



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of
Health and Human Services

Governor's Anti-Hunger Task Force

Virtual Meeting

April 30, 2026





Agenda

1. Report release
2. Implementation Planning
 - Work underway
 - FY27 Budget
 - Planning and timeline
3. Open discussion

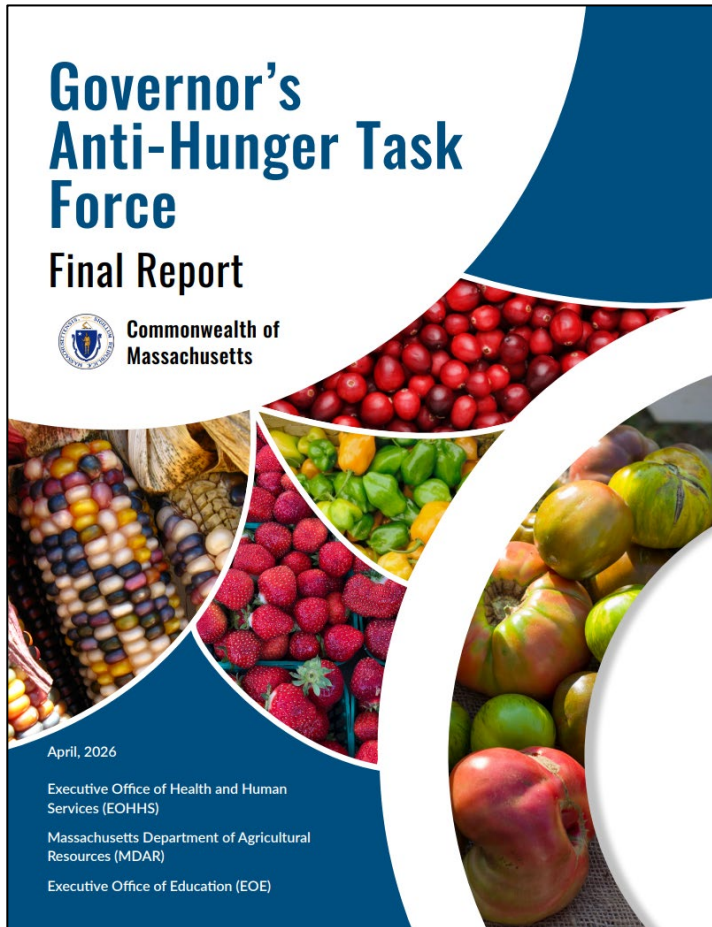


Anti-Hunger Task Force Report

Thank you for your contributions and work to provide recommendations to address SNAP cuts in MA



Through working groups made up of more than 50 organizations and listening sessions across the Commonwealth, the Task Force compiled report recommendations with 5 key themes for action.



- 1 Support DTA clients and infrastructure
- 2 Maximize nutrition programs
- 3 Support the emergency food system
- 4 Build rural resiliency and support local food systems
- 5 Deepen public-private partnerships



Implementation Planning



Recommendations with agency-led work underway (non-exhaustive list)

Recommendation	Agency	Status
Support Dept of Transitional Assistance (DTA) operations, technology, and staffing	DTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New caseworker hiring and training underway - BEACON modernization efforts ongoing to improve productivity
Fund Healthy Incentive Program (HIP) and expand access	DTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DTA assessing feasibility of HIP vendor application and continues to encourage vendors to accept SNAP - DTA is gathering community input on HIP messaging
Public dashboard on nutrition program participation	EOE/DESE/ TSS/DPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dashboard scheduled to be released this spring
MA Emergency Food Assistance Program (MEFAP) funding and local purchasing	MDAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MDAR hosting Food Bank Procurement 101 with regional food banks on 5/4 to educate on food purchasing model and opportunities
Food Security Infrastructure Grant (FSIG) improvements	MDAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FSIG RFR posted in April and accepting applications through 5/4
Health system engagement	DTA/ MassHealth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DTA and MassHealth collaborating to support ACOs to identify and assist MassHealth members apply for SNAP
High nutritional quality school meals	DESE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to promote the Terrific Tray initiative celebrating local, fresh lunches and the Northeast Food For Schools initiative to assist schools in purchases local foods. - Working with Ocean Spray on reduced sugar cranberries for school meals and use MA-grown produce
College food insecurity	DHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DHE is working on a holistic essential needs survey for Massachusetts public higher education students



What initiatives are your organizations or partners engaged in that may contribute to the advancement of Task Force Recommendations?



FY27 Budget Negotiations related to AHTF Recommendations

Domain	Governor's Budget Request (H2)	House Budget
DTA caseworkers	\$147,699,832	\$121,991,351
HIP	\$29,700,000	\$20,000,000
MEFAP	\$55,000,000	\$60,000,000
Hunger-free campus	\$500,000	--
Universal Free School Meals	\$198,000,000	\$198,000,000

In addition to House 2 budget requests, the Healey Administration proposed a state tax credit for food donations currently being negotiated by the legislature.

Working groups will lead implementation strategies for priority recommendations in collaboration with agencies



Guiding strategies for implementation:

1. Working groups should build consensus for recommendations to prioritize for implementation and focus on a defined set of recommendations for implementation by the end of 2026
2. Implementation efforts should be anchored to realistic timelines, budgets, and operational feasibility
3. Strategies should be strengths-based and build upon the expertise and capacity of Task Force members and our partners
4. For each recommendation selected for implementation by a working group, the group should identify an owner to coordinate efforts, document plan development and progress, and report out to the Task Force at quarterly meetings for feedback
5. The Interagency Food Security Working Group, which consists of staff across state agencies working on food-related initiatives and programs is a resource for implementation





Working groups are encouraged to utilize the implementation plan template for development and progress tracking

Recommendation

Verbatim recommendation from the report

Each recommendation will have a unique charter

Goals

- *Tangible goals for 2026*

Approach, Method, Tools

- *Steps needed to reach the above goals*

Anticipated challenges

- *Potential roadblocks or issues to be aware of/plan for*

Owner:

Project Timeline

Milestone	Target Date
<i>e.g., Complete baseline of current state</i>	

Project Team

- *Working group members that will be directly involved in the work*
- ***Project team leads are bolded***

Collaborators

- *People that will support the work/be engaged, but are not doing the day to day.*

Metrics

- *Quantifiable metrics to measure progress against the goals (e.g., number of senior serving agencies supporting access to SNAP)*

Last updated:



Discussion