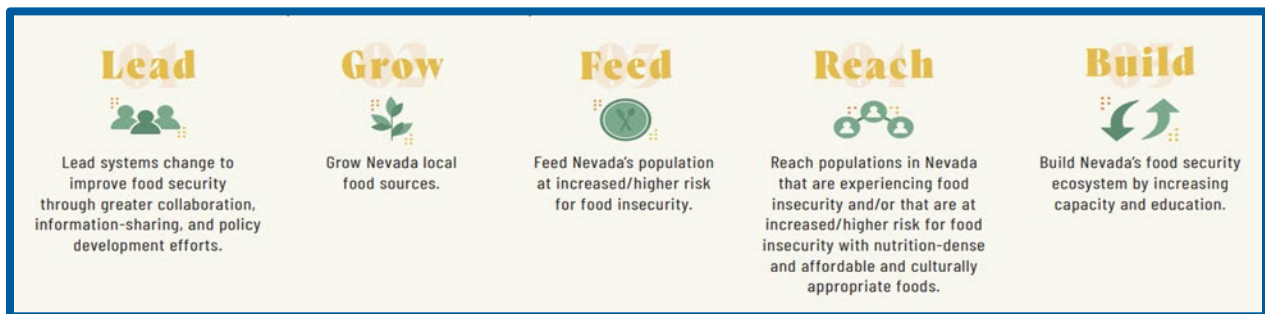
The Governor's Council on Food Security (CFS) aims to fight hunger among Nevadans, including children and older adults, who are at an increased risk of food insecurity. The inception of the Council on Food Security began in 2014 with an executive order codified into state law during the 80th Legislative Session in 2019 ([Nevada Revised Statute \(NRS\) 232.4968](#)). Tasks of the CFS include but are not limited to, reviewing legislation and protocols affecting food policy infrastructure. In addition, the CFS holds special session meetings as needed and standard quarterly meetings. Board members discuss various topics (e.g., funding streams, food-security emergency response plans, quality of service and meals to Nevadans, and food security policy), providing feedback and recommendations, which includes an annual report to the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB). This report also includes information on community gardens and urban farms per the NRS 232.4968.

The CFS recognizes the need for collaboration between all partners to reduce hunger and improve wellness outcomes. As of 2024, about 13% of Nevadans receive the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, mostly comprised of workers in service, office and administrative support, and sales jobs.<sup>1</sup> This is a slight decrease in participation from the previous year.<sup>2</sup> Of concern is a lack of participation in rural areas where not only poverty rates and child food insecurity remain higher according to national studies by the USDA but also where “persistent poverty” exists, due to limited resources, including jobs.<sup>3</sup> Based on ongoing feedback from food banks and food pantries, a conflation of factors has affected Nevada’s progress in addressing food insecurity since coronavirus disease (COVID-19) benefit programs ceased in 2022: Inflated cost of living, consumer prices- food in particular- and disruptions to the food supply chain due to Ukraine War, collectively causing new challenges for all.

## INTRODUCTION

Nevada's Governor created CFS to reshape food security and help residents living in food-insecure households by implementing the goals of the 2013 Food Strategic Plan called [Food Security in Nevada: Nevada's Plan for Action](#). A work plan was established in 2018, incorporating revisions to the state strategic plan. A Food Security Work Group conducted a comprehensive needs assessment from July 2021 to November 2022. This assessment encompassed various methods, including surveys, strategic planning sessions, focus groups, and interviews. Based on these efforts, the Food Strategic Plan was updated again and published on the [Department of Health and Human Services \(DHHS\) Office of Food Security \(OFS\) website](#) as the [2023 Food Security Strategic Plan](#). The Pillars identified in the Strategic Plan address the root causes of hunger and work to generate a healthier food security ecosystem throughout Nevada (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Five pillars of Nevada's food security



The OFS provides administrative support to the Council to assist in the development, coordination, and implementation of a robust food system in Nevada. These activities are highlighted in the [2023-2028 State Health Improvement Plan \(SHIP\)](#) and the 2023 Food Security Strategic Plan. In 2024, OFS partnered with the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) Public Health AmeriCorps to hire three (3) ongoing part-time members, which two (2) are assigned to food initiatives further support the Council.

## PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Per [NRS 232.4968](#), the CFS is to create a report to, "...review the accomplishments and recommendations of the Council concerning food security, including, without limitation, any recommendations concerning community gardens and



urban farms." The CFS 2023 Annual Report is written in collaboration among DPBH and OFS. The Annual Report is due to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau by January 31, 2023.

## **FOOD INSECURITY IN NEVADA**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as "the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or limited/uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways."<sup>4</sup> The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations states that a person is food insecure when " they lack regular access to enough safe and nutritious food for normal growth and development and an active and healthy life. Many factors, including social, political, and economic factors may impact an individual's health and well-being.<sup>5</sup> For example, Feeding America showed the food insecurity rate in Nevada as 14.4% (456,700) in 2022.<sup>6</sup> Feeding America also indicated that the rate of food insecurity among children in Nevada was 20.9% (144,290) in 2022.<sup>7</sup>

There are several Charitable Food Systems throughout the State of Nevada. The Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) contracted with the Nevada Center for Surveys, Evaluation and Statistics (CSES) at the University of Nevada, Reno, and conducted a yearlong [\(2021-2022\) surveillance style survey](#) consisting of two parts: 1) a needs assessment, and 2) a neighbor satisfaction survey. This work analyzed the entire FBNN service area of 13 Northern Nevada counties and parts of eight (8) counties in California. Survey results revealed the number one driver of food insecurity to be poverty, where most responders reported an annual income between \$10,000-\$19,999 (27.40%).<sup>8</sup> Over one in five responders (20.80%) said they run out of food and lack money to get more food almost every month. Similarly, 15.90% of participants cut the size of their meals or skipped meals entirely almost every month due to a lack of money for food. Nearly half of the participants also responded to the statement, "I buy unhealthy foods more often than healthy foods because they are more affordable," with agree or strongly agree (48.00%). When asked how frequently they visit pantry programs, 33.10% of participants responded, "Often, this is my primary food source." Another 54.10% of participants responded that they come sometimes to supplement their food budget Over one third of respondents 34.4% stated they could "always" meet their household's food needs for the month after visiting a pantry program. Those who received SNAP were 39.36% of participants, 11.55% received CSFP/Senior Boxes, and 11.02% received free or reduced-price

school meals, leading to the assumption that some assistance and benefit programs may be underutilized. In rural areas, program participation was relatively high in CSFP/Senior Boxes but low in SNAP.

The [State of Obesity 2022 report](#) indicates, "For children and adolescents, food insecurity is associated with a lower quality diet and a range of poor physical and mental health outcomes—including higher odds of having asthma, anemia, and fair or poor health and a higher risk of cognitive issues, aggression, anxiety, depression, behavior problems, suicide ideation, and hospitalization." Children experiencing food insecurity are also more likely to repeat a grade in elementary school, face developmental impairments in areas such as language and motor skills, and encounter more social and behavioral problems compared to food-secure children.<sup>8</sup> A 2022 UNLV State of Mental Health publication found that Nevada ranked last in overall mental health rankings.<sup>9</sup> The 2021 Universal School Meals Program Act is established to address these risks and concerns. This act permanently provides free breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks to all school children regardless of income, eliminates school meal debt, and strengthens local economies by incentivizing local food procurement.<sup>10</sup> The USDA extended these free services through the 2022 school year from the 2021 Universal School Meals Program Act. The Nevada Interim Finance Committee approved \$28 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds to continue offering these free meals. This funding allowed Nevada students to continue receiving universal free meals at school for the 2023-2024 school year.<sup>11</sup>

According to the 2023 Nevada Food Security Strategic Plan, about 80,000 Nevadans aged 60 years and older identified as food insecure. Data projections suggest Nevada will witness a 36% increase in the older adult population over the next ten years.<sup>12</sup> The older adult population encounters significant food security challenges, resulting in an elevated risk of hunger. Factors contributing to this vulnerability include adverse health conditions, the necessity of remaining homebound, limited fixed incomes, and various constraints that hinder their capacity to obtain or prepare nutritious food. Moreover, seniors with low incomes are frequently compelled to prioritize expenditures on housing, utilities, and medications, which leads them to purchase inexpensive and less nutritious food options. Poor health is not only a risk factor for food insecurity among older adults, but it also can be a consequence of food insecurity for this population. Older adults who are food insecure often experience adverse mental and physical health conditions and outcomes, such as

diabetes, fair or poor health status, depression, lower cognitive function, limitations in activities of daily living, hypertension, congestive heart failure, peripheral arterial disease, history of a heart attack, osteoporosis, periodontal disease, and asthma.<sup>13</sup>

As of June 2024, the USDA reports 271,867 Nevada households and 507,169 Nevadans have accepted the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.<sup>14,15</sup> The SNAP program assisted low-income families in purchasing nutritious foods from approved stores. At the beginning of 2024, participants continued receiving the Supplemental Emergency Allotments (SEA) established throughout the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, following the Public Health Emergency declaration (PHE). The SEA allowed SNAP participants to receive a second monthly payment to address food insecurity throughout the pandemic. However, SEA ceased on March 14, 2023, following the end of PHE (February 2023), with the Nevada Division of Welfare and Support Services (DWSS) issuing over \$1 billion to Nevada households during the PHE. This funding was in addition to the USDA Food and Nutrition Services bolstering budgets for food banks nationwide following the pandemic to help further public and private funding sources used to tackle food insecurity. Public funds come from federal, state, and local agencies and governmental units. Private funds are sourced from charitable foundations, direct giving programs, voluntary agencies, and various community groups. Since the SEA ended, Nevada food banks and food pantries have reported increasing clients receiving food-related services.

To help Nevada become food secure, the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) purchases food grown and produced in Nevada through the Home Feeds Nevada (HFN)<sup>16</sup> program, established by NRS (561), which was initially funded by USDA Local Food Purchase Assistance Program funds as well as funds made available by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) relief efforts approved by Congress. In its first year, HFN helped Nevada producers sustain and grow their businesses, enabling them to feed the state's most vulnerable food-insecure families. Its inception, twenty-five small and medium sized producers enrolled in HFN, resulting in \$3 million dollars paid to Nevada producers. HFN was distributed to 300 sites across all 17 of Nevada's counties through Three Square and the Food bank of Northern Nevada. Three Square distributed 1.02 million pounds in calendar year 2023; the Food Bank of Northern Nevada distributed 1.08 million pounds from the start of home Feeds Nevada in 2022 through to 2024. Additionally, the State of Nevada expanded the Nevada Community Food Access (NCFA) grant through NDA to increase food access in underserved

communities with an emphasis on food distribution, infrastructure enhancement, and the provision of food to households in need. To learn more about NDA programs Division and Programs visit [Divisions \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov/divisions). To learn about NDA involvement with community nutrition and school nutrition please visit [Data and Reports \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov/data-reports).

## NEVADA CFS 2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2024, the CFS continued to focus on the execution of pillars in the strategic plan and the food focus area of the [SHIP](#). By the end of 2024, the Council met five (5) times (January 16, February 2, July 16, September 30, and October 15), with one (1) of those meetings being in person to enhance collaboration, cohesiveness, and to increase efforts in reducing council vacancies. The Council has discussed the subcommittee member list and recommended agencies (Table 1). The OFS will provide administrative support in contacting these agencies and the "Food for People Not Landfills" (FFPNL) remains an ongoing CFS agenda item.

Table 1. FFPNL Subcommittee Recommended Agencies

FFPNL Subcommittee CFS Recommended Agencies
United States of Department of Agriculture (USDA) or Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA)
Three Square
University of Reno extension
Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada includes food rescue
Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada
Food Bank Northern Nevada includes food rescue
North gaming industry
South gaming industry
Retail or grocery
Reno Gleaning Project
A representative from an organization that does farmers market buy back and/or food rescue from agricultural producers
Helping Hans of Vegas Valley
A representative from food service

### *Food Strategic Plan: CFS Role and Responsibilities*



The Council is tasked with implementing all the pillars under their regular duties as Council Members per legislation. However, this report is only focused on the two pillars specifically assigned to the Council under the strategic plan. Within the food strategic plan, the Council has two (2) goals and three (3) objectives under the LEAD pillar and was identified as a supportive partner for OFS under the BUILD pillar regarding two (2) strategies.

#### CFS Goals

LEAD Goal 1: Enhance cooperation, communication, and representation to support policy development and resource utilization.

- Local and/or regional councils and/ or working groups will meet jointly and quarterly to share information and/or address issues (e.g., innovative solutions, funding, workforce challenges, eligibility barriers, data sharing).
  - The OFS meets quarterly with the Partners for a Healthy Nevada (PHN) to provide updates regarding CFS and the Southern Nevada Food Council. The OFS also attended on August 22, 2024, at a joint meeting with PHN and the Southern Nevada Food Council.

LEAD Goal 2: reduce food insecurity through funding and policy efforts.

- The Council of Food Security has been supporting legislation, policies, and programs to ensure Nevadan's food security since 2015. CFS provided a platform for community members, tribes, implementing partners, interested parties/groups, and subject-matter experts to make recommendations to state agencies on addressing food insecurity in Nevada and has enhanced connectivity among food insecurity in Nevada and has enhanced connectivity among food security initiatives and partners.

#### CFS Objectives

LEAD Objective 1: This goal is to convene local food ecosystem partners, community members, policymakers, and keynote food security speakers.

- The Council developed one (1) SHIP objective to align with this LEAD objective:

1. “Improve collaboration, communication, coordination, and information and data-sharing among food ecosystem partners by developing and delivering a well-designed presentation to the Nevada legislature on food insecurity and food needs in Nevada. Collaborating with existing organizations like DPBH and CFS, as well as other relevant food ecosystem partners, to increase the effectiveness of these presentations. Host two (2) Food Security fairs/conferences in Southern and Northern Nevada, bringing together local food ecosystem partners, community members, and policy makers, to engage through various keynote speakers and discussions. Also, the provision of opportunities to interact with local vendors, farmers, and community organizations to learn about local foods and resources is essential.
  - In 2024, the Council established a Northern Nevada workgroup to plan and hold a 2025 Food Security Conference statewide to convene the local food ecosystem. The workgroup developed and distributed a survey for further planning and guidance.

LEAD Objective 2: This goal is to increase the representation of partners from the transportation and housing sectors, tribal communities, and those who have lived experience with food insecurity in decision-making processes related to food security.

- The Council developed one (1) SHIP objective to align with this LEAD objective:
  1. “Partner with local farmers, food vendors, tribal communities, and other community organizations to support initiatives aimed at increasing mobile access (food trucks, community gardens, mobile markets, etc.) to healthy foods throughout the State of Nevada, specifically the underserved and remote areas (Churchill County, Elko, Esmeralda County, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Mineral, Nye, Pershing, Lyon, Storey, Douglas, and White Pine).”
    - The DHHS's Nutrition Unit Deputy Chief and the CFS Chair, Allison Genco, connected with the Joint Interim Standing Committee (JHHS) on 04/08/2024 through food security presentations and requested to add up to three (3) seats on the CFS. One seat for an individual who has lived with food insecurity and/or homelessness and two (2) members of the tribe. The request was not approved, and the board to consider relief under [NRS 232.4966 1\(1\)](#) to seek the appointment of these members as designated by the Governor.

- The Council submitted a Bill Draft Request (BDR) on 06/28/2024 and was not supported by the JHHS.

LEAD Objective 3: The objective is to fund efforts to assist programs and initiatives to reduce food insecurity, expand the availability and accessibility of food, and improve food affordability.

- The Council developed two (2) SHIP objectives to align with this LEAD objective.
  1. “Support new strategic partnerships and increase awareness among the food security ecosystem regarding service providers and funding opportunities that can assist with distributing food to people, particularly individuals at increased/higher risk for food insecurity.
    - The Office of Food Security (OFS) and the Council on Food Security (CFS) will leverage a statewide Food Security Fair/Conference and other existing marketing to assist with awareness.
  2. “Utilize existing outreach channels and participate in marketing opportunities to inform eligible individuals and eligible households about WIC and SNAP benefits, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, the Summer Food Service Program, and any other additional summer food, school lunch, and breakfast programs. Increase awareness of existing campaigns that emphasize the benefits, requirements, and application processes for sponsors.”
    - To help guide the Council in making informed decisions within this objective, the Council discussed statewide food security data and reviewed several programs;
      - i. NDA on the Community Food Access Project, gaps analysis on food security
      - ii. Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)
      - iii. Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA)
      - iv. The Summer Food Program (SFP)
      - v. Southwest Regional Food System Project
      - vi. Home Delivered Meals Program
      - vii. Home Feeds Nevada Program

Data discussed included food insecurity statistics (pounds of food distributed, people served, etc.), food distribution, general food access, awareness of food insecurity programs, and existing food databases to access food-related resources statewide. CFS also discussed the state's

nutrition statistics to determine potential barriers to increasing food insecurity, how food insecurity is being addressed in hard-to-reach areas and/or food deserts in Nevada, and where the Council can advocate for change.

- The Council efforts on the Food for People Not for Landfill (FFPNL) Program also aligns with this objective. FFPNL is designed to increase food security by decreasing food waste and redirecting excess consumable food to vulnerable communities throughout the state. CFS monitors the program as a standing agenda item and DHHS continues to look for funding to support the unfunded mandate.
- The Council continue to review the Fund for a Healthy Nevada-Hunger Funds Annual Report. DHHS Grants Management Unit (GMU) administers the FHN Grant, which utilizes 60% of tobacco settlements received/recovered by the State of Nevada. The funds support the 2019 Statewide Community Needs Assessment and align with the recent needs assessment identified in the 2023 Food Strategic Plan (NRS 439.630). Please reference the FHN Hunger Funds annual report at [Home - Office of Food Security \(nv.gov\)](#) (posting anticipated 11/30/2024).

### OFS Strategies

- BUILD Strategy 1: This strategy is about analyzing public funding streams and models of best practices in other states, identifying policy gaps and opportunities in Nevada, and identifying ways to increase public funding for programs to reduce food insecurity, expand the availability of and accessibility to food, and improve the affordability of food.
  - The 2023 Food Security Strategic Plan is a systemic plan that is intended to be used by all partners to promote food security efforts across Nevada. In 2024, CFS continued to assure progress and guidance of the plan, and OFS provided administrative support to carry out the plan with its partners as both partners continued to seek to increase access to nutrition-dense and affordable food for populations at increased/higher risk for food insecurity.
- BUILD Strategy 2: Identify and coordinate with designated state Tribal Liaisons, community partners established within tribal communities, and points of contact at the Nevada Indian Commission. CFS members to attend Intertribal Council of Nevada (ITCN) meetings.



- In 2024, CFS worked to address food insecurity across the state, including tribal communities. CFS established a workgroup to include tribal partners in planning the 2025 Food Security Conference. CFS is also seeking a seat for tribal members on the Council.

### *Food Strategic Plan Remaining Pillars*



The Council on Food Security (CFS) assures progress and guidance of the food strategic plan to promote food security efforts across Nevada. OFS carries out the plan with its partners as it seeks to increase access to nutrition-dense and affordable food for populations at increased/higher risk for food insecurity. OFS also oversees the FHN funds aligning with the FEED and BUILD pillars. Please reference the FHN Hunger Funds annual report at [Home - Office of Food Security \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov/office-of-food-security) (posting anticipated 11/30/2024) for further information.

## **CFS 2024 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### *Advise and inform the Governor on the food policy of this State*

The Council continues to discuss the need for a legislative brief to address food policy in the State of Nevada.

### *Funding the Plan*

The Council can review grant proposals and alternative funding sources as requested by the Director to provide recommendations for funding the Plan. No request has been made for review in 2024.

### *Advise, assist and make recommendations to the Director*

This 2024 CFS Annual Report will be submitted to the Director and LCB and serves as a document to inform the Director of recommendations. No further recommendations were provided for this calendar year.

### *Community Gardens and Urban Farms*

The Council can research and develop recommendations on community gardens and urban farms, which must include, without limitation to the examination of the following:

- Local and regional efforts to develop community gardens and urban farms.
- Regulatory and policy barriers to the development of community gardens and urban farms; and
- The potential effects of community gardens and urban farms on economic development in this State; and

The Council's efforts have been on the SHIP and strategic plan initiatives for 2024, which will likely impact the Community Garden and Urban Farms.

### **CFS FUTURE FOCUS**

In the calendar year 2025, CFS will continue to focus on [SHIP](#) food initiatives, guiding the FFPNL subcommittee, and activities identified in the 2023 Food Strategic Plan. The Council will more specifically work on the following:

- Another presentation to JHHS and provide a legislative brief to provide the necessary data needed to make informed funding decisions regarding food security in the state.
- Ongoing meetings to expand knowledge and understanding of food insecurity in Nevada.
- Hosting a 2025 Food Security Conference in Northern Nevada and a 2027 Food Security Conference in Southern Nevada.
- Monitor the FFPNL Program and partner with OFS to access NACDD AmeriCorps members to support the Council goals further.
- An in-person meeting option for CFS in Carson City and/or Las Vegas Office(s) to enhance collaboration cohesiveness further and increase efforts to reduce councils' vacancies.
- Prioritize building awareness around food distribution, support, and general food access throughout Nevada.
- Hosting presentations focusing on food insecurity statistics (pounds of food distributed, people served, etc.), food distribution, general food access, and building awareness on food insecurity programs and existing food databases to access food-related resources statewide.
- Reviewing the Home Feeds Nevada Program Annual Report and/or outcomes.
- Review federal standards or policies that create barriers and food insecurity risks.
- Determine where the Council can advocate for change.

- Continue addressing food insecurity in hard-to-reach areas and/or food deserts.
- Change the Annual Reporting period timeline align with Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) versus a calendar year.

Table 2. 2024 CFS Board Members

<b>Board Member Names</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Position</b>
Vickie Ives	<i>Administrator of the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health or designee from within the Division.</i>	Designee; Health Bureau Chief; Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Charlotte Williams	<i>A representative of a food bank serving northern Nevada</i>	Research & Innovation Manager
Deacon Tom Roberts	<i>Representative of an organization that provides community-based services in southern Nevada</i>	President and CEO; Catholic Charities, Southern Nevada
Jeff Duncan	<i>Administrator of the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department or designee from within the Division</i>	Designee; Agency Manager; Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division, Child Services
Kelly Cantrelle	<i>Administrator of the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services or designee from within the Division.</i>	Designee; Deputy Administrator; Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
Dr. Dorian Stonebarger	<i>Director of the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development within the Office.</i>	Designee; Director of the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development
Allison Genco	<i>State of Nevada Governor's Designee.</i>	State Public Health Resource Officer, Governor's Office
Pamela Juniel	<i>Superintendent of Public Instruction of the Nevada Department of education or designee within the Department.</i>	Designee; McKinney-Vento State Coordinator
Dr. Sabina Malik	<i>Representative of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension</i>	Public Health Nutritionist; University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
Jenny Yeager	<i>Representative of a food bank serving northern Nevada</i>	Chief Operations and Programs Officer; Food Bank of Northern Nevada
Jesus Mendoza, Jr.	<i>Western Regional Director of the United States Department of Agriculture or designee from within the Department.</i>	Regional Administrator; United States Department of Agriculture Western Regional Office
Jill Moe	<i>Representative of farmers or ranchers engaged in food production</i>	UNR-Desert Farm Initiative
Julian Goicoechea	<i>Director of the Nevada Department of Agriculture or designee from within the Department.</i>	Nevada Department of Agriculture, Director

Kelli Kelly	<i>Representative of persons engaged in the business of processing or distributing food</i>	Director; Fallon Food Hub
Lisa Swearingen	<i>Director or his or her designee from within the Department of Health and Human Services</i>	Chief, Eligibility and Payments Unit, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
Marcia Blake	<i>A person who possesses knowledge, skill and experience in the provision of services to senior citizens and persons with disabilities</i>	Executive Director; Helping Hands of Vegas Valley
Maria Menjivar	<i>One member representing community-based services (Rural Nevada).</i>	Environmental Health Division Manager, Carson City Health and Human Services
Marie Baxter	<i>Representative of an organization that provides community-based services in northern Nevada</i>	CEO; Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada
Maurice Johnson	<i>Representative of a food bank serving southern Nevada</i>	Director of Operations; Three Square Food Bank
(Tori) Samantha Lawson-Boffelli	<i>A person who possesses knowledge, skill, and experience in the provision of services to children and families</i>	Program Analyst – USDA Food and Nutrition Service
Dr. Kenneth Osgood	A representative of a local health authority	Southern Nevada Health District Board of Health
VACANT	Representative of those engaged in the business of processing or distributing food.	N/A
VACANT	Representative of the gaming industry, hospitality industry, or restaurant industry.	N/A
VACANT	Representative of manufacturing that is not related to food.	N/A
VACANT	Representative of a local health authority	N/A

<sup>a</sup>As of 10/08/2024

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Attachment for Agenda Item  
#11

<b>Priority:</b> Social Determinants of Health			
<b>Focus Area:</b> Food Security			
<b>Goal 1:</b> Reduce food insecurity and improve Nevada's overall food security ecosystem to help eliminate the existing hunger gap.			
<b>SMART Objective 1.1:</b> Improve collaboration, communication, coordination, and information and data-sharing among food ecosystem partners by developing and delivering a well-designed presentation to the Nevada legislature on food insecurity and food needs in Nevada. Collaborating with existing organizations like DPBH and CFS, as well as other relevant food ecosystem partners, to increase the effectiveness of these presentations. Host two (2) Food Security fairs/conferences in Southern and Northern Nevada, bringing together local food ecosystem partners, community members, and policy makers, to engage through various keynote speakers and discussions. Also, the provision of opportunities to interact with local vendors, farmers, and community organizations to learn about local foods and resources is essential.			
<b>Priority Population(s):</b> Food insecure individuals in Nevada statewide with a focus on school-aged children, low socioeconomic status people and seniors.			
<b>Lead Agency:</b> Office of Food Security (OFS) and Council on Food security (CFS)		<b>Supporting Partners:</b> DHHS Nutrition Unit, NV Department of Agriculture (NDA), Food Banks, Food Pantries, Council on Food Security (CFS), Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and sponsors.	
Strategies	Action Steps and Responsible Parties (optional)	Timeline	Target Results
<p><b>1.1.1</b> Present one (1) presentation to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services (HHS) each Biennium.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A designated CFS council member will connect with the Joint Interim Standing Committee LCB support staff on HHS (JISCHHS) and request for a member of the CFS to present annually to the committee.</li> <li>CFS to identify a topic(s) to present to the Joint Interim Standing Committee each biennium, including recommendations that align with Objective 1.2 and 1.2.3 strategy.</li> <li>CFS to identify a member to present to JISCHHS who will prepare and present a presentation, follow up on Committee questions, and provide ongoing presentations as necessary and/or requested by JISCHHS and/or CFS.</li> </ul> <p><i>All Interim/LCB outreach to occur through the Chair or from a Council member.</i></p>	<p>LCB to be initially contacted by 05/31/2024.</p> <p>LCB contacted again in 2026 by 05/31/2026.</p> <p>CFS identifies a member to present by 02/29</p> <p>A minimum of one (1) annual presentation by 12/31</p> <p>Efforts to continue through 12/31/2027.</p>	<p>CFS completed two (2) presentations to JISCHHS by 2027.</p>



<p><b>1.1.2</b> Organize and host two (2) Food Security Fairs/Conferences: one, (1) in Southern Nevada and one (1) in Northern Nevada. Fairs/Conferences to include stakeholders/partners and service providers/vendors as identified by the food security partners, CFS, and the workgroup.</p>	<p><b>The Leader and Event Planning Lead will be the OFS in collaboration with CFS to arrange the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an ongoing workgroup to determine logistics of the Fairs/Conferences.</li> <li>• A Survey with Food Security stakeholders/partners and service providers to determine the target audience, presenters (WIC, Child Welfare, Seniors, SNAP, food banks and pantries, transportation service, NDA, early education, mobile grocery shopping, etc.), location, remote option, vendors, date, and time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Target Audience for the fair/conference at minimum must include an invitation to the following programs: WIC, SNAP, Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Summer Food Service Program, and food service vendors across the spectrum of food services, including at least one (1) agency with a fleet.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Identify potential source(s) of funding and/or sponsorship.</li> <li>• Establish a Venue/Location, Food, and Fairs/Conferences Schedule/Agenda.</li> <li>• Determine if guidelines are necessary.</li> <li>• Invitations to both conferences are to include legislative partners as identified by the CFS.</li> </ul> <p><b>Communication Lead will be OFS support staff.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emailing members, reminders, invites, and RSVPs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Day-Of-Support Lead will be OFS support staff.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note-Taking, Tech Support, Printing, Food Logistics, Greeter, Post Refection Survey, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Workgroup Established by 02/29/2024.</p> <p>Survey to Partners by 05/31/2024.</p> <p>Funding Source and sponsors Identified by 12/31/2024.</p> <p>Efforts and presentations to be documented in the CFS Annual report by 01/31</p> <p>Schedule/Agenda for the Fairs/Conferences to be completed 3 months before Fair/Conference Date.</p> <p>Northern Nevada Fair/Conference held, and Post Reflection Surveys completed by 12/31/2025.</p> <p>Southern Nevada Fair/Conference held, and Post Reflection Surveys completed by 12/31/2027.</p>	<p>One (1) Fair/Conference in Southern Nevada and one (1) Fair/Conference in Northern Nevada with a CFS Annual Report that includes a provider and vendor list, conference presentation summaries, and a contact list to assist in the elimination of the hunger gap in Nevada.</p>
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<p><b>Resources:</b> <a href="https://www.roomtoread.org/media/cqglk30h/step-by-step-guide-to-holding-a-summit.pdf">https://www.roomtoread.org/media/cqglk30h/step-by-step-guide-to-holding-a-summit.pdf</a>, Southern Nevada Food Council, Northern Nevada Food Council, Washoe County Food Policy Council, Nevada Farm Bureau, Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA), Mental Health Stakeholders, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), Southwest Regional Food Business Center Project, and Food Service partners identified in the 2022 survey for the 2023 Food Security Strategic Plan.</p>
<p><b>Goal Indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food insecurity rate</li> <li>• Number of clients served by food security service providers</li> <li>• Percent of population eligible for SNAP who participate</li> </ul>

<p><b>Priority:</b> Social Determinants of Health</p>			
<p><b>Focus Area:</b> Food Security</p>			
<p><b>Goal 1:</b> Reduce food insecurity and improve the overall food security ecosystem in Nevada to help eliminate the existing hunger gap.</p>			
<p><b>SMART Objective 1.2:</b> Partner with local farmers, food vendors, tribal communities, and other community organizations to support initiatives aimed at increasing mobile access (food trucks, community gardens, mobile markets, etc.) to healthy foods throughout the State of Nevada, specifically the underserved and remote areas (Churchill County, Elko, Esmeralda County, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Mineral, Nye, Pershing, Lyon, Storey, Douglas, and White Pine).</p>			
<p><b>Priority Population(s):</b> Food insecure individuals in Nevada statewide with a focus on school-aged children, low socioeconomic status people and seniors.</p>			
<p><b>Lead Agency:</b> Office of Food Security (OFS) and Council on Food security (CFS)</p>		<p><b>Supporting Partners:</b> CFS, OFS, sponsors, stakeholders/partners from Nevada tribal nations, housing, and the transportation sector. Supporting partners will also include NDA, The Division of Plant Health and Compliance works and Division of Food and Nutrition and local farmers.</p>	
Strategies	Action Steps and Responsible Parties (optional)	Timeline	Target Results
<p><b>1.2.1</b> Recommend a revision of Nevada Revised Statute (NRS 232) to add up to Three (3) seats on the CFS for individuals who have lived experience with Food insecurity and/or homelessness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CFS to make recommendations to Nevada’s Legislature Interim Health and Human Service Committee through an interim HHS presentation.</li> <li>• CFS to make recommendations to the Director of the Health Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) through the CFS Annual Reports that are submitted to the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).</li> <li>• Seats to be specific to individuals from the housing and transportation section(s) and include at least</li> </ul>	<p>A presentation completed by 10/31/2024.</p> <p>Recommendation to DHHS Director by 01/31/2025</p> <p>CFS 2024 Annual Report with recommendations completed by 01/31/25</p>	<p>Three (3) additional seats for the CFS by 2027.</p>

	two (2) members from Nevada’s tribal communities (North/South).		
<b>1.2.2</b> Allow representative(s) from the housing, transportation sector, and tribal communities to present during the Food Security Fairs/Conferences and CFS.	<p>CFS to identify partners who can present at the CFS annually and the Fairs/Conferences that will improve awareness on policy and programs around the housing, transportation sector, and tribal communities to mitigate drivers of food insecurity.</p> <p><i>All Interim/LCB outreach to occur through the Chair or from a Council member.</i></p>	<p>One (1) annual presentation to CFS by 12/31.</p> <p>One (1) presentation at each fair/conference (2025 &amp; 2027)</p> <p>Efforts and presentation to be documented in the CFS Annual Report each year.</p> <p>Efforts to continue through 12/31/2027.</p>	<p>By 2027 completed a minimum of four (4) presentations.</p> <p>CFS Annual Reports to include summary of presentations.</p>
<b>1.2.3</b> Meet at minimum of one (1) time per biennium with the Legislature Interim Health and Human Services Committee	<p>CFS will brief the NV Legislature Interim Health and Human Service Committee on food security issues and identify programs/policies that will increase food security; and make presentations regularly to county/city boards to raise awareness about need and programs.</p> <p><i>All Interim/LCB outreach to occur through the Chair or from a Council member.</i></p>	<p>One (1) presentation by CFS to the Legislature Interim Health and Human Services Committee in 2025 and again in 2027</p> <p>Efforts to continue through 12/31/2027.</p>	<p>By 2027 completed a minimum of two (2) presentations.</p> <p>CFS Annual Reports to include summary of presentations.</p>
<b>Resources:</b> CFS, OFS, NDA, Southern Nevada Council on Food Security, and Northern Nevada Council on Food Security.			

<b>Priority:</b> Social Determinants of Health			
<b>Focus Area:</b> Food Security			
<b>Goal 1:</b> Reduce food insecurity and improve the overall food security ecosystem in Nevada to help eliminate the existing hunger gap.			
<b>SMART Objective 1.3:</b> Support new strategic partnerships and increase awareness among the food security ecosystem regarding service providers and funding opportunities that can assist with distributing food to people, particularly individuals at increased/higher risk for food insecurity. The Office of Food Security (OFS) and the Council on Food Security (CFS) will leverage a statewide Food Security Fair/Conference and other existing marketing to assist with awareness.			
<b>Priority Population(s):</b> Food insecure individuals in Nevada statewide with a focus on school-aged children, low socioeconomic status people and seniors.			
<b>Lead Agency:</b> Office of Food Security (OFS) and Council on Food security (CFS)		<b>Supporting Partners:</b> OFS, CFS, sponsors, Food Banks, Food Pantries, NDA Division of Food and Nutrition, Food Security Service Providers, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS).	
<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Action Steps and Responsible Parties (optional)</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Target Results</b>
<b>1.3.1</b> Support the state lead in needs related to the federal SNAP EBT Modernization Technical Assistance Center grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OFS and/or CFS to coordinator SNAP EBT Stakeholders/partners to present at the CFS annually.</li> <li>• OFS and/or CFS to provide administrative support with identified partners to present at the CFS each year.</li> <li>• Allow representative(s) from SNAP to present at both the Southern and Northern Nevada Food Security Fair/Conference on SNAP EBT Modernization and other funding opportunities that can assist with distributing food to people.</li> </ul>	<p>One (1) presentation to CFS annually by 12/31.</p> <p>One (1) SNAP presentation at the Northern Nevada Fair/Conference by 12/31/25.</p> <p>One (1) SNAP presentation at the Southern Nevada Fair/Conference by 12/31/27.</p> <p>Efforts and presentation to be documented in the CFS Annual Report</p>	Increase funding awareness among the Food Security ecosystem regarding the SNAP EBT Modernization and other grant funding.

		each year.  Efforts to continue through 12/31/2027.	
<b>1.3.2</b> Support a minimum of two (2) service providers in attending In-Person to both Southern and Northern Nevada Food Security Fair/Conference.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The workgroup established in 1.1.1 Strategy will work in collaboration with the CFS and OFS to assist in identifying a minimum of two (2) service providers to attend each Food Security Fair/Conference.</li> <li>OFS will work in collaboration with the workgroup and CFS to identify sponsors to support the attendance of a minimum of two (2) service providers who will attend both the Southern and the Northern Nevada In-Person Food Security Fairs/Conference.</li> <li>Transportation Service providers shall include but not limited to services that bring the food to the people and the people to the food with equity among the rural and urban communities.</li> </ul>	<p>Identification of partners by 03/31/2025 for Northern Nevada Fair/Conference.</p> <p>Identification of partners by 03/31/2027 for the Southern Nevada Fair/Conference.</p> <p>Northern Nevada Fair/Conference Attendance by 12/31/2025.</p> <p>Southern Nevada Fair/Conference Attendance by 12/31/2027.</p>	Support new strategic partnerships that can assist with transportation needs and efforts to distribute food to people.
<b>Resources:</b> <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/grant/snap-ebt-modernization-technical-assistance-center">https://www.fns.usda.gov/grant/snap-ebt-modernization-technical-assistance-center</a> , Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS), the Grant Lab, the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA), and Nevada Food Banks.			

<b>Priority:</b> Social Determinants of Health
<b>Focus Area:</b> Food Security
<b>Goal 1:</b> Reduce food insecurity and improve the overall food security ecosystem in Nevada to help eliminate the existing hunger gap.
<b>SMART Objective 1.4:</b> Utilize existing outreach channels and participate in marketing opportunities to inform eligible individuals and eligible households about WIC and SNAP benefits, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, the Summer Food Service Program, and any other additional summer food, school lunch, and breakfast programs. Increase awareness of existing campaigns that emphasize the benefits, requirements, and application processes for sponsors.

<b>Priority Population(s):</b> Food insecure individuals in Nevada statewide with a focus on school-aged children, low socioeconomic status people and seniors.			
<b>Lead Agency:</b> Office of Food Security (OFS) and Council on Food security (CFS)		<b>Supporting Partners:</b> Sponsors, OFS, CFS, Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), school stakeholders (Department of Education, school districts, etc.), and NDA Division of Food and Nutrition.	
<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Action Steps and Responsible Parties (optional)</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Target Results</b>
<b>1.4.1</b> Support in the identification of partnerships to increase WIC and SNAP participation and support rural program efforts for the Child and Adult Care Food Program and Summer Food Service Program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The OFS and/or CFS will collaborate with WIC, SNAP, DWSS, and academic partners to identify a representative who is willing to present at CFS about WIC, SNAP, and existing partnerships statewide. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation to include barriers preventing partners from accepting supplemental nutritional assistance applications, which will be tracked via CFS Annual Reports.</li> </ul> </li> <li>CFS to collaborate with NDA to Identify at minimum three (3) rural representatives for the Child and Adult Care Food Program and/or Summer Food Service Program to present during the CFS annually. This can include, but not limited to NDA program staff.</li> <li>Allow representative(s) from WIC, SNAP, the NDA Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Summer Food Service Program to present at both the Southern and Northern Nevada Food Security Fair/Conference.</li> <li>CFS and OFS to collaborate with the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) Division of Food and Nutrition and school stakeholders (food distribution on Indian Reservations, school lunch and breakfast recipients, etc.) to increase awareness around NDA administered</li> </ul>	<p>Four (4) presentations to the CFS annually by 12/31.</p> <p>Identification of partners for CFS presentation by 04/30 annually.</p> <p>Identification of partners by 03/31/2025 for Northern Nevada Fair/Conference.</p> <p>One (1) presentation at the Northern Nevada Fair/Conference by 12/31/25.</p> <p>Identification of partners by 03/31/2027 for the Southern Nevada Fair/Conference.</p> <p>One (1) presentation at the Southern Nevada Fair/Conference by</p>	<p>Increase participation in programs designed to reduce food insecurity.</p> <p>Sixteen (16) presentations to the CFS by 2027.</p>

	<p>programs aimed to improve food Security (Child and Adult Care Food Program, Food Distribution on Indian Reservations, School Lunch and Breakfast Programs, Summer Food Programs, etc.).</p>	<p>12/31/27.</p> <p>All efforts and presentation summaries are to be included in the CFS Annual Report.</p> <p>Efforts to continue through 12/31/2027.</p>	
<p><b>Resources:</b> Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS), Southern Nevada Council on Food Security, Northern Nevada Council on Food Security, State of Nevada’s Council on Food Security, Division of Public Behavioral Health-The Office of Food Security, Nevada Department of Agriculture, Nevada Department of Education, and Statewide Food Banks.</p>			