11:44 AM
Tuesday, January 13
44°
Capital Hilton
Now
2026 Summer Nutrition Summit
Reaching the Last Mile: Strategies for Serving Ultra-Rural Populations
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
STATLER B

Meet Our Speakers
Julie Bjorkstrand
Director, Nutrition Services
Del Norte Unified School District
Northern California
Janette Broda
School Nutrition Director
Transylvania County Schools
Western North Carolina
Scott Germain
Food & Nutrition Services Supervisor
Garrett County Schools
Western Maryland
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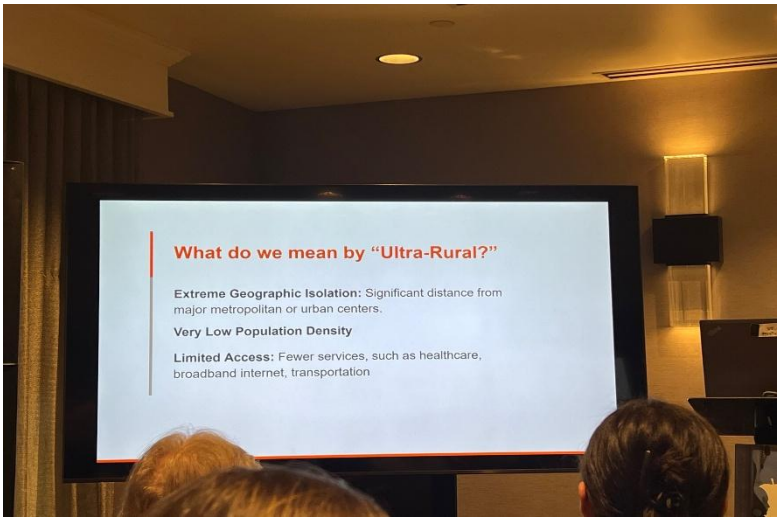
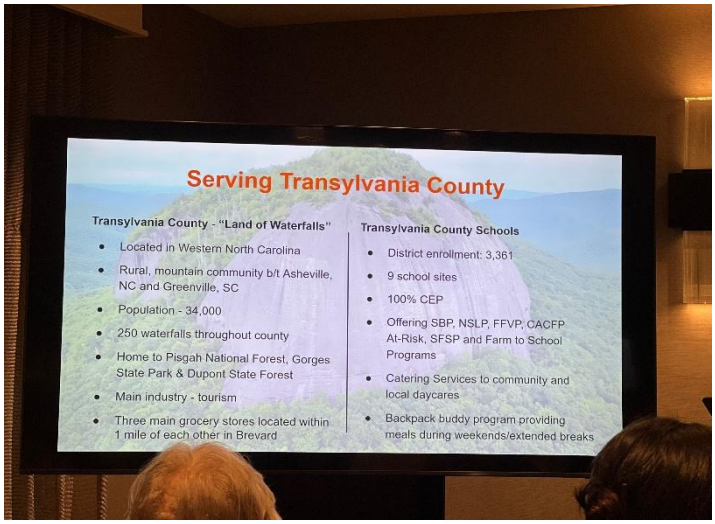

What do we mean by "Ultra-Rural?"
Extreme Geographic Isolation: Significant distance from major metropolitan or urban centers.
Very Low Population Density
Limited Access: Fewer services, such as healthcare, broadband internet, transportation


Serving Transylvania County
Transylvania County - "Land of Waterfalls"
Located in Western North Carolina
Rural, mountain community b/t Asheville, NC and Greenville, SC
Population - 34,000
250 waterfalls throughout county
Home to Pisgah National Forest, Gorges State Park & Dupont State Forest
Main industry - tourism
Three main grocery stores located within 1 mile of each other in Brevard
Transylvania County Schools
District enrollment: 3,361
9 school sites
100% CEP
Offering SBP, NSLP, FFVP, CACFP At-Risk, SFSP and Farm to School Programs
Catering Services to community and local daycares
Backpack buddy program providing meals during weekends/extended breaks