

Partnership for a Healthy Durham Quarterly meeting

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

12 – 1:00 pm, Zoom

The meeting will be livestreamed on the [Partnership Facebook page](#) if the meeting exceeds the 100-person capacity.

Attendees: Shelisa Howard-Martinez, Jessica Davidson, Zaynab Shaheed, Bria Miller, Krista Kicsak

Minutes

Topic	Discussion Points	Action Item(s)
Welcome <i>Shelisa Howard-Martinez</i> <i>Kimberly Monroe</i>		
Co-Chair Acknowledgements and Introductions <i>Krista Kicsak</i>		
Update on Community Health Assessment <i>Krista Kicsak</i>		
SNAP and Policy Changes Raina Bunnag	Raina is going to talk about changes to the SNAP program in the H1 bill. Budget reconciliation was passed July 4, 2025. It is being called the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act”. It affects many federal budgets like SNAP, Medicaid, immigration, state funding, and count funding. SNAP is the largest and most effective nutrition program. Over 46 million people in the US receive it. In addition to helping people receive their food needs, it helps to stimulate local economies. The more we know about this, the better we can prepare	



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	for impacts to our community. Sharing accurate information with community members is very important. Eligibility restrictions on time limit (work requirements) Since 1996, there has been a 3-month time limit for SNAP benefits per 3-year period for certain adult populations unless they meet work requirements of about 20 hours per week. Change- this expands to include more groups • Adults up to age 65, used to be 50 • Caregivers of children ages 14 or older • Veterans • People experiencing homelessness, • Former foster youth • Some Native Americans Effects • Increases the amount of people at risk of losing SNAP Up to 80% of people receiving SNAP work. Barriers like disabilities, lack of child care, etc. make it very difficult Eligibility restrictions-restrictions on noncitizen eligibility There is increased restrictions on immigrant eligibility. Undocumented immigrants have never been eligible for SNAP, though some other immigrant groups could participate. Newly ineligible- refugees, asylees, and trafficking survivors. These are effective immediately, but states are still waiting for guidance from the USDA. Ask Raina to clarify which ones. State cost share- administrative	
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	Background: • Historically, the federal government has paid 50\$ of SNAP admin costs. States have been responsible for the other 50%. • NC is one of the fewer states where the County governments administer SNAP and is responsible for the admin costs *through DSS) • NCDHHS estimates this change will cost an additional \$65 million for our state. • This is effective October 1, 2026 State cost share- benefits • Historically, the federal government paid 100% of SNAP benefit costs • Change- for the first time, there will be a state match requirement of SNAP benefits • Cost match is based on the state payment error rate • NC/s current payment error rate is 10.2% • Effect: NC DHHS estimates the new costs will be \$280 million to our state • Effective October 1, 2027 Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) • Thrifty food plan is the cost of groceries needed to provide a healthy, budget-conscious diet for a family of four • TFP was updated in 2021. The first time in 50 years. This related to a 21% increase to the current average benefit level of \$6/day. • Changes- TFP must remain cost neutral. Adjustments can only be for inflations • Effects- although the • Effective immediately Elimination of SNAP-ED Background- SNAP nutrition education and obesity prevention program has provided	
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	nutrition education and food system support to SNAP eligible for over 30 years. • All SNAP-ed program funding is eliminated • Eliminates nutrition education for up to 2 million people • Effective September 30, 2025 • This impacts health department staff, local pantries, farmers markets There are other smaller changes that are also important. There are a couple of changes to how utilities can be factored into SNAP eligibility. The amount people pay for utilities will be considered as much, resulting in less people being eligible. Consequences- fewer people will receive SNAP, people who need it most will be most affected, reduction in other benefits (direct certification), greater burden on food pantries and other emergency food assistance groups, local economies will be negatively affected What we don't know • How many people will be affected? • How the costs will affect NC and our counties • What amazing creative solutions we'll come up with Next steps • The bill is already law- USDA will issue guidance to states going forward • Continue to learn and share information • Continue to brainstorm and discuss how to support each other Q&A	
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	How will the cost share impact our residents? A: DHHS outlined three options for SNAP. Either the state pays all of the cost, or eligibility would be restricted more, or not having SNAP. Is someone coming up with a list of services that SNAP is a prerequisite for? A: not sure if there's a list. One of them is free school meals (Community Eligibility Program). Probably Head Start and TANF What happens for the people who became ineligible with the "immediate" deadlines but haven't had benefits cut because of the time gaps from info to trickle down? Will those benefits be debt collected/clawed back?? A: I don't know. Has funding for school lunches been reduced/eliminated? They will be free for the upcoming school year. There is uncertainty about what will happen after that. Question: Has there ever been a state that ended or did not have SNAP? Answer: No that I know of. Because the benefit has always been 100% funded by the federal gov. This is the first time it's getting transferred to the states It is challenging to reinstate a program like SNAP after it has been taken away. One of the City's ARPA funded program is reducing the digital divide. It provides free services to qualifying families. If SNAP eligibility is a qualifier that could reduce the number of people eligible for the program. Faith communities have been struggling to fill gaps for food needs, and it seems that	
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	the need is growing. Some churches are strengthening their efforts to distribute food. Community Health Coalition has food distributed as well. Chat box: Refugees and migrants are concerned about a few things: 1. If families have mixed immigration status, they are afraid to use services due to concerns around immigration. 2. Many formally resettled refugees are not given support after 90 days and are supposed to be given SS benefits after these 90 days. 3. There is a lot of concern from communities who came here under "humanitarian parole" status and aren't given fast tracks to green cards. 4. If they don't have access to SNAP, a lot of these families will be in serious danger in concerns to food access	
Announcements	Another meeting from NC DHHS to talk about the bill was just announced - Monday, July 28th 1:30-2pm Here	

I. Announcements

- Email announcements to Bria Miller at briamiller@dconc.gov to share in a post meeting wrap-up

If you are not part of a committee, please consider joining one of the following. Contact Bria Miller at briamiller@dconc.gov or visit www.healthydurham.org for more information.



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