



## MPA Economic Security Action Team Minutes

May 8, 2025, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

3725 Westwind Blvd, Santa Rosa, Carnelian Room

*Participants: Rick Baum, Regina Brennan, Raquel Curiel Morales, Katie Greaves, Mary Lockhart, Bonnie Petty, Emily Topai*

### 1:30 Welcome

### 1:35 Racial Equity Foundations Review

- Action Team members reviewed key elements from the racial equity foundation training and local data on CalFresh participants and CalFresh eligible residents.
  - Joni will follow-up with Raquel (REFB), Sarah Lewis-Crow (HSD PREE team), and COA to request additional data on recipients of food services.

### 1:50 Root Cause Analysis for Prioritized Strategies

- **6.1 Advocate at the local and state levels for streamlined processes and increased access to CalFresh (SNAP) and other nutrition benefits**
  - Action Team members completed a root cause analysis based on presented data and prioritized strategy.
  - Highlights:
    - Is there a need for additional food resources or is the bigger need to make people aware of resources?
    - Older adults without support are likely to need help applying for CalFresh benefits.
    - There is a stigma associated with asking for help.
    - It may be useful to have additional data around what prevents people from applying for CalFresh.

### 2:55 Next Steps/Closing

- Joni will present additional data at June 10 meeting for review.