

FW: 🍊🥦 5 HOT TOPICS in Florida Food is Medicine, April 2024 🍷

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**From:** Maura Plante <maura@livinghungry.org>

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**Subject:** 🍊🥦 5 HOT TOPICS in Florida Food is Medicine, April 2024 🍷

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Need-to-know news in your inbox every month from the [Florida Health & Nutrition Coalition](#)  
What's Working? What's Not? What's New? And Who's doing it?

1.) Where to Start?

You're Invited to the Movers & Shakers FREE Webinar on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 PM.  
“*Funding for Food is Medicine: Steps to Success for Consistent Income Streams*”

Presented by FiM Movers & Shakers, Erika Hanson, JD, & Sam Hoeffler.

This webinar will introduce you to a Lawyer from Cambridge, MA and a Social Entrepreneur from Durham, NC. Each one tackles food is medicine funding differently, yet both will elucidate how best to build revenue streams that are consistent and long-lasting in our state of Florida. [Register here](#)>



FLORIDA HEALTH & NUTRITION COALITION INVITES YOU TO:

# MOVERS & SHAKERS WEBINAR SERIES

**Funding Food is Medicine: Steps to  
Success for Consistent Income Streams**

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

**Sam Hoeffler**  
Director of Food Programs,  
Reinvestment Partners, Durham, NC

**Erika Hanson, JD**  
Clinical Instructor, The Center for Health  
Law and Policy Innovation (CHLPI)  
Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA

**April 18, 2024**  
2:00pm - 3:00pm

**Register here**

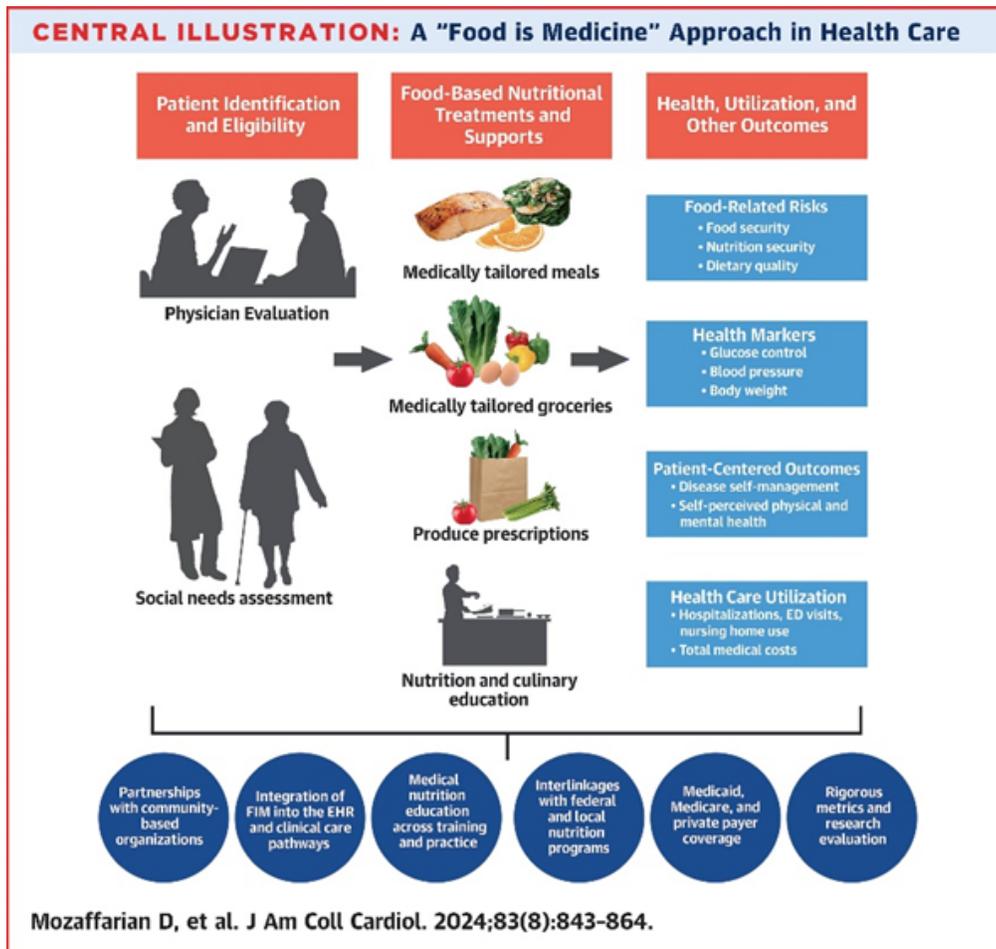
Visit <https://healthandnutritioncoalition.com/webinar>

The poster features a QR code in the top right corner and a circular graphic on the right side containing a green leaf, a purple plus sign, and an orange slice. The background is a collage of various fruits and vegetables.

## 2.) Research Worth Reading

### **Read this wake-up call to Cardiologists on the state of Food is Medicine!**

Published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, "[Food Is Medicine](#)" *Strategies for Nutrition Security and Cardiometabolic Health Equity: JACC State-of-the-Art Review*" authored by Dariush Mozaffarian, Karen E. Aspry, Kathryn Garfield, Penny Kris-Etherton, Hilary Seligman, Gladys P. Velarde, Kim Williams, Eugene Yang, and on behalf of the American College of Cardiology Working Groups on Disparities of Care (health equity) and Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease Section Nutrition & Lifestyle (nutrition security). In a nutshell: Clinicians, health systems, and payers should support current and future directions of this strategy. Enjoy a quick 24 min listen to the [podcast](#)



### **Catch this State by State Inventory of Medicaid 1115 Waivers & Nutrition**

At long last, brilliant researchers have mapped the Section 1115 demonstrations across states to see who provides coverage for nutrition services: 19 waivers approved and pending. Only 10 waivers provide/propose direct intervention with healthy food. Progress! The paper published in [Health Affairs Scholar Feb 2024](#) provides analysis by state and includes useful details: types of interventions and populations covered, and implications for patients, health care providers, and Medicaid programs to address food and nutrition insecurity, diet-related diseases, and health equity. Congratulations to authors Erika Hanson, Daniel Albert-Rozenberg, Kathryn M Garfield, Emily Broad Leib, Ronit A Ridberg, Kurt Hager, Dariush Mozaffarian.

## 3.) In the News

The Food is Medicine Coalition (FIMC) just rolled out the welcome mat to new members with a new [Membership and Accreditation](#) process for agencies in the field delivering medically tailored meals. 3 Florida Agencies are Members today: Poverello, Second Harvest Food Bank and Treasure

Coast Food Bank. The Accreditation process teaches a quality service standard, takes approximately six-months, and includes an on-site audit. Congratulations to [Food & Friends](#) in Washington, DC for being the first Accredited MTM agency! FIMC's MTM [Accelerator](#) in its 5<sup>th</sup> Year and the competitive [application](#) is open now!

#### 4.) Policy Impact

##### *Florida's Healthcare-Rich Legislative Session Ends*

The 2024 Florida Legislative Session wrapped up March 8<sup>th</sup> in which "Live Healthy" Legislation took up most of the oxygen in the room -and cash- with a \$797 Million bill for growing Florida's health care workforce, funding doctors, removing regulations to increase workforce mobility, expanding access to efficient health care. Add another \$750 Million in loans over 10 years to incentivize innovation through a health technology innovation fund and that's \$1.6 Billion on healthcare, without the actual care. Our friends at "Florida Voices for Health" crafted a great rundown of [healthcare related bills](#) (slides) and what they mean for people. Watch Scott Darius, CEO, break it down [here](#) (video).



##### *First State to use ILOS to Fund Food is Medicine is Michigan.*

Michigan Medicaid will be using "In Lieu of Services" ILOS to fund Food is Medicine! Starting October 1, 2024, Medicaid Health Plans participating in the Medicaid and Healthy [Michigan Plan](#) will be encouraged to offer ILOS that address Medicaid members' food and nutrition-related needs. [MDHHS](#) will identify a limited set of food and nutrition-related ILOS - such as medically tailored meals - that the Medicaid Health Plans will be able to offer to address eligible enrollee's health-related social needs. Smart move to save/chip away at the \$1.8 billion annually in statewide healthcare costs associated with food insecurity in that state. Good idea!



### ***Costs for Healthcare eats 18% of American Salaries.***

While the average worker's pay remained flat to stagnating, premiums have gone up to a piping hot 18% in 2019, up from 8% in 1988. \$1 of every \$5 in 2019 pay stubs was spent on health insurance premiums to cover doctor visits, hospital stays, medications, surgeries and administrative waste. More in this compelling read in Bloomberg's [How Health Insurance Eroded Americans' Earnings and Exacerbated Inequality](#) lists a devastating \$125,000 lost to American hardworking families over 30 years at this pace. Read the source study on [JAMA Open Network](#) published January 2024 "Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance Premium Cost Growth and Its Association With Earnings Inequality Among US Families" by Kurt Hager, PhD, MS, Ezekiel Emanuel, MD, PhD, Dariush Mozaffarian, MD, DrPH. to see the true costs of healthcare land in your pocket or pocketbook.

### **5.) Your Turn to Learn**

#### ***CMS Medicare & Medicaid will pay for Food is Medicine! ...in other states.***

Here's how the pathways for Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) services in Medicaid and CHIP work. CMCS published the details in a [Bulletin](#) & [Table](#) on November 16, 2023. To find out the specific services that are allowed, coverage limitations, exceptions, and population target examples, you can join the [Movers & Shakers Webinar on April 18<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 PM](#) for Erika Hansen to break it down for you. You'll learn what has changed, what hasn't changed, and what it means for stakeholders on the ground. Read the [summary report](#) from The Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation (CHLPI) of Harvard Law School.

#### ***World Health Organization & CMS: SDOH affect Systems / HRSN effect Individuals.***

Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) are specific to an individual and contribute to that individual's poor health when unmet. Unmet health needs in turn drive worse health outcomes, lapses in coverage and access to care, higher downstream medical costs, and the perpetuation of health inequities, particularly for children and adults at high risk for poor health outcomes, and individuals in historically underserved communities [says CMS here](#). Food is Medicine programs can help! SDOH are defined as broad environmental conditions by CMS, and [WHO](#) says these SDOH forces and systems shape daily life with their scope encompassing economic policies and systems, development agendas, social norms, social policies, and political systems. By addressing HRSN, with Food is Medicine programs for example, state Medicaid and CHIP programs can help their enrollees stay connected to coverage and access needed health care services, reversing the tide of disease and early death.

**How can we get paid for FiM without the Medical Codes to Plug In? We cannot.**  
[Coding4Food Project](#) is working to establish new medical codes that better define and integrate a spectrum of Food is Medicine interventions into healthcare workflows and operating language. Applications are open to participate in the Coding4Food Phase 1 workgroups to reach national consensus on definitions of Medically Tailored Meals, Medically Tailored Groceries, and Produce Prescriptions. These definitions are foundational to our planned application to CMS for new HCPCS codes. Thank you Coding4Food - We all appreciate you Katie Ettman, Kristin Sukys, & Advisory Committee.

6.) Gatherings >>

May 23 & 24, 2024 - [2024 Florida Voices of Health Summit](#)-Building Beyond “Live Healthy” Conference on healthcare policy impact on Thursday May 23rd and Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> @ Space Coast Health Foundation. The Florida Health & Nutrition Coalition is presenting on May 24<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM. Get [Tickets Here](#).



May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - [CMS Health Equity Conference](#) - The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will host its second Health Equity Conference, a free, hybrid conference at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Bethesda, Maryland. Plenary sessions will also be livestreamed on the [HHS Live website](#). Get [Tickets Here](#).



May 29 -30-31, 2024 - The Validation Institute's [Food As Medicine Strategy Summit](#) with an [ALL-Star speaker line up](#) including Dr. Dary Mozaffarian, Keynote to Measure evidence-based food programs to prevent chronic disease, personalize treatment, and mitigate food security issues to produce better health outcomes. At the Westin in Washington, DC. Get [Tickets Here](#).

**SAVE THE DATE: 10.16.2024** is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "JUMPSTART SESSION" [Florida FiM Symposium](#) 8:30 AM-5:00 PM @ Holy Cross Hospital, Ft. Lauderdale, @ PBA University Library, West Palm Beach. Let us know if you would like to speak, sponsor, attend - email [Maura@livinghungry.org](mailto:Maura@livinghungry.org). Hosted by Florida Health & Nutrition Coalition, Holy Cross Healthplex, South Florida Hunger Coalition, Palm Beach Atlantic University Library, and more.

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Thanks for sending us all worthy research, news, and stories to share! This was a packed one thanks to you.

Please send ideas to [Maura@livinghungry.org](mailto:Maura@livinghungry.org)

We all want to know!

Pass it on.