



Department of
Agriculture and Markets

COUNCIL ON HUNGER AND FOOD POLICY

Kate Fullam
Kendall Hough

kate.fullam@agriculture.ny.gov
kendall.hough@agriculture.ny.gov

OCTOBER 1, 2025

The background of the slide is a photograph of an apple orchard, showing several apple trees with green leaves and ripe red apples. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent teal overlay. The text is centered on the slide.

WELCOME & MEMBER UPDATES

**KATE FULLAM, TEAM LEAD, FOOD SYSTEMS AND RESILIENCY
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS**

AGENDA

- 10:00 AM Welcome & Member Updates
- 10:05 AM Opening Remarks
- 10:10 AM Federal Policy Update & Discussion
- Work Group Sessions
 - 10:30 AM Economic Vitality (EV) Work Group
 - 11:00 AM Food as Medicine (FAM) Work Group
- 11:30 AM BREAK – 15 minutes
- Work Group Sessions
 - 11:45 AM Food Assistance Networks (FAN) Work Group
 - 12:15 PM Food Access Programs (FAP) Work Group
- 12:45 PM Next Steps
- 12:50 PM Closing Remarks
- 1:00 PM Adjourn

The background of the slide is a photograph of an apple orchard, showing several apple trees with green leaves and ripe red apples. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent teal overlay. The text is centered on the slide.

OPENING REMARKS

**RICHARD A. BALL, COMMISSIONER
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS**



FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE

LAUREN WILLIAMS

**DIRECTOR OF POLICY, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
NYS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS**

FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE - DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What food systems challenges do you/your organization/business anticipate in the next 6 months?
- Are there ideas or opportunities surfacing to address challenges?
- What food policy recommendations might help address current and anticipated challenges?



WORK GROUP UPDATES

**KENDALL HOUGH, SUPERVISOR, FOOD SYSTEMS AND RESILIENCY
NYS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS**

OVERVIEW OF THE COUNCIL

PURPOSE

- Assembly Bill A00615, signed by Governor Hochul on March 3, 2023, is an act to amend the establishment and priorities of the New York State Council on Hunger and Food Policy. The purpose of this group is to advise the state on the development of comprehensive, coordinated state food policies with the goal of ensuring that all citizens of the state are able to eat a healthy diet and avoid food insecurity while consuming New York grown and produced foods as much as possible.

WORK GROUPS

- Economic Vitality (EV): Ensure New York farmers are thriving and can sustain food production.
- Food As Medicine (FAM): Improve the nutritional quality of foods provided to people in need.
- Food Assistance Networks (FAN): Strengthen connections between supply chains and organizations helping people in need.
- Food Access Programs (FAP): Leverage public dollars to address the needs of food insecure people across the state.

The background of the slide is a photograph of an apple orchard, showing several apple trees with green leaves and ripe red apples. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent teal overlay. The text is centered on the slide.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

**JULIE SUAREZ, ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR LAND-GRANT AFFAIRS
CORNELL UNIVERSITY**



CORNELL CALS: THE LAND GRANT UNIVERSITY

**JULIE SUAREZ, ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR LAND-GRANT AFFAIRS
CORNELL UNIVERSITY**

DISCUSSION: NEW RECOMMENDATIONS

- What food systems challenges do you/your organization/business anticipate in the next 6 months?
- Are there ideas or opportunities surfacing to address challenges?
- What food policy recommendations might help address current and anticipated challenges?



FOOD AS MEDICINE

ELLIE WILSON, MS, RDN, CDN



SNAP-ED NY: WINDING DOWN AND LOOKING AHEAD

**SHAYNA M. RUSSO, M.S.
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE STATEWIDE COORDINATOR, SNAP-ED NY**

DISCUSSION: NEW RECOMMENDATIONS

- What food systems challenges do you/your organization/business anticipate in the next 6 months?
- Are there ideas or opportunities surfacing to address challenges?
- What food policy recommendations might help address current and anticipated challenges?

The background of the slide is a photograph of an apple orchard, showing several apple trees with green leaves and ripe red apples. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent teal overlay. Centered on this background is the text "15-MINUTE BREAK" in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font.

15-MINUTE BREAK

11:45 AM Reconvene



FOOD ASSISTANCE NETWORKS

**NATASHA PERNICKA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
THE FOOD PANTRIES FOR THE CAPITAL DISTRICT,
THE ALLIANCE FOR A HUNGER FREE NEW YORK**



AN OVERVIEW OF THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**NICHOLAS BARBER, DIRECTOR, FOOD DISTRIBUTION
NYS OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES**

FOOD ASSISTANCE NETWORKS

DISCUSSION: NEW RECOMMENDATIONS

- What food systems challenges do you/your organization/business anticipate in the next 6 months?
- Are there ideas or opportunities surfacing to address challenges?
- What food policy recommendations might help address current and anticipated challenges?

The background of the slide is a photograph of an apple orchard, showing several apple trees with green leaves and ripe red apples. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent teal overlay. The text is centered on the slide.

FOOD ACCESS PROGRAMS

**KRISTA HESDORFER, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
HUNGER SOLUTIONS NEW YORK**



ENSURING EQUITY & DIGNITY FOR NEW AMERICANS

**ELIZABETH HRADIL, CNY IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY LIASON
NYS DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

FOOD ACCESS PROGRAMS

DISCUSSION: NEW RECOMMENDATIONS

- What food systems challenges do you/your organization/business anticipate in the next 6 months?
- Are there ideas or opportunities surfacing to address challenges?
- What food policy recommendations might help address current and anticipated challenges?

The background of the slide is a photograph of an apple orchard, showing several apple trees with green leaves and ripe, reddish-brown apples. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent teal overlay. The text is centered on the slide.

NEXT STEPS

**KENDALL HOUGH, SUPERVISOR, FOOD SYSTEMS AND RESILIENCY
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS**

NEXT STEPS



NOVEMBER

Work groups will meet to review the 2025 Annual Report draft and finalize recommendations for work in 2026.



DECEMBER

Council members and affiliates will collaborate with AGM to revise the 2025 Annual Report.



JANUARY

The 2025 Annual Report will be published by January 30, 2026.



Department of Agriculture and Markets

THANK YOU

Kate Fullam
Kendall Hough

kate.fullam@agriculture.ny.gov
kendall.hough@agriculture.ny.gov