# Progress Report

# 2025-2029 Hanover County Community Health Improvement Plan

## *July 1 - September 30, 2026*

***Below is a high-level view of the performance status of each health priority's CHIP strategies.***

Report created on: November 11, 2026

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Prevent • Promote • Protect
CHICKAHOMINY HEALTH DISTRICT

## Legend for Progress Report

This legend serves as a key to help interpret and understand the progress report for each health priority's strategies. If you have any questions about the following report, please email CHDWellness@vdh.virginia.gov.

| Status Color | Status |
|---|---|
|  | Complete |
|  | In Progress |
|  | No Update/No Progress |
|  | Paused |

# Healthy Eating and Food Security Progress

| **Goal 1:** Improve the health of Hanover County residents by making nutritious foods, specifically fruits and vegetables, available to those at higher risk of food insecurity. | July-September, 2026 Status | October-December, 2026 Status | January-March, 2027 Status | April-June, 2027 Status |
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| **Objective 1.1** | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.1.1:** Hanover Food Network Meeting: discussion regarding the ways to address the lack of emergency food options on Fridays. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.1.2:** Local pantries (MCEF and Beaverdam Food Pantry) agree to provide and deliver food boxes to two DSS locations. Food boxes include shelf-stable items from a variety of food groups, including vegetables. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.1.3:** Hanover Food Network members and partner organizations are made aware of the emergency food available on Fridays at two DSS offices (Route 1 and Bell Creek) during business hours, 8:30am-5pm. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.1.4:** Hanover DSS tracks the food box distribution and communicates with the food pantries when new boxes are needed (plan to have on hand at least two food boxes at two DSS offices). | | | | |
| **Objective 1.2** | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.2.1:** The Span Center to confirm with the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Division of Aging Services that the program will continue in 2025. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.2.2:** The Span Center to receive and distribute 900 vouchers (digital version) for 2025 and track the number given in the localities they serve. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.2.3:** DARS to share with The Span Center the participating farmers markets. DARS to train The Span Center on issuing and seniors using the new digitial version of the vouchers. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.2.4:** The Span Center will connect with the CHIP workgroup members to identify partners to promote the program and share materials; The Span Center to track which partner organizations are receiving promotional materials to share with seniors. The Span Center will also provided information on this program during their community Listening Sessions. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.2.5:** The Span Center to confirm with DARS about the program's continuation in 2026. | | | | |
| **Objective 1.3** | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.3.1:** WIC to confirm with the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Division of Aging Services that the program will continue in 2025. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.3.2:** WIC to request 100 vouchers for 2025 and track the number given in the localities they serve. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.3.3:** DARS to share with WIC the participating farmers markets. DARS to train WIC staff on issuing the digital vouchers and how clients can use them at markets. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.3.4:** WIC promotes the program to their clients during appointments; CHD's community health staff and partner organizations promote the program. | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.3.5:** WIC staff and community health staff develop questions to ask clients in 2026 about their experiences (as well as pros/cons) in the Farm Market Fresh program so it can be improved in the future. | | | | |

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| **Objective 1.4** | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.4.1:** Receive screening tool and training from FeedMore; training of CHD's OSSs. OSS receive resources and education on local food pantries and their specific requirements/schedules. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 1.4.2:** CHD connects with Sentara Community Care Center to learn about their food insecurity screening program; OSS Supervisor determines way to track data (screenings completed, referrals made, OSS trained, LHDs using the screening tool, etc.). CHD connects with the Ashland Health Connectors to inquire about care providers who are also interested in screening for food insecurity. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 1.4.3:** CHD and FeedMore determine availability and ability to store/provide food boxes as part of the resources for those identified as food insecure. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 1.4.4:** Each local health department in CHD has information on food pantries and referral resources to provide to those they screen for food insecurity. CHD and FeedMore connect with other care providers to encourage their participation. |  | | | |
| **Objective 1.5** | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.5.1:** Determine total number of participants who have histroically attended the Montpelier Friendship Café. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 1.5.2:** Review Montpelier Friendship Cafe to determine ways to improve participation and remove barriers (location, access, transportation) |  | | | |
| **Strategy 1.5.3:** Determine ways to fundraise and partner with organizations (like Hanover DASH) to provide more rides to seniors to the cafes. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 1.5.4:** RD visits each cafe to provide fresh produce and nutrition education twice a year. |  | | | |
| **Objective 1.6** | | | | |
| **Strategy 1.6.1**: By October 31, 2026, provide at least four local food pantries in Hanover County with refrigerators or freezers so they can store more fresh and/or frozen food items, including produce and dairy, so more community members have access to a wider variety of healthy foods. |  | | | |
| **Goal 2:** Launch the Hanover Food Security System to: 1) increase the public's awareness of and connections to food resources available in the county, and 2) strengthen the coordination of referrals, education, trainings, and resources between the food programs. | **July-September, 2026 Status** | **October-December, 2026 Status** | **January-March, 2027 Status** | **April-June, 2027 Status** |
| **Objective 2.1** | | | | |
| **Strategy 2.1.1:** FeedMore to meet with Community Resources to discuss SNAP application assitance and benefit education as part of developing a SNAP outreach plan with local food pantries - see how this could fit in with a future Hanover Food Network meeting agenda. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.1.2:** SNAP outreach plan presented to the Hanover Food Network members. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.1.3:** FeedMore begins the trainings for staff and volunteers at local food pantries who are interested in participating in the outreach plan. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.1.4:** Schedule is made for the outreach events including the locations and times for SNAP assistance, healthy eating education, and food items covered. FeedMore to provide updates regarding changes to SNAP and visit Hanover Food Network meetings twice a year. |  | | | |

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| **Objective 2.2** | | | | |
| **Strategy 2.2.1:** FeedMore to recommend trainings on this topic that are no cost to non-profits/food pantries (i.e. Leah's Pantry) |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.2.2:** DSS to check with Services Division Director for potential training contacts/options to share. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.2.3:** Share options with Hanover Food Network; determine best way to offer and coordinate trainings. |  | | | |
| **Obejctive 2.3** | | | | |
| **Strategy 2.3.1:** Schedule a meeting to learn more about the SNAP education provided by Virginia Cooperative Extension in the county. Share that information with the Healthy Hanover Coaltion. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.3.2:** VCU Massey to share information on their specific diet and nutrition outreach that might work well for food pantries during Hanover Food Network Meeting. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.3.3:** FeedMore to share nutrition education options with Hanover Food Network members (i.e. CHEW; The Underground Kitchen Community First; Shalom Farms). |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.3.4:** Hanover Food Network memebers determine which options to utilize and develope a schedule to share with each other and advertise to their clients/partners. |  | | | |
| **Objective 2.4** | | | | |
| **Strategy 2.4.1:** Confirm UniteUs platform will continue to be available at no charge to community organzations/non-profits and gov't agencies. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.4.2:** CHD asks Hanover Food Network to put UniteUs presentation on agenda for Feb. 2026 meeting |  | | | |
| **Strategy 2.4.3:** Hanover Food Network members determine their capacity for launching the platform and timeline for using UniteUs. |  | | | |
| **Goal 3:** To enhance cross organization care coordination efforts by developing and strengthening partnerships between healthcare and community organizations to address social determinants of health and improve health outcomes. | **July-September, 2026 Status** | **October-December, 2026 Status** | **January-March, 2027 Status** | **April-June, 2027 Status** |
| **Objective 2.5** | | | | |
| **Strategy 3.1.1:** Create listening session questions and identify incentives for participants as well as facilitators. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 3.1.2:** Attend a Hanover Food Network meeting to see which pantries would like to host and promote the sessions; meet to review/customize questions/plan the event. Determine the languages that are commonly spoken at the local food pantries to see if these can be accomidated. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 3.1.3:** Hold the sessions; summarize findings to share with the host site. Ask host site for permission to share findings/major themes with partner organizations who have similar goals (i.e. FeedMore, Span Center). |  | | | |
| **Strategy 3.1.4:** Find out if any of the pantries implemented strategies, added new features, founds resources, and/or made new referrals to services in response to recommendations by the clients. |  | | | |

# Youth Mental Health Progress Report

| **Goal 4.** Increase awareness of youth mental health conditions and resources they can access in Hanover County. | July-September, 2026 Status | October-December, 2026 Status | January-March, 2027 Status | April-June, 2027 Status |
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| **Objective 4.1** | | | | |
| **Strategy 4.1.1:** Provide evidence-based mental health and suicide prevention training such as Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) and/or Safe TALK to individuals in the community and parents once per quarter. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 4.1.2:** Support Hanover Cares in continuing to offer the Hidden in Plain Sight (HIPS) training at least once annually to educate parents and caregivers in Hanover County on youth mental health warning signs and available resources. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 4.1.3:** Partner with the YMCA as a family-oriented space to host youth-only education sessions and events once a year, allowing parents to drop off their children for engagement. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 4.1.4:** Partner with Chickahominy Health District to provide and share mental health resources through Parent Square twice a year to support student and family wellness, and document which schools participate and what resources are distributed. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 4.1.5:** Submit a social media request once per quarter to promote county-wide mental health resources such as the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline in both English and Spanish. |  | | | |
| **Goal 5:** Foster resiliency through school-based education, community support, and after school activities. | July-September, 2026 Status | October-December, 2026 Status | January-March, 2027 Status | April-June, 2027 Status |
| **Objective 5.1** | | | | |
| **Strategy 5.1.1:** Implement EveryDay Strong framework by training caring adults in schools, out-of-school programs, churches, and recreational activities to support youth sessions to equip other with everyday strategies that foster open communication and create organize safe spaces for youth. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 5.1.2:** Offer virtual presentations on substance use, drinking, and the developing brain to high school students, using the opportunity to engage them in conversations about resiliency and gather feedback on strategies to support youth well-being. |  | | | |
| **Goal 6:** Increase access to affordable mental health treatment and support services for youth in Hanover County. | July-September, 2026 Status | October-December, 2026 Status | January-March, 2027 Status | April-June, 2027 Status |
| **Objective 6.1** | | | | |
| **Strategy 6.1.1:** Gather baseline data for the 6 schools (4 High Schools/2 Middle Schools) that are involved with school-based mental health services in partnership with Hanover County Public Schools with the CSB. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 6.1.2:** Coordinate and meet with VCU contacts from the Psychology and Psychiatry departments to brainstorm and establish opportunities for student involvement in community settings, with the goal of developing supervised programs where students can assist in delivering treatment and supportive services to youth experiencing mental health challenges. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 6.1.3:** Integrate health professional students (psychology, psychiatry, and psychiatry residents) seeking community-based experiences to provide treatment and supportive services under supervision, in collaboration with institutions like VCU's psychiatry department. |  | | | |
| **Objective 6.2** | | | | |
| **Strategy 6.2.1:** Assess the telehealth resources currently provided to students by Hanover County Public Schools (HCPS), including details on what services are offered and who provides them. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 6.2.2:** Compile a list of available mental telehealth services in Hanover County and share it with HCPS for distribution through the Parent Square platform. |  | | | |

# Affordable and Safe Housing

| **Goal 7:** Enhance access to stable housing resources and pathways for individuals and families through collaboration in Hanover County. | July-September, 2026 Status | October-December, 2026 Status | January-March, 2027 Status | April-June, 2027 Status |
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| **Objective 7.1** | | | | |
| **Strategy 7.1.1:** Meet with Housing Resource Line and 211 to assess what current housing resources they have and potential partnership opportunities. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 7.1.2:** Research and propose creating a database/resource on the Hanover County website that lists available housing in Hanover and their status (for rent, for lease, etc.). |  | | | |
| **Strategy 7.1.3:** Create a list of organizations who are involved in housing initiatives, and share with partners. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 7.1.4:** Meet with Hanover County to learn more about their current housing initiatives, priorities, and explore funding options to assist with strategic planning, market research, gathering data/input from community members, etc. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 7.1.5:** Meet with Hanover County to learn more about their current housing initiatives, priorities, and explore funding options to assist with strategic planning, market research, gathering data/input from community members, etc. |  | | | |

| **Goal 8:** Improve the health and safety of residents and homes in Hanover County. | July-September, 2026 Status | October-December, 2026 Status | January-March, 2027 Status | April-June, 2027 Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Objective 8.1** | | | | |
| **Strategy 8.1.1:** Complete at least 15 critical repairs on homes in Hanover County annually. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 8.1.2:** Research and propose establishing a crisis fund to complete critical home repairs, and assist tenants/residents application and deposit fees in Hanover County to improve access to safe, stable housing, reducing the overall risk of eviction and homelessness. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 8.1.3:** Research and propose implementing a rental inspection program in Hanover County. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 8.1.4:** Meet with the Town of Ashland to understand their current rent regulations policies. |  | | | |
| **Objective 8.2** | | | | |
| **Strategy 8.2.1:** Assess current asthma health education occurring in Hanover County to see if there is additional need for asthma/healthy housing education for the community. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 8.2.2:** Research and potentially apply for grant opportunities to establish a Healthy Homes Program. |  | | | |
| **Strategy 8.2.3:** Research and develop guidelines for indoor healthy living spaces and share with at least 5 partners, and 3 community platforms (social media, newsletters, etc.) |  | | | |