

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard Whitley,
MS
Director



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



Dena Schmidt
Administrator

Ihsan Azzam,
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*Chief Medical
Officer*

THE NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY SPECIAL SESSION

MEETING AGENDA

September 23, 2025

1:00 p.m. to Adjournment

This meeting is being held virtually. The public is invited to attend.

VIRTUAL INFORMATION

How To Participate

Meeting Link:

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 259 678 010 934 9

Passcode: o9FH7Hj3

Join by phone:

[+1 775-321-6111, 743865456#](#) United States, Reno

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 743 865 456#

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

NOTICE:

1. The agenda items may be taken out of order.
2. Two or more items may be combined; and
3. Items may be removed from the agenda or delayed at any time.

1. Call to order and Roll Call:
 2. Public Comment: No action may be taken on a matter raised under public comment unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comment telephonically, dial [+1 775-321-6111](tel:+17753216111). When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter [743865456#](tel:743865456#). Due to time considerations, comments will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Members of the public utilizing the call-in (audio only) number may raise their hands by pressing *5. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record, spell their last name, or provide Rory Fuller, r.fuller@health.nv.gov, with written comments.
 3. For Information Only: Data Presentations (Food Bank of Northern Nevada, Southern Nevada Food Policy Council, and Three Square).
 4. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action on work for [AB405](#) Food Insecurity study.
 5. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action on work for [SB233](#) Home Feeds Nevada study.
 6. **Public Comment:** No action may be taken on a matter raised under public comment unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comment telephonically, dial [+1 775-321-6111](tel:+17753216111). When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter [743865456#](tel:743865456#). Due to time considerations, comments will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Members of the public utilizing the call-in (audio only) number may raise their hands by pressing *5. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record, spell their last name, or provide Rory Fuller, r.fuller@health.nv.gov, with written comments.
 7. Adjournment
-

NOTICES OF THIS PUBLIC MEETING HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

PHYSICAL POSTING LOCATION

- 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 City, NV 89703
- Three Square Food Bank: 4190 N. Pecos Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89115
- Helping Hands of Vegas Valley: 3640 N. 5th St. Suite 130 North Las Vegas, NV 89032

INTERNET POSTING

- The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health website at [Nevada_Council_on_Food_Security_Meeting_Schedule_for_2025](#)) and the Department of Administration's website at <https://notice.nv.gov/>

The agenda and meeting information was mailed to groups and individuals as requested. 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 r.fuller@health.nv.gov.

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodation for anyone living with a disability and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify Rory Fuller in writing by email (r.fuller@health.nv.gov), by mail (CFS, 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.

If at any time during the meeting a person intending to present on an agenda item cannot do so or is having technical difficulties, please reach out to Rory Fuller, at (775) 684-2203, or by email at r.fuller@health.nv.gov referencing the agenda item number, what time the difficulty started, and their intent to participate should the agenda item be moved to another time, date, or addressed otherwise.

Please be cautious and do not click on links in the chat area of the meeting unless you have verified that they are safe. If you ever have questions about a link in a document purporting to be from the Office of Food Security, please do not hesitate to contact r.fuller@health.nv.gov. Please refrain from commenting in the chat area of the meeting, unless requested to, because minutes are required to be taken of the meeting.

It is the goal of this body to afford the public a comment period in compliance with the minimum requirements of the Open Meeting Law prior to adjournment. This body provides at least two public comment periods. 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. The Chair retains discretion to only provide for the Open Meeting Law's minimum public comment and not call for additional item-specific public comment when it is deemed necessary by the Chair to the orderly conduct of the meeting.

This meeting is a public meeting, recorded and held in compliance with and pursuant to the Nevada Open Meeting Law, pursuant to NRS 241. By participating, you consent to recording of your participation in this meeting. All voting members should leave their cameras on for the duration of the meeting and refrain from entering any information into the chat function of the video platform. Please understand the use of obscenities or other behavior which disrupts the meeting to the extent that its orderly conduct is made impractical may result in the forfeiture of the opportunity to provide public comment or removal from the meeting.

Additionally, anyone who would like to be on the mailing list must submit a written request every six (6) months to the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health at the address listed below.

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

Attachment for Agenda Item #3



The State of Food Insecurity In Northern Nevada



FOOD BANK
OF NORTHERN NEVADA



FOOD BANK
OF NORTHERN NEVADA

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Our Purpose

- **FBNN's Mission:** Feeding the hungry today and solving hunger for tomorrow through community partnership.
- **Our Vision:** Healthy Food. Every Person. Every Day.



The Big Picture

- We are a network member of Feeding America.
- Feeding America is a network of more than 200 Food Banks.



Who is “Food Insecure?”

- We are serving more than 160,000 people each month
- Nearly half of those are children (under 18) and seniors
- Many are working and need food assistance to make ends meet.
- We have seen drastic increases - 79% increase since before the pandemic.
- 1 in 8 people in Nevada face hunger
- 1 in 5 children in Nevada face hunger
- **For a single parent w/ 2 kids, \$2,151/month = Federal Poverty Line**
- **One senior at poverty level, lives on \$1,255/mo., or less, AND average rent in Reno = \$1,631/mo.**



The Delivery System



The Food Bank accepts food from grocers, farmers, corporate donors, federal sources, food drives and more. In addition, we purchase food.



In FY25, we distributed enough food for more than 23.1 million meals.



Our partner agencies and programs provide food directly for neighbors who need help.



Children, families, and seniors have the nutritious foods they need.



SERVICE AREA MAP



The Food Bank serves
23 counties in Nevada
and California.

[Link to our Service Map](#)

Food Insecurity in Northern Nevada

County	FI Rate	Child FI Rate	Black FI Rate	Hispanic FI Rate	White FI Rate	Rural/Urban County	FI Population
Carson City	14.1%	19.2%	20%	20%	11%	Urban	8200
Churchill	14.1%	18.2%	n/a	22%	11%	Rural	3570
Douglas	12.2%	15.7%	n/a	17%	9%	Rural	6050
Elko	12.5%	14.9%	n/a	19%	10%	Rural	6690
Eureka	15.8%	21.8%	n/a	n/a	n/a	Rural	260
Humboldt	14.1%	16.7%	n/a	17%	11%	Rural	2430
Lander	12.5%	16.0%	n/a	n/a	11%	Rural	720
Lyon	13.8%	17.9%	n/a	18%	12%	Rural	8180
Mineral	16.1%	23.8%	n/a	n/a	12%	Rural	730
Pershing	13.1%	16.1%	n/a	n/a	12%	Rural	860
Storey	12.4%	14.9%	n/a	n/a	10%	Rural	510
Washoe	12.9%	16.0%	25%	19%	11%	Urban	62960
White Pine	11.7%	13.9%	n/a	n/a	10%	Rural	1060

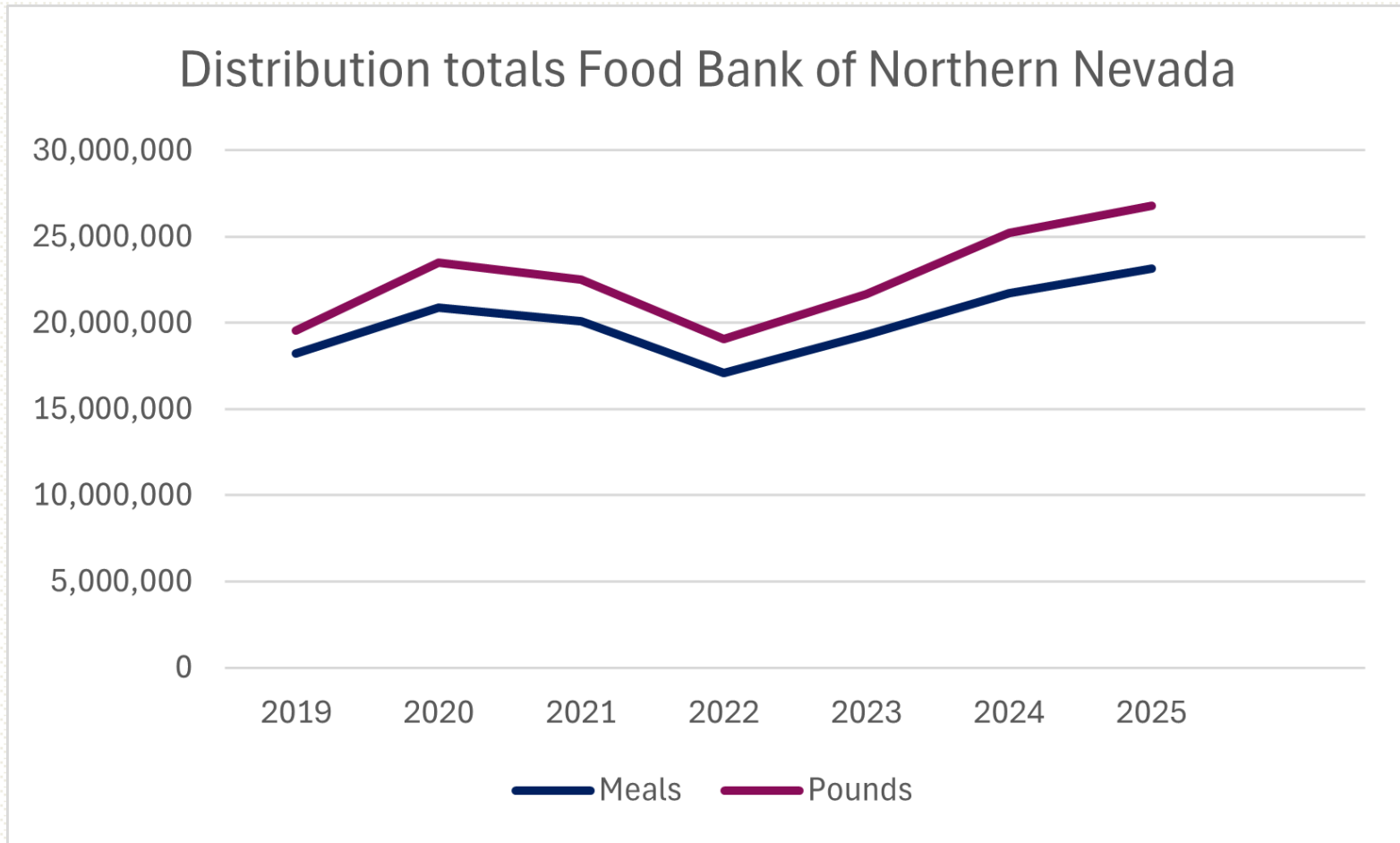
* Data provided by Feeding America



FOOD BANK
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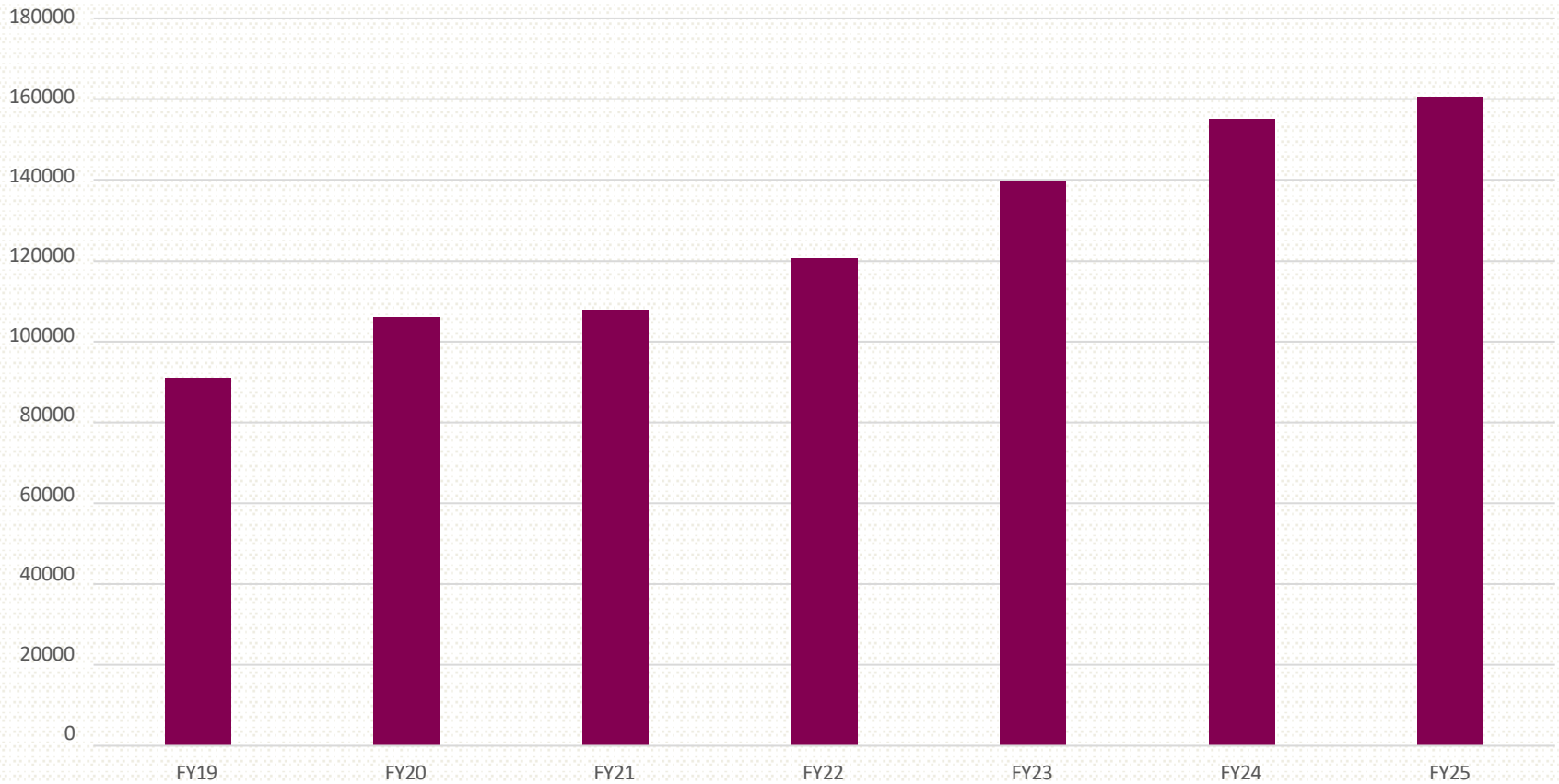
| www.fbnn.org

Meals and Pounds Distributed



People Served

Average People served each month



Meals Provided by County

County	FI Rate	Child FI Rate	Total Meals Provided	FI Population	Meals Distributed per Food Insecure Person
Carson City	14.1%	19.2%	2039675	8200	248.7
Churchill	14.1%	18.2%	1252177	3570	350.7
Douglas	12.2%	15.7%	747416	6050	123.5
Elko	12.5%	14.9%	927618	6690	138.7
Eureka	15.8%	21.8%	51186	260	196.9
Humboldt	14.1%	16.7%	361264	2430	148.7
Lander	12.5%	16.0%	205324	720	285.2
Lyon	13.8%	17.9%	2044113	8180	249.9
Mineral	16.1%	23.8%	425526	730	582.9
Pershing	13.1%	16.1%	145418	860	169.1
Storey	12.4%	14.9%	121469	510	238.2
Washoe	12.9%	16.0%	11628627	62960	184.7
White Pine	11.7%	13.9%	178914	1060	168.8



Operations



- Our facility is 68,000 square feet and encompasses 3 acres of land, however we own 9 total acres. Our warehouse makes up 48,700 square feet of that space.
- We have 2 refrigerated cool rooms which can hold up to 204 pallets of food.
- We have 1 freezer which can hold 210 pallets of food.



Operations(continued)



- Fleet consists of
 - Passenger vehicles used for program administration (14)
 - Box Trucks (5)
 - Tractors (8)
 - Trailers (9)

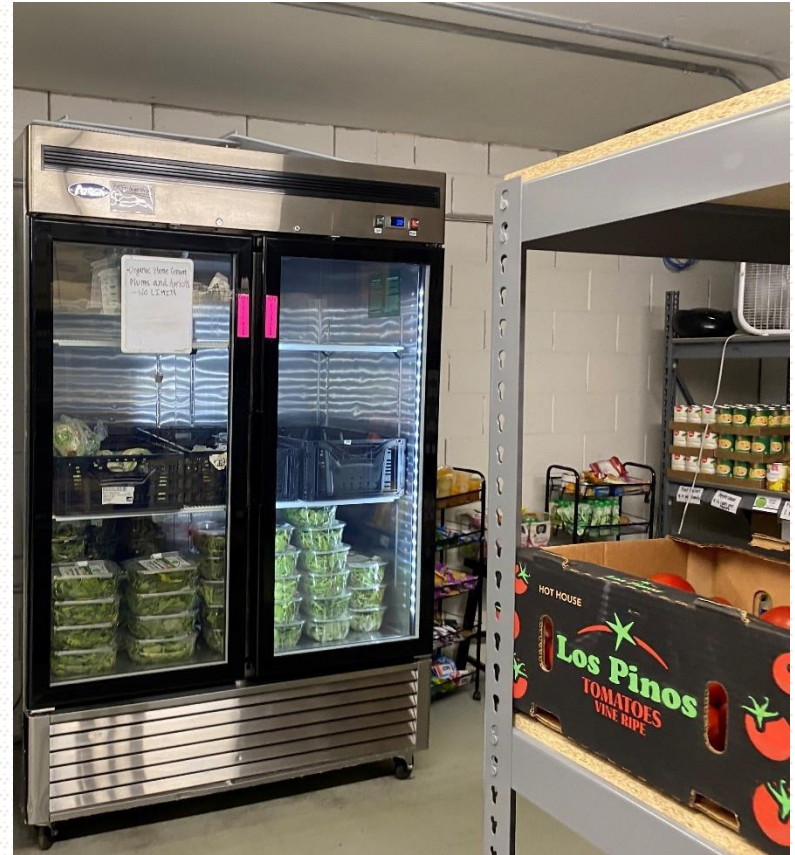
All trucks, tractors and trailers are refrigerated.



Partners and Programs

The Food Bank of Northern Nevada is the distribution center that supports 155 partner agencies, as well as 10 direct service programs.

Partners include nonprofit and faith-based organizations who provide food as part of their operations. They are food pantries, congregate feeding programs, child and youth programs, senior programs, shelters, residential and transitional housing programs.



Direct Service Programs

We operate 10 direct service programs:

- TEFAP – Federal program
- Mobile Harvest
- Produce on Wheels
- Senior Nutrition and Wellness Program - Federal program
- Golden Groceries
- Kids Cafe - supported by 2 federal funding sources, CACFP and SFSP.
- School Pantry Program
- Backpack Program
- SNAP Outreach
- Prescription Pantry Program



Partner and Programs



All partners and all direct service programs track neighbor assistance and provide data monthly.

This is done with web-based client tracking software called Oasis as well as Insights, Access, Excel.

Some partners have their own systems and are required to report to us each month.



Partners by County

Carson City

Advocates to End Domestic Violence – domestic violence shelter
Boys and Girls Club of Western Nevada – youth program
Carson City Seventh Day Adventist Church – food pantry
Computer Corps – training program and food pantry
F.I.S.H. – food pantry, soup kitchen, shelter, thrift store
Food for Thought – youth backpack program
Shine – A Jesus Church – food pantry
Nations Finest – food pantry
Northern Nevada Dream Center – food pantry
NNCH/ Richards Crossing – residential program
Senior Citizens of Ron Wood Family Resource Center – food pantry and FRC
Salvation Army – food pantry
Vitality Carson City – residential program

Churchill County

Churchill County Parks and Recreation – youth program
Epworth United Methodist Church – food pantry and soup kitchen
Fallon Shoshone Paiute Tribe – food pantry
New Frontier Treatment Center – food pantry and residential program
Out of Egypt Food Pantry – food pantry
William N Pennington Life Center, senior center

Douglas County

Carson Valley Community Food Closet – food pantry
Douglas County Backpack buddies – youth program
Our Lady of Tahoe Outreach Program – food pantry

Elko County

Carlin Cupboard – food pantry
Communities in Schools – youth program
Shoshone Paiute Tribe / Duck Valley Reservation – food pantry
Friends In Service Helping (FISH) – food pantry, soup kitchen, thrift store
JAS Foundation – Joe's Pantry, pantry
Jackpot Helping Hands – food pantry
Montello Food Pantry – food pantry
Silver Sage Senior Center – senior center and food pantry
St. Joseph Catholic Church – food pantry

Vitality Unlimited – residential program

Humboldt County

Humboldt County – senior center
Winnemucca Food Bank – food pantry
Eureka County
Eureka Nutrition Sites – senior center and food pantry

Lander County

AoA Elder Program / Battle Mountain Band – food pantry
Assembly of God, food pantry
Helping Hands of Austin – food pantry

Lyon County

Boys & Girls Club of Mason Valley – youth program
Healthy Communities Coalition:
• Dayton Food Pantry
• Yerington Food Pantry
• Silver Stage Food Pantry
Living Faith Christian Fellowship – food pantry

Rural Nevada Counseling – food pantry
St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church – food pantry
Yerington Paiute Tribe – food pantry, senior center and youth program

Storey County

Community Chest Inc., pantry – food pantry and FRC
Lockwood Senior Center – food pantry
Storey County Senior Citizens Center, senior center

White Pine County

Ely Shoshone Paiute Tribe – food pantry
White Pine Ministerial Association – food pantry



Partners by County (continued)

Washoe County

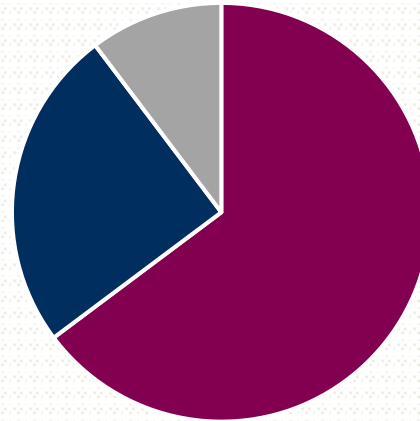
Access to Healthcare Network – food pantry
Bethel AME Church – food pantry
Black Wall Street – food pantry
Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows – youth program
Bristlecone Family Resources – residential program
Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada – food pantry, soup kitchen, residential
Children's Cabinet – food pantry and youth program
Church of Jesus Christ Spirit-Filled – food pantry
Community Health Alliance – Rx food pantry and healthcare clinics
• CHA Reno
• CHA Sparks
• CHS Sun Valley
Communities in Schools – Western Nevada – school food pantries
Domestic Violence Resource Center – domestic violence shelter
Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church – food pantry
Girls on the Run – youth program
Girl Scouts of Sierra Nevada – youth program
Health Care for Homeless Veterans outreach –Capitol Hill – food pantry
Homefront VA Transitional Living Program – residential program
Hope Community Church – backpack program
Kings Row Community Life Center – youth program
MAP Emergency Food Pantry – food pantry
Nation's Finest – residential program and food pantry
Nevada Humane Society – pet food
Nevada Utah Conference of Seventh Day Adventists – food pantry
New Life Assembly of God – food pantry
New Revival Church – food pantry
Northern Nevada Community Housing (Cottonwood and Plaza) – food pantry
Northern Nevada HOPES and HOPES Springs – mobile pantry, SNAP outreach, residential program.
Northern Nevada International Center – food pantry
Northern Nevada Teen Challenge – residential program
Our Center – food pantry
Our Place - shelter
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe – food pantry

Rehoboth Holy Temple – food pantry
Reno Housing Authority – senior food pantry
Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission – food pantry, soup kitchen and residential program
Reno Sparks Indian Colony – food pantry
Reno/Sparks Seventh Day Adventist Spanish Church – food pantry
Renown Health, Rx food pantry and clinic
Ridge House – residential program
Safe Embrace – domestic violence shelter
Salvation Army – food pantry and residential program
Sierra Community House – food pantry
Sonrise Christian Church – food pantry
Sparks Christian Fellowship – food pantry
Sparks First United Methodist church – food pantry
Spread the Word Nevada – youth program
St. Francis of Assisi Food Pantry – food pantry
St. Michael Catholic Church – food pantry
Step 1 – residential program
Step 2 – residential program
Steps to New Freedom – residential program
The Community Food Pantry – food pantry
Truckee Meadows Community College – food pantry
The Bridge Church – food pantry
The Empowerment Center – residential program
The Eddy House – food pantry and teen drop in center
University Family Fellowship – food pantry
UNR Student Pantry / Pack Provisions – food pantry
VA Sierra Nevada Healthcare System – food pantry
Valley View Christian Fellowship – food pantry
Vitality Veterans Program - residential program
Voice in the Wilderness- food pantry
Washoe County School District Family Resource Centers: - food pantries/ SNAP
Washoe County DCFS – food pantry
Women and Children's Center of the Sierra – food pantry and diaper bank



FY25 Food Channels

Total Pounds by Posting Group



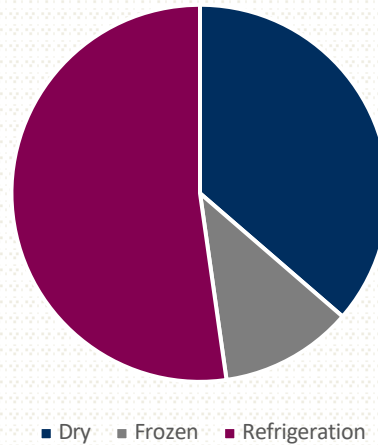
■ Donated ■ TEFAP ■ Purchased

Inventory Posting Group	Total Pounds by Posting Group	Percent
Donated	17,045,089	64.8%
TEFAP	6,558,423	24.9%
Purchased	2,709,082	10.3%
Total	26,312,594.00	



FY25 Food by Storage Type

Total Pounds

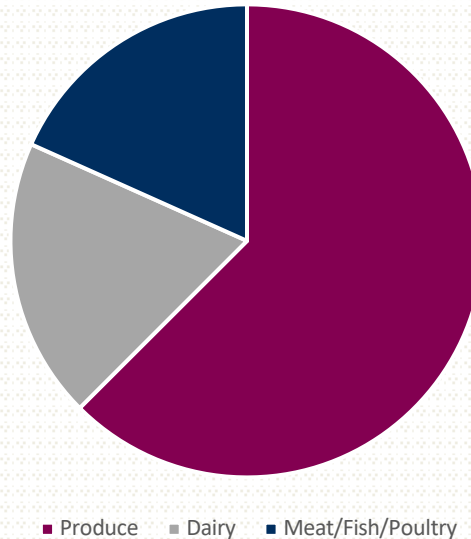


Storage Type	Total Pounds	Percent
Dry	9,878,572.00	36.34%
Frozen	3,100,694.00	11.41%
Refrigeration	14,201,973.00	52.25%
Total	27,181,239.00	



Perishable Mix

Total Perishable Pounds by Type



Perishable Type	Total Perishable Pounds by Type	Percent
Produce	8,703,028	62.5%
Dairy	2,671,792	19.2%
Meat/Fish/Poultry	2,547,988	18.3%
Total	13,922,808.00	



Federal Commodity Changes

FBNN anticipates a significant reduction in TEFAP foods in FY26, as compared to FY25, due to changes at a federal level.

We are forecasting a 3 million pound reduction in TEFAP



FY25 TEFAP

FY25:

Storage Type	Total TEFAP Pounds	Percent
Dry	3,555,467.00	54.21%
Frozen	1,004,314.00	15.31%
Refrigeration	1,998,641.00	30.47%
Total	6,558,422.00	



Home Feeds Nevada

- FY24 and FY25 had a total of \$4 million dollars that went to support the program.
- FY26 and FY27 the state has allocated \$800,000 total to support the program.
- Most significant impact is to local farmers and impact to food security efforts. For FBNN, our neighbors benefited



Home Feeds Nevada (Continued)

FY24 Stats:

Pounds Distributed in N.
Nevada = 1,077,982

Product Make-up:

- Produce 56%
- Dairy 23%
- Protein 18%
- Self-Stable 3%



Retail Rescue

Retail Rescue is a vital food sourcing program that reduces waste and increases access to nutritious food for our neighbors. Partner agencies receive food donations directly from grocery stores, wholesale clubs, and restaurants. Donations can include fresh produce, dairy, meat, dry goods, and bakery items; safe and edible foods that may no longer meet retail standards for sale.

FY25 Stats:

- Total pounds rescued = 6,123,311
- Total # of partners on the program = 50
- Total # of grocery stores that participate = 178

FY26 Goals:

- 6.5 million pounds rescued
- Implementation of our Culturally Responsive Food Program or CRFP – Sourcing from cultural/ethnic markets to offer neighbors foods that align with their cultural preferences.



Service Requirements



Food Deserts in Nevada

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines a food desert when a census tract meets the following two criteria (USDA, 2014a):

- **Low-income community** - poverty rate of 20 percent or higher, or a median family income at or below 80 percent of the statewide median family income
- **Low-access community** - urban census tracts with more than 33 percent living more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store or rural census tracts (geographical region containing 1,000 to 8,000 people) that are more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store.



Nevada Snapshot

- USDA identified food deserts in 40 of 687 census tracts in Nevada.
- **154,623** Nevadans meet the criteria of living in a low-income food desert.
- Among people in Nevada living in a food desert, 89% live in urban area and 11% reside in rural areas.
- Food Desert Locator map of Nevada census tracts. The green census tracts are food desert low-income neighborhoods without easy access to a supermarket or large grocery store. (updated May 2014)



*University of Nevada Reno Extension website



Rural Food Access

Phase 1: Needs

Assessment/Feasibility

Timeline: 1/1/23 through 6/30/24

- Mapping out the best destination point or points to store food.
- Identify potential partner agencies that will benefit.
- Determine the populations that need access to food more frequently.
- Determine the logistics and resources that will be required to support this distribution model long term.

Phase 2: Planning & Design

Timeline: 7/1/24-4/30/25

- Collecting, Analyzing, and Presenting Data.
- Choosing the Strategy and Setting Priorities.
- Clarifying the Issue.
- Setting Goals and Measuring Progress.
- Assess and Improve the Plan.
- Determine the infrastructure & operational design for the plan.

Phase

3:Construction

Timeline: 10/1/2025-6/30/26

- Build the physical infrastructure of the food distribution hub
- Install storage, refrigeration and other essential systems.
- Set up warehouse management and inventory technology.

Phases 4 &5: Pilot

Operations/Full Operational Launch

Timeline: 7/1/26-12/31/26

- Conduct soft launch with limited distributions to test logistics, tech and community engagement strategies
- Monitor performance metrics and gather feedback from stakeholders
- Fully operations the Rural Food Hub
- Scale up food sourcing, storage and distribution to meet goals
- Continue monitoring, evaluating, and optimizing the Hub's operations and community impact

** Timelines are subject to change*



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Our Recommendations

Topline priorities:

- Commit to establishing a permanent state fund that supports the charitable food system to purchasing healthy foods.
 - A food purchase fund would ensure access to healthy food that does not typically come through the charitable food system. The charitable food system is not designed to replace the federal safety net. Using SB 341 and AB525 as examples of a program that worked.
- Understand how changes made in HR 1 to SNAP, TANF, WIC and Medicaid will impact the food security of Nevadans across the state, and how the state will implement those changes.
- Engage in dialogue about the States willingness and readiness to provide a social safety net.
- Increase access to SNAP by encouraging DSS to apply for all available waivers (college students, ABAWDs, seniors).
- Maintain Summer EBT.
- Monitor and support the Federal government's role in guaranteeing a strong Farm Bill, assuring that commodity food levels are appropriate to address need and support a hunger free community.

Additional priorities to consider:

- Universal free meals in school – \$86 million dollars for a 2-year budget cycle.
- Monitor federal regulations that establish additional barriers for people to access food across the food system.
- Support the SB 233 committee to identity sustainable funding for Home Feeds Nevada
- Find economic ways to address food deserts across the state.
- Participate in the State's administrative rule making process for SNAP and Home Feeds Nevada.

We also have process recommendation regarding the SB 233 subcommittee:

- Ensure participation on the committee from the Treasurer's office, the Governor's office of Economic Development and a staff member from Nevada Department of Agriculture, along with Food Bank of Northern Nevada and Three Square Food Bank.



Contact Information

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Policy Solutions to Food Insecurity

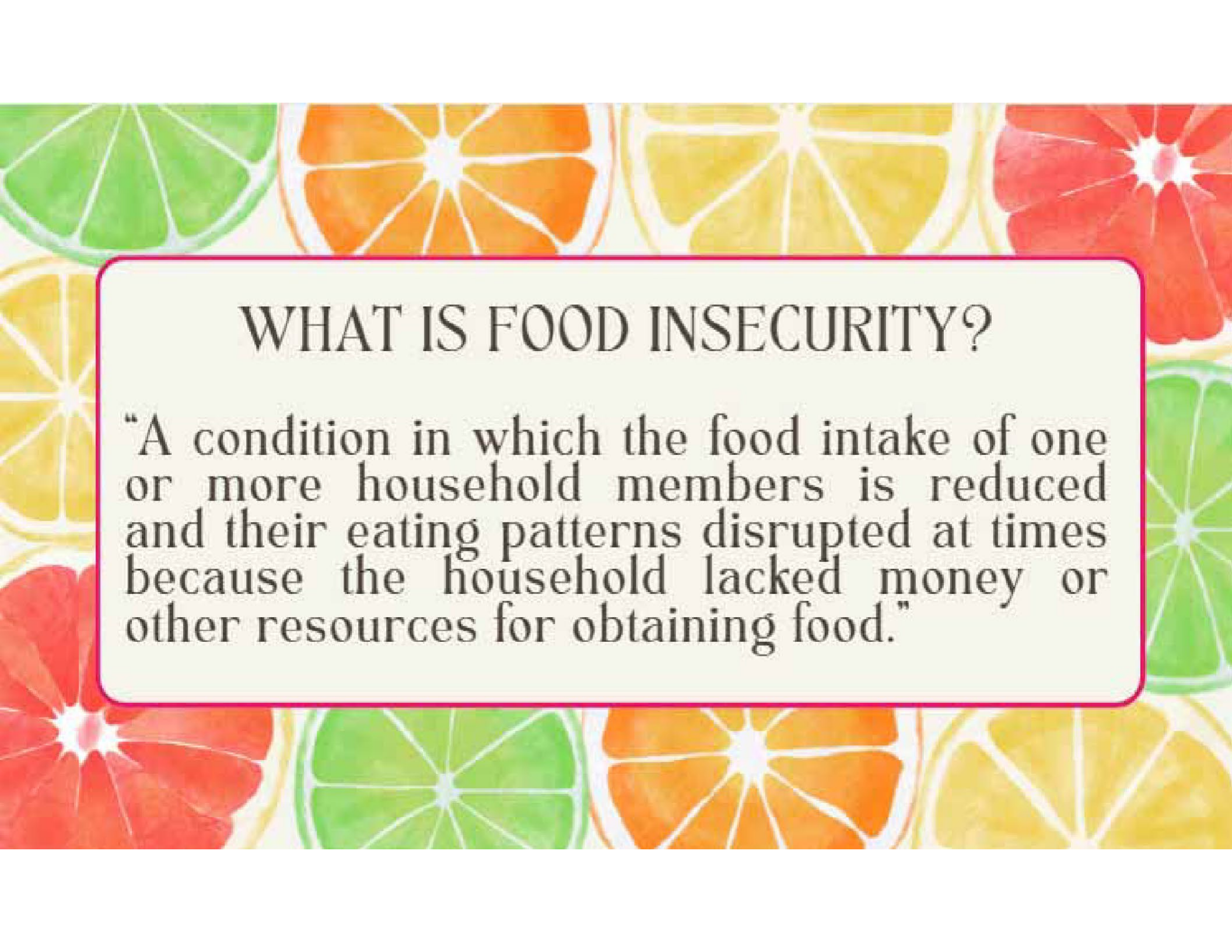
Sabina Malik, Ph.D.

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Assistant Professor, Statewide Specialist

UNR Extension, CABNR





WHAT IS FOOD INSECURITY?

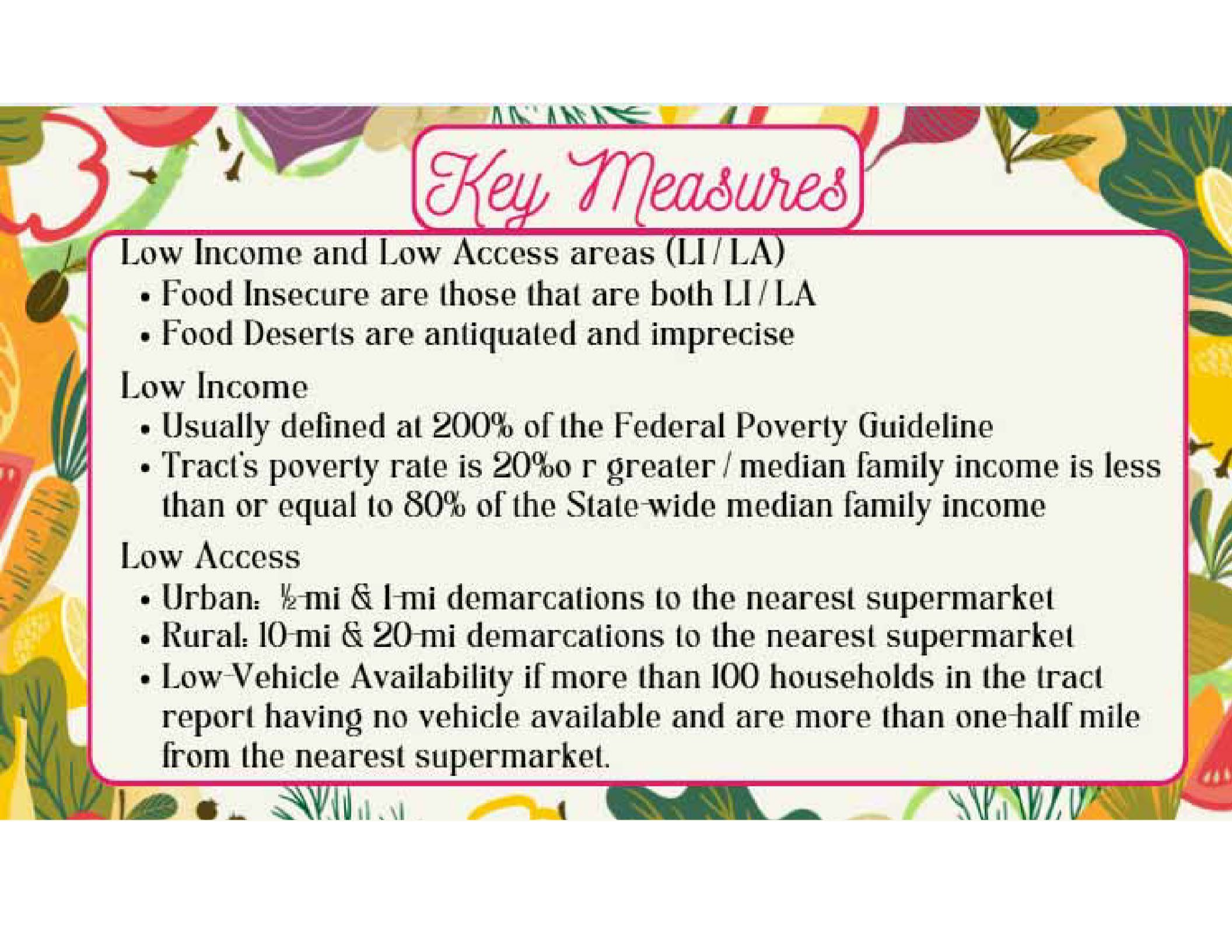
“A condition in which the food intake of one or more household members is reduced and their eating patterns disrupted at times because the household lacked money or other resources for obtaining food.”



WHAT IS FOOD SECURITY?

Food Security

- Low food security: "Reports of reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet. Little or no indication of reduced food intake."
- Very low food security: "Reports of multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake."



Key Measures

Low Income and Low Access areas (LI / LA)

- Food Insecure are those that are both LI / LA
- Food Deserts are antiquated and imprecise

Low Income

- Usually defined at 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline
- Tract's poverty rate is 20% or greater / median family income is less than or equal to 80% of the State-wide median family income

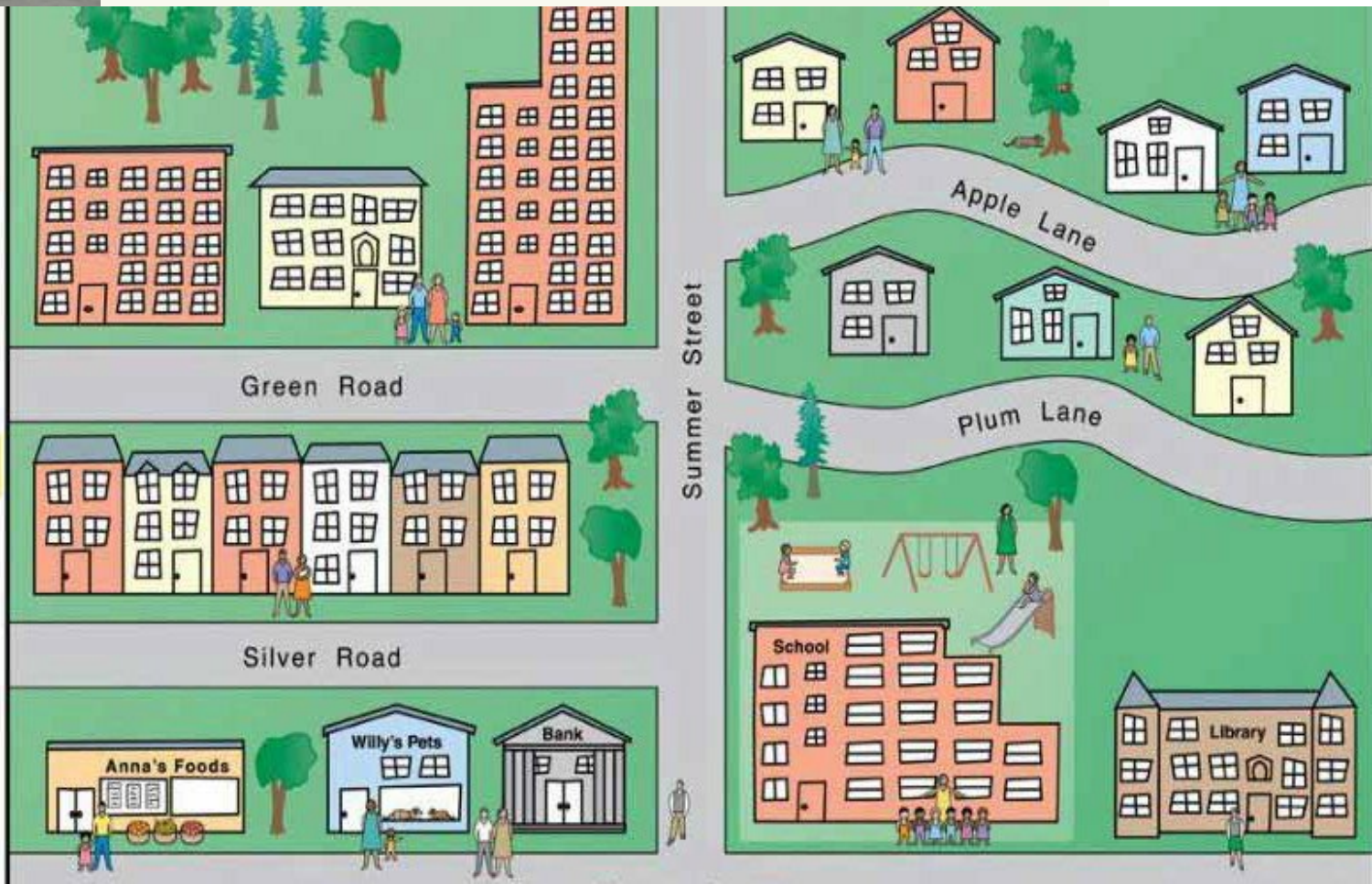
Low Access

- Urban: $\frac{1}{2}$ -mi & 1-mi demarcations to the nearest supermarket
- Rural: 10-mi & 20-mi demarcations to the nearest supermarket
- Low-Vehicle Availability if more than 100 households in the tract report having no vehicle available and are more than one-half mile from the nearest supermarket.

FOOD INSECURE



FOOD MIRAGE



FOOD SWAMP



FOOD APARTHEID



FOOD OASIS



FOOD SECURITY (Image)



FOOD SECURITY

Having, at all times, both physical and economic access to sufficient food to meet Dietary needs for a productive and healthy life.

Nutrition Security – Access to healthy, Affordable food that promotes well-Being and prevent disease

FOOD SECURITY (Cont.)

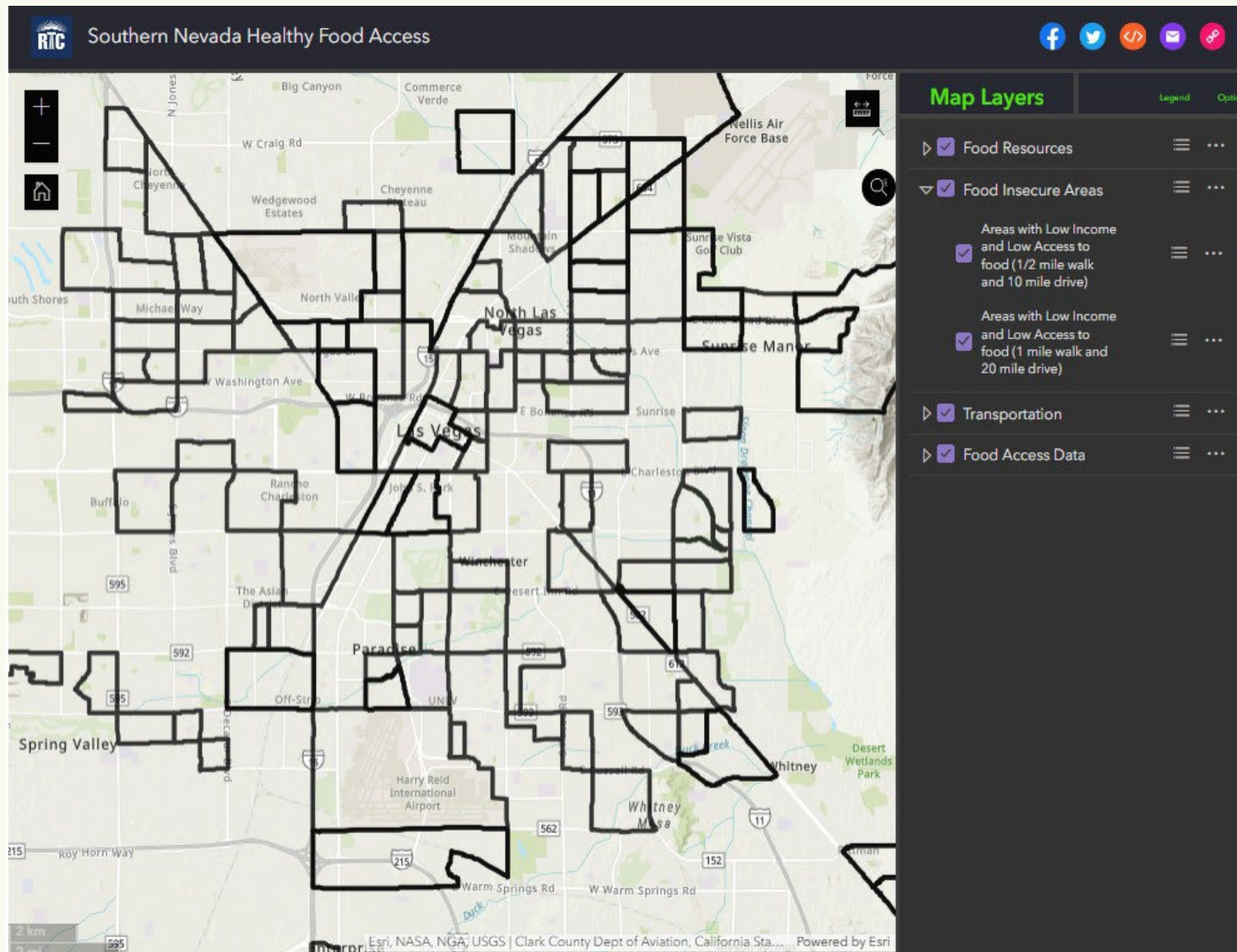
Affordability-Is food priced fairly for the median income of the residents for the Neighborhood it serves?

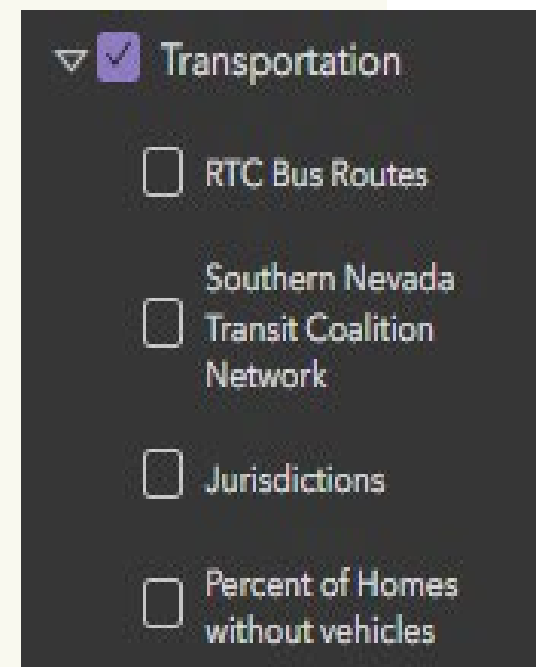
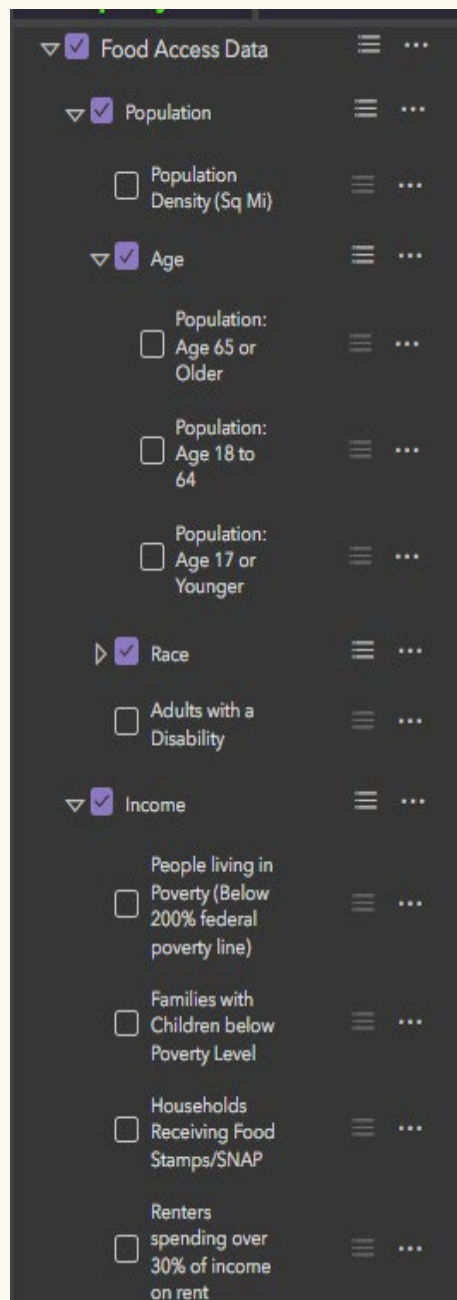
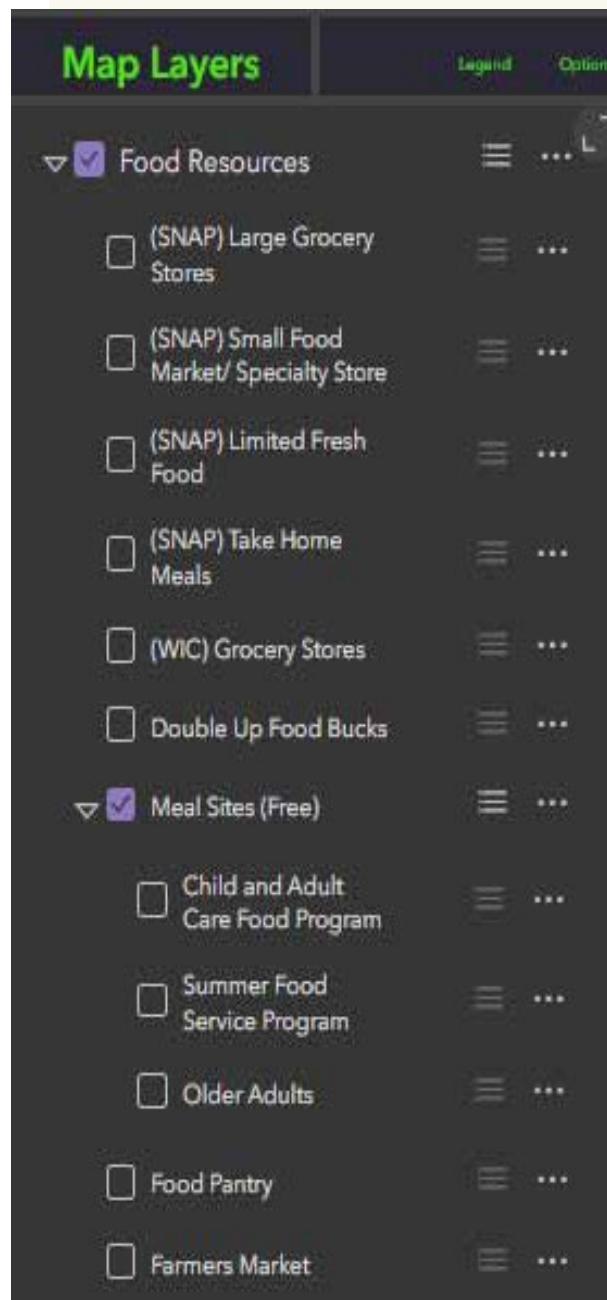
Accessibility- Is the location close enough to walk to or near public transportation Routes in the neighborhood it serves?

Availability- Is food consistently stocked, fresh, meeting the capacity of the Neighborhood it serves?

Appropriateness- Are the types of items stocked providing enough variety to meet the cultural, health, and age diversity of the neighborhood it serves?

The issue is widespread





FOOD SYSTEM

PRODUCTION

**PROCESSING
AND PLANNING**

CONSUMPTION

DISTRIBUTION



Nevada Food Policy Workshop

Need: “Food deserts” are not naturally occurring, they are made.

Goal: Develop a strong policy ensuring food access is intrinsic to Southern Nevada urban planning and development

SNFC: Understand current policy landscape & assess it

How: Policy Review and Assessment through CBPR

Together we ranked 35 food access related policies to assess their implementation viability(how well they address food security(and place it within the food system

Nevada Food Policy Workshop (Cont.)

QUESTIONS:		RATING SCALE:				
A	How well is it addressing Food Security in Nevada?	1	2	3	4	5
B	Is it assigned to a certain organization?	Yes -1		No - 0		
C	Is there any way to track or measure growth?	Yes -1		No - 0		
D	Is there any fiscal notes or money attached?	Yes -1		No - 0		
Total ____/8						

SB 104- School Gardens

- 200.000 allocated for each of FY 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 from the State General Fund.
- Funds distributed to nonprofit organizations to run school garden programs in public schools.

Program Requirements

- Create and maintain a school or hydroponic garden.
- Implement a STEM-focused curriculum”
- Tailored to Nevada academic standards
- Uses experiential or project-based learning.
- Involve teachers, local farmers, chefs, and community members.
- Provide Students with:
 - Hands-on Garden Learning.
 - A chance to run a farmer’s market.
 - Cooking demos using garden produce.

Support & Accountability

- Funds can cover teacher training, conferences, and garden safety planning.
- Nonprofits must:
 - Report all expenditures annually to the Interim Finance Committee.
 - Comply with audits by the legislative Auditor.

SB 104- School Gardens (Cont.)

Section 1:

1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Other State Education Programs Account in the State General Fund for the cost of creating and maintaining programs for school gardens that meet the requirements of subsection 3 the following sums:
For the Fiscal Year 2025-2026..... \$200,000
For the Fiscal Year 2026-2027..... \$200,000
1. The Department of Education shall allocate the money appropriated by subsection 1 to nonprofit organizations to provide at a public school a program for a school garden which meets the requirements set forth in subsection 3.
2. For a nonprofit organization to receive an allocation of money to provide a program for a school garden pursuant to subsection 2, the program must:
 - a) Create and maintain a school garden at the school.
 - b) Have a curriculum that:
 - 1) Includes a comprehensive science, technology, engineering and mathematics school garden program. Such a program must include, without limitation, a science, technology, engineering and mathematics curriculum for outdoor or hydroponic gardens for pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 that is tailored to pupils of the appropriate grade levels at the school;
 - 2) Is written specifically for Nevada and the desert environment of Nevada;
 - 3) Complies with the standards of content and performance for a course of study in science adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 389.520; – 2 – - 83rd Session (2025)
 - 4) Uses experiential learning or project-based learning to teach science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics;
 - 5) Is designed with the assistance of teachers and other educational personnel with experience at the appropriate grade levels at the school; and
 - 6) Involves supervised learning experiences for the pupils at the school in a classroom and a school garden.
 - c) Provide the school with assistance from members of the community, including, without limitation, trained educators, local farmers and local chefs.
 - d) Provide pupils with the:
 - 1) Ability to operate a farmer’s market to sell the produce from the school garden; and
 - 2) Opportunity to have a local chef or employee of a school who works in food services demonstrate how to cook a meal using the produce grown from the school garden.
 - e) Establish garden teams comprised of teachers and, if such persons are available, parents and members of the community. Each garden team shall meet at least once each month.
 - f) Require any local nonprofit or community-based organization which will provide services to implement the program for a school garden to have at least 2 years of experience implementing such a program.

SB 104- School Gardens (Cont..)

1. Money allocated pursuant to subsection 2 may be used to:
 - a) Provide professional development for teachers regarding the:
 - 1) Use of a school garden to teach pupils with disabilities, including, without limitation, training for teaching such pupils science, technology, engineering and mathematics curriculum and vocational training to create a career path in horticulture;
 - 2) Development and implementation of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics curricula that incorporate the use of a school garden;
 - 3) Development and implementation of training that may be provided to a group or individually to teachers in how to establish and maintain school gardens to increase the time teachers allocate to teaching science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and
 - 4) Development and implementation of a food safety plan designed to ensure that food grown in a school garden is properly handled and safe to sell and consume;
 - b) Pay for any travel expenses associated with the attendance of a teacher at any training or conference relating to school gardens; and – 3 – - 83rd Session (2025)
 - c) (c) Pay for the costs of a conference regarding school gardens held in this State.
2. As used in this section:
 - a) “Public school” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 385.007.
 - b) “School garden” includes, without limitation, a hydroponic garden.

Source: https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/83rd2025/Bills/SB/SB104_EN.pdf

Nevada Food Policy Workshop Results

Production (11): SB458, SB429, SB297 SB167,
SB104, AB479, AB405, AB352,
AB333, NRS 232.4966, &
NRS 232.4968

Processing (4): SB441, SB390, SB206, & AB251

Distribution (11): SB92, SB178, SB233, SB370, AB116,
AB171, AB200, AB326, NRS 268.0191,
NRS 244.291, & Ordinance 11,10.150

Consumption (8): SB503, SB490, SB485, SB433, SB323
AB345, AB138, & AB107

Consumption

Low

Medium

High

AB 347
Higher Ed Food
Security
Group Rank 4

Eligibility SB 487
SNAP
Group Rank 6

AB 138 - TANF
Group Rank 6

SB 490
Supplemental
Food Program
directed by NDA
6
Group Rank 6

Eligibility SB 323
SNAP work
Group Rank 6

SB 503
Breakfast
after the bell
Group Rank 7

SB 453
Senior Meal
Reimbursement
Group Rank 6

AB 107
Tracking
FRPL
Group Rank 5

Production

Low

Medium

High

SB 429
Urban
Agriculture
Zones
Group Rank 1

SB 297
Urban Farming
and community
gardens
Group Rank 3

NRS 232.4966
Creation of Gov
Council on Food
Security
Group Rank 6

SB 167 School
Gardens @ Title I
Schools
Group Rank 5

SB 104 -
School Gardens
Group Rank 5

AB 352
Cottage Foods
NDA will be
managing
Group Rank 5

NRS 232.4968
Duties of Gov
Council on Food
Security
Group Rank 6

SB 458 School
Gardens @ Title I
Schools
Group Rank 5

AB 479
Tax on
agricultural land
Group Rank 4

AB 333
Nevada state fair
grounds
Group Rank 5

AB 405
Community Garden
and Urban Farms
Group Rank 5

Distribution

Low

Medium

High

AB 200 Farm
to Fork
Group Rank 2

SB 178
Food for the
people not
landfills
Group Rank 4

SB 370
Creates Home
Feeds Nevada
Group Rank 6

AB 171 - State
Quarantine Officer
to take action
relating to eggs
Group Rank 6

AB 526 Fresh
food retailers - New
market Jobs Act
Group Rank 2

SB 92
Sidewalk
Vendors
Group Rank 5

Ordinance - HJ0.150
Alternative
payment of fines
Donation program
Group Rank 6

AB 116 -
Food Delivery
Service providers
Group Rank 1

NRS 268.0191
Power
Group Rank 4

SB 233
Home Feeds
Nevada
Group Rank 6

NRS 244.201
Ordinance
Group Rank 4

Processing

Low

Medium

High

SB 390
Poultry
Processing
Initiative
Group Rank 3

SB 206 Cottage
Food Expansion
Group Rank 6

SB 441 Craft Food
Expansion
Group Rank 6

AB 251
Meat / Poultry
inspection
Group Rank 5

34 Food Policies (2013-2025)

Nevada Food Policy Assessment Results for Consumption			
N = 8			
Medium	Rank	High	Rank
AB 345: Higher Ed Food Security	4	AB 107: Tracking FRPL	5
		AB 138: TANF	6
		SB 490: Supplemental Food Program directed by NDA	6
		SB 485: SNAP Eligibility	6
		SB 323: SNAP Work	6
		SB 433: Senior Meal Reimbursement	6
		SB 503: Breakfast after the bell	7

Nevada Food Policy Assessment Results for Distribution					
N = 11					
Low	Rank	Medium	Rank	High	Rank
AB 200 - Farm to Fork	2	SB 178 - Food for People Not landfills	4	SB 370 - Creates Home Feeds Nevada	6
AB 326 - Fresh food retails - New Market jobs act	2	SB 92 - Sidewalk Vendors	5	Ordinance 11.10.150 Alternative payment of fines donation program	6
AB 116 - Food Delivery Service providers	1	NRS 268.0191 Power	4	SB 233 - Home Feeds Nevada	6
		NRS 244.291 Ordinance	4	AB 171 SQO (eggs)	7

AB= Assembly Bill SB=Senate Bill

Nevada Food Policy Assessment Results for Production					
N = 11					
Low	Rank	Medium	Rank	High	Rank
SB 429 - Urban Agriculture Zones	1	SB 297 - Urban Farming and community gardens	3	NRS 232.4966 Creation	6
SB 167 - School Gardens at Title 1 Schools	3	SB 104 - School Gardens	5	NRS 232.4968 Duties	6
SB 458 - School Gardens at Title 1 Schools	3	AB 479 - Tax on agricultural land	4		
AB 333 - Nevada State Fair Grounds	3	AB 405 - Community Gardens and Urban Farms	5		
		AB 352 - Cottage Foods with NDA	5		

AB= Assembly Bill SB=Senate Bill

Nevada Food Policy Assessment Results for Processing			
N = 4			
Medium	Rank	High	Rank
SB 390 - Poultry Processing Initiative	3	SB 206 - Cottage Food	6
		SB 441 Craft Food	6
		AB 251 - Meat/ Poultry inspection	5

ate Bill

WORKSHOP REVIEW

- 1.HFAM Priorities
- 2.FALA Needs Assessments
- 3.FALA Data Review
- 4.FALA Evaluation
- 5.Food System Training
- 6.Food Security Terms
- 7.HFAM Review
- 8.FALA Factsheet Review
- 9.Grocery Cost Perceptions
- 10.Policy Assessment (2013-2024)
- 11.Policy Assessment (2025)

August 2023 Hybrid
December 2023 at Extension
May 2024 at Extension
October 2024 via Zoom
December 2024 at Extension
January 2025 via Zoom
February 2025 via Zoom
March 2025 at Obodo
April 2025 via Zoom
May 2025 at Zion
June 2025 via Zoom

SNFE Meeting

Virtual 3rd Thursday of each month at 2pm

*In Person for August Meeting

8050 s. Paradise at UNR Extension

Workshop: What makes the Walk to Grocery Store so Difficult

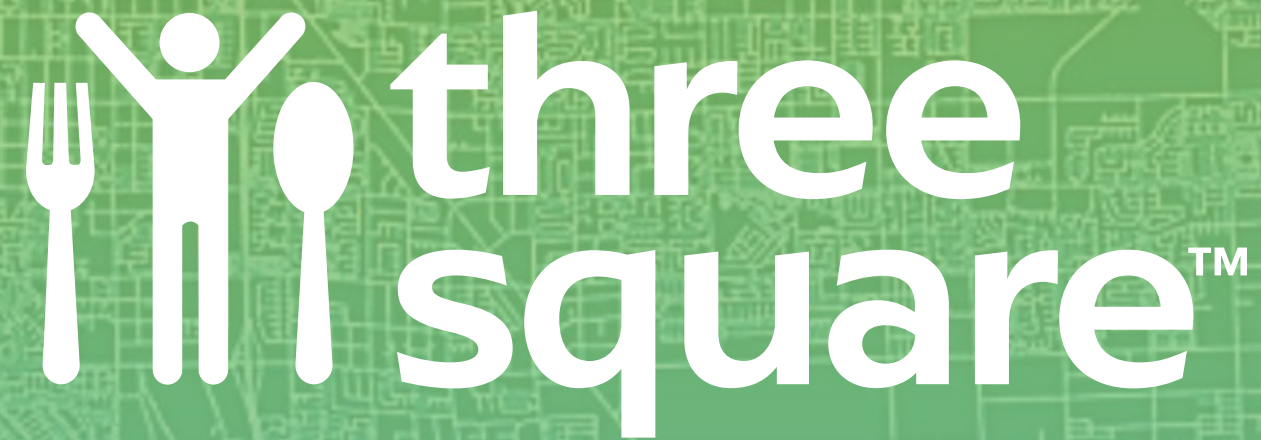
Study Results: Food Insecurity Focus Group Results

Connect with us



A decorative border of various fruit slices, including lemons, limes, and grapefruits, surrounds the central text box. The slices are arranged in a repeating pattern, with some showing the green rind and others just the colored segments.

*Thank you have
a great day!*



together, we can feed everyone

MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**

Jeff Duncan
Chief of Staff

No one in our community should be hungry.



About Three Square

Mission

To provide wholesome food to hungry people, while passionately pursuing a hunger-free community.

Since opening in 2007,
Three Square has provided more
than **644 million pounds** of food to people
in need.

Our Neighbors in Need

1 in 6 Southern Nevadans is food insecure.

1 in 5 children lives in a food-insecure home.

Food-insecure neighbors miss an average of **6.3 meals** per week.



Our Service Area

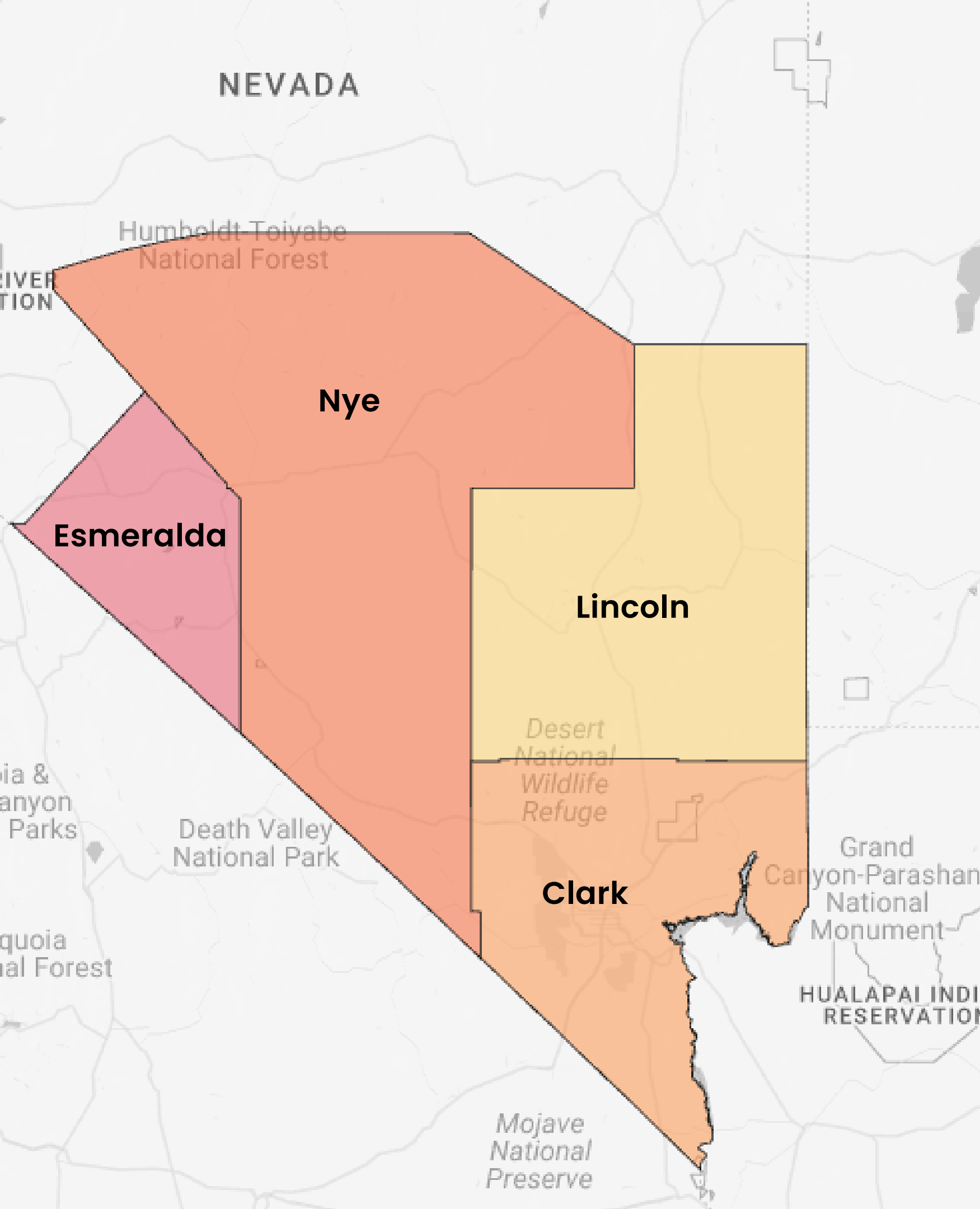
Counties We Serve

Three Square serves four counties in Southern Nevada

- Lincoln
- Clark
- Nye
- Esmeralda

377,270 – The number of people who are food insecure in Southern Nevada.

481,460 – The number of people in Nevada facing food insecurity.



Our Service Area (Continued)

Map Year	County	Population	Food Insecurity Rate ▼	Unemployment Rate	Poverty Rate	Median HH Income	% African-American	% Hispanic	Homeownership Rate	Disability Rate
1. 2025	Esmeralda...	962	21.9%	3.7%	19.7%	65,047	1%	26.4%	47.7%	30.3%
2. 2025	Nye Count...	53,207	18.3%	5.7%	15.5%	55,975	4.6%	16.4%	75.2%	24.8%
3. 2025	Clark Cou...	2,293,764	16%	6%	12.9%	73,845	15.1%	31.4%	57%	13%
4. 2025	Lincoln Co...	4,452	13.6%	3.9%	6.8%	69,496	4.7%	5.3%	73.7%	19.9%

Though the rural population is smaller, the food insecurity rate in each county ranges between **13.6%–21.9%**.



Three Square Programs

With the help of community supporters, volunteers, and more than **150 partners**, Three Square operates several programs to feed hungry families and individuals across **four counties**.



Benefit Services Outreach



Community Partners

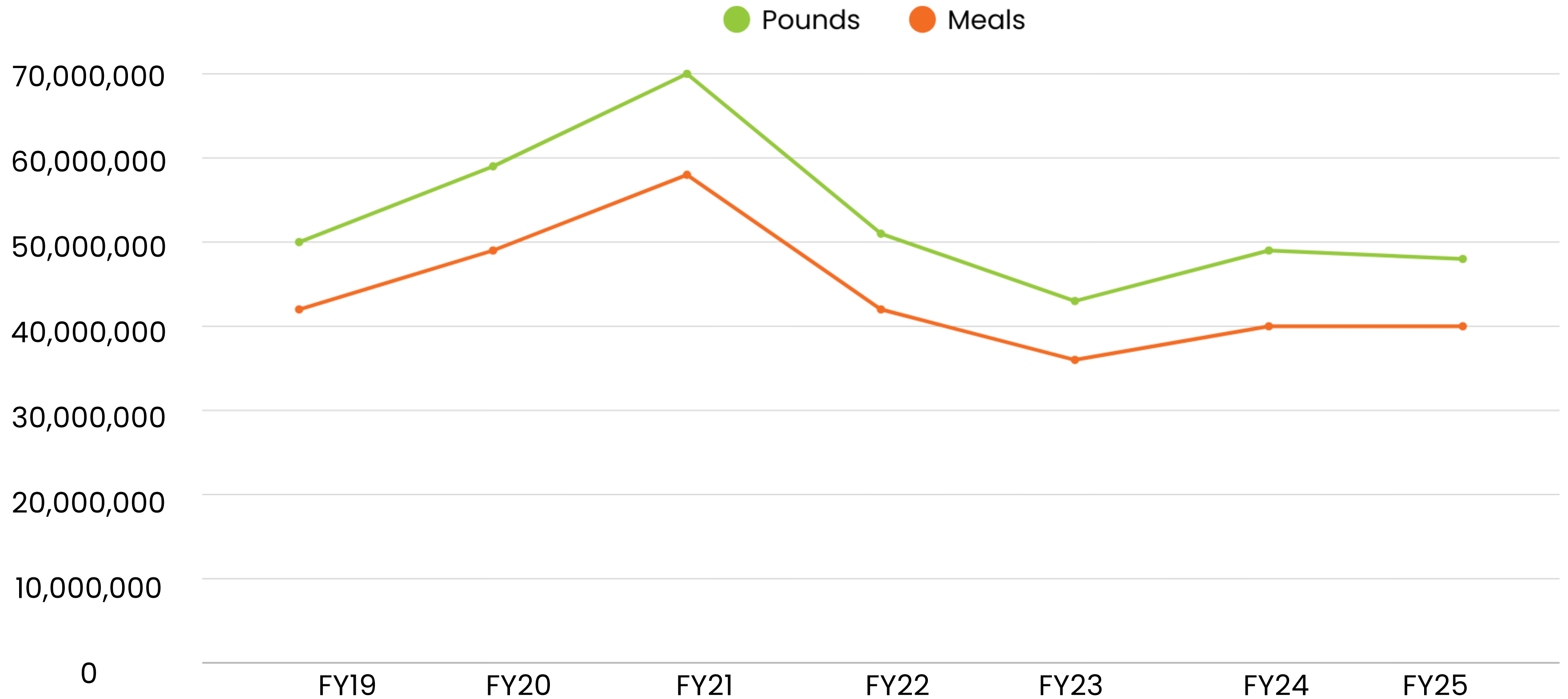


Childhood Nutrition Programs



Senior Hunger Programs

Pounds and Meals Distributed



Benefit Services Outreach

The Three Square Center helps individuals seeking food assistance along with additional resources.
*Advocates can assist with the application process for these service.

Food Assistance

- Walk-in and Drive-thru Food Pantries (all ages)
- Golden Groceries (60+)
- Community Meals (seniors & children)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program*

Energy Assistance*

- Energy Assistance Program
- Project REACH

Health Insurance Assistance*

- Medicaid
- Medicare Savings Program
- Medicare Part D Extra Help or Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)
- Nevada Care Connection

Other Assistance*

- Nutrition Education Programs & Resources
- Transportation
- Partnership with other Community-Based Organizations

Childhood Nutrition Programs

Kids Cafe

- Fresh meals to thousands of children per day
- Afterschool sites like Boys and Girls Clubs and the Las Vegas Clark County Library Districts

Meet Up & Eat Up

- Summer Food Service Program
- Free nutritious meals for children during summer break

BackPack for Kids

- Supplies a bag of shelf-stable, ready-to-eat kid friendly meals overweekends and long breaks





Senior Hunger Programs

Golden Groceries

- Delicious, healthy, supplemental groceries to individuals 60 and better.
- 30+ locations, including curbside pick-up and home delivery options

Senior Community Meals

- Free, hot meals for seniors and their loved ones
- In partnership with the Las Vegas Library District at 3 locations
- Paired with senior-focused activities and education

Policy Recommendations

Three Square – Policy Goals



Support Children's Nutrition

Explore opportunities and partnerships that ensure kids have consistent access to healthy meals at school and during the summer.



Expand Access to Food

Explore strategies and partnerships with state and community leaders to make it easier for Nevadans to access the nutrition support they need.



Strengthen Program Security

Collaborate with state and community partners to enhance fraud prevention and protect families who rely on benefits.



Q & A

