

**MEDICAID FOOD  
SECURITY NETWORK**

# Medicaid Food Security Network Summit

**MAY 7-8, 2025  
WASHINGTON, DC**





# Meeting the Moment:

## Medicaid Food Security Network's Strategy Overview

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Medicaid Food Security Network Summit 2025**

# Session Speakers



**Dr. Julian Xie**  
Director of Medicaid and  
Benefits Integrations,  
Share Our Strength



**Courtney Smith**  
Senior Vice President of  
Program Research,  
Innovation & Impact,  
Share Our Strength



**Stacy Dean**  
Carbonell Family  
Executive Director,  
Global Food Institute

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# Session Speakers



**Kathryn Jantz**  
Senior Associate,  
HealthBegins



**Ashleigh Ligon**  
Parent Advocate, Share Our  
Strength SNAP Parent and  
Caregiver Advisory Council

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# Agenda

1. Welcome from Julian Xie
2. Opening remarks: Courtney Smith
3. Stacy Dean: the Federal Landscape
4. Conversation with Ashleigh Ligon,  
Parent SNAP advocate
5. MFSN strategy overview with Julian Xie  
and kicking off attendee input from  
Kathryn Jantz

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# Opening remarks

Courtney Smith

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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# Meeting the Moment:

Federal threats and opportunities with  
Stacy Dean

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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# Conversation with Ashleigh Ligon

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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# MFSN Strategy Overview

Julian Xie, MD, MPP  
May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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## MFSN's **Mission & Vision**



An estimated 17 million Medicaid enrollees are food-insecure, of which nearly half are children. By 2030, our goal is to expand the number of Medicaid-enrolled children and families who are proactively connected to **federal nutrition programs (SNAP and WIC) and complementary Food is Medicine services.**

We will do so through mobilizing a national network of food security champions committed to building the Medicaid system's political will and urgency to value, invest, partner, be accountable to, and integrate and modernize systems to close food and nutrition insecurity disparities.

# MFSN Key Activities since our 2024 launch

Convene & Collaborate	Develop, Distribute, and Influence	Accelerate Policy Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>National forum to share learnings and best practices</b> on Medicaid’s role in food security for children and families</li><li>● Host <b>quarterly network meetings</b> with diverse food and healthcare stakeholders</li><li>● <b>National Summit May 2025</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Medicaid &amp; Food Security 101</b> videos</li><li>● <b>Promising Strategies</b> document to guide states’ policy change</li><li>● <b>Medicaid Food Security Policy Dashboard</b></li><li>● <b>News Digest</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● MFSN Partners Program provides <b>funding and TA</b> to <b>8 state organizations</b> for Medicaid policy change or implementation <b>focused on SNAP/WIC and Food is Medicine</b></li><li>● Additional non-funded TA</li></ul>

# Opportunities to address food insecurity using Medicaid flexibilities



FOOD INSECURITY  
SCREENING &  
REFERRAL



SNAP & WIC  
ENROLLMENT  
INFRASTRUCTURE



ASSISTANCE &  
NAVIGATION



DATA, EVALUATION,  
& CONTINUOUS  
IMPROVEMENT



INVESTMENTS &  
BENEFITS

**Embedding change into existing infrastructure:**

workforce mobilization, workflow and training changes, administrative change

# 2024 Review - Convene and collaborate

- Quarterly Convenings attended by 100-165 people
  - Feb 24 Overview of MFSN Overview and Social Needs Screening
  - May 24 BDT Data Sharing/SNAP and WIC Enrollment Infrastructure
  - Sep 24 ACAP Survey, CHILPI/FRAC Toolkit for Medicaid, CHW Opportunities
  - Jan 25 Medicaid Managed Care Flexibilities and Coding4Food
- Listserv Growth from 0 to 1050+
- MFSN Summit - 247 registered (incl speakers), 70+ waitlist
- Demand for support: 2 funding opportunities with 22 and 23 applications in 2024, 2025



# 2024 Review - Develop, Distribute & Influence

- Medicaid 101 Videos
- Promising Strategies Document
- News Digests
  - Published bi-monthly digests covering CalAIM, CHWs, SNAP data-sharing, social needs screening, and threatened benefit cuts in context of HRSN/FIM

MFSN Policy Dashboard where users can filter by state and policy strategy and navigate to individual policy summaries.

Follow link [bit.ly/MFSNdash](https://bit.ly/MFSNdash) or QR code →



# MFSN Year in Review - Accelerate Policy Change

## Cohort 1



## Cohort 2



# MFSN Year in Review - Accelerate Policy Change

## **Guided partner organizations on Medicaid agency engagements**

- Voices for GA's Children - Memo to Georgia Medicaid agency, facilitated formal meetings on WIC data-sharing
- FBCM - Michigan nutrition ILOS

## **Support on implementation and direct service design**

- FBCM - Michigan nutrition ILOS
- Food is Medicine MCO pilot design in VA, GA

## **Supported coalition-building**

- VA Food is Medicine Coalition

# MFSN Year in Review - Accelerate Policy Change

**Legislation** introduced or passed with MFSN assistance

- **Passed:**

- Colorado HB24-1322: 1115 waiver for nutrition supports feasibility study

- **Introduced:**

- VA Federation - Virginia food ILOS for pregnant and postpartum individuals (food boxes + SNAP/WIC navigation + nutrition counseling)
- OK Policy - Oklahoma integrated benefits application feasibility study (SNAP+Medicaid+others) and bill to SNAP income eligibility threshold increase

# MFSN 2025-2026 policy change menu

**Vision:** activate advocates to mobilize Medicaid systems to create for enrollees pathways to healthy food access and nutrition security

1. **Protect Medicaid and SNAP**
2. **Foster state technical assistance and coalition-building partnerships** - increase opportunities for wins and address barriers
  - a. Create template Medicaid managed care food security policy requirement language
  - b. Generate resources on SNAP+WIC as part of FIM and address non-duplication
  - c. Continue supporting Medicaid-SNAP integration
  - d. Address how states are fiscal-scoring investments and benefits
3. **Generate actionable evidence** that advocates can use to advance Medicaid food security strategies. Research on:
  - a. Update MFSN Policy Dashboard
  - b. Medicaid health plan food security screening and connection to SNAP + WIC
  - c. Current state of SNAP and WIC data-sharing to healthcare sector



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# Protect Medicaid and SNAP



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# Feeding America message-testing: talk about Medicaid and SNAP together!



*Food and health go together. You need nutritious food to be healthy. You also need access to doctors and medications. Cutting programs that help people meet these basic needs will lead to a hungrier, sicker America.*



## WHY IT WORKS:

- Makes a strong case for why people need access to affordable health care and food.
- Gives a warning about what could happen – hunger increases, and people become sicker.
- Its weakness: it does not mention seniors, children, and other populations they care about.

*People are struggling right now, costs of food and health care are already out of reach. Working families need Medicaid and SNAP more than ever. Now is not the time to cut these life-saving programs.*



- Speaks to the struggles people have right now affording food and health care.
- Focuses on working families.
- With concerns about the economy heightened, this is timely.

*You can't get more than \$1 trillion in budget cuts from Medicaid and SNAP without taking health care and food away from millions of low-income children and parents, pregnant women, seniors, veterans and people with disabilities, exactly who these programs were designed to protect.*



- Gives \$ amount – makes clear these are massive cuts and makes this message feel more real.
- Names populations voters are concerned about.

# MFSN Strategy Input

Your feedback is important to us, please take a moment to fill out our survey. The first 10 respondents get a \$10 e-gift card, and you can submit the survey multiple times if you think of more to share.

Kathryn Jantz, HealthBegins

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# THANK YOU



**SHARE  
OUR  
STRENGTH™**