

Partnership for a Healthy Durham – Physical Activity, Nutrition and Food Access Committee (PANFA)

Location: Zoom

Wednesday, August 13th, 2025

[Zoom-9am](#)

Facilitated by: Krista Kicsak, Kia Campbell, Sicily Johnson

Attendees: Chef Sicily (Kind Kitchen Group), Don Bradley (Duke Margolis Center), Angel Romero (Duke Health), Belen Rogers (Food Bank), Bria Miller (DCoDPH), Carlee Nicoll (South Durham Farmers’ Market), Ileana Vink (DCoDPH), Jasmine St Denny (DCoDPH), Javonna Rozario (DCoDPH), Jess Rhodes (DCoDPH), Kelly Warnock (DCoDPH), Mike Peterson (BCBS NC), Nasim Youssefi (DCoDPH), Raina Goldstein Bunnag (DCo Cooperative Extension), Samad Rangoonwala (Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization), Scott Brummel (Duke Health), Chelsea Hawkins (Aging Well Durham), Krista Kicsak (DCoDPH), John Tallmadge (Bike Durham)

Project/Topic/Goal	Major discussion points	Action steps
Welcome & Icebreaker	In one to two sentences explain why are you here/ why you come to these meetings?	
Co-Chair Introduction	Chef Sicily Johnson is a new co-chair, along with Kia Campbell. Sicily has a nonprofit called Kind Kitchen Group, which provides nutrition programming through cooking/creation. She is currently hosting their first summer camp. Sicily is excited to be in this space and to share more of the work with the community.	
Plan Quarterly Meeting	<p>The group suggested having quarterly meetings held at different dates/times than usual monthly meetings, to accommodate community members who cannot attend Wednesday morning meetings.</p> <p>During the call, the group brainstormed some details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit from partner organizations and faith-based groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Think about the listening session held at Victorious Life Fellowship Church, where there was a very large group due to engagement with the church leadership • Meeting in-person more regularly will lead to more relationship-building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential sites: NC Mutual building, SEEDS (payment required), ReCity (payment required), The Hill House, Durham County Extension Office 	Anyone that has suggestions for locations, reach out to Krista , Kia and/or Sicily
DINE Program Updates	Ileana Vink with Durham’s Innovative Nutrition Education (DINE) Program shared a powerpoint (shown below) highlighting the impact that federal	Scott (Duke) is happy to help with letters of support

	<p>budget changes are having on programming in Durham County. A summary is below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DINE has been around in some sort of fashion since 1999 • The majority of positions have been funded through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) funds, which have been completely eliminated from the federal budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Four positions are county funded and will remain ○ The County has found provisional funding for two and a half positions through June 30th, 2026 ○ The County Commissioners and County Manager are looking into the budget to see if there are any additional changes that can be made • September 30th, 2025, is the last day these individuals will be in their positions • DINE serves thousands of residents annually, through school and community programming • DINE is open to revisioning their work with new funders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This can include fee-for-service programming that has not been provided before or other innovative ideas <p>Questions from the group:</p> <p>1. <i>What can everyday people do to share the impact of this?</i></p> <p>As government employees, DINE cannot advocate or lobby for anything, however, private citizens can contact elected officials. Please keep in mind that County officials are extremely supportive of this work and are also under a lot of pressure</p> <p>This is not only affecting DINE, it affects every other recipient of SNAP-Ed funding, including many colleges like NC State.</p>	<p>Anyone with additional suggestions or ideas for funding, please reach out to Kelly Warnock</p> <p>Krista to send impact sheet out with minutes</p>
<p>Connection Activity</p>	<p>The group participated in a speed dating connection activity, where they were randomly placed into a breakout room with 1-2 other people.</p> <p>Prompts were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share what you are comfortable about who you are and what work you do 2. Share information about the workgroup (physical activity or food access/nutrition) activities that have been done with one another <p>The group seemed to enjoy the activity, getting back to connecting with one another and sharing work.</p>	

<p>Next Meetings</p>	<p>Food Access and Nutrition workgroup: IN PERSON meeting Tuesday, August 26th Location TBD Physical Activity workgroup: Wednesday, August 27th 9am on Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86112578373?pwd=eC8Pub7ZDRvalUYFaLnpMxwbaMHa8b.1</p>	
<p>Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durham Eats 2025 and Root Causes are hosting a Community Potluck August 31st from 3-6pm at Root Causes' new distribution site across from Duke Gardens: 1925 Yearby Avenue • Community Food Strategies is hosting a community gathering/conference, "Transformational Community: A Way Forward" September 17th and 18th in Colfax, NC. More information here • The Partnership's Systemic Equity Action Team (SEAT) is holding an in-person meeting on Tuesday, August 19th from 3-4:30pm. This is an opportunity for a community conversation and get together, to learn and also support each other in these times. Location: Elizabeth St United Methodist Church 1209 N Elizabeth St • The Food Bank has been working with UNC Nursing students who are interested in doing screenings at events, such as random glucose screenings, cholesterol panels, and blood pressure screenings. If you know of an event they could do these at, please email Belen Rogers at brogers@foodbankcenc.org • Parktown Food Hub is having a fundraiser. They are a very large food pantry in South Durham that many families rely on and are in great need of more funding. Three faith based groups have come together to host a dinner for them. https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/parktown-food-hub-fundraiser-by-the-ccom • The Partnership, along with Bike Durham and the City of Durham, are hosting an Open Streets event on Sunday, October 5th from 12-4pm! Streets will be shutdown to motor vehicles (except for emergency vehicles) and opened up to the public for active activities. We invite any group who has information or resources to share, as well as activities to do with the public, to sign up as an Activity Partner! Volunteer roles are also needed and welcomed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To sign up as an Activity Partner: https://forms.gle/3AqQz6MoxWKkDsEg6 	

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ To sign up as a Volunteer: Move-A-Bull City 2025 Volunteer Roles — Signup Sheet SignUp.com○ Any questions can be sent to Krista Kicsak or John Tallmadge● Research Triangle High School's TerrorBytes Robotics Team will be at South Durham Farmers' Market on Saturday, August 23rd. They will have a miniFRC Robotics demonstrations and kids' activity. Location: 500 Park Offices Dr. Durham, NC 27709 | |
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DINE: 25 Years of Community, Connection & Impact



Current state of funding

- H.R. 1 eliminated SNAP-Ed funding effective October 1, 2025
- Loss: \$1.4M in proposed SNAP-Ed FY26 funding for the DINE Program

Impact

- 13 positions eliminated
 - 12 Registered Dietitians
 - 1 Processing Assistant



Unless alternative funding is secured, the DINE program in its current form will not continue after September 30, 2025.



DINE Reimagined



DINE hopes to continue programming and partnerships

- Four county-funded positions
 - Less than 25% of current team's reach
- 2.5 FTE provisional positions funded for only eight months by the health department
- Unclear if and how the county could fund additional provisional positions



DINE Reimagined



DINE is seeking other funding

- Partnerships
 - Health care
 - Business
- Grants
 - Nutrition education
 - Food systems
- Revenue generation
 - DINE nutritionists are registered dietitians
 - Hands-on cooking classes are a common community ask
- Our ask: utilize your networks to share our story and our vision
 - Share potential funders with the DINE team
 - Impact reports and one-pagers can be provided upon request



What will our community lose?

- **DINE in Early Childhood Education (ECE)**
 - Nutrition education in 19 preschools (600 children annually)
 - Policy, system and environmental changes (PSE)
 - Farm to ECE, gardens, playground improvements
- **DINE in Community**
 - Programming at 19 community sites (1,000 adults annually)
 - Technical support and promotion for Triangle Double Bucks
 - \$277,370 in locally grown/produced food to 800 customers annually
- **DINE in Elementary & Middle Schools**
 - Most of the nutrition education, which meets the NC Healthful Living Standards, in 26 schools (9,000 DPS students annually)
 - Policy, system and environmental changes (PSE)
 - Community eligibility provision for DPS, school food pantries, gardens, playground improvements, Youth Food Policy Councils, menu improvements



Nutrition Education Programming includes:

- Cooking classes
- Exposure to new foods
- Gardening
- Making balanced meals
- Food safety
- Grocery shopping on a budget
- Reading nutrition labels
- Recipes and more!