



Legislation Text

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Item:

Introduction of New County Food Security Coordinator, Raina Goldstein Bunnag (5min)

Date of BOCC Meeting: June 10, 2024

Request for Board Action:

The Board is requested to meet the new County Food Security Coordinator and welcome her to the role and the important work of addressing our community's food security.

Created by the BOCC in 2020 with community input and support, the County Food Security Coordinator is responsible for driving county- and community-wide efforts around food access and food policy initiatives and practices in Durham County, developing and maintaining collaborative partnerships with organizations and individuals, and supporting Durham County food security initiatives, teams, and task forces.

Raina Goldstein Bunnag joined Cooperative Extension as County Food Security Coordinator on May 13, 2024. Raina (she/her) grew up in the DC suburbs of Maryland and has called Durham home for the past decade. She brings 10+ years of experience in the nutrition, food security and public health fields in the Triangle, has a strong understanding of the current food policy landscape as well as the needs and opportunities at the local, state and federal levels. Raina is a Registered Dietitian and food security advocate dedicated to working alongside communities to create an equitable, nutritious and sustainable food system. Most recently she has worked with the DINE nutrition program at the Durham County Department of Public Health where she led work on policy, systems, and environmental changes in elementary schools. Raina has a Master of Public Health from UNC-Chapel Hill and is currently completing a Master of Food and Agriculture Law and Policy from Vermont Law and Graduate School. Raina cites her childhood lived experience with food insecurity as one of her motivations for this work. She's excited to continue working with the Durham community and partners who are committed to building a strong, local food system in Durham County.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item aligns with multiple goals of the strategic plan.

Resource Persons: Donna Rewalt, County Extension Director; Raina Goldstein Bunnag, County Food security Coordinator

County Manager's Recommendation: The County Manager recommends that the Board meet the new County Food Security Coordinator and welcome her to the role and to the important work of addressing our community's food security.

County Manager: _____