The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or food stamps program, help out over 4 million Americans in California alone with food insecurity. However, big-box supermarkets with cheap prices for groceries may be harder to access than closer corner stores that do not provide fresh food for food stamp customers, especially with the lack of transportation options or inability to use transportation. With these trips to supermarkets being inconvenient or perhaps impossible for some, an alternative could be ordering groceries online. However, food stamps are currently not supported through any of the current online grocery ordering platforms. This leaves people who live in food deserts, where fresh groceries are far and hard to find, with unhealthy food options that affect their health in the long run.

My solution is a platform for food stamp recipients to purchase their groceries online, called Harvest. 88% of those who live under the poverty line in America have access to Internet, which is higher than the amount of people living under the poverty line who have access to a car. The platform will automatically apply coupons so that recipients save money so they can optimize their food stamp credit. Integrated with the app will also be healthy recipe recommendations formed from groceries they pick in their cart. Users can also track their spending and EBT credits over time, reminding them what groceries they ordered in the past for an easy reorder and also providing them with easy budgeting options. Once the users complete the order, their groceries will arrive to their doorstep by the delivery time selected. The key benefit is that food stamp recipients living in food deserts will ultimately be able to purchase groceries that are more healthy in a more convenient manner.

This solution aims to mainly help three profiles within the demographic of food stamp recipients: 1) those who have no means of transportation to local grocery stores 2) those who are physically unable to travel to grocery stores and 3) those who live in areas where grocery stores are far way. Ideally, the impact of this mobile application is to initially increase *access* to healthy food in a simple delivery method. After increasing access of these healthy groceries, the app will foster healthy living via its recipes. This combats the ongoing problem of people living under the poverty line not eating nutritiously, affecting their health. Since the recipes are integrated in the app with the groceries they order, it will be very easy for food stamp recipients to follow along and cook healthier foods.

It would be ideal to use the authorized API of the SNAP website to login and read the balance of the food stamps for the user, and a direct partnership with the governmental SNAP and CalFresh programs can really help boost our message forward. As for delivery, the main idea is to outsource the delivery to existing delivery companies like Instacart or to stores that directly support delivery, such as Walmart and Target.