

## Healthy Food & Housing Action Team Meeting Notes from May 22 & June 7, 2022

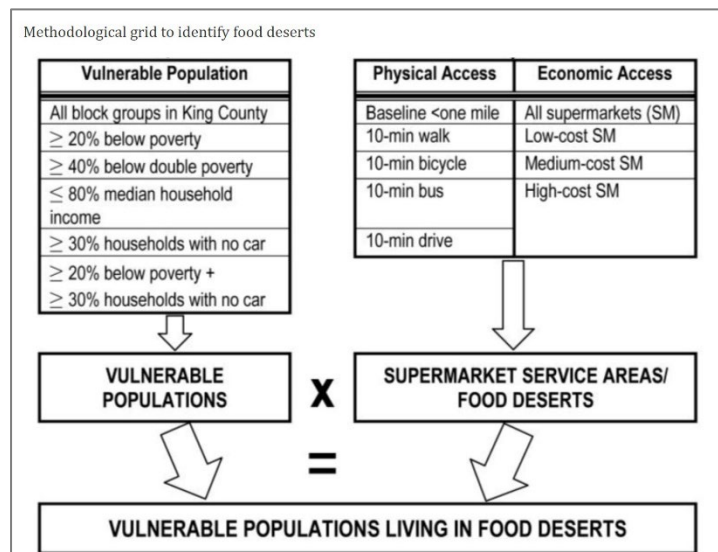
### C1: Increase the utilization of available housing and food programs by eligible residents by 2025

- Other
  - This would be a good report to look for equity indicators and lessons learned from Covid-19: <https://www.cthealth.org/publication/lessons-learned/>
- WIC participation (USDA WID data tables)
- Household income by selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income in the past 12 months (ACS)
  - Wouldn't want to lose this one.
  - instead of bullet two, we may want to track DSS program Housing for the Homeless (question asked if that would be included with other programs under bullet 3).
- Home Ownership Affordability Monitor (Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta)
- Program enrollment (DSS program participation)
  - What does this bullet mean?
  - It includes SNAP and other DSS programs that are tracked
  - Can we identify which ones we are talking about? (for C1 and C2)
  - Important to know not only what participation increases, but what the denominator is – how many total people are eligible. Otherwise we don't know if the increase in participation also reflects an increase in need.
  - Important to recognize total number of enrollees, how many were eligible for reenrollment (and did reenroll), and how many are new enrollees. (with WIC, it is a moving denominator as babies are born and others age out)
  - Agree with need to identify what we are talking about.
  - We need to have a breakdown by REL, age, and geographics so that we can see areas where disparities are greater.
  - Don't just look at DSS programs, look at others, too
  - Expiring USDA waivers for child nutrition programs June 30, 2022 are going to impact utilization
  - also assessed for equity.
- Student enrollment by Meal Eligibility (CT Data Collaborative)
- Healthy People 2030 Economic Stability Objectives:
  - Eliminate very low food security in children – NWS-02
  - Reduce household food insecurity and hunger – NWS-01
  - Are we still going to include these as well? Rose - yes

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### C2: Increase the number of access points where people can obtain affordable, healthy, and nutritious food by 2025

- Other (expanding beyond just Farmers Markets)
  - We need to establish a baseline for all access points where people can obtain....
  - I would also look into Food as Medicine/Produce prescription programs to see if we have data in CT
  - Number and distribution of WIC vendors can be a measure of access points. Same for the number of food pantries
  - USDA and DSS have statistics and information regarding retailers and usage for SNAP and other USDA food programs.
  - The percent of the population in food deserts is not a great indicator, but it is out there. I would check out the USDA food atlas resource: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas>
  - Food pantries - there are many and they are open at unusual hours
  - Could look at % of food pantries with healthy food guidelines... just a thought. And look for increase. (Many are taking on SWAP guidelines to bring in healthy food). Here's info. on SWAP: [http://site.foodshare.org/site/PageServer?pagename=2017\\_programs\\_swap](http://site.foodshare.org/site/PageServer?pagename=2017_programs_swap)
- Farmers markets that accept SNAP benefits (CDC)
  - Are there other locations beyond Farmers Markets that we are encouraging SNAP redemption?
- Farmers markets that accept WIC coupons (CDC)
  - Does this mean WIC the benefit (which used e-WIC which is an issue with Farmers Markets) or WIC Farmer's market nutrition program coupons?
  - I think its in reference to this: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/fmnp/wic-farmers-market-nutrition-program>
    - Is this measuring utilization or also number of places affordable food can be accessed?
  - Most people do not get their food from Farmer's Markets, that program is very prescriptive and has limited hours.
- Food program participation (Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement)
- Healthy People 2030 Nutrition and Weight Objectives:
  - Reduce household food insecurity and hunger – NWS-01



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### C3: Decrease the number of persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness and increase opportunities to obtain affordable and sustainable housing by 2025

- Other
  - Something that looks at affordability vs. skyrocketing prices
  - What is meant by affordable housing. It depends on who you talk to and in what context. One definition: If you pay 30% of your income or less, then housing is affordable to you. If we stick to that, look at the statistics from there. The ACS and Census data gives us a pretty good snapshot at where we are in terms of cost per
  - Instead of having this as a measure, consider keeping track of these trends as something measurable, and look at the number of people who maintain their ability to have housing after they survive homelessness and/or the numbers of those who are not homeless, vs looking at affordable housing. I don't know if measuring with the word affordability gives this group what we are looking for.
  - Cost burden of seeking assistance, then being able to keep a roof over their head
  - We don't seem to have options here for the second part of the objective -- We say "increase opportunities", are we creating new 'opportunities' or expanding - if so what are they and are they being tracked?
  - If we pull the second bullet from C1, I would vote for it going here. *Household income by selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income in the past 12 months (ACS)*
  - is there any aggregated data on Section 8 waitlists?
  - No. Using waitlists doesn't help us. We had 79K applications for <8K available slots.
- Percentage of homeless individuals (CT Coalition to End Homelessness)
- Confidence in ability to make next month's payment for owner/renter occupied housing units (census.gov)
- Eviction filings (Eviction lab)
- Number of prisoners held in correctional facilities (Bureau of Justice Statistics)
- Percentage chronically homeless (SAMHSA PATH)
- Healthy People 2030 Economic Stability Objectives:
  - Reduce the proportion of families that spend more than 30 percent of income on housing – SDOH-04

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### C4: Adopt and begin to implement a Connecticut property maintenance code that includes a statewide definition for safe and quality housing by 2025.

- Other
  - There was a Healthy Homes Coalition at one time.
  - Kim Ploszaj would know that. We should check with her.
  - It seems as though this is something that is either there or it isn't.
  - There should be a short check list of key healthy homes criteria, or health and safety measures that would be more appropriate than a definition.
  - (chat) The checklist would come out of the statewide definition.
  - I find the objective awkward – are you going to measure adoption, the beginning of implementation, the presence of a maintenance code? I'm struggling with how we would know we are actual making progress.
  - This one might be more **process measures** (it exists or it doesn't, we did it or we didn't) – laying out the steps to adopt and implement a PMC.
  - The indicators below won't be part of the indicator for this objective, but it may be part of implementing the PMC.
  -
- Days exposed to unhealthy air (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection)
- Contaminated or potentially contaminated sites (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection)
- List of fluoridated communities in CT (DPH)
- CT Blood lead levels among children <72 months of age (CDC, only through 2017) – updates?
- 2012 Healthy Homes Initiative (DPH) – updates?
- Healthy People 2030 Neighborhood and Built Environment Objectives:
  - Increase the proportion of people whose water supply meets Safe Drinking Water Act regulations – EH-03
  - Reduce the number of days people are exposed to unhealthy air
  - Reduce the risks to human health and the environment posed by hazardous sites
  - Increase the proportion of persons served by community systems with optimally fluoridated water systems
  - Reduce blood lead levels in children aged 1-5 years – EH04
  - Increase the proportion of homes that have an entrance without steps – DH-04
  - Increase the number of states, territories, and DC that prohibit smoking in multiunit housing – TU-R01
  - Increase the proportion of smoke-free homes – TU-018

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### C5: Increase the percentage of owner-occupied housing in CT by 2025.

- Other
  - Is there a way to measure renters increase or decrease to measure possibly signaling home ownership?
  - Insurance companies look at percentage owner occupied for condos. Where do they get that data?
  - Is there any data available from FHA loans that require owner occupancy for the first few years? It would just be a subset of the overall ownership data set.
  - When you own property and rent it out, you have a certain type of insurance. Is there any way to get that information from insurance?
  - Insurance companies aren't going to release that type of information – not that they wouldn't want to share it with us, they wouldn't want to share it with each other. They are very data protective. DOH has never had good luck getting information out of insurance companies.
  - What about realtors? Same challenges.
  - Even if something is a second home, it is still ownership.
  - The population that we are hoping to improve may not be living in a neighborhood where there are also homeownership feeds (e.g., HOA)
  - Does the wellbeing survey address this? Check in with Mark Abrams.
  - We are also relying on ACS for this information. We ask the question as part of our Community Health Assessment, but responses have gone down
  - (chat) Q: Would ct data have information? A: They are just crunching the ACS data
  - <https://housingprofiles.psychousing.org/compare/> (uses data from ACS)
  - Q: how this is impacted – how is the ACS data impacted on home ownership rate by increased amount of rental options in a city? e.g., Hartford has been building lots of rental units over recent years. If the denominator is changing, how are we going to get a measure of progress?
  - Throughout COVID, we saw doubled up households. Are we seeing decreases in doubled or tripled households? No. We have a shortage of housing units in CT. 4,000 unites currently in construction across the state is a drop in the bucket compared to the need.
  - Affordable housing – is there a measure of affordable housing units in the state? A: yes, DOH measures it every year. It is a measure of increased housing stock, but is a *subset* of the overall housing picture (e.g., people pull permits to build housing. We don't learn whether it was actually built until the updated ACS data comes out). Counts for affordable housing stock is unites that have been built and are available – it is counted annually and includes owner and rental (not differentiated)
  - <https://www.ctfairhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/S.A.-17-19-final-report.pdf>
  - <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOH/AnalysisofImpediments2015pdf.pdf?la=en>
  - There may be some additional process measures that we can use to show movement in addition to ACS data.
- Homeownership rate (ACS)
  - There is really nothing more up-to-date beyond the ACS data.
  - Does the ACS data track the owners who actually occupy the home that they own?
  - A: the ACS data differentiate between ownership or rental. There is not a differentiation between owner and owner occupied.

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- This may not be the most ideal for the intent of this objective, but it is the one that is out there.
- Healthy People 2030 Neighborhood and Built Environment Objectives:
  - None

### Survey Results

- Day of the month (see chat)
  - First Tuesday
  - Second Tuesday
  - Fourth Tuesday
- Time of Day – Morning (see chat)
  - 9:00AM
  - 10:00AM
  - 11:00AM
- SharePoint Access – 50:50 – will set up a test

### Zoom Chat 5/22/22

Time	From	Chat Comment
13:25:20	Kathleen Duffany	also assessed for equity.
13:28:07	Sally Mancini	Expiring USDA waivers for child nutrition programs June 30, 2022 are going to impact utilization
13:35:37	Sally Mancini	This would be a good report to look for equity indicators and lessons learned from Covid-19: <a href="https://www.cthealth.org/publication/lessons-learned/">https://www.cthealth.org/publication/lessons-learned/</a>
13:38:37	Kathleen Duffany	Are there other locations beyond Farmers Markets that we are encouraging SNAP redemption?
13:38:39	Jennifer Vinci	I think its in reference to this: <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/fmnp/wic-farmers-market-nutrition-program">https://www.fns.usda.gov/fmnp/wic-farmers-market-nutrition-program</a>
13:41:51	Sally Mancini	I would also look into Food as Medicine/Produce prescription programs to see if we have data in CT
13:42:13	Mario Garcia	Number and distribution of WIC vendors can be a measure of access points
13:42:28	Mario Garcia	Same for the number of food pantries
13:43:16	Erin Windham	USDA and DSS have statistics and information regarding retailers and usage for SNAP and other USDA food programs.
13:43:49	Sally Mancini	I would check out the USDA food atlas resource: <a href="https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas">https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas</a>
13:47:26	Kathleen Duffany	Could look at % of food pantries with healthy food guidelines... just a thought. And look for increase. (Many are taking on SWAP guidelines to bring in healthy food)
13:49:31	Sally Mancini	Here's info. on SWAP: <a href="http://site.foodshare.org/site/PageServer?pagename=2017_programs_swap">http://site.foodshare.org/site/PageServer?pagename=2017_programs_swap</a>
13:49:38	Adrianna Ramirez	agree
13:53:08	Kathleen Duffany	We dont seem to have options here for the second part of the objective -- We say "increase opportunities", are we creating new 'opportunities' or expanding - if so what are they and are they being tracked?
13:58:26	Rose Swensen	Thank you all!

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Time	From	Chat Comment
14:00:40	Rose Swensen	Please put preferred day and time in chat if you have not already! Thank you for your time!
13:59:12	Adrianna Ramirez	1st Tuesday
14:00:05	Adrianna Ramirez	11
13:59:36	Erin Windham	1st Tuesday 9 AM
13:59:17	Gina Smith	1st Tuesday
13:59:50	Gina Smith	10
13:59:12	Jennifer Vinci	First
13:59:43	Jennifer Vinci	11:00 a.m.
14:00:05	Kathleen Duffany	2nd Tuesday at 10:00
13:59:09	Kim Ploszaj	Any Tues but need to be afternoon
13:59:16	Martha Page	First Tuesday @ 10
13:59:49	Martha Page	10
14:00:06	Michael Santoro	Tuesdays, any of the three, and at any morning time works for me...
13:59:44	Robyn Gulley	Any Tuesday, 10:00 am
13:59:47	Sally Mancini	1st Tuesday @ either 9 or 10 am
14:00:53	Sally Mancini	2nd Tuesday works for me too
14:01:38	Adrianna Ramirez	thank you. have a great day

Day/Times	# Votes (Out of 10 people who voted)
1 <sup>st</sup> Tues	6
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues	1
4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	
Any Tues	3
9 AM	2
10 AM	5
11 AM	2
Any morning time	1
Afternoon	1

## Healthy Food & Housing Action Team Meeting Notes from May 22 & June 7, 2022

### Zoom Chat 6/7/22

Time	From	Chat Comment
10:08:42	Rose Swensen	Basil Rathbone?
10:08:44	Sally Mancini (she/her), UConn Rudd	@Jen--yes, it's a great park and house tour
10:10:41	CT DPH Mr. Garcia	My sound is gone..sorry
10:11:46	Jennifer Vinci, CT DPH, SPAN	@Donna My family camps there as well. Great private camp beach.
10:20:20	Adrianna Ramirez (she/her/hers) CTFSN	Yes Marta. The checklist would come out of the statewide definition.
10:25:00	Adrianna Ramirez (she/her/hers) CTFSN	Is there a way to measure renters increase or decrease possibly signaling home ownership?
10:33:30	Adrianna Ramirez (she/her/hers) CTFSN	would ct data have information?
10:34:51	Adrianna Ramirez (she/her/hers) CTFSN	Thank you Michael for clarifying. I found this but not sure where the data is coming from- <a href="https://housingprofiles.pschohousing.org/compare/">https://housingprofiles.pschohousing.org/compare/</a>
10:40:59	CT DPH Mr. Garcia	<a href="https://www.ctfairhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/S.A.-17-19-final-report.pdf">https://www.ctfairhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/S.A.-17-19-final-report.pdf</a>
10:42:50	CT DPH Mr. Garcia	<a href="https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOH/AnalysisofImpediments2015pdf.pdf?la=en">https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOH/AnalysisofImpediments2015pdf.pdf?la=en</a>
10:47:06	Rose Swensen HRiA	Please+/- feedback in the chat! Thank you.
10:47:52	Sally Mancini (she/her), UConn Rudd	Thank you!
10:47:52	Martha Page	Thank you!
10:47:59	Adrianna Ramirez (she/her/hers) CTFSN	Worked- Open discussion to ask questions and clarify information
10:48:01	Lynette Coleman	Good discussion