



Connecting Food Security to a Patient Centered Medical Home and Back Again

Nicole Runkle, BS

David Nelson, PhD MS

Medical College of Wisconsin





Disclosures

This research was funded by the MCW Center for Healthy Communities – Physical Activity and Nutrition Grant.



Goals and Objectives

- Recognize the issue of food insecurity
- Express perspectives of community and primary care on food insecurity
- Design change ideas for our system and providers to address food insecurity



What is Food Insecurity?

The disruption of food intake or eating patterns because of lack of money and other resources. Limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate food.



Methods

Primary Care

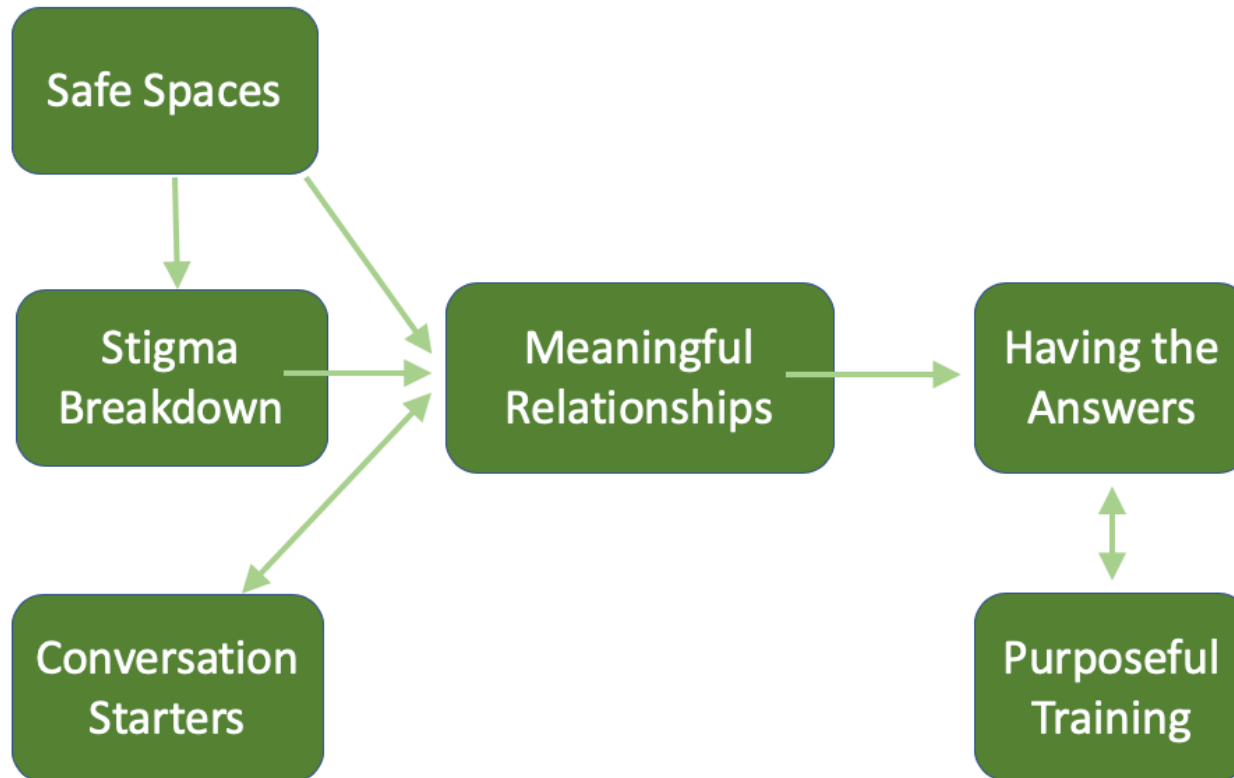
- How does food insecurity fit in this space?
- How can we connect this to a community-based organization, like a food pantry?
- How can providers talk to their patients about food?

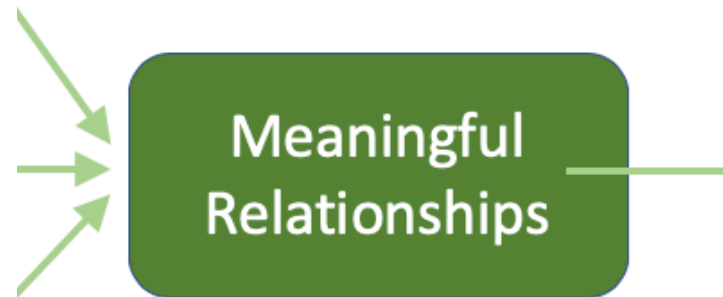
CBO

- How does health fit in this space?
- How can we connect this place to healthcare?
- How can people talk to their providers about having enough food?



Results

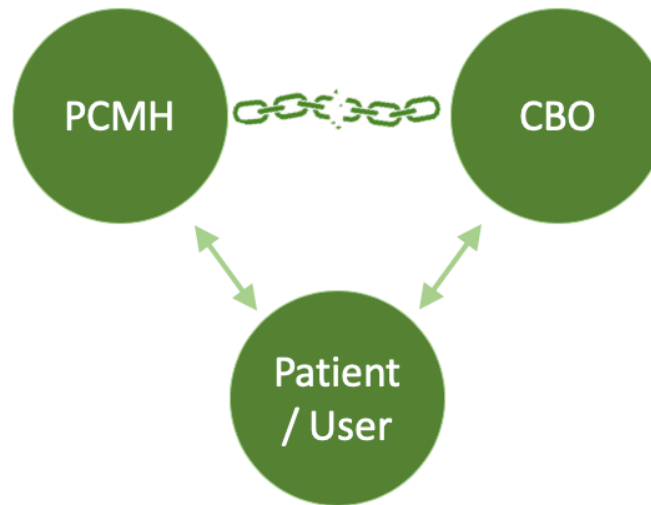




“I think **everything starts with trust between the community and us**. I use myself for an example. I am not a fan of the dentist but because I trust (name) who comes out with us on Wednesdays, I’m gonna go to the dentist (...) I think it has a lot to do with trust and having people comfortable with who they’re talking to and being comfortable.”

- Pantry volunteer

Results



- A missing link...
the connection remains silent



Conclusions

- Food insecurity is a silent epidemic
- Meaningful relationships are the core
 - Collaborative initiative amongst all involved
 - Behavioral scientists are especially needed to help address the stigma and create conversation starters
- More intentionality is needed
 - Workflow
 - Education



Questions?

- Thank you!



References

1. Coleman-Jensen A, Rabbitt MP, Gregory CA, and Singh A. Household Food Security in the United States in 2017, ERR-256, 2018 U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service
2. Gundersen C. Food Insecurity Is an Ongoing National Concern, *Advances in Nutrition* 2013; 4(1): 33-41, <https://doi.org/10.3945/an.112.003244>
3. Gundersen C. Food Insecurity And Health Outcomes, *Health Affairs* 2015; 34(11): 1830-1839, <https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2015.064>
4. Hampton T. Food Insecurity Harms Health, Well-being of Millions in the United States. *JAMA* 2007;298(16):1851–1853. doi:10.1001/jama.298.16.1851
5. Lundeen EA, Siegel KR, Calhoun H, Kim SA, Garcia SP, Hoeting NM. Clinical-Community Partnerships to Identify Patients With Food Insecurity and Address Food Needs. *Prev Chronic Dis* 2017;14:170343. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5888/pcd14.17034>.
6. Barnidge, E., LaBarge, G., Krupsky, K. and Arthur, J. Screening for Food Insecurity in Pediatric Clinical Settings: Opportunities and Barriers. *Journal of Community Health* (2017) 42:51-57. <https://doi-org./10.1007/s10900-016-0229-z>
7. Billioux, A., K. Verlander, S. Anthony, and D. Alley. 2017. Standardized screening for health-related social needs in clinical settings: The accountable health communities screening tool. Discussion Paper, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC. <https://nam.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Standardized-Screening-for-Health-Related-Social-Needsin-Clinical-Settings.pdf>.
8. Ginsburg ZA, Bryan AD, Rubinstein EB, Frankel HJ, Maroko AR, Schechter CB, Stowers KC and Lucan SC. Unreliable and Difficult-to-Access Food for Those in Need: A Qualitative and Quantitative Study of Urban Food Pantries. *Journal of Community Health* (2019) 44:16–31. <http://doi-org/10.1007/s10900-018-0549-2>