



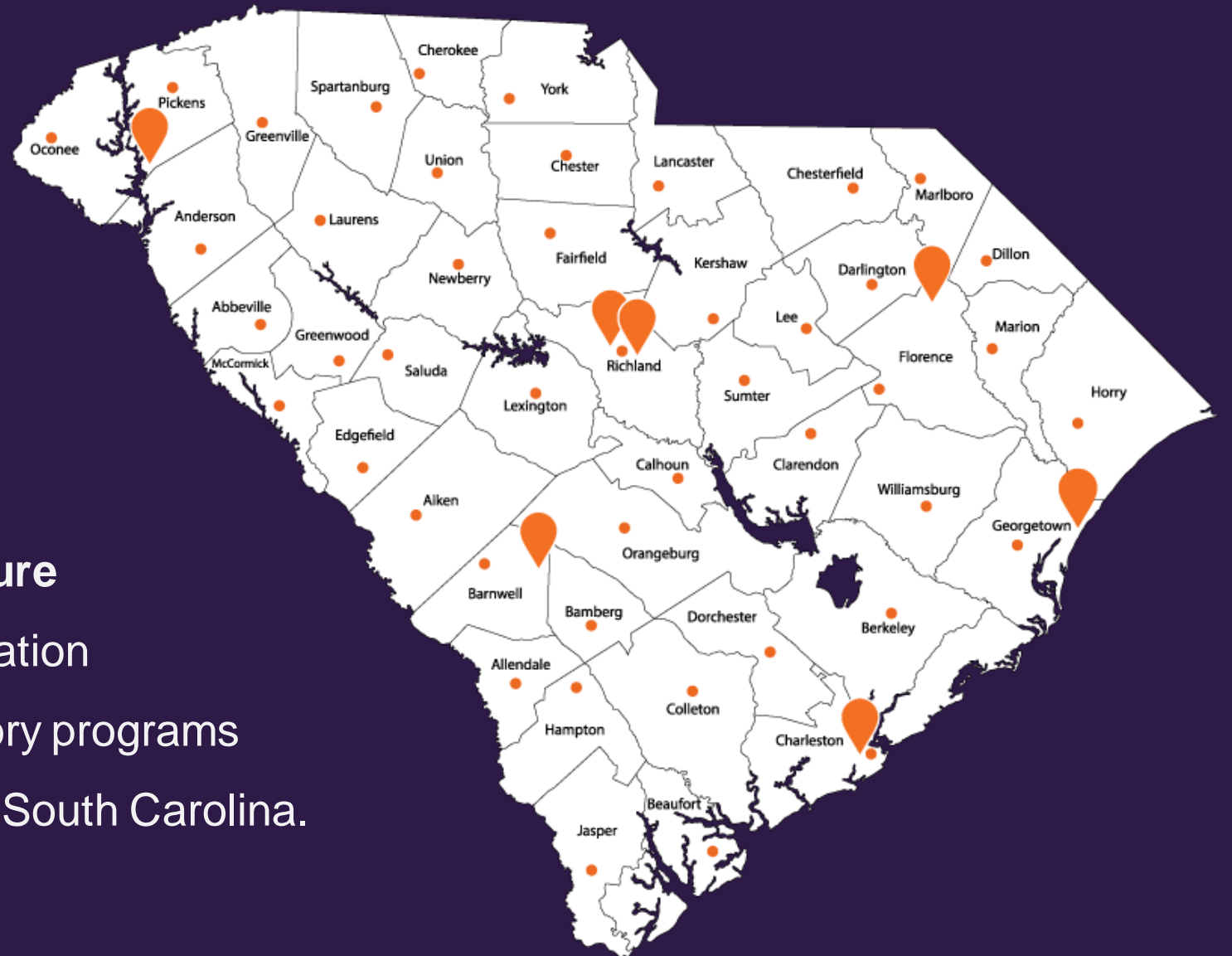
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences

RURAL HEALTH & NUTRITION PROGRAM TEAM

Food Systems Work

WEATHERLY THOMAS

Healthy Food Access Coordinator



Clemson Public Service and Agriculture
delivers impartial, science-based information
through research, outreach and regulatory programs
designed to improve the quality of life in South Carolina.

Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service

Division of Health and Youth

★ Extension Rural Health and Nutrition ★

Expanded Food and Nutrition Program

4-H and Youth Development

FFA and Agriculture Education

Food Systems and Safety

Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

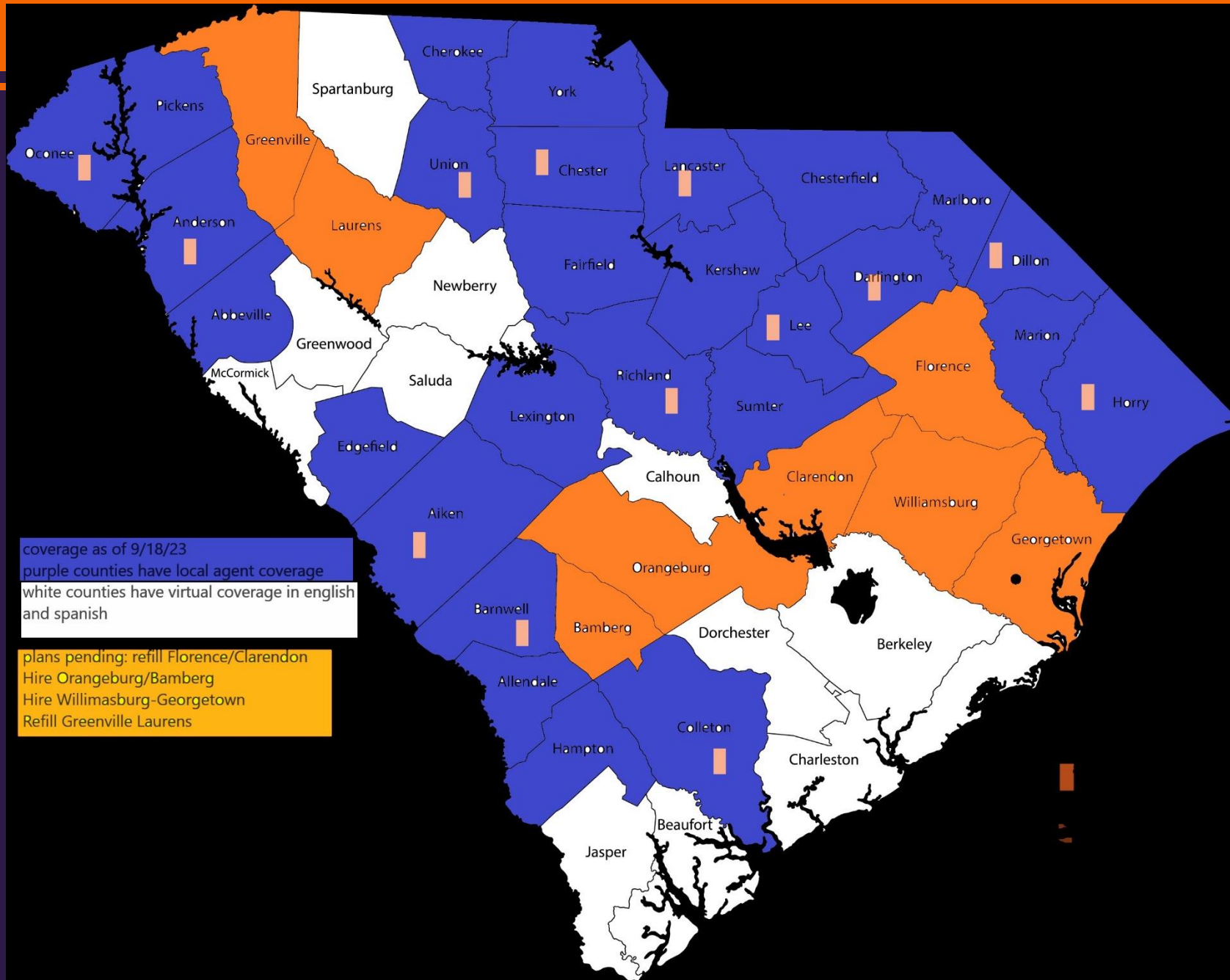
Forestry and Water Resources

Livestock and Forages

Agronomy

Horticulture

Agri-Business



coverage as of 9/18/23
purple counties have local agent coverage
white counties have virtual coverage in english
and spanish

plans pending: refill Florence/Clarendon
Hire Orangeburg/Bamberg
Hire Willimasburg-Georgetown
Refill Greenville Laurens

Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change Approaches

Focus shifts to community level influence from traditional program delivery.

What Agents do: coalition meetings, advocacy groups, action committees, surveys, community assessments, council presentations, strategy meetings, capacity building, volunteer training, collaborations, connections.

Outcomes: Community gardens, food pantries, farmers markets > more healthy food choices available in the community; EBT and Healthy Bucks acceptance > increased purchase power for healthy foods; park renovations, cross walk installations, greenways, open use policy > increased walkability/physical activity; water bottle refill station in place of soda machines > decrease in sugar consumption; clinical MOUs for reciprocal referrals > increased knowledge and access to services.

Sustainable New Food Access Points





1st and 2nd Faith-based groups qualified to accept SNAP/EBT in South Carolina – Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist - Lee & Huspuh Missionary Baptist - Hampton

Feeding 100+ families twice a month since 2020, equating to over 300,000 lbs of produce.



Extension provides training to pantries and stores on food safety, produce marketing, storage and distribution.

More fresh produce is available in rural areas for purchase regardless of SNAP/EBT acceptance.

Mobile Community-Use Market Trailers

Community input drives decisions/outreach

Marion County Community Garden Distributions





Lee County School District Food Distribution

Produce boxes sent home with students, faculty, and staff.



Wade Hampton High School JAG Program

Operates food pantry and farmers market for community members.

Growing Community Gardens

Britton's Neck Community Garden



Sellers Community Garden





Broad Street Community Garden -- Mullins

The Pick 42 Foundation and the City of Mullins have expanded to 5 gardens.



Front Street Garden -- Mullins

Community buy-in for success and sustainability.

School Garden Installation & Expansion



School Gardens with Community Use



Coalitions, Councils, Churches

MARION COUNTY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL INFORMATION SESSION

APRIL
9TH

MACK T HINES HEALTH &
ENRICHMENT CENTER

12PM - 2PM
LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

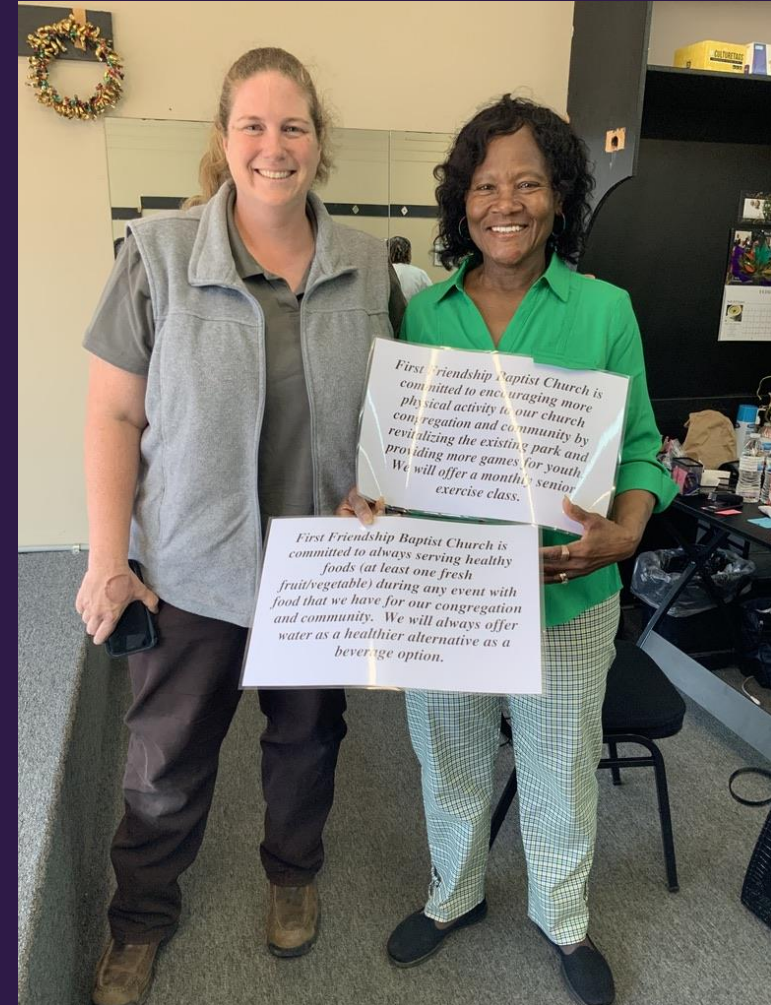
Featuring Special Guest Speakers



FEATURING A LIVE
FRESH FOOD
DEMONSTRATION BY
CHEF VENOLIA
JORDAN

FOOD HARVESTED
FROM COMMUNITY
GARDEN

WEATHERLY THOMAS,
RURAL HEALTH &
NUTRITION COUNTY
AGENT CLEMSON
COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION -
MARION COUNTY



Working Together Equals Success

USDA awards \$438K to Pick 42 Foundation

Miko Pickett, Chair, SC Food Policy Council



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QUESTIONS?
THANK YOU!