Planning for the Future of Food

Dawn Plummer
Pittsburgh Food Policy Council
EcoDistrict Summit 2019
The Pittsburgh Food Policy Council brings together representatives from more than 80 multi-sector entities to re-imagine our region’s food system, collaborate on projects, and advocate for policy change and systems transformation.

Our mission is to build a food system that is just, equitable, and sustainable for all that benefits our communities, economy, and environment.
What is a food system?

What is a food policy council?

An organized group of stakeholders from various sectors that may be sanctioned by a government body or may exist independently of government, which works to address food systems issues and needs at the local (city/municipality or county), state/provincial, regional or Native American/First Nations levels through policy.
Who is involved?

- Food Justice Organizations
- Farmers, Growers & Ag Organizations
- Natural Resource Conservation, Sustainability & Environmental Entities
- Community Organizations & Nonprofits
- Emergency Food Providers & Food Security Advocates
- Extension, Colleges & Universities
- Public Health, Cooking & Nutrition Education
- Public & Charter Schools & Early Care
- Local Government Officials
- Restaurants, Coops, Healthy Food Retail & Local businesses
- Farmers, Growers & Ag Organizations
Active Food Policy Councils since 2000 through 2018

Count of FPCs active at the end of the year (n=520)
The Problem

- Chronic Disease
- Sourcing & Distribution Challenges
- Changing Climate
- Agriculture Loss
- Land
- Environmental Contamination
Towards Collective Impact

Collective Impact with collaborative action

Coordinated Impact with alignment

Individual Impact in isolation

Disorder & Confusion
The Solution: Collective

01 A Common Agenda
02 Shared Measurement System
03 Mutually Reinforcing Activities
04 Continuous Communication
05 Backbone Support Organization
What is the...
Planning Community Engagement Sessions

- **Low Income & Low Food Access**

- **Low Income & Low Vehicle Access**

- **Community Partners**
  by partnering with partners rooted in low access neighborhoods

- **Youth Garden Summit**
  engaged 100 Pittsburgh youth

- **Meeting Locations**
  7 community meetings across Allegheny county
  - Downtown
  - East End
  - Penn Hills
  - Mon Valley
  - Baldwin
  - McKees Rocks
  - Natrona Heights
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engagement Sessions across County</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partners on Project &amp; Advisory Teams</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey Responses</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multisector stakeholders invited to roundtables</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipalities engaged in Food Policy Audit</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh Youth engaged through Youth Garden Summit</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**B-4: GETTING STARTED**

**CURRENT STATUS**
In process but will require addition of new elements

**WHO**
Columbus Public Health, LifeCare Alliance, Mid-Ohio Foodbank, Ohio Department of Aging, Ohio Department of Health’s (ODH) Creating Healthy Communities Network, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), Ohio Farmers’ Market Management Network (FMMN), OSU Extension, United Way of Central Ohio’s Fresh Foods Here, and Veggie SNAPs

**OBJECTIVES**
1. Expanded the number and type of small food retail locations where consumers can double their SNAP dollars to purchase healthy, fresh and local food
2. Widespread awareness of and access to healthy food purchasing incentives
3. Widespread availability of nutrition education at health care sites paired with market vouchers that subsidize the cost of fresh fruits and vegetables, creating a local form of a fruit and vegetable prescription program

**STARTING STEPS**
- Convene partners to inventory existing nutrition incentive resources and explore opportunities for new or expanded incentive programs
- Identify best practices and models of incentive programs, including produce prescription programs

**POTENTIAL MEASURES**
- Number and type of retail food locations providing nutrition incentive programs
- Number of nutrition incentives distributed
- Number of nutrition incentives redeemed
- Quantity of healthy, fresh and local food purchased with nutrition incentives

**RESOURCES**
Existing resources leveraged in new ways
- Additional funding sources will be needed to increase the capacity of existing nutrition incentive programs and to start new programs such as market vouchers.
Thank You

Dawn Plummer  
dawn@pittsburghfoodpolicy.org  
(412) 406-6061  
www.pittsburghfoodpolicy.org