**Issues:**

Hunger is common in Colorado:
- 11.3% (627,480) Coloradans are food insecure

Many Coloradans do not have local access to fresh food:
- 7.59 million Coloradans live in a food desert (Colorado Health Institute, 2010)

Colorado children are vulnerable:
- 16.5% (190,780) of Colorado kids experience limited or uncertain availability of safe, nutritious food at some point during the year

**Indicators:**

Food assistance programs are a safety net for hungry families. Participation in these programs provides an important measure of how well we are addressing food insecurity in our state.

**Interventions:**

Food interventions make a difference:
- Federal food assistance programs reduce hunger and support low-income families

SNAP:
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the key nutrition assistance safety net for low-income families
- Benefits are available to people who meet financial and nonfinancial requirements

WIC:
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides Federal grants to states for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education
- Benefits are available to low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children who are found to be at nutritional risk.

Colorado families are underenrolled:
- Many hungry families in Colorado are not on these programs, even though they qualify

**SNAP**
- Eligible: 197,505
- Enrolled: 85,912

**WIC**
- Eligible: 197,505
- Enrolled: 85,912

**Blueprint goals three, four, and five:**
- Increase the number of Coloradans who can access food assistance and nutritious food through community-based organizations.
- Maximize SNAP and WIC enrollment to propel Colorado to become a leading state for enrollment in these health and nutrition benefit programs.
- Maximize participation in federal child nutrition programs, making Colorado a national leader in delivering these vital programs.