



### Notes for the SFPC Quarterly meeting September 23, 2025

#### **Slide 4**

Registration for the 2025 Food Summit: Strengthening Aquaculture Through Wastewater Advocacy on October 3, 2025, from 2-3:30 pm <https://www.marioninstitute.org/2025-food-summit/>

#### **Slide 5**

Register for the SFPC Emergency Food Resource Meeting, held on the first Wednesday of each month at 2 pm. <https://www.marioninstitute.org/programs/sfpc/emergency-food-resource-gaps/>

Write testimony for The Healthy Incentives Program using [this template](#). Email your testimony to Audrey Herrmann ([Audrey.Herrmann@mahouse.gov](mailto:Audrey.Herrmann@mahouse.gov)) and Olivia Mathot ([Olivia.mathot@masenate.gov](mailto:Olivia.mathot@masenate.gov)).

#### **Slide 6**

##### Focus Group highlights

- The top two barriers to accessing food were the “Cliff Effect” — caused by Social Security Cost of Living Adjustments that led to higher rents and reduced SNAP benefits — and earning too little to afford basic needs, even when working full time.
- When asked if they have considered growing food, over 50% said no because they lack green space, time, money, or ability.
- When asked if they have heard of nutrition or cooking classes, almost half said no, but would be interested.
- When asked if they have heard of an emergency food plan in case of a disaster, 95% said they have not heard of such plans.

#### **Slide 7**

Learn more about our Legislative Bill priorities: <https://www.marioninstitute.org/programs/sfpc/sfpc-priority-bills/>

Please share your story of **why** The Healthy Incentives Program or any of our priority bills is vital to your organization or to the people you serve. Perhaps ask your customer or client how their situation is affecting them and how one of our priority bills can help. We will use those stories in testimony with legislators and in public education. <https://www.marioninstitute.org/programs/sfpc/share-your-story/> or share your story through a phone conversation with Christine. Email [sfpc@marioninstitute.org](mailto:sfpc@marioninstitute.org), and we will schedule a phone call to share your story.