

## Nutrition Task Force – Food Insecurity Work Group

8.17.2016

Present: Audrey Hess, Nickie Fickel, Jack Jones, Geoff Lambert, Christy Unger, Jon Raber, Bob Whitmore, Kari Coleman, Sheryl Snider

First meeting of the Food Insecurity Work Group, part of the Healthy Franklin County Nutrition Task Force. Time was spent on foundational discussion around issues of definitions as well as purpose and goals of the Food Insecurity Work Group (FIWG).

### Define food insecurity first

- USDA definition of *food security*
  - Food security means access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life.
  - USDA doesn't define '*food insecurity*' as such. They define the positive that we're all working toward. The negative (lack of food security, or food insecurity) comes in varying degrees
  - [More info from USDA on their definitions of food insecurity here...](#)
- *Also, if you're interested, available – USDA has a webinar next Wednesday...*
  - September 7, 2016 at 11:00 AM EDT, the Economic Research Service, USDA, will host a webinar: **Household Food Security in the United States in 2015**. In this webinar, ERS Social Science Analyst Alisha Coleman-Jensen will provide an overview of USDA's annual report on the prevalence and severity of food insecurity in U.S. households in 2015. [Register Now](#).

### Purpose of the Food Insecurity Work Group (FIWG)

- Discussion around the purpose of FIWG included:
  - Support the organizations and individuals in Franklin County working to ensure food security for all residents; working to ensure access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life.
  - Key words there:
    - Reliable access
    - Sufficient quantity
    - Nutritious food
    - Active, healthy life
  - As part of the Nutrition Task Force, the key focus of our work is in supporting the efforts of those working to provide the “active, healthy life” part.

## Goals (specific) for the Food Insecurity Work Group

- Still up for discussion...
- Some discussion of potential goals included:
  - Increase overall food access
  - Increase access to vegetables
  - Increase vegetable consumption

## Activities (specific) of the Food Insecurity Work Group

- Still up for discussion...
- Some discussion of potential activities included:
  - Identify existing food insecurity resources – emergency food and resources to improve access...
    - (Should be a master list available online...)
  - Assess existing food insecurity resources (survey)
    - Ask the questions:
      - What do these existing programs need?
      - What obstacles do they face?
      - What demand do they see that's not being met?
      - Are they fully utilized by those in need?
      - Online survey like this - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016ctc> - could be utilized (Thank you, Christy...)
  - Identify areas of potential nutritional improvement
  - Increase awareness of locations/organizations that offer reliable access to affordable, nutritious food
  - Evaluate if vegetable consumption increased because of these activities... and if not, why not?
  - Translate this hypothetical and high-level assessment into relevant, practical, useful, concrete progress for on-the-ground practitioners (otherwise you're gonna lose em and all relevance)
  - Nutrition Block Parties?

## Resources for FIWG group

- [2015 Summit Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\) – full report](#)
- [Franklin County CHNA Overview by Berwood Yost](#)

## Next steps

- Promote Double Dollars SNAP incentive at North Square Farmers Market through all our programs and contacts (contact Jon Raber – [JonRaber@sccap.org](mailto:JonRaber@sccap.org))
- Create food-security-resource-provider survey
- Find/create master list of existing food security resource providers
- Create FIWG client/eater survey
- Survey the target population with that single, consistent FIWG client/eater survey