

Dr. Alicia Powers, Managing Director, Hunger Solutions Institute, Auburn University

Alicia Powers is Managing Director of the Hunger Solutions Institute in the College of Human Sciences at Auburn University. In this role, Powers is responsible for strategic leadership of teaching, research, and outreach efforts, including facilitation of Universities Fighting World Hunger, Presidents United to Solve Hunger, End Child Hunger in Alabama, and Alabama Campus Coalition for Basic Needs. Powers also fosters strategic partnerships and pursues new resource opportunities to sustain and expand Hunger Solutions Institute's role in the fight to end hunger on campus, at the local level, statewide, in the US and abroad.

Most recently, Powers served as Community Health Coordinator for Alabama Extension Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Education (SNAP-Ed) at Auburn University. Powers coordinated planning, implementation, and evaluation of policy, systems, and environmental approaches to improve food access. From grassroots efforts, to specific partner projects, to county-level and state-wide initiatives, Powers worked at all levels to improve food access for all Alabamians.

Prior to returning to Auburn University, Powers served as an associate professor of Health Sciences at Furman University. Powers co-founded and served as the principal investigator for LiveWell Greenville, a non-profit of more than 150 public and private organizations partnering to ensure access to healthy food and physical activity opportunities for every Greenville County, South Carolina resident. As principal investigator, Powers developed and implemented a multi-institution, multi-level evaluation focused on setting-specific processes and outcomes while also maintaining an examination of the collective impact helping garner more than \$5 million in funding.

Powers completed her BS and MS in Nutrition and Food Science from Auburn University. Powers received her PhD in Nutrition and Food Systems with a focus in Public Health Nutrition and Community Based Participatory Research at The University of Southern Mississippi.