

Center for Advancement of Food Security and Healthy Communities

Goal: Promoting food security and health

Aims

Aim-1 is to conduct multidisciplinary mixed methods translational research on a) FI and diet related diseases/conditions (DRDC), b) food systems and economics, c) the relationship between food production and the environment, and d) food security-related strategies to reduce healthcare utilization and costs associated with DRDCs.

Aim-2 is to increase food availability and access and to enhance people's knowledge and ability to prevent disease and manage existing health conditions.

Aim-3 is to provide education and training to USF graduate and undergraduate students, post-doctoral researchers, faculty, and community stakeholders.

Research, Education and Training Pillars

Pillar	Topical Areas
FI and health conditions research	Vulnerable populations (e.g., children, teens, college students, veterans, refugees, migrant workers, single-parent households, low-income and asset-limited households); DRDCs; psychosocial health; program development and evaluation
Food systems and economics research	Sustainable urban, suburban, and rural gardens and food forests; food delivery hubs; local and regional food supply chains; digital tools to increase food access; and food sovereignty
Food security-related interventions to decrease health care utilization and cost	Food as Medicine Programs; Teaching Kitchens; Lifestyle medicine coaching
Food-related environmental research	Reducing food waste; soil, plant, and human microbiomes; climate change and regenerative agriculture
Education and Training	Course development, certificates, workshops, conference/symposia; undergraduate internships, graduate assistantships, and postdoctoral positions, food policy training

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