



# MARION INSTITUTE

Advancing a Culture of Health Through Food Equity

**CONNECTOR**  
SERIES

**FROGFOOT FARM**  
NEIGHBORS FEEDING  
NEIGHBORS

**GROW**  
EDUCATION

**SOUTHCOAST**  
FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

**BIOMED**  
PROGRAMS

**GREENHOUSE**  
INITIATIVES



# June 24, 2025 SFPC Quarterly Meeting for Members Agenda

---



- Land Acknowledgement
- Reports from the Four Working Groups
  - Initiatives
  - Policy Actions

# Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land is the traditional unceded territory of the Wapanaak (Wampanoag). Pre-English invasion, this place, its gifts of fertile soil, waters, wildlife and beauty, had already sustained Indigenous tribes for 12,000 years. We honor and respect the precious food sources discovered, harvested and cultivated by Native peoples and remain grateful to them for their connectedness to this land and their food traditions. We further acknowledge the lands the Cape Verdeans, African Americans, and Latinx people farmed in this area that have been lost to them through structural racism. We make these acknowledgements with intention, and accept the responsibility of all we continue to learn. We will honor the resources which sustain us today through their protection. May food be just one of the many connections we use in our work to repair relationships with Indigenous, and People of Color and of all Nations living here today.

# Education and Communication Working Group



**EAT LOCAL Southcoast CHALLENGE • 2025**

MARION INSTITUTE  
SOUTHCOST FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

*We Challenge You to Eat Food From a...*

**200-MILE RADIUS FOR 4 WEEKS:  
JULY 7-AUGUST 1, 2025**

When you register for the Eat Local Southcoast Challenge you will receive weekly emails full of tips and resources, including:

- ✓ Where to find local food and how to cook it
- ✓ Learn about "The Journey of Food in the Southcoast" through suggested resources
- ✓ Share your experiences with other participants via social media using the hashtags **#EatLocalSouthcoast** and **#EatLocalSoCo** and be sure to tag **@MarionInstitute**
- ✓ Get involved in the local food system through volunteer opportunities

**WHAT IS HIP?**

The Healthy Incentives Program (HIP) automatically provides SNAP recipients up to \$20 in purchasing fresh, local produce from participating farmers using their EBT card. HIP operates on a dollar-for-dollar reimbursement basis, crediting the EBT card for eligible purchases. Locate authorized vendors accepting SNAP, EBT, and HIP benefits by scanning this QR code

Scan or Visit to Register for the 2025 Eat Local Southcoast Challenge:



[bit.ly/EatLocalSouthcoast25](http://bit.ly/EatLocalSouthcoast25)



[bit.ly/Find-HIP-Vendors](http://bit.ly/Find-HIP-Vendors)

- Eat Local Southcoast Challenge- engaging the community in a fun way to learn about the regional food system. **Action-Register!**
- Food Summit: Fall
- FarmCoast Documentary

## Policy Action:

- Farm-to-School Grant bill
- Food Literacy bill

# Food Access Working Group

*Addressing Emergency Food Gaps in  
Southeastern, MA*



- Update Food Pantry list for Bristol, Plymouth, Norfolk to invite people to:
- Emergency Food Resource Meetings- identify challenges, brainstorm solutions, and organize.  
**Action: Register!**
- Join Southcoast Food Alert at [sfpc@marioninstitute.org](mailto:sfpc@marioninstitute.org).

## Policy Action!

- The Healthy Incentives Program

# Capacity Building Working Group

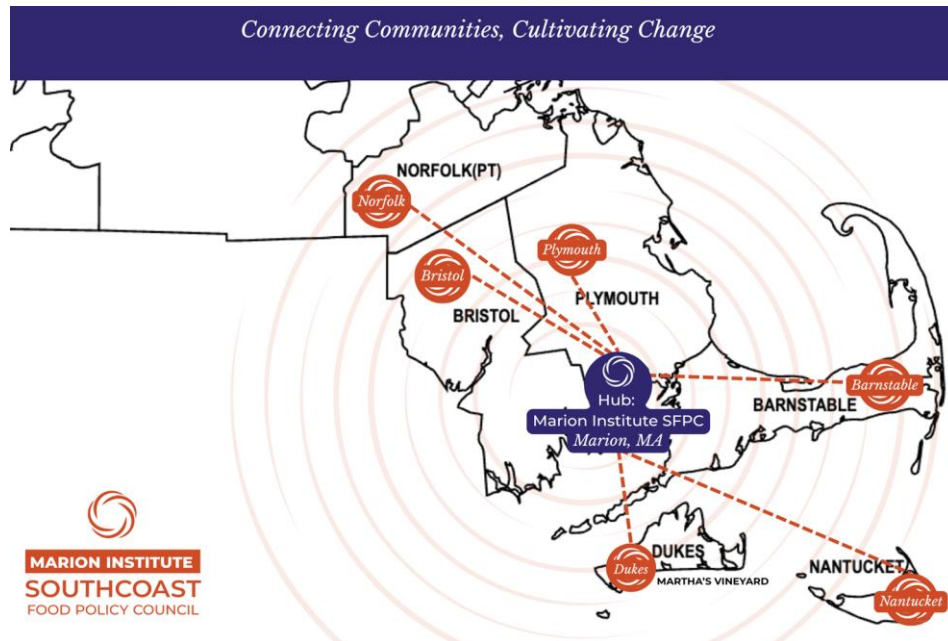
## CARAT – Community & Agriculture Resilience Audit Tool--Food System Assessment 2026

Early CARAT indications- few food system stakeholders represented in municipalities

Work with a partner to train community members interested in holding a municipal office.

### Policy Action!

- Encouraging the Donation of Food to Persons in Need





# Policy Working Group

**Real Change Starts with  
Real Stories**



## **Policy Action!**

1. Equity in Agriculture
2. Budget
  - Healthy Incentives Program
  - Food Literacy
  - Farm-to-School grants
  - MEFAP
  - Food Policy Council grants
  - Coastal Foodshed
  - Buy Local Agricultural Orgs
  - MA Food Trust
  - Mass in Motion
  - MDAR staffing
  - UMass Extension

# Policy Working Group

