



# Food Security Subcommittee Meeting

Thursday, June 20, 2024

# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Food Pantry Platform
3. Community Fridge Update
4. Farmers to Pantries
5. Future Meetings

# Introductions

- Andrea Hamilton - SMCHD
- Aniko Renee - SMCHD/HSMP
- Jean Cooper-Carter - The Mission (St. Mary's Co.)

# Food Pantry Platform

- The food pantry platform, St. Mary's Food Exchange, is live!
  - In the meantime, HSMP is continuing to recruit food organizations to sign up on the platform. If your organization is interested in having a profile, please send an email to [stmaryspartnership@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryspartnership@gmail.com).

# Community Fridge Update

- HSMP staff met with Mike, Sasha, Carla, and other community partners to discuss funding for the community fridge. Funding must be used for **patrons**- i.e. not funding for labor
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mike)
  - Option 1- they provide fridge and current Three Oaks fridge goes to someone within the community
  - Option 2 -Providing food grant for 12 months to provide the food-warehouse in upper marlboro with the garden providing perishable food donations
  - Willing to provide volunteers to build the structure- food grant could go towards paying for meals served at Three Oaks to offset costs by having prepared food paid for.
  - Local scout troops have also offered to assist.
- Aniko is meeting with Sophia (Charles Co. Fridge program) next week!
  - Discussing costs to build wooden structure around the fridge and food safety concerns.
- Carla, from LMPP Community Garden & St. Mary's CDC is currently providing excess produce to Feed St. Mary's.
  - Harvesting usually takes place in the morning! Email Carla at [carla.wilson@stmaryscdc.org](mailto:carla.wilson@stmaryscdc.org) to volunteer to pick-up/drop-off donations for the garden to local pantries, like Church of the Ascension Pantry on Great Mills Rd.

# Farmers to Pantries

- HSMP is discussing how to connect farmers in St. Mary's County with excess produce to local food pantries in the area.
- Coordinating drop-off/pick-up with local farmers:
  - Farmers Feeding America-some local farms do participate
  - Farmers Feeding St. Mary's events on August 15 and September 7, 2024.
  - Coordinating with both farmers and local organizations (Red Barn)
    - **Action Item:** Reaching out to local faith-based leaders and pantries in St. Mary's (First Saint's/St.Cecelia's) *HSMP EHAT members/volunteers?*
    - Reaching out to partners who may need to share/use the community fridge or need fridges to store perishable food items.

# Future Meetings

- All subcommittee projects are currently being worked on within our Environmental Health action team, so this subcommittee will no longer meet.
- **Please attend the next virtual EHAT Meeting on Wednesday, July 17, 2024 from 2:00-3:00 PM.**
  - To access our virtual action team meetings add the HSMP calendar to your personal calendar. At the time of the meeting click “Join Hangouts Meet” in the calendar event. You can also call-in to the meeting using the phone number and PIN provided on the calendar event.