

HUNGER FREE KANSAS & FOOD IS MEDICINE



HUNGER FREE KANSAS



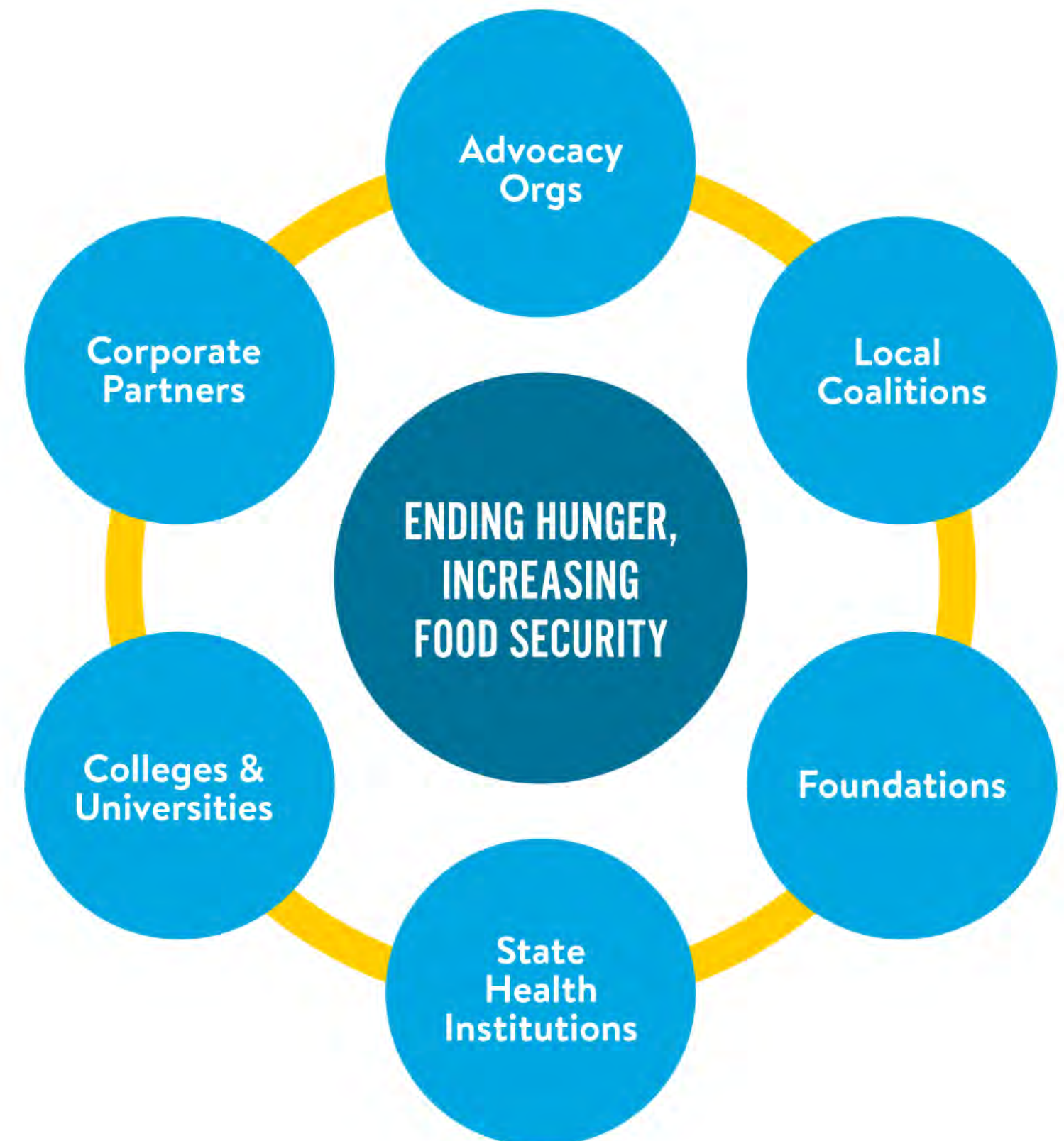
**ALIGN
EFFORTS**



**STRENGTHEN
COLLABORATION**



**CATALYZE
RESOURCES**



THE ISSUE

1 IN 8

KANSANS

are classified as food insecure

1 IN 5

KANSAS KIDS

don't know where their next meal
will come from

13 OUT OF 16

**COUNTIES IN SOUTHEAST
KANSAS**

have child food insecurity rates
greater than

20%



THE BLUEPRINT

To lead the nation in health, Kansas needed a strategic roadmap to accelerate progress and an actionable plan that organizations, policymakers, and members of our communities can enact.



BLUEPRINT FOR A HUNGER FREE KANSAS

Goal 1: Improve Data & Technology



Strategy #1: Food System Mapping

Develop a statewide, interactive mapping system that layers data with geographic locations to easily generate customized visualizations of the food system and provide users with a more detailed, nuanced analysis of the strengths and challenges within.

Strategy #2: Integrated Data

Collaborate with local and state government to establish interagency data-sharing agreements for safely and securely merging data sets, enabling users to better understand service utilization, conduct thorough and efficient eligibility verification, minimize errors and fraud, and gain new insights on program effectiveness.

Strategy #3: Web-Based Applications

Assist state agencies with modernizing web-based applications to minimize waste, reduce processing time, and improve user experience.



BLUEPRINT FOR A HUNGER FREE KANSAS

Goal 2: Enhance Service Quality & Access



Strategy #4: Local Food Planning

Partner with communities to integrate food access into existing local planning efforts, ensure local food security experts are utilized in the planning, and provide support in developing the best process and structure to meet community needs.

Strategy #5: Resource & Referral Tool

Populate the state's resource and referral tool, Unite Kansas, with all food access points and food-related service providers to improve coordination with providers on the platform and reduce burden on the individuals they serve.

Strategy #6: Food is Medicine

Develop Kansas' model for implementing and scaling Food is Medicine to treat and prevent the progression of chronic, diet-related disease.

Strategy #7: Nutrition & Meal Sites

Build on existing technical assistance offerings for food pantries and other entities within the charitable food system to identify ongoing needs and implement best practices.



BLUEPRINT FOR A HUNGER FREE KANSAS

Goal 3: Support Target Populations



Strategy #8: College Students

Create a grant program for colleges and universities to provide enhanced supports to both traditional and nontraditional students experiencing food insecurity.

Strategy #9: Producers, Processors & Grocers

Establish regional grocery hubs across Kansas that enable existing and new grocers to address issues with purchasing and distribution, and equip producers and processors with resources needed to sell and distribute locally.

Strategy #10: Rural Communities

Launch a stabilization grant program for rural grocers at risk of closure, so they can purchase equipment, establish new lines of business, and implement store-retention and/or succession plans.



HOW WE WORK TOGETHER



Coordinates statewide collaboration and implementation by connecting partners across healthcare, community, and food systems to advance the Blueprint and steer a shared FIM movement.



The state's leading catalyst on Food Is Medicine and community health — guiding strategy, advancing policy, and supporting the integration of nutrition and healthcare to strengthen health outcomes.



Leader in food systems change, local policy councils and coalitions to shape regional solutions, drive food policy innovation, and ensure Kansas's food landscape is leveraged to improve health and nutrition.

Together, we seek to align **policy, practice, and community stakeholders** to make nutritious food a foundation of health for every Kansan.

LEARNING SERIES: UPCOMING WEBINARS

#	Date	Session Topic
1	Oct. 29	☑ Foundations of Food is Medicine
2	Nov. 19	Food is Medicine in Kansas: Landscape of Needs, Gaps & Opportunities
3	Dec. 17	Food as Healthcare: Evidence, Outcomes & Coverage Models
4	Jan. 2026*	Bridging Healthcare, Food is Medicine & Local Food Systems
5	Feb. 2026*	Sustaining & Funding Food is Medicine Interventions in Kansas
6	March 2026*	Role of Producers, Processors & Grocers in Food is Medicine
7	April 2026*	Improving Health Through Nutrition Education & Local Foods
8	May 2026*	Equity in Food is Medicine & Models for Target Populations
9	June 2026*	Measuring Impact & Building the Case for Food is Medicine in Kansas
10	July 2026*	Overview: Kansas' Food is Medicine Roadmap

** Session topics and dates subject to change*

THANK YOU!



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