

## Data for Better Health® Impact Season 2025-2026

In 2024, AHIMA launched its first ever Data for Better Health® Impact Season, with AHIMA staff volunteering in their local communities to help improve health outcomes. This year, we are expanding these efforts to include the health information (HI) community.

The Data for Better Health® Impact Season offers an opportunity to engage in volunteer opportunities to improve health outcomes related to social determinants of health. The season kicked off with a food packing event held at AHIMA25. As part of this initiative, HI professionals will have the opportunity to participate in group activities or individually in support of their communities.

### 2025-2026 Season Theme: Food Insecurity

Access to nutritious foods is a critical social determinant of health. According to the Urban Institute,, more than one in four adults (27.0 percent) reported food insecurity and approximately one in three families with children reported experiencing food insecurity in 2024

When food insecurity can be addressed upstream from a clinical encounter, it can help reduce readmissions, lower healthcare costs, and improve health outcomes. The success of this work starts with accurate, complete, and usable data. If a patient screens positive for food insecurity, a healthcare professional can refer the individual to a community-based organization such as a food bank or meal-delivery service to ensure the individual has access to healthy, nutritious foods once they leave the office or are discharged from the hospital. As a result, when healthcare professionals are able to collect, use, and share social determinants of health data they are able to have a positive impact on individuals' and communities' lives.

### How can I get involved in the Data for Better Health Impact Season?

- Volunteer as an individual or [with your Component Association](#) at a local or regional food bank. Visit [Feeding America](#) to find a local food bank in your area.
- Volunteer for food delivery organizations like [Meals on Wheels](#)
- Explore volunteer opportunities through [End Hunger.org](#)

### Why We Are Doing This

As the leading voice in health information, AHIMA is uniquely positioned to lead work that accelerates the collection, use, and sharing of SDOH data. We must drive change among healthcare professionals, engage consumers, shape policy, and advance the use of SDOH data to truly improve health outcomes.

This transformational change starts at the organizational level. AHIMA is leading this work at a national level while our members are taking action within their own communities.

### About Data For Better Health®

Data for Better Health® aims to increase awareness of how collecting, using, and sharing social determinants of health (SDOH) data can improve individual and community health. [Learn More About Data for Better Health®](#)

*For more information or questions about the Data for Better Health® Impact Season, contact Sarah Gericke at [sarah.gericke@ahima.org](mailto:sarah.gericke@ahima.org).*