

Food Access Network Notes

May 31, 2017- Radford Meeting

Participant Questions:

- What are our first steps to developing a network?
 - Directory and What Happening across the region
 - Building Capacity, trust, and continuing to meet
- What is “MANNA food bank”?
- Could we create a food access guide with a google form?
- How are pantries collecting data? – Can we standardize the questions asked across the region?
- How do we get funders to understand what we are doing? Wanting to accomplish.
- Do we have plans, studies, and data to support our work in the NRV?
- How to engage with Local Govts? Awareness, Engagement (Inside and Outside funding)

Larger Discussion:

- Engage Local Government
- Reports to Board of Supervisors to create awareness around this network.
- Who in the counties should be tie into?
- Network Analysis needs to happen
- “Network Thinking” vs. “Organization”
- Working Groups – Committees
- Strategic Planning – Mission & Vision
- A network of Info Sharing:
 - Collective Action
 - Projects (Direct Services)
- Technology vs. Face to Face
- Support as a Network Function

Suggestions for Subcommittees/Work-Groups:

- Outreach/directory/local Government
- Shared Metrics
- Structure (how will we operate/make decisions?)

Next:

- Look into other council and network development
- Visit Giles County
- Strategic Planning (vision, mission, action plan)
- Gathering the “Voices” we serve
- Involving Farmers
- Survey – for working group involvement.