



Barnstable County Commissioners' Fall Hunger Summit
October 26, 2026 9am – 3pm
Cultural Center of Cape Cod, 307 Old Main Street, South Yarmouth

Participant Agenda:

Event Objectives:

1. Strengthening regional food security through shared learning, dialogue, and networking.
2. Identify capacity-building needs and opportunities across Cape Cod's food system.
3. Support continued engagement in collaborative action planning.

9:00 Welcome & Opening Comments

Multiple speakers contributing:

Cultural Center of Cape Cod, Lauren Wolk

Barnstable County Commissioner Chair, Mark Forest

Cape Cod Community College Interim President, Ellen Kennedy

9:30 Community Resilience Audit – High Level Take Aways for Cape Cod

Presentation, Large Group Q&A, Future Engagements.

Marion Institute: Liz Wiley, Executive Director & Rita Higgins, Innovation Consultant

This presentation asks, "Where we are stronger together?" Content will highlight key system dynamics that span the region, essential data and trends, and options for engaging in upcoming action-planning efforts.

10:15 Break *Coffee & Snacks provided*

10:30 Exploring Food Systems on the Cape Through Ethical Storytelling

Brief presentation, story circle exercise, and large-group reflection

Root Cause Solutions Exchange: JuPong Lin & Catherine Sands

Participants will have an opportunity to hear real world perspectives about hunger and food systems, exploring how community relationships influence systems change. The session highlights how stories complement data and how narrative insights can inform planning efforts.

Introduction by: Leo Blandford, Outer Cape Health

Storytellers Discussion Prompt:

"As you think about this past year, what stories or observations can you share about how food security is changing in your community, and what relationships, traditions, places, or local knowledge help people stay connected and well?"

Storytellers:

Dan DaSilva, DaSilva Farm

Doug Feeney, Chatham Harvesters Cooperative
Heather Holbrook, Orleans Health Department
Jean-Claude Butter, Canaan SDA Church
Sheriff Donna Buckley, Barnstable County Sheriff's Office
Milvia Nogueira, Hyannis Public Library

Noon Lunch: *Catered by James Beard award winning Wampanoag Chef, Sherry Pocknett*
[Featuring traditional Eastern New England foods](#)

1:00 Food Security & Infrastructure Presentation:
[Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources](#)
Commissioner Ashley Randle, MDAR
Director Julianne Stelmaszyk, Division of Food Security, MDAR

1:20 Cape & Islands Hunger Network
Shareen Davis, Coastal Community Advisors
Kim Concra, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

1:30 Workshop: Working with the Questions
[Easel Activity & Stations, Small Group Conversations](#)
Stations organized by topic will focus on key questions shaping food security on Cape Cod. Each station invites discussion of regional partners, strengths, gaps, and challenges, with the goal of generating insights to inform future planning.

Topics:

- Funding, Anticipated Gaps and Possible Partnerships
- Transportation / Food Deserts with the Cape Cod Commission & CCRTA
- Kitchen, Processing Facilities & Food Product Development
- Partnership & Participation in Food Action Planning
- Emergency Regional Food Planning
- Reducing Food Waste with the Cape Cod Food Connection
- Strategies To Keep Food Hyper-Local
- Health & Safety Regulations - Food Production and Distribution
- Continuing the Conversation with the Marion Institute
- Storytelling with JuPong Lin & Catherine Sand
- Engagement & Food Security Data Tools with the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
- Cape Cod Community College: Supporting the Community
- Interactive Planning: Regional Calendar for Up Coming Events

2:15 Facilitated Discussion & Reflection
[Full Group Discussion and Next Steps](#)

Discussion prompts include:

What felt promising?

What was new or surprising?

What would it take for you to keep momentum in regional action planning efforts?

Closing Comments:

*Cape & Islands Hunger Network, Shareen Davis & Kim Condra
Barnstable County, Commissioner Mark Forest*

3:00 Adjourn