

8. Dietitians fully support the concept of a Food is Medicine Model known as Screen and Intervene—a 2-question screening tool used **within the Medical Home** to help identify food insecurity and/or other social determinants of health that can ultimately affect health outcomes. The 2-question tool has been studied and vetted as a time efficient, sensitive & valid tool to assist the healthcare team in addressing social determinants... even beyond food insecurity, that may be interfering with positive health outcomes, such as the need for utility assistance, transportation, housing, legal help, and /or prescription assistance, etc. The PCMH setting provides the opportunity to act on identified issues through the care coordination process. A positive screen for food insecurity acts as a conversation starter and helps to drill down to the real issue.

*Kathy Gardner with Idaho Hunger Relief Task Force has been instrumental in successfully piloting this approach at Family Medicine Residency of Idaho with the help of one of our dietitians, Kelsey Ruszel. There are plans to expand to three additional clinics. The pilot was modeled after the Oregon Providence Health and Services effort which uses Community-based Care Navigators (community health workers) to assist in connecting patients with the **right** community resources.*

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or suggestions.

Comment [AP1]: The two screening questions are:

1. Are there times when your family does not get enough to eat (Y/N) (Source: Multnomah County)

2. Were there any days last month when your family didn't have enough food to eat or enough money to buy food? (Y/N) (Source: Bright Futures Nutrition)

If answers are yes, the follow up questions could be asked for further information

For each statement please tell me whether the statement was "often true, sometimes true, or never true" for your household:

1. Within the past 12 months we worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more.

2. Within the past 12 months the food we bought just didn't last and we didn't have money to get more."

Source:

http://public.health.oregon.gov/HealthyPeopleFamilies/Youth/HealthSchool/SchoolBasedHealthCenters/Documents/SBHC%20Coordinators%20Meeting/Food_Insecurity_PowerPoint_Presentation.pdf