Food Access Glossary

CDBG - Community Development Block Grant - CDBG is a HUD program that provides flexible formula grants to states and local governments for projects benefiting low- and moderate-income residents. CDBG is often used for transportation services, farmers market access programs and market-to-home delivery for older adults and people with disabilities.

CSA - Community Supported Agriculture - a system where people buy a share of a local farm's harvest in advance to receive regular boxes of fresh produce.

CSBG - Community Services Block Grant - Funded through the Dept of Health and Human Services (HHS), CSBG provides funds to support services and activities for individuals and families with low incomes that alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty.

Double Up Food Bucks / Nutrition Incentives - Programs that match SNAP purchases of fruits and vegetables (often dollar for dollar), increasing purchasing power at farmers markets and some grocery stores.

FHWA - Federal Highway Administration - an agency within the Department of Transportation that manages the construction, maintenance and safety of the nation's public roads, bridges and tunnels.

FNS - Food and Nutrition Service - An agency under the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) that administers national nutrition and food assistance to increase food security and reduce hunger.

Food as Medicine Programs - Health system initiatives that integrate nutritious food into care (e.g., produce prescriptions, medically tailored meals, teaching kitchens).

FQHC - Federally Qualified Health Center - Federally funded nonprofit health centers or clinics that serve medically underserved areas and populations that provide primary care services on a sliding scale fee based on your ability to pay.

GusNIP - Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program - A USDA grant program that funds nutrition incentives (like Double Up Food Bucks) and produce prescription programs, helping communities increase access to fruits and vegetables.

HRSA - Health Resources & Services Administration - An agency of DHHS that supports projects to expand access to essential health care services for uninsured, isolated or medically vulnerable populations.

HRSN - Health Related Social Needs Pilots - HRSN pilots are Medicaid demonstration projects that allow states to cover non medical services such as nutrition supports, transportation to food access sites and microtransit subsidies that improve health outcomes.

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IHS - Indian Health Service P4 Program - resources to help reduce food insecurity and improve health care outcomes among American Indian/Alaska Native people by increasing access to produce and other traditional foods within Native Communities.

LFPP - Local Food Promotion Program - LFPP is a USDA Agricultural Marketing Service grant program that supports local and regional food systems such as mobile markets, farmers market expansion, food hubs and technology that improves access.

LILA - Low-Income, Low-Access - describes residential census tracts that combine poverty with a lack of access to a grocery store or supermarket.

Market Grants - small or mid-sized funding awards that support farmers markets with operations, outreach, equipment, and program expansion. They're typically offered by state agriculture departments, nonprofit organizations, or foundations.

MNT - Medical Nutrition Therapy - Evidence based nutrition counseling delivered by a Registered Dietitian for conditions like diabetes, kidney disease, or heart disease.

MSG - Medically Supportive Groceries - Bags or boxes of healthy groceries provided to people at risk of chronic disease; not individually tailored like MTM.

MTM - Medically Tailored Meals - Fully prepared meals designed by dietitians for people with serious medical conditions; usually delivered to the home.

NIFA - National Institute of Food and Agriculture - An agency under the USDA that works to improve and invest in initiatives that ensure the long-term viability of agriculture.

OAA Title III - Older Americans Act Title III program - An Administration for Community Living (ACL), program that funds community-based supportive services to help adults aged 60 and older live independently at home.

PRx - Produce Prescription Programs - Clinicians give patients vouchers or credits for fruits and vegetables to help manage diet related conditions; redeemed at markets or grocery stores.

Section 1115 Waiver (or demonstration waiver) - a special approval from HHS under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act allows sates to text experimental, pilot or demonstration projects in their Medicaid and CHIP programs that depart from standard federal rules.

SNAP - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - The federal nutrition program that helps low-income households buy food.

SNAP/EBT at Farmers Markets - Farmers markets that accept SNAP benefits through electronic benefit transfer (EBT), allowing low-income shoppers to buy fresh produce.

SSBCI - Special Supplemental Benefits for the Chronically Ill - Extra, non-medical benefits offered by some Medicare Advantage (Part C) plans to help chronically ill enrollees manage their daily lives and health.

Teaching Kitchens / Culinary Medicine - Hands on cooking and nutrition education programs that help people learn how to prepare healthy meals.