

Mountain Coalition for Food and Nutrition Security
STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 2026

OUR PURPOSE:

We believe food and nutrition security is a human right that can be best delivered through a regional approach that provides sustainable food access, education, and storage to ensure the health of our region.

OUR VALUES:

- **Accessibility** – we advance affordable, attainable, and culturally responsive strategies.
- **Regionalism** – we practice systems approach that values and responds to the individual needs of our communities to achieve scalable and sustainable solutions.
- **Equity** – we advance food production and distribution strategies to those who are marginalized.
- **Collaboration** – we partner intentionally to achieve greater collective impact.

OUR GOALS & STRATEGIES:

1. Nutritious food will be accessible to 100% of individuals who need it, in their community.
 - A. MCFNS will implement an educational campaign to reduce barriers and facilitate food access at any level of need, by 2024.
 - B. MCFNS will establish agreements for food and nutrition security access, enrollments, and distribution resulting in less than 25 miles between food access resources in Garfield, Eagle, and Pitkin Counties, by 2026.
 - C. MCFNS will support the implementation of a regional mobile food pantry to provide regularly scheduled access to food and nutrition resources in remote communities within Garfield, Eagle, and Pitkin Counties, by 2026.
 - D. MCFNS partners will support the delivery of a shared and accessible, evidence-informed food and nutrition education program, by 2025.
2. Increase the percentage of food sourced from Colorado-based businesses, and organizations annually.
 - A. MCFNS partners will secure 25% of food via local farmers and ranchers by 2026.
 - B. MCFNS partners will secure 65% of food via grocery rescue, regional food banks, and local businesses by 2026.
 - C. MCFNS partners will secure 10% of food via local community food drives by 2026.

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3. 90% of those served by the MCFNS partners annually will report “high satisfaction” with the quality, consistency, and cultural responsiveness of their experience accessing food.
 - a. MCFNS partners will increase satisfaction with the quality and consistency of food distributed by 50% by 2026.
 - b. MCFNS partners will provide food and nutrition that aligns with ethnic food preference and personal choice at 100% of distributions, by 2024.

4. 50% of the region’s annual funding request for food sourcing and distribution will be done through collaborative initiatives among MCFNS partners by 2026.
 - a. MCFNS will establish and implement an annual collaborative system-level funding strategy and case for support by 2024.
 - b. MCFNS will ensure collaborative funding support for the system manager position by 2024.
 - c. MCFNS will support the establishment of a shared forward contracting program for securing local food resources, by 2025.
 - d. MCFNS partners will support the development of a shared regional storage and distribution hub for improving accessibility, effectiveness, and efficiency of the food and nutrition security system, by 2025.

5. Expand community partnerships for securing volunteers, funding, and food sourcing to meet regional food system needs.
 - a. MCFNS will establish and implement a collaborative volunteer recruitment, training, and management program to increase volunteer engagement by 10% annually.
 - b. MCFNS will engage complementary organizations in structured sub-committees to strengthen partners’ volunteer, funding, and food-sourcing capacity, by 2024.
 - c. MCFNS will establish a brand identity as the resource for meeting regional food and nutrition security needs by 2024.

6. Maximize enrollment in federal nutrition programs such as SNAP, WIC, and federal school lunch programs.
 - a. MCFNS will reduce the percentage of eligible but not enrolled to 25% by 2025.
 - b. MCFNS will create an outreach and referral system for food and educational programs including Cooking Matters, WIC farmers Market, WIC CSA, Double Up food bucks.

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OUR IMPACT:

All people in the tri-county region have access to fresh, healthy and local food to meet their nutritional needs in a culturally responsive way.