

# [DRAFT]

## Fuel Good+Pantry = Healthy Food For All

A Fuel Good program sponsored by Livewell Lawrence and the Healthy Food For All Workgroup

### Become a “Fuel Good+Pantry” to help everyone feel good.

#### **Why do we need Fuel Good+Pantry?**

- Healthy food is directly related to improved health outcomes.
- Families express that they want healthy food choices.
- Food pantries and feeding sites have a unique opportunity to contribute to the health of underserved populations by providing a variety of healthy choices, education, and support.
- Food pantries and feeding sites might not know how best to implement a healthy food approach in a realistic, cost-effective and manageable way.
- An approach that encompasses diverse areas of improvement will correlate to greater improvements in health outcomes and a more sustainable system in which pantries and feeding sites contribute to the overall health of communities.
- Healthy choices will improve local health, local economy, local sustainability.

#### **What are the intended goals, objectives, and outcomes for this program?**

##### Mission

Our mission is to help make it easier for Douglas County residents to eat healthy foods by enhancing low-income families' access to healthy foods through food pantries and feeding sites. We want to do this by supporting food pantries' and feeding sites' provision of healthy food choices. (this is a combination of livewell, hffa, and food pantry program missions)

We do this by promoting and advocating for changes in local food bank and pantry policies and practices that improve the nutrition and health status of communities, including:

- Implementing choice-based systems
- Providing incentives for selecting healthy whole local foods
- Providing evidence-based case management
- Promoting SNAP enrollment
- Increasing capacity for storing and distributing healthy whole foods
- Establishing new locations
- Improving transit access to existing locations (from hffa site)

##### Goals

The goals of the Fuel Good+Pantry program include:

1. Incorporation of fuel good standards as a food purchasing and collecting practice.
2. Assist more food-insecure people by increasing SNAP enrollment opportunities.

3. Provide increased education about healthy foods and activities, including benefits, choices, production, and preparation.

### Objectives

The objectives of the Fuel Good+Pantries program include participating food pantries and feeding sites to:

1. Demonstrate a large percentage of foods purchased or collected that meet Fuel Good standards.
2. Develop an advocacy program that supports the attainment of Fuel Good standards.
3. Provide SNAP enrollment training for employees and volunteers.
4. Provide educational training, materials, and events about healthy foods, activities, gardening, and cooking for patrons, staff and volunteers.

### Outcomes

Through participation in the Fuel Good+Pantries program, food pantries and feeding sites will:

1. Be rewarded a Fuel Level based on their accomplishments in the program.
2. Drive clients toward healthier food choices based on at least 70% availability of Fuel Good standard foods.
3. Reduce food insecurity by increasing the number of clients enrolled in food assistance programs.
4. Transform client health behaviors with education and supportive programming (both passive and active).

### **What are the incentives to participate?**

- A roadmap of realistic, cost-effective and manageable steps.
- Support and assistance to transform your pantry or feeding site to meet the increased demands of clients for healthy options.
- Recognition for the work you are doing to increase the health of your community.

### **What are the barriers to participating?**

- Perceptions that it's time-intensive, expensive, or difficult.
- Demand for healthy food is low or not recognized.
- The reward may not seem significant.