



# Marion County Food Policy Council



## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Food Policy Council is to coordinate better community outcomes for health and food. The council commits to strengthening community partnerships and solidifying services that yield healthier communities. The Marion County Food Policy Council achieves its mission through collaboration, promoting awareness of food and health disparities, connecting resources to address identified needs, and identifying methods to overcome issues.



**We thrive on  
providing Food,  
Fitness and Fun!"**

– Community Members

## COMMUNITY ASSETS

### Pick 42 Foundation

Helps families living in Marion County to have overall better outcomes.

### City of Mullins

Mayor Robert Woodberry and Councilwoman Terry Davis serve on the Executive Committee of the Marion Food Policy Council.

### Clemson University Cooperative Extension

Weatherly Thomas of Clemson Extension provides agriculture and rural health technical assistance and support.

## COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Community members participated in guided conversations through food gatherings and responded to surveys to provide their input on the food landscape of Marion County. Based on feedback the local food policy council decided to uplift three key areas:



**Healthy Food  
Access**



**Growing Local  
Food**



**Deliver Food to Local  
Organizations**

For each goal, the Coalition identified several Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change (PSE) strategies.

## COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Provided local food to 17 partner sites.



Support **5 Community Gardens** located throughout Marion County. The produce grown at the gardens is distributed to individuals and families in need through regular FoodShare distributions.



The **Mobile Food Pantry** distributes nutritious food to those in need throughout the community.

**56**

people attending  
the Food Policy  
Council meeting.



**14,670**

families served fresh  
local food.

**64,212**

individuals served  
fresh local food.

## SUCCESS STORY: Marion County Food Policy Council Luncheon

Pick 42 Foundation held a Food Policy Council Luncheon on March 20, 2024. Three guest speakers shared their expertise on ways a food hub could provide fresh local food to a community. The speakers formed a panel and shared the importance of a diet enriched with fresh foods (fruits and vegetables). They also discussed the advantages of buying and consuming locally grown food. The restaurateurs, farmers, ranchers, non-profit organizations, churches, grocery store market representatives, along with concerned citizens, enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by a local chef. After the luncheon, stakeholders purposefully networked with each other.