



Illinois Partnership for Childhood Nutrition Security

Sponsored by the Illinois Chapter,
American Academy of Pediatrics
(ICAAP)



Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

- Non-profit, Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics, project funder
- Headquartered in Chicago
- 2,100 + members statewide
- Mission –Promote and advocate for optimal child youth and family well-being and access to quality care
- CME, QI, public health, systems change, advocacy, collaboration

<https://illinoisAAP.org/>





Illinois Partnership for Childhood Nutrition Security

The purpose of the **Childhood Nutrition Security Project** is to foster collaboration between pediatricians, state food delivery, and family support partners to improve pediatrician food insecurity screening, referral mechanisms, and resource delivery to families.

The Partnership will create and implement a **collective impact plan** to advance childhood nutrition in Illinois.

<https://illinoisAAP.org/childhood-nutrition-security/>





ICAAP Food Security Work Group Team

Maggie Chen, ICAAP MPH Intern, Family Advisor

Amy Christison, MD, FAAP, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics University of Illinois College of Medicine, Medical Director, Healthy Kids U, Children's Hospital of Illinois

Alexandra Vaughn, Family Advisor

Mary Elsner, JD, Director, Health Equity Initiatives, ICAAP Staff

Vera Goldberg, MD, Primary Care Pediatrician, Aunt Martha's Health & Wellness

Sarah Lomahan, MPH, ICAAP Health Equity Initiatives Consultant

Zohra Moeenuddin, MD, FAAP, University of Illinois College of Medicine - Peoria, Heartland Health Services

Alisa Seo-Lee, MD, FAAP, Cook County Health

Allison Hansen, Dina Nashed, Michael Neff, Alejandra Pineda, Rubi Rodriguez, University of Illinois College of Medicine

Project Partners

Government Agency

Chicago Department of Public Health

Chicago Food Policy Action Counsel

Chicago Public Schools

Cook County Health

Illinois Department of Human Services

Illinois State Board of Education

SNAP Education, University of Illinois Extension

Tazewell County Health Department

Healthcare System

American Heart Association

Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

Erie Family Health Center

Esperanza Health Center

Heartland Health Services

Illinois Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

OSF Healthcare Children's Hospital of Illinois

PCC Community Wellness Center

Proviso Partners for Health: Veggie Rx

UIC Office of Community Engagement and Neighborhood Health Partnership

Farmer's Market / Local Food Initiative

Experimental Station

Illinois 4-H Food Security Communities

Peoria Grown

Food Bank / Pantry

Beyond Hunger

Catholic Charities of Archdiocese of Chicago

Feeding Illinois

Greater Chicago Food Depository

Marillac St. Vincent Family Services

Midwest Food Bank

Public Health

Illinois Public Health Association

Illinois Public Health Institute

Home Visiting / Daycare

Start Early

Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Bold = survey received

Overview of Collective Impact Plan Tasks



Dec Meeting #1

- Validate assets for promoting food security
- Identify best practices



Jan Meeting #2

- Prioritize best practices to pilot or scale
- Agree upon metrics and shared data
- Draft our collective plan



Feb/Mar Meeting #3

- Refine the collective impact plan
- Develop specific plans, outputs, and metrics

Today's Session Outline

Project Overview: 30 minutes

- Introductions
- Share from a Pediatrician's Lens
- Share from a Family's Lens
- Present Partner Survey Responses

Work Groups: 40 minutes

- Validate and add to Assets and Regional Footprint
- Validate and add to Best Practices
- Prioritize Next Steps for Improving Food Security
- If time: Identify Best practices to Next Steps

Summary: 20 minutes

Role of Pediatricians in Feeding Insecurity

- Pediatric practices in different settings
 - Private practice, academic-based practice, FQHC, hospital
- How frequently do pediatricians encounter children with feeding insecurity?
- What are the screening practices and recommendations?
- What are the difficulties that pediatricians face in their medical practice?



Family Advisor's Experience in Navigating the System

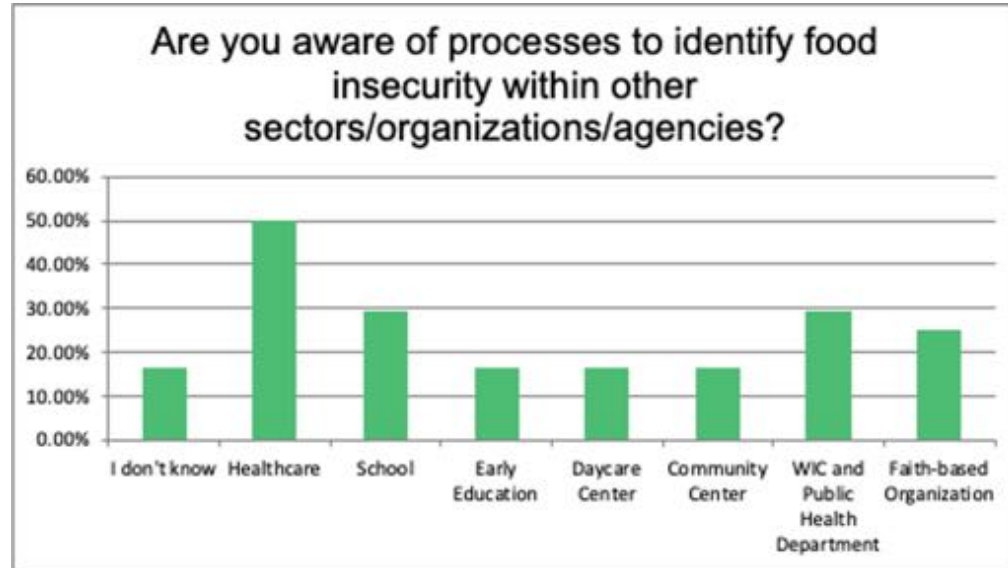
WHO'S HUNGRY?



YOU CAN'T TELL BY LOOKING

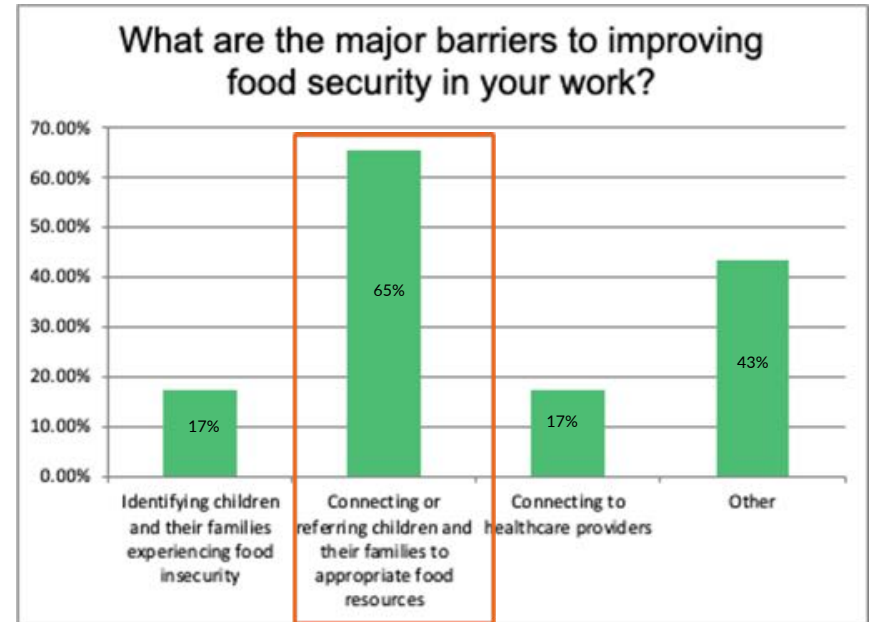
Identification of Food Insecurity: 14/24 (58%) Screen

- Screening processes:
 - During registration/onboarding
 - Hunger Vital Sign questions
 - Screening tool within electronic medical record
 - Administer survey
 - Assessment with social worker, mental health provider, etc.



Referral to Food Resources and Major Barriers: 13/24 (54%) Refer or Follow-Up with Children/Families Experiencing FI

- Referral platforms and databases used: Pieces Iris, NowPow, FoodMaps, 211
- Other barriers:
 - Families facing multiple social issues may have difficulty navigating all the resources
 - Transportation, rural access to healthy foods
 - Streamlining identification/referral processes
 - Staff shortage, resources stretched thin, limited capacity to expand programming
 - Staff not specialized to address food security
 - Understanding the scope of food resources
 - Farmer's market often don't operate year-round



Healthcare Providers/Systems

Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

- Address food needs among patients, CLOCC participates in food access and anti-hunger initiatives

Cook County Health

- Screens patients for food insecurity and connects to resources

Erie Family Health Centers

- Screen for SDOH and food insecurity

Heartland Health Services

- Partner food pantry

PCC Wellness Center

- Distribute patient vegetable boxes, linkage to agencies

Schools, Early Childhood, Childcare, Faith-based Orgs

Food Security Promoters, Supporters, and Educators

American Health Association

- Support community based organizations and healthcare providers

Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH)

- System changes related to food programs, identify food insecurity

Experimental Station

- Provide funding, training, support to farmers markets, grocery stores to accept SNAP/Link

Illinois 4-H

- Food Action Academy Curriculum to engage Illinois youth

Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies

- Summer feeding program, providing accessible nutrition education

Start Early

- Head Start grantee, early learning program including nutrition education

Tazewell County Health Department (TCHD)

- Participate in nutrition programs as an agency
- Convene HEAL Food System Partner (FSP) Collaborative

Food Security

Food Suppliers and Distributors

Beyond Hunger

- Hunger-relief programming and services, connecting to benefits

Chicago Public Schools (CPS)

- Serve meals at no cost and connect to public benefits

Feeding Illinois

- Association/supporting food banks, food assistance programs

Greater Chicago Food Depository

- Hub for 700+ food pantries, and other programs

Marillac St. Vincent Family Services

- Offer food services (food pantry, meals) and advocacy

Midwest Food Bank

- Provide industry leading food relief

Peoria Grown

- Access and education to affordable fresh produce

Data/Knowledge/Resources

Illinois Department of Human Services

- Administer federal grants (SNAP, CSFP, TEFAP, WIC)

Illinois State Board of Education

- Administers USDA Child Nutrition Program

Illinois Public Health Association: policy

Illinois Public Health Institute

- Promote best practices to improve food access for patients within healthcare systems and public health departments

University of Illinois SNAP-Ed

- Provide opportunities to improve nutrition, physical activity, food access, for SNAP eligible families

Feeding Illinois

Greater Chicago Food Depository

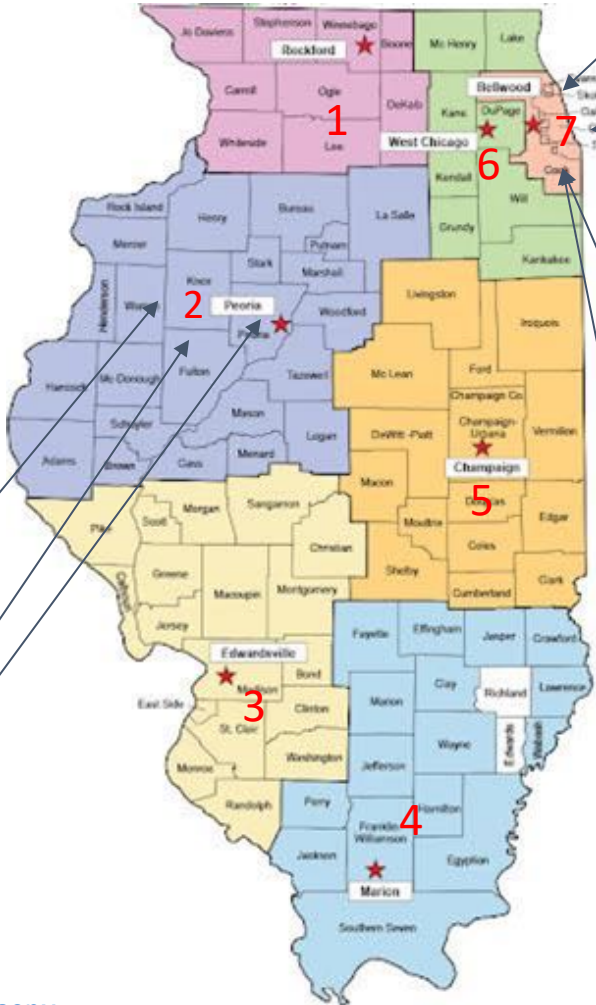
Tazewell County Health Department/ HEAL FSP

Databases: Now Pow/ Iris Pieces/ Finding Food IL/ Find Food/ United Us/ mRelief/ 211

Statewide

- American Heart Association
- Experimental Station
- Feeding Illinois
- Illinois 4-H
- Illinois Department of Human Services
- Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies
- Illinois Public Health Association
- Illinois State Board of Education
- Midwest Food Bank
- SNAP Education, University of Illinois Ext.
- Start Early

- **Region 2:** Tazewell County Health Department (Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford Counties)
- **County-Level:** Heartland Health Services (Peoria and Tazewell Counties)
- **City-Level:** Peoria Grown (Peoria City)



Region 7: Cook County Health, Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

Region 6/7: Erie Family Health Centers (Chicago, Evanston/Skokie, Waukegan)

Illinois Public Health Institute (Cook County)

City-Level: PCC- Community Wellness Center, Marillac St. Vincent Family Services, Chicago Department of Public Health, Chicago Public Schools

Beyond Hunger (13 zip codes on west side Chicago)

Child Food Insecurity Rate

4-14%

15-19%

20-24%

25-29%

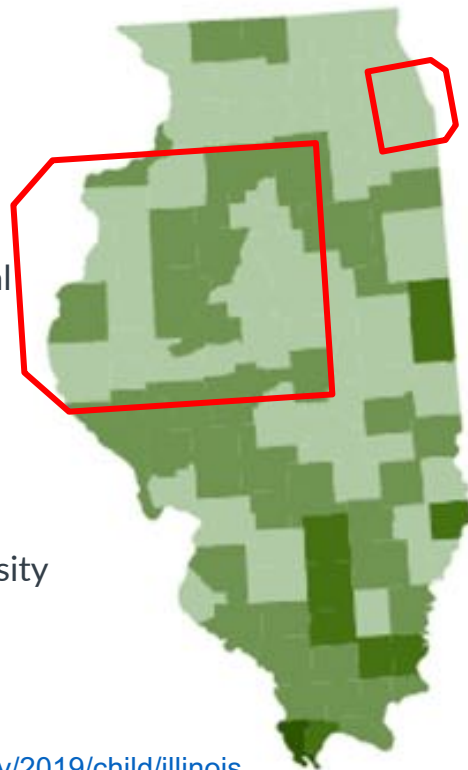
30% +

Who are we missing?

Who else should be invited to the table?

Statewide

- American Heart Association
- Experimental Station
- Feeding Illinois
- Illinois 4-H
- Illinois Department of Human Services
- Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies
- Illinois Public Health Association
- Illinois State Board of Education
- Midwest Food Bank
- SNAP Education, University of Illinois Ext.
- Start Early



Best Practices

Healthcare/Good Nutrition	Community Connections	Resources
<p>Social Determinants Screening and linkages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voucher Program (healthcare and community collab)	<p>Partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing Authority• Summer Feeding programs• Services to children living in low-income households	<p>SNAP, ISBE sponsored training</p>
<p>Staff Competency (Screening and enrollment referrals)</p>	<p>Improving Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On-Site Produce Boxes (e.g. pregnant women and children)• Home Delivered Meals/Food• Mobile Pantries• Produce Pop-ups	<p>4-H Action academy curriculum and food security services projects</p>
<p>Increased Nutrition of Inventory Guideline Adoption (Foodbanks/Pantry)</p>	<p>Community Voice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4-H thrive model emphasis on youth voice	<p>Expand family online resources for food</p>

*Examples are listed by bullet points

Better Collaboration

What we do	How we do it
Universal FI Screening	Pilot projects before scaling
Improve partnerships and referral systems (connecting those with FI?)	Adaptable shared evaluation models that do not burden partners
Prioritize good nutrition	Communicating and collaborating on existing nutrition efforts (don't recreate the wheel)
Support families with education on financial stability and nutrition	Intentional data collection and tracking
	Develop information sharing platform (alternative to email listservs)
	Generate more work groups to establish action plans

Next Steps

Processes	Resources	Policy Advocacy
Improve consistency/alignment of identification, resource coordination, and provisions	Build grassroots partnerships including local culturally diverse growers and producers, retailers, mutual aid groups, food rescue partners	SNAP and other federally funded food programs (CACFP, NSLP, SBP) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expand eligibility• Increase benefit amounts• Increase assistance with enrollment and navigation
Have youth at the table to ensure approaches are developmentally and culturally appropriate	Create common portal for food assistance resources – Streamline/centralize resources	Universal free school meals
Utilize existing infrastructure to better serve children	Overcome transportation barriers by offering more local food options	EBT childhood benefits when school is out
Statewide Collaboration	Increase quality/nutritious food	Increase quality/nutritious food

Work Group Reports

- Best Practices
- Opportunities
- Next steps

- 1) Please respond to our doodle for the next 2 meeting dates
- 2) We will send out our collective edits and summaries
- 3) Please think about what should be prioritized to pilot or scale as part of our collective plan



Dec Meeting #1

- Validate assets for promoting food security
- Identify best practices



Jan Meeting #2

- Prioritize best practices to pilot or scale
- Agree upon metrics and shared data
- Draft our collective plan



Feb/Mar Meeting #3

- Refine the collective impact plan
- Develop specific plans, outputs, and metrics