



**Food
Health**
LIVE

AGENDA

NASHVILLE, TN

APRIL 29 - 30 2026



Food Health LIVE

DAY 1

04.29.2026

**9:00 AM -
12:00 PM**

Pre-Event Workshop - The 'How to' Food Health Innovation Lab

Participants will leave with a clearer sense of their role in the ecosystem, what capabilities they need to build or partner for, and connections with others driving sustainable models with measurable health outcomes and aligned payment.

Ellen Brown, Founder, **Healthcare Actually**
Carter Williams, CEO & Managing Principal, **iSelect Fund**

12:30 PM

Registration, Refreshments & Networking

1:30 PM

Chair's Opener

1:40 PM

Making Food in Healthcare Pay Off

This session shows how to unlock reimbursement and prove ROI. Learn how to pitch nutrition programs to payers, employers, and investors and get them to say yes.

Lisa Porter, Director of Medicare Market Solutions, **Humana**
Anna Lin-Schweitzer, Associate Director, Feeding Change, **Milken Institute**
Haleta Belai, VP, Enterprise Health Equity, **Centene Corporation**
Jenefer Jedele, Health Economist, **Blue Cross North Carolina**

2:20 PM

Balancing Nutrition in the Age of Ozempic

GLP-1 is here to stay... and it's not going anywhere. Discover how health and food sectors can align with this shift, support long-term outcomes, and adjust as consumer behavior evolves. What framework needs to be in place to keep patients safe and maintain their nutrient requirements. A must for anyone navigating this disruption.

Stephen Lupe, Head of Behavioral Health, **Cleveland Clinic**
Tara Schmidt, Lead Dietitian, **Mayo Clinic**
Deedra Geniesse, Director of Clinical Nutrition, **Stanford**
Bruno Didier, Head of B2B, **Cook Unity**

3:00 PM

Refreshments & Networking

3:40 PM

Delivering Health in Every Basket

Retailers and CPGs are transforming how health shows up in everyday life, on shelves, in carts, and at checkout. Explore how these players are driving measurable impact by embedding wellness into the shopping experience and turning consumer demand into better health outcomes.

Mandy Katz, Director of Healthy Living, **Giant Food**
Kristen Campos, VP, Corporate Affairs, Food & Nutrition, **Mars**
Steven Jennings, Health Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement Health & Sustainability, **Ahold Delhaize**



Food Health LIVE

DAY 1

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4:10 PM

Bridging the Food Health Ecosystem

From the rise of Food is Medicine programs to the broader shift toward preventative food health approaches that encompass lifestyle and even environmental factors. What role does policy play in taking this movement to that next level? Learn on emerging trends and the biggest opportunities and challenges for each stakeholder. How do we link the chain?

Steve Brazeel, CEO & Founder, **Project Foodbox** | Fruit & Veg Advisory Committee, **USDA**

Naima Gardner, Director Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity, **Indiana Department of Health**

Amanda Ryan, Deputy Director, State and Population Health Group, **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid**

Dion Dawson, President, **Dion's Chicago Dream**

5:20 PM

Chair's Closer

5:30 PM

Food Health LIVE Awards & Party!

6:30 PM

End of Day 1

DAY 2

04.30.2026

7:30 AM

Morning Mobility - Stretching & Strengthening

Hosted by **Georgie Spurling**, Founder & CEO, **AVRA Wellness**

8:00 AM

Breakfast & Networking

Food Health LIVE will Split into 2 Tracks. Please Pick your Track, you are Welcome to Switch Between the Two Tracks Throughout the Day.

Track 1 - Food Health: In Action

Track 2 - Food Health: The How-to Playbook

9:00 AM

Chair's Opener

Chair's Opener



DAY 2

04.30.2026

9:10 AM

School Food: Myths, Misunderstandings, Models, & Opportunities

School meals are a secret weapon. Learn how top programs are fighting disease, boosting academic outcomes, and transforming communities despite stigma and funding myths. See what's possible when school food gets the spotlight.

Spence Medford, SVP & Chief Advancement Officer, **The Henry Ford**

Alexandra DeSorbo Quinn, Executive Director, **Pilot Light**

Katie Wilson, Executive Director, **Urban School Food Alliance**

Kris De la Torre, Managing Director **Cultivate Collective**

How To Framework: Monetizing Health, Not Disease

School meals are a secret weapon. Learn how top programs are fighting disease, boosting academic outcomes, and transforming communities despite stigma and funding myths. See what's possible when school food gets the spotlight.

Katie Stebbins, Executive Director, Food & Nutrition Innovation Institute, **Tufts Food & Nutrition Innovation Institute**

Ellen Brown, Founder, **Healthcare Actually**

Carter Williams, Founder & Managing Principal, **iSelect Fund**

9:50 AM

You Can't Prescribe What You Can't Source

Food as Medicine programs are scaling fast, but the biggest bottleneck is not reimbursement or policy. It is sourcing. Three working farmers and a food safety certification expert break down what it takes to make small and mid-sized farms institution-ready: compliance, aggregation, traceability, and fair pricing. This is the operational foundation underneath every produce prescription, grocery bag program, and school food initiative on the agenda.

Clancy Harrison, Founder, **The Food Dignity® Movement**

Liz Krug, Owner & Farmer, **Endless Roots Farm**

Gerardo Martinez, Owner & Farmer, **Wild Kid Acres**

Jake Bowman, Founder, **Sustainably Fresh**

Mark Williamson, Owner & Farmer, **Williamson Family Farm**

Science of Human Health — The Root Cause of Health

Chronic disease is not random — it is the result of disrupted biology over time. This session explores the science beneath true health: metabolic function, inflammation, nutrient status, toxins, and lifestyle drivers that shape long-term outcomes. Learn what it means to address root cause instead of symptoms — and why food is the most powerful lever to restore resilience and redefine the future of healthcare.

Joe Pizzorno, Author & Member of the Board, **The Institute of Functional Medicine**

Ellis McCue, Founder & Former CEO, **Mealogic**



DAY 2

04.30.2026

10:30 AM

Refreshments & Networking

11:10 AM

This is How We Do it! Integrating Food as Medicine into Mainstream Healthcare

Moving from pilot to standard care is hard. This session unpacks real-world strategies from leaders who've made it work, covering workflow, payer partnerships, and clinical impact. Learn what it really takes to integrate nutrition into healthcare systems.

**Speaker TBA, Advocate Health
Zelda Council**, Chief of Nutrition,
**U.S. Department of Veteran
Affairs**
Peter Skillern, CEO, **Reinvestment
Partners**

Measuring What Matters — Evolution of Human Health Outcomes

How-To Step 1: Define the endpoint. We're entering a new era of measurement. CGMs are just the start; inflammation, toxins, and long-tail health signals will redefine how we track outcomes. The challenge is separating real science from hype.

Paul Denslow, CEO & Co-Founder, **Intus
Bio**

Gil Blander, Founder & CEO,
InsideTracker

11:50 AM

The Role of Food Banks in Food Is Medicine: Driving Food Security & Health Impact Through Healthcare Collaboration

How are food banks and healthcare systems joining forces to advance Food Is Medicine? Across the country, new models are proving that integrating food access into clinical care can improve dignity, access, and health outcomes for families facing diet-related disease. Discover how innovative partnerships and neighbor-centered design are transforming food banks into critical health partners delivering measurable impact where it's needed most.

Daphne Briggs-Clark, Vice
President, Health Impact
Innovation, **Feeding America**
Chris Frost, SVP, Chief Medical
Officer & Chief Quality Officer,
Lifepoint Health

Longitudinal Data & Agentic Intelligence — From Soil to Cell

How-To Step 2: Connect the data vertically. The future of health measurement lies in connected longitudinal data. We now have the ability to track nutrient and biological impact from soil (Earth Optics) to cell (Alden Scientific). Linking these layers allows us to model and improve human outcomes across the entire vertical.

Lars Dyrud, CEO, **EarthOptics**



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Amy Qazi, Director, Innovation & Programs, **Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee**
Eric Cooper, President & CEO, **San Antonio Food Bank**

12:35 PM

Lunch & Live Cooking Demo

1:50 PM

Closing Care Gaps with Grocery Bags: MCO Innovations in Food Supports

Managed Care Organizations are increasingly using food supports such as grocery bags or boxes, medically tailored meals, produce prescriptions, and benefits enrollment help to close care gaps tied to chronic disease and missed preventive care. Coverage will include how plans identify members most in need, deliver food efficiently through community partners, and measure impact on health outcomes and quality scores.

Speaker TBA, UnitedHealthcare

Speaker TBA, UnitedHealthcare

Reformulating Food for Health – From the Ground Up

How-To Step 3: Transform the soil and nutrient density. The importance of regenerative farming and supply chain on human outcomes. Importance of soil microbiome in food production for human health, etc.

Eric Smith, Founder & CEO, **Edacious**

Emily Roach, VP Healthcare Partnerships, **Morrissey Market**

Bob Jones, CEO, **Chef's Table**

2:20 PM

Nutrition for Your Workforce

The Fastest Lever for Energy, Focus, and ROI. Corporate wellness is where food and health become business strategy, not just perks. This session shows how employers are using nutrition to cut healthcare costs, lift productivity, and keep talent thriving, with real examples of what's working now.

Anna Threadcraft, Delta Food Policy Strategy and Development, **Delta Air Lines**

Georgie Spurling Founder & CEO, **ARVRA Wellness**

Reformulating Food for Health – You Are What You Eat

How-To Step 5: Transform the product. The food industry must reformulate for health—reducing metabolic harm while enhancing bioactive compounds. This session covers two critical levers: the sugar transition and fiber as the forgotten drug.

Mike LaRocca, CEO, **PLANTSTRONG**

Philip Strandwitz, Co-Founder & CEO, **Holobiome**

Speaker TBA, Ingredion



Food Health LIVE

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3:00 PM

Smarter Systems Make Healthier Outcomes: The ROI of AI-Powered Nutrition

AI is turning nutrition into a scalable, data-driven tool for better health. See how smarter systems are driving outcomes, lowering costs, and delivering ROI for payers, providers, and programs. Learn why investing in this tech is no longer optional.

Shaan Chaturvedi, Director, Product innovation, **Samsung**
Gbemi Ogunyomi, Managing Partner, **Precision VC | Former LG Electronics**

Sara Zywicki, Chief Product Officer, **b.well Connected Health**

Mory Bahar, CEO & Co-Founder, **Personal Remedies**

Delivering Primary Prevention Through Food — The Basket & Experience That Prevents & Reverses Disease

How-To Step 6: Redesign the point of purchase, including last mile. GLP-1 + lifestyle medicine are changing baskets, and consumers are already moving faster than CPG innovation. Data shows where and how far ahead they are. Retail can become primary prevention infrastructure. Close the distribution gap. Reengineering food requires redesigning distribution.

Carmen Brace, SVP Human Health, **Directions Inc**

Katie Stebbins, Executive Director, Food & Nutrition Innovation Institute, **Tufts Food & Nutrition Innovation Institute**

3:40 PM

Refreshments & Networking

4:10 PM

Engaging Consumers in Dietary Shifts: Insights from State and Local Leaders

To address the rising chronic disease burdens, state and local governments, public health departments, and health systems are implementing a range of novel food-as-medicine strategies. This session will feature new case studies from public health departments, health systems, and state-based strategies that demonstrate the potential to engage and shift consumer preferences, as well as improve health outcomes.

Martin Tull, Chief Impact Officer, **American College of Lifestyle Medicine**

Panelists TBA

The Future of Healthcare — Ending the Chronic Disease Epidemic

How-To Step 7: Flip the healthcare model. If lifestyle and prevention succeed, chronic disease management—the core of today’s healthcare—shrinks dramatically. What will healthcare deliver when the sick-care economy collapses?

Yuri Sudhakar, Founder & CEO, **Nudj Health**

Andy Beckman, Director, Garmin Health, **Garmin**

Krista Yoder, COO & Co-Founder, **FoodHealth Collective**



Food Health LIVE

DAY 2

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4:40 PM

We all Deserve Healthy Food

What is being done to tackle food insecurity? Over 47 million Americans lack access to healthy food driving preventable disease and deepening health gaps. Discover how innovative programs and partnerships are scaling nutrition access through prescriptions, tech, and community-led solutions that deliver real impact where it's needed most.

Stephanie Christensen, Head of Community Health Food Systems, **Virginia Mason Franciscan Health**

Daniel Riff, Head of Government & Nonprofit Operations, **DoorDash**

Phylcia Porter, City Council Member, **City of Baltimore**

Sonya Jones, Executive Director, **Caja Solidaria**

Futurecast – Deploying the Assets & Accelerating Market Creation

The future is now. A powerful use case will be shared that could be activated to accelerate Food Is Health. Key investors will be core to this panel to share insights on how they see market activation.

Gen Gillespie, Operating Partner, **Chicago Pacific Founder**

Chris Rogers, Senior Managing Director - Healthcare Investment Banking, **Ziegler**

5:20 PM

Chair's Closer

Chair's Closer

5:30 PM

End of Food Health LIVE 2026