

70% of DC's 49 grocery stores are concentrated in the wealthiest, whitest wards. In contrast, DC's wards with the lowest income and highest percentages of Black residents share only 4 grocery stores, resulting in widespread food insecurity and poor health outcomes. We must work collectively to address food access and equity and invest in programs that fill the gaps.

WIC Expansion Act

The Women, Infants, and Children Program Expansion Act of 2018 (WIC Expansion Act) expands the number of DC stores that accept WIC and encourages the launch of new local businesses that build WIC into their business models.

Cost: \$80,000



Better Food in Shelters

We want better food in homeless shelters - so people get tastier food, with better nutrition and food safety standards. We also want to have programs to teach nutrition, have community gardens, and make better play and physical activities for children and adults living in shelters.

Cost: \$1 Million

Online SNAP Application Option

We want SNAP applications to be online, as they have in other states. This would save people a lot of time instead of waiting in line at service centers to do verifications, check EBT balances and benefits, and do their recertifications.

Cost: \$1 Million, at least



Elderly Simplified SNAP Application Option

We want to make it easier for seniors and people with disabilities to get SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly Food Stamps) by making the application shorter and getting rid of the in-person interview.

Cost: \$1 Million

Produce Plus Checks for Farmers' Markets

Any person with SNAP, WIC, Senior Grocery Plus, TANF, SSI Disability, Medicaid, or Medicare QMB can receive Produce Plus checks to spend on fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets. Produce Plus helps to bolster and increase the number of farmers' markets in Wards 7 and 8.

Cost: \$1.2 Million



Produce Rx

If a person has illnesses related to diet, their doctor can help them get vouchers for fresh fruits and vegetables. We want Produce Rx to reach even more people than it does right now.

Cost: \$500,000

Law to Prevent New Grocery Stores from Pushing Neighbors Out of Their Homes

Until now, when a new grocery store moved to an area without one, some nearby residents have been pushed out (because of rising costs). We want DC Council to do a better job - through a law - making sure this doesn't happen with new grocery stores.

Cost: \$0, but Council staff time required



Advisory Group for Grocery Stores in Wards 7 & 8

The District needs more full-service grocery stores in areas currently without access but we want them to be smaller and/or community-owned. An advisory committee would help the city find spaces for these stores and ensure that the community is involved in the process.

Cost: \$0, but Council staff time required