The House of Delegates (HOD) conducted a dialogue on Food and Nutrition Insecurity on May 4-5, 2013. As a result of the Spring 2013 HOD Meeting, delegates approved HOD Motion #1, which requested the formation of the Food and Nutrition Security Task Force.

**Virtual Spring 2013 HOD Meeting Dialogue**

The purpose of the dialogue session on food and nutrition insecurity was for delegates to:

1. Raise Academy members’ awareness of the prevalence and consequences of food and nutrition insecurity for the nation, including current Academy initiatives.
2. Demonstrate commitment and inspire members to take action to improve food and nutrition security at local and state levels.
3. Act to support and promote the Academy’s policy and advocacy programs that improve food and nutrition security at the national level.

**HOD Motion #1: Food and Nutrition Insecurity**

As a result of the HOD dialogue session, the following motion was approved:

*The HOD requests the appointment of a Food and Nutrition Security Task Force composed of delegates, DPG members and other Academy organizational units to develop action plans and strategies based on delegate input (pre-, during and post Spring HOD Meeting) for each of the following:*  
- Members-individual members, DPGs, MIGs and Affiliates (internal)  
- Professional Development (internal)  
- Public Policy and Advocacy (internal and external)  
- Partnerships/collaborations (external).

*The HOD Leadership Team will monitor the work of the task force. The outcomes of the motion will be shared with the House of Delegates in spring 2014.*

**HOD Food and Nutrition Security Task Force**

The HOD Leadership Team appointed the Food and Nutrition Security Task Force in summer 2013 and included the following members:

- Michelle Marshall, MS, RD, chair (Illinois) is currently a RDN from Feeding America; and, a member of HEN DPG, PHCN DPG, and NEP DPG.
- Meg Bruening, PhD, MPH, RD (Arizona) is a member of HEN DPG, PHCN DPG, PN DPG, Research DPG, and NEP DPG; and, currently serves as the delegates for HEN DPG.
- Sherry Coleman-Collins, MS, RD, LD (Georgia); is a member of WM DPG, DBC DPG, and, SNS DPG; and, currently serves as the delegate for the Georgia affiliate.
- Dianne Polly, JD, RDN, LDN (Tennessee) is a member of HA DPG, PHCN DPG, and SCAN DPG; she is a member of the Legislative and Public Policy Committee, as well as serves as the delegate for the Tennessee affiliate.
- Rickelle Richards, PhD, MPH, RDN (Utah) is a member of HEN DPG, PHCN DPG, and PN DPG; and serves as the delegate for the Utah affiliate.
- Jessie Maurer (Connecticut) is an interested student member.

**Staff Support**
Harold Holler, Governance and Practice Group; Donna Wickstrom, HOD Governance Team; Mary Pat Raimondi, Policy Initiatives & Advocacy Group; Teresa Nece, Policy Initiatives & Advocacy Group; and Katie Brown, Foundation assisted the task force in their work efforts.

**Task Force Charge**
The HOD Leadership Team created a charge for the task force based on HOD Motion #1. The charge was: The HOD Food and Nutrition Security Task Force will develop action plans and strategies based on delegate input (pre-, during and post Spring HOD Meeting) for each of the following groups:
- Members-individual members, DPGs, MIGs and Affiliates (internal)
- Professional Development (internal)
- Public Policy and Advocacy (internal and external)
- Partnerships/collaborations (external).

The action plans will include the following:
- Creation of an electronic forum to share knowledge and information for members and consumers,
- Publication of articles detailing Academy member involvement and innovative solutions that address the issue,
- Development of educational and motivational programs (i.e., webinars, FNCE) for distribution throughout the Academy,
- Coordinate efforts with other Academy organizational units (i.e., ACEND, Foundation and LPPC).

The task force will provide quarterly updates to the HOD Leadership Team and House of Delegates. And, the task force will submit a final report with action plans by March 1, 2014 to the House of Delegates.

The task force requested the HOD Leadership Team to grant an extension for submitting their final report and action plan to the House of Delegates in May 2014. This extension was granted in order to ensure the work completed was comprehensive.

**Task Force Activities**
The task force has met since September 2013 and completed its charge in April 2014 with the approval of the HOD Food and Nutrition Security Action Plan for submission to the HOD Leadership Team. The task force met via conference call on six occasions and completed work electronically between conference calls. The task force received updates on various food and nutrition security issues from the Policy Initiatives and Advocacy Group, the Academy Foundation and the Future of Food Partnership (this partnership includes: the Academy, Foundation, Feeding America and the National Dairy Council). In addition, the task force reviewed the input from the Spring 2013 HOD Dialogue Session for developing the Action Plan.

It is important to note that this plan is focused on addressing domestic food insecurity and not global food insecurity, which is acknowledged as an issue but beyond the scope of the initiative.

**Food and Nutrition Security Action Plan**
As the task force worked on its Action Plan, several Academy projects related to food insecurity were being completed and were incorporated to address the charge (i.e., Feeding America’s Health Food Bank Hub, FNCE program track, etc.). Also, the task force utilized a wide range of information to develop the Food and Nutrition Security Action Plan, which provides three goals along with strategies and tactics for the following key groups:
- Members take action in their communities (including policy and advocacy activities);
- Educators prepare future practitioners;
- Affiliates, MIGs and DPGs (including professional development opportunities) mobilize members to take action and become involved;
- Affiliates create local and state relationships.
The three main goals addressed in the Action Plan are as follows:

1. Members Engage and Mobilize to Task Action in their Communities to Address Food and Nutrition Insecurity.
2. DPGs, MIGs and Affiliates Provide Support and Professional Development Opportunities for Members.
3. Promote Local and State Partnerships and Collaborations for Addressing the Issue at the Community Level.

The Action Plan identifies existing resources, while also identifying novel strategies in fulfilling the above goals. The plan highlights the Feeding America’s Healthy Food Bank Hub, which provides a platform of evaluated tools and resources, showcases existing best practices and nutrition initiatives, and engages health and nutrition professionals to help fight hunger while promoting health. This Food Bank Hub is a joint venture between the Academy, the Academy Foundation, Feeding America and the National Dairy Council and responds to the request from the House of Delegates. In addition, the Action Plan highlights current resources available from the Academy (including the Legislative and Public Policy, Evidence Analysis Library, FNCE educational track and tours and DPG resources), the Academy Foundation (Kids Eat Right), and external organizations/agencies (Feeding America, US Department of Agriculture, US Health and Human Services and the Food Research Action Center). The Action Plan also notes organizations and agencies that should be considered for collaboration on the various strategies and tactics designed for affiliates and DPGs.

The Action Plan identifies gaps in the current resources and recommends the development of additional activities, resources and tools by various DPGs, Nutrition and Dietetics Educators and Preceptors (NDEP) and stakeholders. For example, the task force suggests screening and tracking food insecurity levels among clients across all areas of practice using validated tools. The Action Plan will receive oversight by the Public Health Community Nutrition Committee (as of June 1, 2014) including a focus on development of novel ideas and new resources.

Next Steps
Members, affiliates, DPGs, MIGs, NDEP and all organizational units are encouraged to study this Action Plan for implementation in order to take steps to work collaboratively with other organizations and agencies to reduce the incidence of food and nutrition insecurity in this country. We challenge the membership to embrace the Action Plan as another opportunity to take a leadership role in addressing food and nutrition insecurity to assist our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the House of Delegates, the profession and the Academy on this critical issue facing our country.

HOD Food and Nutrition Security Task Force
Michelle Marshall, MS, RD, chair
Meg Bruening, PhD, MPH, RD
Sherry Coleman-Collins, MS, RD, LD
Dianne Polly, JD, RDN, LDN.
Rickelle Richards, PhD, MPH, RDN
Jessie Maurer, Academy Student Member

Staff Support: Harold Holler, Governance and Practice Group; Donna Wickstrom, HOD Governance Team; Mary Pat Raimondi, Policy Initiatives & Advocacy Group; Teresa Nece, Policy Initiatives & Advocacy Group; and Katie Brown, Foundation assisted the task force in their work efforts.
Goal #1: Members Engage and Mobilize to Take Action in their Communities to Address Food and Nutrition Security.

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| **Strategy #1:** Members are confident in responding to ‘action alerts’ by utilizing current resources that are specific to food and nutrition security. | **Tactic #1:** Affiliate, DPGs and MIGs encourage members to increase their knowledge and awareness of food and nutrition insecurity within their communities. | 1. *Eat Right Weekly.* 2. Public Policy Workshop. 3. Public Policy Weekly News Updates (affiliate and DPG/MIG policy leaders). 4. PIA Issue Briefs (overview of issue and talking points) 5. Affiliate Legislative Days. 6. Grassroots Manager for Responding to Action Alerts. 7. Academy and/or Foundation webinars on food and nutrition insecurity issues. 8. Academy/Academy Foundation’s *Kids Eat Right* resources. 9. Mapping of the World of Nutrition. 10. Action alerts from external organizations (i.e. FRAC and Feeding America). | Affiliates, DPGs & MIGs provide links to well-established resources that have been shown to be effective (state & national). | Academy Groups  
- DPGs (i.e. PHCN, HEN, SNS, FCP, etc.)  
- Foundation *Kids Eat Right*  
- Policy Initiatives & Advocacy Group  
- Affiliates and District Associations  
External Organizations  
- Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB)  
- American Society of Nutrition (ASN)  
- American Public Health Association (APHA)  
- American Heart Association (AHA)  
- School Nutrition Association (SNA)  
- Food Research Action Center (FRAC)  
- Feeding America  
Government Agencies  
- USDA-Food & Nutrition Section; Economic Research Service Section  
- Health and Human Services (HHS)  
- Administration for Community Living which includes Administration on Aging |
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| **Strategy #2:** Members utilize Academy, other organizations and groups’ resources to understand and assist with addressing food and nutrition insecurity in their communities. | **Tactic #1:** Create a web based resource directory which includes:  
- List of easy-to-accomplish opportunities to address food and nutrition insecurity in communities.  
- Tips for members to partner with local food banks and other community food assistance programs.  
- FAQ on food insecurity.  
- Resources for conducting nutrition education to address reducing food and nutrition insecurity. | 1. Academy/Academy Foundation’s *Kids Eat Right* resources (suggested actions, ready-made presentations addressing food insecurity, handouts, etc.).  
2. Academy Foundation’s *Hunger in Our Community: What Can We Do* Toolkit.  
3. Academy Foundation’s *Nourish to Flourish* info-graphic (see page 10 for web address).  
4. Academy’s Evidence Analysis Library.  
5. Food bank tours similar to HEN DPG FNCE tours and Foundation FNCE tours.  
6. SNAP-Ed/EFNEP Programs resources:  
   - SNAP-Ed Recipe Finder.  
   - SNAP-Ed Connection.  
7. Share Our Strength: Cooking Matters Resources.  
8. Feeding America web site (see page 10 for web address). | 1. Provide ideas/activities for affiliates on how to incorporate easy-to-accomplish opportunities into affiliate meetings.  
2. A one page summary that identifies different opportunities to highlight sustainable volunteer activities.  
3. A toolkit including interactive activities that includes the incorporation of hands-on experiences. | **Academy Groups**  
- Foundation *Kids Eat Right*  
- Anti-Hunger National Groups  
- Feeding America  
- Bread for the World  
- Mazon  
- Share Our Strength/Cooking Matters  
**External Organizations**  
- SNEB  
- APHA  
- ASN  
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)  
- Association of SNAP-Ed Nutrition Networks ASNNA  
- Meals on Wheels Association of America (MOWAA)  
- National Association of Nutrition and Aging Service Programs (NANASp)  
- National WIC Association (NWAA)  
- National Association of Area Agencies on Aging **Community Groups**  
- State and local food banks  
- Homeless shelters, and any other groups serving food insecure households **Government Agencies** |
9. Feeding America’s Healthy Food Bank Hub (see page 10 for web address).
10. State Extension Services (i.e. Oregon): virtual experience for process to apply for community resources (SNAP).
11. USDA: Food Environment Atlas (see page 10 for web address).
12. HHS web site (see page 10 for web address).

- USDA
- HHS
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| **Strategy #3**: Members utilize a screening tool for use in practice to assess patient or client food security needs. | **Tactic #1**: Affiliates, DPGs, and MIGs promote existing screening tools for use by members in their practice settings.  
**Tactic #2**: Affiliates/districts contact local/state anti-hunger coalitions or food policy councils to identify opportunities for members to address the issue in their communities. | 1. Four Resource Tools: Practitioners and institutions/agencies determine the most beneficial tool to use:  
- Two Question Screening Tool-available in English and Spanish (Pediatrics July 2010; see page 10 for web address).  
- USDA 6-Item Food Security Screening Tool (see page 10 for web address).  
- USDA 9-Item Food Security Screening Tool for Youth (for 12 years and older; see page 10 for web address).  
- USDA 18-Item Food Security Screening Tool (see page 10 for web address).  
2. Utilize local resources for referral, i.e.: SNAP, WIC, School Meal Program, After School Programs, SNAP-Ed, MOW; City/County Health Departments, etc.  
3. *Hunger in the Community: Ways Hospitals Can Help* (see page 10 for web site address). | 1. Document/tracking data system for RDNs and DTRs screening and tracking food insecurity among individuals and/or populations (including institution).  
2. List of referral sources for connecting people identified as food insecure (this would be a localized list developed by an affiliate or district). | Local/State Organizations  
- Anti-hunger coalitions  
- Food policy councils |
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| **Strategy #4:** Students understand food and nutrition security and the role of the RDN or DTR in efforts to address the problem. | Tactic #1: Educators utilize Academy and Academy Foundation educational tools and resources for use in the classroom setting to provide knowledge on the topic.  
  Tactic #2: Educators incorporate the issue of food and nutrition insecurity into DPD courses where possible.  
  Tactic #3: Educators share existing lectures and activities related to food and nutrition security with other educators/preceptors. | 1. The Academy Foundation’s six webinar series on food insecurity graphic (see page 8 for web address).  
  2. Academy/Academy Foundation’s *Kids Eat Right* Resources.  
  3. The Food Insecurity/Food Banking Dietetic Internship Concentration with ACEND as part of the Future of Food project. (Over 120 hrs of specialized learning activities).  
  4. Hunger 101 | 1. Survey educators to identify what is being used currently to provide experiences and information related to food and nutrition security in the classroom. Information can be posted to the ACEND/NDEP Portal for educators.  
  2. Report survey findings to dietetics educators to assist them to incorporate experiences and resources into classroom activities. The survey results could be published.  
  3. Develop communication network for program faculty and instructors (i.e., existing lectures & activities, etc.).  
  4. Create awareness of career opportunities related to food security. | Academy Groups  
  - Foundation *Kids Eat Right*  
  - NDEP  
  - DPGs  
  External Organizations  
  - SNEB  
  - SNA |
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| **Strategy #1:** Affiliates, DPGs and MIGs incorporate the topic of food and nutrition security into one to two educational opportunities per year including hands on experiences. | **Tactic #1:** Members utilize educational opportunities on a yearly basis to remain current on food and nutrition security issues in their communities. | 1. Concept of food bank tours similar to HEN DPG FNCE tours and Foundation FNCE tours.  
2. FNCE educational track on food and nutrition security.  
3. HEN DPG’s Speaker’s Bureau (under development). | | Academy Groups  
- Foundation Kids Eat Right  
- DPGs  
External Organizations  
- Feeding America Network |
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| **Strategy #2**: Affiliates, DPGs and MIGs promote member utilization of ‘Best Practices’ for addressing food and nutrition insecurity. | **Tactic #1**: Members utilize the “Best Practices” in their practice settings or local communities. | 1. “Best Practices” highlighted on Feeding America’s Healthy Food Bank Hub.  
2. HEN DPG newsletter. | 1. DPG newsletter articles or templates articles are shared that demonstrate how their area of practice is addressing the issue.  
2. YouTube video showing what RDNs can do to share information to others, in a variety of settings- clinical, food service management, community areas- all might be difference in how they can share information with colleagues. | Academy Groups  
• DPGs  
External Organizations  
• Feeding America |
Goal #3: Promote Local and State Partnerships and Collaborations for Addressing the Issue at the Community Level.

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| **Strategy #1:** Affiliates/districts are encouraged to conduct a community assessment or access the data in the state or local community to determine what is already available to assist RDNs and DTRs in determining where they can make the most impact. | **Tactic #1:** Affiliates/districts develop relationships with state and local anti-hunger coalitions, organizations, groups or food councils to assess the situation in order to mobilize members into action. *See example below.* | 1. USDA Toolkit: Community Food Security Assessment Toolkit (Need to monitor update of toolkit). | 1. Standardized tool is needed. If USDA toolkit not tailored enough, perhaps adapt it to better fit RDNs’ and DTRs’ needs. | Government Agencies  
- USDA  

Others  
- University extension service  
- State anti-hunger coalitions  
- Food Banks |

**EXAMPLE: Excerpt from April 8, 2014 Public Policy Weekly News Update**

**The Springfield Illinois Capitol Area Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Mobile Food Pantry Project**

The Capitol Area Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics raised $1225 from their district members to host a Mobile Food Pantry in Taylorville, Illinois this year. These funds were used by the Central Illinois Foodbank to buy fresh produce. To host the Mobile Food Pantry, the Capitol Area Academy had to secure a distribution sight, get volunteers (their members, families and friends), and get a fork lift to take the foods off the truck that came from the food bank. The volunteers had to re-package 50 pound bags into usable smaller plastic bags. On March 22, 2014, the recipients started arriving at 7 a.m. at the mobile food bank location with laundry baskets, hampers and boxes.

The group distributed 12,000 pounds of food, including fresh oranges and apples, fresh potatoes and sweet potatoes, lettuce, cereal, breads, including spinach wraps, and dairy products. The project reached 518 individuals, including 154 kids and 75 seniors, from 177 households. Illinois Representative Rodney Davis attended the event to see the work Academy members do to assist the community during National Nutrition Month.

Thumbs up to the Springfield Illinois Capitol Area Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics!
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| **Strategy #2:** Members are encouraged to participate in research on food insecurity and hunger in their community. | **Tactic #1:** Research DPG and NDEP discuss potential opportunities to create a research network related to hunger with the DPBRN, Council on Research and Academy Foundation (via the Future of Food Partnership project). This would include conducting an environmental scan to identify gaps and to interview state hunger partners on what is already being done. | 1. Feeding American-Map the Meal Gap (see page 10 for website address).  
2. Hunger in America Study (new study to be released in fall 2014).  
3. Other peer-reviewed literature. | 1. Create multistate research network related to the issue.  
2. Create annotated bibliography of food security research to identify research gaps. | **Academy Groups**  
- Foundation Kids Eat Right  
- NDEP  
- Council on Research  
- Dietetic Practice Based Research Network  
- Research DPG  
- HEN DPG  
**External Organizations**  
- SNEB  
- APHA  
- Feeding America  
- FRAC  
**Government Agencies**  
- USDA  
**Others**  
- Universities |
Requests for Development of Resources or Tools

1. Goal #1, Strategy #2, Tactic #1: Request HEN DPG and PHCN DPG to collaborate to create a web based directory.
2. Goal #1, Strategy #4, Tactic #2: Request Nutrition and Dietetics Educators and Preceptors (NDEP) to collaborate with other DPGs to create educational opportunities for students that involve a didactic component. Create educator network to collaborate on curriculum development & research.
3. Goal #2, Strategy #2, Tactic #1: Request DPGs to develop list of ‘Best Practices’ that can be shared with members. Include hospital RDNs (clinical staff and clinical nutrition managers) who are creating “farm to table programs” or “re-claimed food”.
4. Goal #3, Strategy #2, Tactic #1: Request the Research DPG and NDEP to collaborate with Dietetic Practice Based Research Network to create new opportunities.

The Public Health/Community Nutrition Committee (starting on June 1, 2014) will be responsible for future oversight of the Action Plan and will facilitate the evaluation of the plan.

Website Addresses
- Academy Foundation Kids Eat Right: http://www.eatright.org/foundation/kidseatright/
- Academy Foundation’s Nourish to Flourish info-graphic: www.eatright.org/Public/content.aspx?id=6442478348&terms=infoographic
- Feeding America: http://feedingamerica.org/
- Feeding America’s Healthy Food Bank Hub: www.healthyfoodbankhub.org
- The Academy Foundation’s 6 webinar series on food insecurity: www.eatright.org/Foundation/content.aspx?id=6442478708
- US Health and Human Services: www.hhs.gov/

Academy Position Papers Related to the Topic
- Nutrition Security in Developing Nations: Sustainable Food, Water, and Health
- Food Insecurity in the United States

To access all Academy position papers, use the following link: http://www.eatright.org/About/Content.aspx?id=8387