

Lowell Hunger & Homelessness Commission

September 2, 2026 Meeting Summary

Meeting Focus: SNAP Updates, Immigrant Communities/Haitian TPS, Community Resources & Food Access

SNAP & Food Access

The Commission received updates regarding current SNAP-related challenges and their impact on Massachusetts residents. Discussion included difficulties residents are experiencing accessing DTA assistance, SNAP eligibility, work requirements, and the potential impact of policy and administrative changes on households. Community partners also raised questions regarding DTA access and the experiences of older adults seeking assistance. MLRI shared additional resources for providers and residents, including multilingual materials related to SNAP immigrant eligibility and ABAWD work requirements.

Immigrant Communities

The Commission discussed issues affecting immigrant households, including questions related to benefit eligibility and public charge considerations. Participants raised questions about how immigration-related rules may affect individuals at different stages of the immigration process and emphasized the importance of providing residents with accurate and accessible information.

Community Resources & Coordination

Community partners shared resources, referral opportunities, upcoming community events, and opportunities for continued collaboration. Resources included behavioral health referral pathways, community events, domestic violence trainings, and an upcoming behavioral health fair.

Key Follow-Up

The Commission will continue sharing relevant SNAP, immigration, food access, behavioral health, and community resources with members and partner organizations. Members and community partners are encouraged to continue submitting upcoming programs, events, and resources for distribution through the Commission network.

Next Meeting: October 7th 2026 12:00pm

Community resources/events shared:

- Dwelling House of Hope Multicultural Festival - **September 12, 11 AM–8 PM**; outreach@dwellinghouseofhope.org; 978-551-7676.
- **CMAA Community Health Fair** Saturday, September 12, 2026 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- LCHHealth African Community Celebration Fundraising 2026 - [Registration link](#)
- Community Teamwork — JoAnn Howell shared information about **Domestic Violence 101/102 training** and an **October 19 Behavioral Health Fair at the Lowell Senior Center**, Please contact: jhowell@commteam.org.

