

Integrating Medical Food Pantry Voucher into EHR for Increased Use

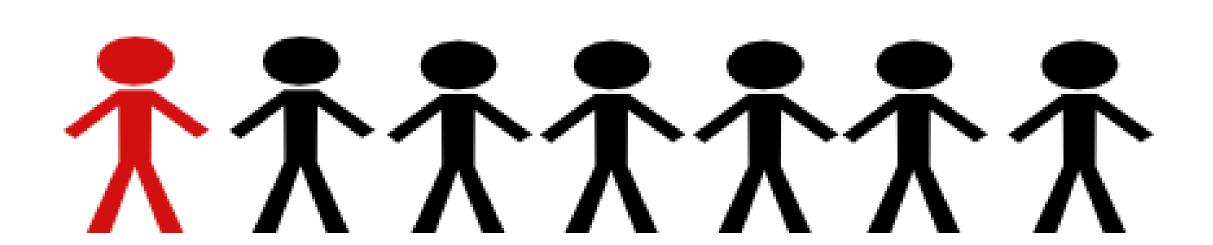
Stephiya Sabu, MPH **Brody School of Medicine** Service-Learning Distinction Track sabus16@students.ecu.edu

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What?

ECU Health Medical Food Pantry

 More than 560,000 people are food insecure across Eastern North Carolina's 34-county area. This is 111,000 more than the prior year. In the United States, in 2022, more than 44 million people in the United States experience food insecurity.



- Started in 2018 by Brody graduates as part of their service-learning distinction track project.
- The ECU Health Medical Food Pantry serves ECU Health's patient population across various clinics. It works by providers filling out a voucher if food insecurity is identified and the patient coming to the pantry to collect a bag of food. Some clinics have pre-made bags delivered to the clinic so they can be provided as needed.
- Located in Doctor's Park, building #2

Medical Food Pantry







So What?

- There are barriers to patients receiving their bag including transportation to the clinic for care followed by the pantry.
- Individuals with Medicaid and Medicare have access to free transportation that will take them to medical appointments, but not to a grocery store or food pantry.
- In 2023, the pantry gave away 574 bags.

HIGHWAY 264 - STANTONSBURG RD.

Medical Food Pantry

This Medical Food Pantry voucher is for:

□ Low Sodium

 Please call the Medical Food Pantry at 252-847-7541 for hours of operation.

 The Medical Food Pantry is located in Doctor's Park Building #2 (DP2) between Service Drive and Medical

 From the front of ECU Health Medical Center, turn right onto Stantonsburg

Or, using a mobile phone search for

Visitor parking is in the front of the building.

Date Redeemed: 7-2-24

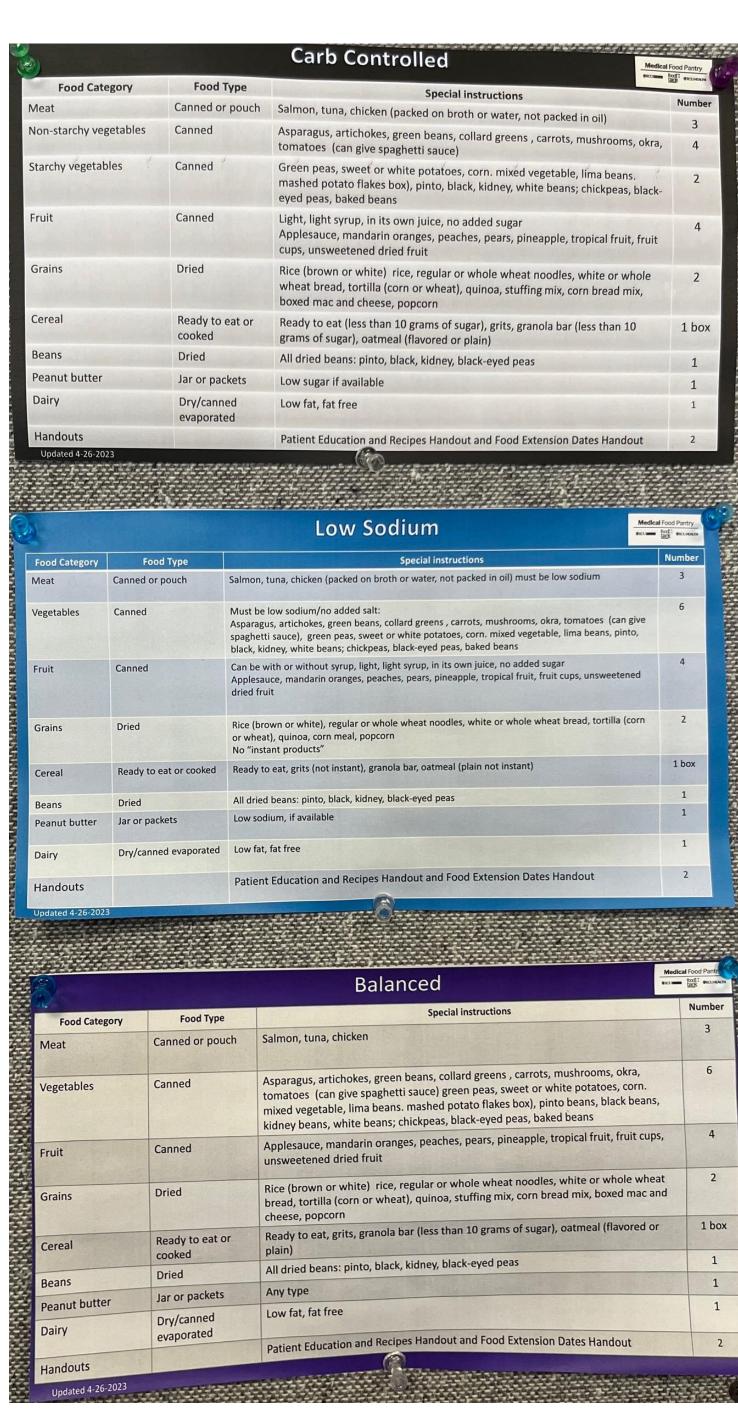
"2 Medical Drive Greenville NC" to get

Road. Stay in the right lane. Continue

straight through the next stop light. Turn right onto Service Drive, and take the first left turn into the parking lot for Doctors Park. The Medical Food Pantry is located in Doctors Park Building 2

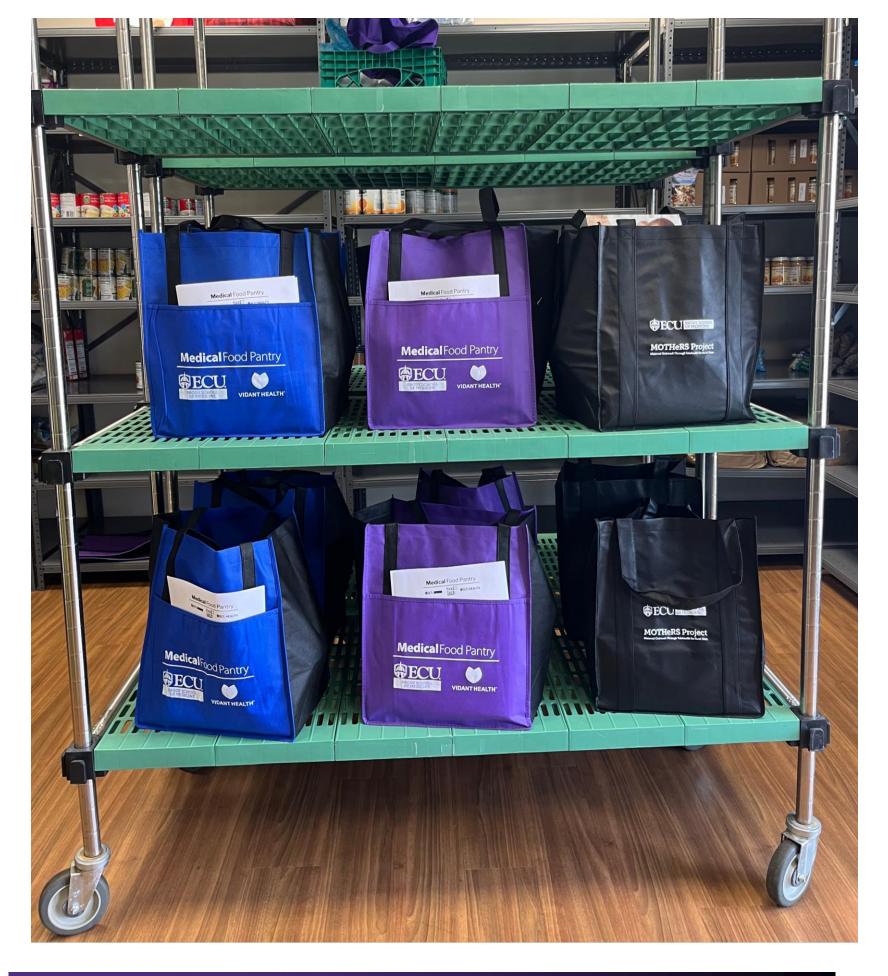
food Decuhealth

The voucher is currently not integrated into EPIC, so it can be forgotten by physicians.



Now What?

- Organize a food drive during the school year for most needed items.
- Pantry staff are working on creating a SmartPhrase for EPIC that physicians can integrate into their notes.
- Provide education to healthcare providers on how to use the SmartPhrase and information to share with patients about the pantry
- Long-term Goal: Establish with Medicaid a transportation option to the pantry for those who experience that barrier.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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