**Standard Practices for Community Clinics**

To address the relationship between food insecurity and health, Orange County’s Public Health Officer has developed a set of standard practices for all community clinics to seriously consider.

* **Standard Practice #1: Screen patients for food insecurity**

A 2-item food insecurity screen for identifying families at risk for food insecurity was developed and demonstrates sensitivity, specificity, and convergent validity. The food insecurity screen quickly identifies households with young children at risk for food insecurity, which enables providers to target services to ameliorate the health and developmental consequences associated with food insecurity.

Food Insecurity Screening tool in English:

Please answer the following statements with "often true", "sometimes true" and "never true":

--Within the past 12 months we worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more. Is this "often true", "sometimes true" or "never true"?

--Within the past 12 months the food we bought just didn’t last and we didn’t have money to get more. Is this "often true", "sometimes true" or "never true"?

Food Insecurity Screening Tool (Spanish/Español) - Preguntas para Medir la Inseguridad Alimentaria

Por favor escoja la respuesta que usted considere más verdadera con respecto a la frecuencia con la que usted estuvo preocupado debido a su acceso a los alimentos.

--En los pasados 12 meses estuvimos preocupados de que los alimentos se terminaran antes de adquirir dinero para comprar más. Esto sucedió "muy a menudo", "algunas veces", o "nunca"?

--En los pasados 12 meses la comida que compramos no fue suficiente y no tuvimos dinero para comprar más. Esto sucedió "muy a menudo", "algunas veces", o "nunca"?

* **Standard Practice #2: Connect patients with resources to address hunger**

We have the capability to end hunger in Orange County by maximizing the utility of our already existing infrastructure.

A Google Map of over 230 regularly distributing food pantries has been created to make it easier to identify locations that donate or accept food (www.wastenotoc.org). Other county resources include food banks and 211oc.org.

* **Standard Practice #3: Provide food insecure clients with on-site emergency food**

Clinics with the capacity to store food are encouraged to provide on-site emergency food. This can be as simple as storing nonperishable foods or as comprehensive as the Share Our Selves clinic’s food pantry in Costa Mesa, CA.