# Community Health Improvement Plan Spotlight

Improve Access to Nutritious and Affordable Food

Arapahoe County Board of Health Meeting 3/16/25

### Community Health Improvement Plan

Priority Area: Increase Economic Security and Mobility

Goal Area: Improve Access to Nutritious and Affordable Food

Objective 1: By December 30, 2025, at least 3 food pantries, in partnership with Food Bank of the Rockies, will implement Healthy Eating Research Nutrition Guidelines for the Charitable Food System to improve the nutritional quality of food and beverages distributed in Englewood, Littleton, and

Sheridan.

Arapahoe Food Security Coalition





















**Benefits** 

in **Action** 



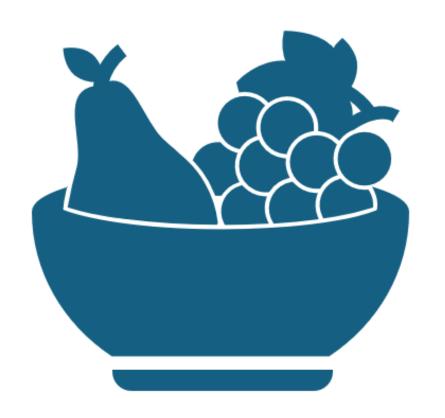


### Funding

#### Grants awarded

- 3-year Cancer, Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Disease grant to reduce sugary beverage consumption and address health disparities
- OPHP Preventive Block Grant Rapid Funding award
- Anonymous donation from local foundation



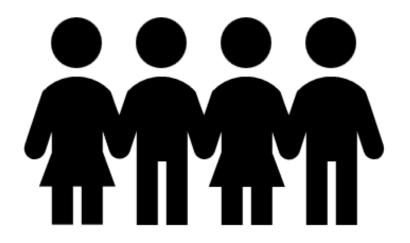


#### Vision

The food and nutrition needs of Arapahoe County community members are met through a connected, accessible, and equitable food system.

#### Mission

Unite a diverse group of partners to work together towards eliminating food insecurity in Arapahoe County. We achieve this by enhancing the capacity of service providers through supportive resources and meaningful connections, enabling them to serve the community sustainably.



#### Values

- Uplifting diverse community voices and sharing power
- Sustainability
- Accountability
- Equitable participation
- Transparency
- Learning organization

#### **Problem Statement**

Opportunity to increase collaboration among Emergency Food Providers to better meet the needs of the community.

#### High need for:

- Storage
- Funding
- Volunteers



#### Healthy and Affordable Food

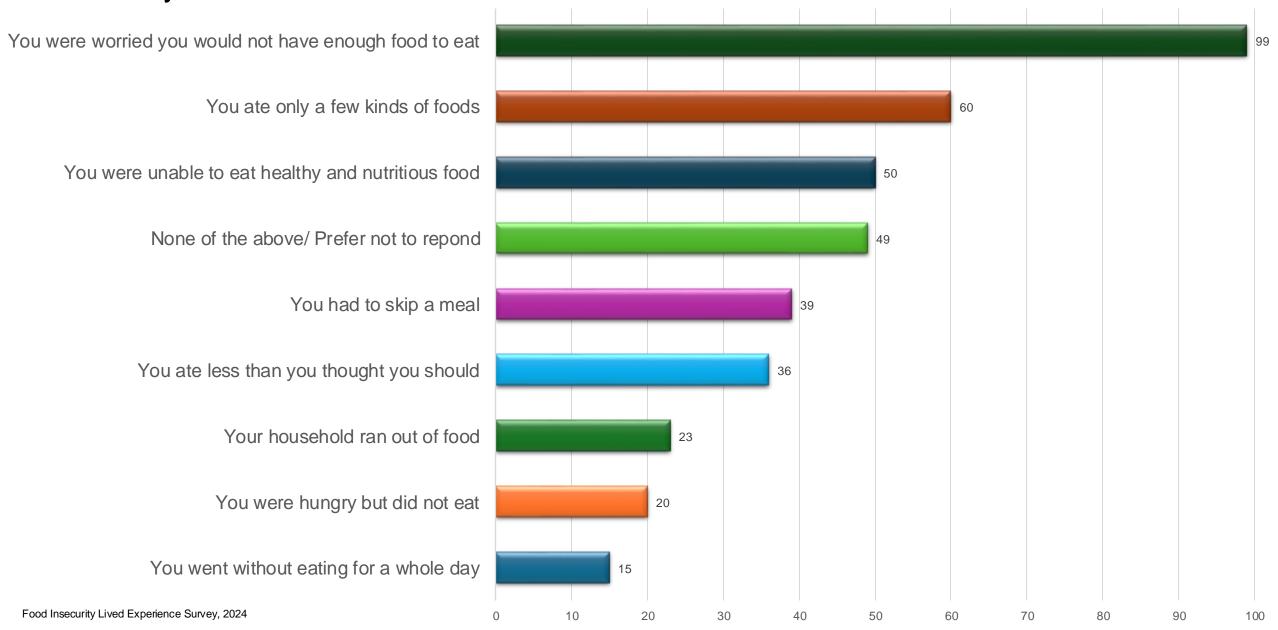
#### **CHA Statistics**

Grocery prices jumped 11% from 2021 to 2022, which may have impacted how families eat and live, especially those in lower income brackets.

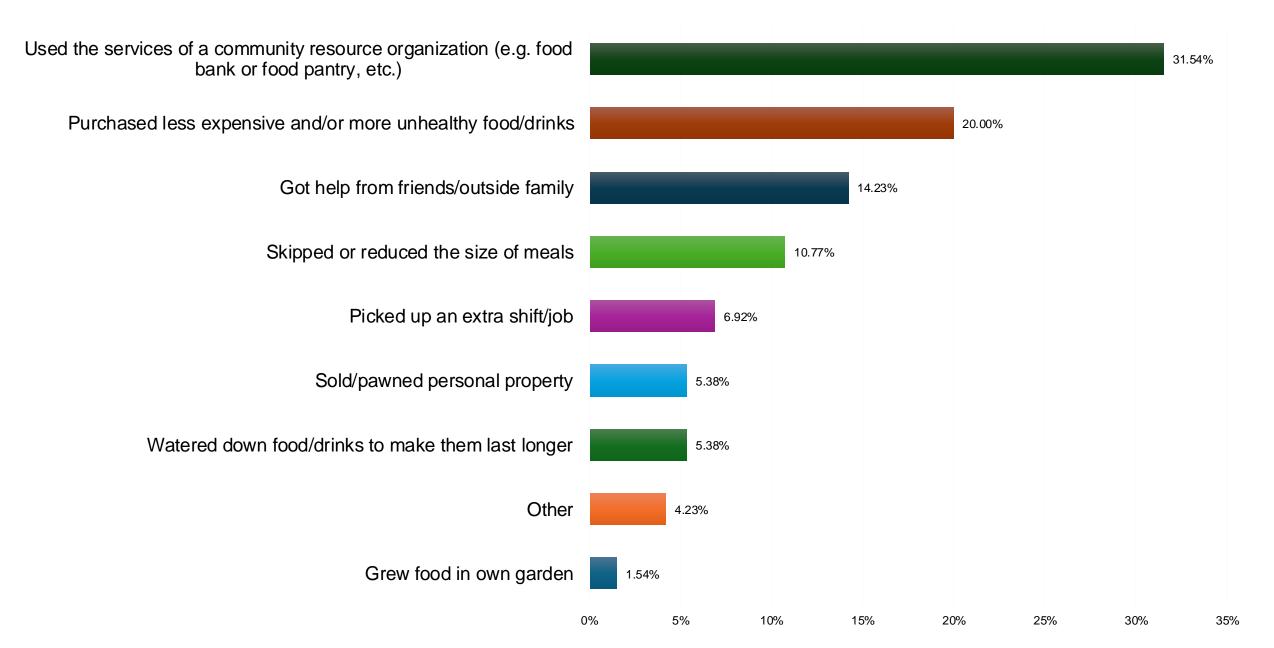
Children are more likely to experience food insecurity than other age groups.

Figure 2: Food Insecurity by Life Stage, 2021 11.4% 12.0% 10.5% 9.2% 10.0% 8.8% 8.3% 8.2% 7.4% 8.0% 6.0% 4.5% 4.0% 2.0% 0.0% All ages Children Older adult Senior (under 18 years) (age 60+) (age 50-59) Metropolitan Denver-Aurora-Lakewood ■ Arapahoe County Colorado

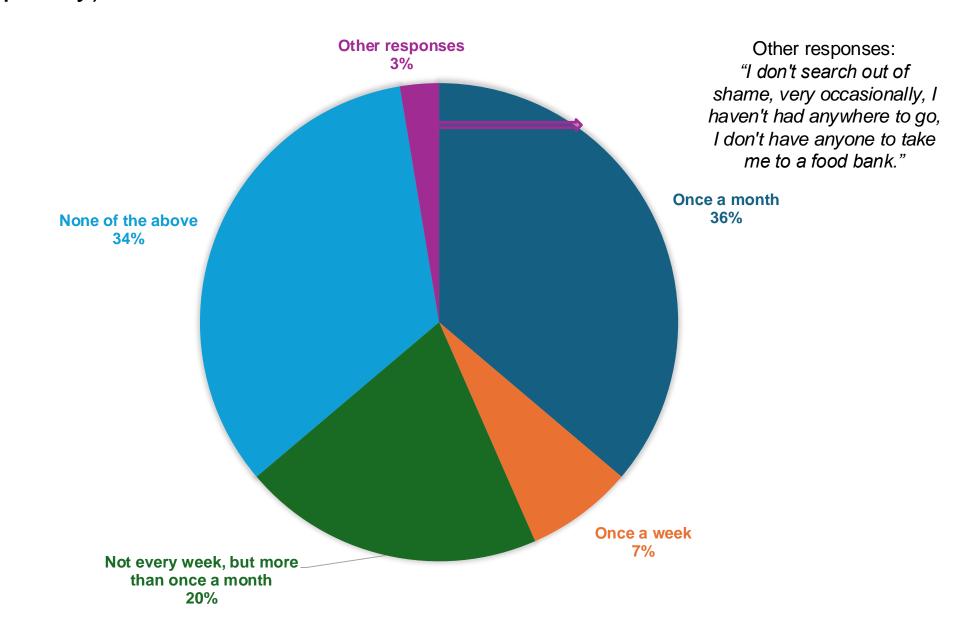
### Q1 During the last 12 months, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources:



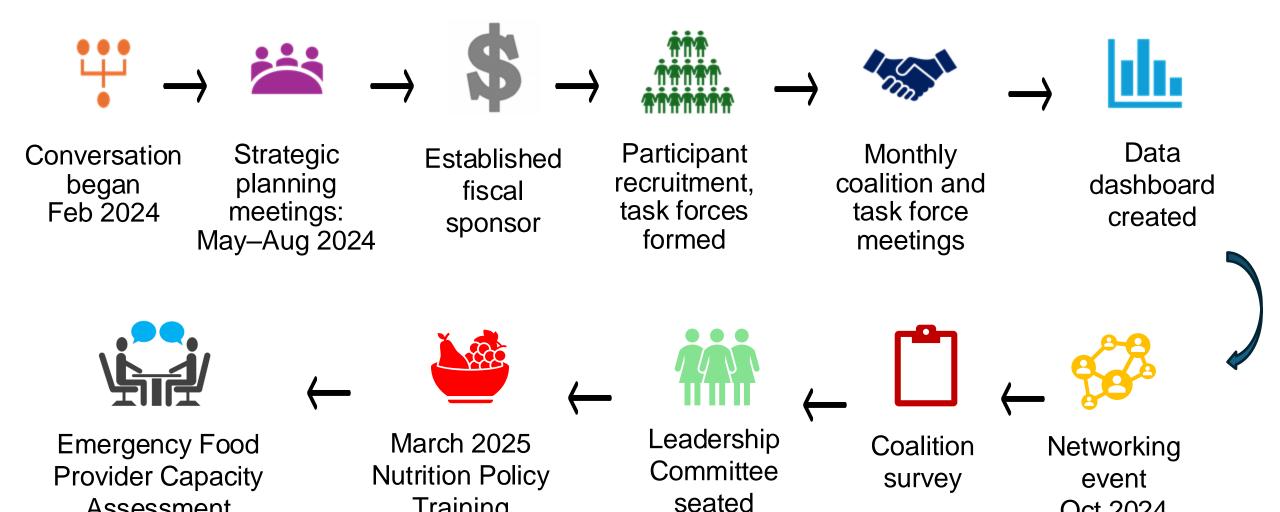
#### Q3 What strategies have you used to make sure you have food?



Q5 If you sought food from a community resource organization (like a food bank/food pantry), how often?



#### Collaborative Development Process



Oct 2024

Training

Assessment

#### Task Forces

- Governance & Operations
- Data & Evaluation
- Outreach & Engagement
- Programs & Projects
- Fundraising
- Communications



# Initial Learnings from Capacity Assessment

#### What's working

- Generous donors
- A lot of volunteers

#### Pain points

- Can't meet demand
- Bulk food price points are high
- Volunteers driving to Food Bank of the Rockies

# What's Next?

- Increased community outreach and engagement including residents with lived experience
- Launch website
- Trainings and networking events
- Explore short, mid, and long-term capacity building projects
- Fundraising plan for staff, projects, and operations
- Roll-out of membership fees
- Performance management and ongoing quality improvements

# Funding next steps

#### Applications not awarded

- EPA Environmental Justice grant
- Common Spirit Health Equity & Advancement Fund
- Canvas Credit Union Foundation

#### Grants/funding to be pursued

- Littleton Rotary Foundation
- South Metro Community Foundation
- Local donors and family foundations
- Municipal grant opportunities

#### Call to Action

## Coalition Member Recruitment

- In-kind donations needed from local businesses and individuals
  - Graphic design
  - Communications
  - Fiscal support
  - Food donations for events

#### Fundraising Plan

- Introductions to:
  - Businesses that do sponsorships
  - Local private family foundations
  - Individual donors
- Assistance with collaborative fundraising among members

#### **Questions**

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