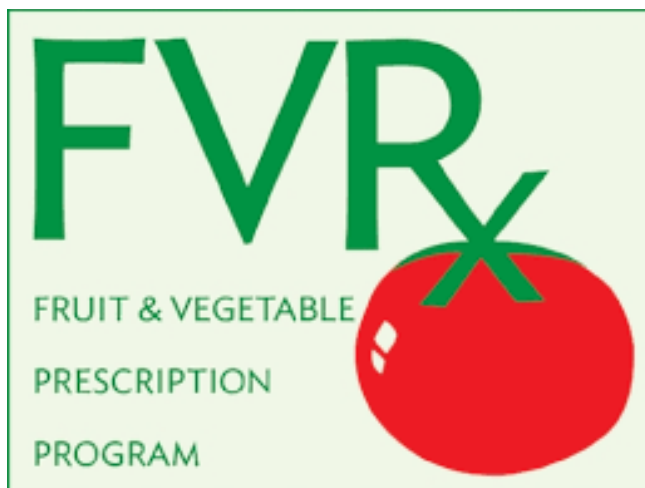


## Registered Dietitian Nutritionists at Morehouse School of Medicine Team Up to Provide Fruit and Vegetable Prescription (FVRx) Program for Morehouse Healthcare Patients



In December 2016, Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM)/Morehouse Healthcare was awarded \$16,500 by [Wholesome Wave Georgia \(WWG\)](#) to provide its [Fruit and Vegetable Prescription \(FVRx\) Program](#) to patients at Morehouse Healthcare. WWG believes that all Georgians should have access to wholesome, locally-grown food. Through WWG programs, SNAP (formerly Food Stamp), WIC and Senior FMNP participants are able to double their benefits through WWG's partnering with local farmers throughout Georgia.

The FVRx Program aims to help support individuals who are diagnosed with a diet-related illness by a healthcare provider. At Morehouse Healthcare, 75% of these eligible patients will also be SNAP recipients, while another 25% will be underserved Bariatric patients trying to meet their weight loss goals prior to surgery. Patients enrolled in the program will receive Fruit and Vegetable Prescriptions weekly for 6 months, which they can redeem for fresh produce from our partnering local farmer, Truly Living Well. Prescriptions are valued at \$1 per household member per day, so a family of eight could receive \$56 worth of fruits and vegetables. The MSM/Morehouse Healthcare FVRx Team/Planning Committee will consist of Morehouse Healthcare physicians, dietitians, allied health staff, medical students and community health workers. In addition, MSM epidemiologists will help with program evaluation. Participants will also receive nutrition education classes and health assessments throughout the program. Lead physician for the MSM FVRx Program is [Dr. Cheryl Franklin](#), Medical Director of Morehouse Healthcare. The MSM FVRx Program will be led by registered dietitian nutritionists Dhana Blissett (Morehouse Healthcare) and Kayellen Umeakunne (Morehouse School of Medicine).