Cumberland County Food Security Council

Review of Progress to Date

August 2013
Formation and Organization
May – August 2011

• Preliminary organization and establishment of operating principles
• Research and Learning
  ➢ Food security/policy councils across the country
  ➢ Best practices, red flags
  ➢ Local Efforts – State, County and Community
Goal and Strategy Identification

September – November 2011

- Reviewed goals and recommendations of the Coalition to Promote Food Security
- Surveyed FSC members
- Identify opportunities for the FSC to either undertake new work or support the work of others
Campaign Goals

• Address the economic and environmental systemic issues that limit food access to vulnerable populations.
• Influence public policies and programs at the community, regional, state, and national levels that affect food access for vulnerable populations.
• Maximize the efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and availability of the Emergency Food Distribution System.
• Enable expansion of innovative, community-based initiatives that increase food access for vulnerable populations in a sustainable way.
• Increase overall capacity for Cumberland County to respond to food access issues.
• Raise the visibility of the ongoing problems around hunger and lack of food access among vulnerable populations in Cumberland County.
Goal and Strategy Identification
September – November 2011

• Articulated three distinct goals for the FSC:

Improve the food security of vulnerable populations in Cumberland County by strengthening and supporting a communication network of providers and community partners across the food system.

Move the community to action by raising the visibility and awareness of the ongoing problems related to hunger and food access in Cumberland County.

Increase access to food – preferably healthy and local - for vulnerable populations in Cumberland County by building/expanding community capacity.
Goal and Strategy Identification

September – November 2011

Identified short- and long-term strategies:

**Short-term**
- Establish a food security website
- Host focused roundtables/forums
- Utilize FSC regular meetings as a communication tool
- Increase local storage capacity (Lake Region food hub as a replicable model).

**Long-term**
- Launch marketing and multi-media campaigns to inform and educate
- Public component of web site
- Increase transportation and local processing options
- Increase stigma-free opportunities for people to access food in their communities.
Established Food Hub and Communications Subcommittees

• Work plans
  ✓ Definition of success
  ✓ Key audiences
  ✓ Key partners
  ✓ Potential metrics
  ✓ Resource requirements
  ✓ Timeline

• Review and Discussion by full FSC
Work Plan Development & Implementation

December 2011 – November 2012

Established Food Hub and Communications Subcommittees

Evolution of Ideas:

**Community Capacity**
- Increase Storage Capacity
  - Food Hub
    - Food Hub Feasibility Study
      - Community Conversation Series

**Communications Network**
- New Food Security Web Site
  - Build upon/connect existing resources
    - Dashboard
      - Database
        - Indicators
          - Internal
          - Ex
    - Listservs
Lake Region Conversation Series
March 2012 – June 2013

Strengthen and build a communication network of providers and community partners across the food system:

- Emergency Food Providers
- Farmers/Agriculture
- Service Community
- Educators
- Advocates
- Faith Community
- Local Government Reps
- Business Leaders

Move the community to action by raising visibility and awareness of the issue of hunger and food access

✓ Increased common understanding of the issue
✓ Voiced concerns, perceptions
✓ Acknowledged gaps in knowledge and services
✓ Identified possible action steps – ways to work together

Increase access to food – preferably healthy and local – by building/expanding community capacity
Lake Region Conversation Series
September 2012 – July 2013

Progress Consistent with FSC Goals

Work Groups
• Education/Prevention
• Data/Advocacy/Communication
• Cooperative Buying/Collective Resource Development

Fall Pantry Fair to Integrate Goals
Communication Subcommittee

• **Dashboard (Established Domain)**
  – Shared Database to Monitor Effort
  – Agreed Upon Need Indicators
  – Revisited Process for Identifying Strategic Initiatives

• **Listservs**
  – Food Security Council
  – Cumberland County Food Security: list@ccfoodsecurity.org

• **Created Consensus Process for Policy Endorsements**
Self Assessment of Food Security Council

- What are most important FSC achievements to date?
- What has FSC uniquely been able to do?
- What collaborations resulted from or were enhanced by your participation in FSC?
- Has FSC added value to the efforts to increase access for vulnerable people in Cumberland County?

Are there other reflective questions you would like to discuss?