



# FOOD SECURITY IN NEVADA

2/7/2013

Nevada's Plan for Action

*In March 2012, The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Grants Management Unit (GMU) implemented a strategic planning process intended to address food security in Nevada. The purpose was to bring together stakeholders across the state to develop a plan designed to increase food security in Nevada. This plan is a result of those efforts.*

## GOALS FOR A FOOD SECURE NEVADA

A Food Security Steering Committee was created to oversee the strategic planning process. In addition, four workgroups were created to address specific core areas of food security in Nevada. The four workgroups include: Grow Nevada, Feed Nevada, Lead Nevada, and Reach Nevada.

### Lead

**Goal 1** Establish the systems and positions necessary to implement a permanent, sustainable, accountable state leadership structure for food security to increase all Nevadans' understanding, value and support of food security solutions.

**Goal 2** Promote a policy agenda to increase food security in Nevada.

### Feed

**Goal 1** Maximize participation in each federal nutrition program available to the state.

**Goal 2** Establish and integrate an actual or virtual “one-stop-shop” system to increase access to food and other services for food insecure Nevadans.

### Grow

**Goal 1** Increase the number of servings of nutritious foods consumed by Nevadans – with emphasis on foods that are produced in Nevada.

### Reach

**Goal 1** Change the current models of purchase (commodities) and distribution of nutritious foods to increase economies of scale, and link frequency of deliveries, and availability of local food to the specific needs of communities throughout the state (rural, urban, and food deserts).

**Goal 2** Develop the technology to connect and share data among multiple state agencies, regional food banks, community agencies, and faith-based organizations for efficient and effective targeting of services and populations.



Lead Goals and Strategies	
2.b Establish a multi-agency resource team to pursue innovative solutions, demonstration projects and funding, available through the federal government, foundations or other sources to increase the number of people fed and close the meal gap.	October 1, 2013
2.c Research and develop a menu of model policies/regulation options to promote food security in Nevada.	January 1, 2014
2.d Promote policies on a state and local level to encourage Nevada farm products to enter systems that serve Nevadans including institutions, schools, senior centers, and child care centers by promoting policies (develop a menu of model polices/regulations).	March 1, 2014
2.e Develop and implement a campaign to increase the public's awareness of food and nutrition resources, remove the stigma associated with receiving food assistance, and ensure that Nevada policymakers are aware of benefits from available nutrition programs.	January 1, 2015
2.f Policy Council review and update plan.	January 1, 2016

Feed Goals and Strategies	
<b>Goal 1</b> Maximize participation in each federal nutrition program available to the state.	<b>Target End Date</b>
1.a Feed more children through increased participation in in-school meal programs and establish accountability measures.	January 1, 2013-2018
1.b Expand partnerships between regional food banks and commodities programs to effectively utilize and deliver all USDA commodities programs along with fresh produce	October 1, 2013
1.c Create a strategic partnership between WIC and SNAP to maximize caseloads.	October 1, 2013
1.d Create partnerships and sponsorships to feed more children through out of school meal programs and daycare centers using Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).	January 1, 2014

Feed Goals and Strategies		
1.e	Replicate effective models to increase rural capacity for children’s out of school meal programs.	January 1, 2014
1.f	Assist school districts and charter schools with implementing the state’s wellness policy and support the Office of Child Nutrition Programs’ enforcement of the policy.	January 1, 2015
<b>Goal 2</b> Establish and integrate an actual or virtual “one-stop-shop” system to increase access to food and other services for food insecure Nevadans.		<b>Target End Date</b>
2.a	Increase the number of services providers and places within a community and neighborhood to increase access points to healthy food by food insecure people who may be ineligible for federal nutrition programs.	January 1, 2014
2.b	Assess and implement a single, statewide database system that integrates with other information and service systems (e.g. 2-1-1, Federal Nutrition Programs).	July 1, 2014
2.c	Collaborate with the Consumer Assistance Committee of the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange on a single point entry/application process for multiple assistance programs across systems.	January 1, 2015
2.d	Strengthen partnerships and increase efficiency to implement a “one-stop-shop” for all assistance programs.	January 1, 2015
2.e	Expand partnerships linked to a “one-stop-shop” to address risk factors that increase food insecurity.	January 1, 2015

Grow Goals and Strategies	
Goal 1 Increase the number of servings of nutritious foods consumed by Nevadans – with emphasis on foods that are produced in Nevada.	Target End Date
1.a Encourage local producers to establish aggregation centers to increase retail and wholesale sales.	January 1, 2014
1.b Support and expand model programs and partnerships (e.g. school gardens, community gardens, and small food plots) to supplement a household’s supply of fresh produce or encourage entrepreneurial efforts, with a focus on individuals utilizing the food security network.	January 1, 2014
1.c Develop a food system asset map (inventory) to catalog existing food resources and potential resources in the state that could be leveraged further. (Refer also Goal 1.b under Reach.)	March 1, 2014
1.d Analyze the asset map, prioritize and recommend investment and collaboration opportunities to increase food security and its economic impact.	July 1, 2014
1.e Use identified aggregation, processing, and distribution capacity to pilot the utilization of local foods into the food security networks and Nevada institutions (e.g. Farm to School, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program).	January 1, 2015
1.f Work with producers and other stakeholders to identify and address barriers preventing the production, sale, and use or expansion of local foods.	January 1, 2015
1.g Develop an education and marketing plan to encourage consumption of nutritious, local foods, focused on individuals that utilize the food security network.	January 1, 2015