

Food Access Network Survey Results Meeting
09/18/18, Montgomery County Government Center

Participants:

Name:	Last Name:	Email Address:	Organization/Affiliation:
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Jill	Williams	jill.e.williams@gmail.com	YMCA of Pulaski County

Participant Reflections and Notes:

- Policy – how can our collective action help inform, drive, and affect Policy?
 - Local School, Govt, and Institutional Buying Requirements
 - Large Federal Policy, like the Farm Bill
 - Do we already have organizations/agencies doing this work? How can we work together? How can we share this awareness/info with the larger audience?
- Where is there need and energy to combine small programs? How can the “network” and other local organizations/agencies work to sponsor and support collaboration?
- How to strengthen our voice?
 - On larger Issues - for example) Transportation and Policy
- Need to increase Awareness and enhance Communication around our efforts, collaborations, and work.
- Use the Giles County as an Example
 - Sufficiency
 - “The Giles Approach”
 - Build the local, county efforts (within each county, town) connected to the rest of the network
 - Identify Isolates – learn more about their work. How could collaboration be a benefit from those efforts?
 - Would GIS mapping help? Could we connect with local and regional govt on this? County Board of Supervisors, Local Planning & Zoning, Regional Commission are in the business of GIS mapping. Also suggested was the Bioinformatics Lab at VT. **How can we start the conversation with these folks to increase awareness and “make this an ASK” for partnership?**
 - Could the GIS mapping be another layer of the plot maps provided?
 - Also included on GIS map:
 - Where is Carillion operating?
 - Where are Feeding America partners?
 - Where are Food Deserts?
 - Concentrations of populations and where do folks need food?
 - Where are the closest stores and food access points?
 - Food Access Points (pantries, kitchens, banks)
 - Public Transportation Routes
- Build the network County by County – have county representation on the management/leadership team.
 - ID all county isolates – reach out
 - ID community champions – folks in each county to do this work (**work group**)
 - Begin to craft a common message for county, town, local govt – Board of Supervisors, Councils
 - Create an ASK (could be assistance with GIS mapping, build county maps of the info suggested above)
 - Awareness to our efforts, “puts us on their radar”

- Present the need and resulting collective action around Food Access efforts in the NRV
 - Look at each of the counties Comp Plans – any long term planning – Vision
 - Carillion Health Assessments
 - How could regional originations sponsor conversations?
 - Bring in the Health and Social Determinants sectors
 - Could local govt sponsor and support future Community Conversations/”Meet Yourself Events”
- Already public data available through
 - [Feeding America SWVA](#)
 - [VA Food Access Network \(VFAN\)](#)
 - Kelli Scott is working with the Social Decisions Analytic Lab on a Data Discovery on food access and determinants of hunger for the entire Commonwealth of VA. Through this process, we may find more valuable data sets.
 - Liza Dobson – USDA Resource for architecture and design
 - Liza’s work with LEAP on Roanoke Valley Plan Assessments – [Roanoke Local Food and Agriculture Report](#) - can we do this for the nrv. Is there info to glean from this report?
 - [Carillion Heath Needs Assessments](#)
 - County Comprehensive Plans
 - [Giles County](#) (For more information, please contact John Ross, Zoning Administrator at jross@gilescounty.org or call 540-921-2525)
 - [Montgomery County](#)
 - [Pulaski County](#) (Dated, but what I could find – Can connect with Zoning & Planning for any updates)
 - [Town of Pulaski 2016 Comp Plan](#)
 - [Town of Christiansburg Comp Plan](#)
 - [Town of Blacksburg Comp Plan](#)
 - [Floyd County Comp Plan](#)
 - [City of Radford Comp Plan](#)
 - Regional Comprehensive Plans – Other Long Term Planning Documents
- How is local govt working with the Montgomery County, MD example? Other food councils/networks? What support is suitable to ask for? What is common, accepted participation? Where can we be innovative – Is this possible in the NRV?
- Ask (continue to ask) Organizations and Agencies, “How can the network support you?”
- How can we better serve clients in the NRV?
- How can we improve referral and increase communication between efforts?
- Conversations around service provision (backpack programs, pantries, kitchens, school/afterschool, faith based, etc...
- How can we get the “main hubs” to tie together – Intention Conversations

- We need to know each other better. Who does what? Where are the services? Who is available to engage in the Network?
 - Community Conversations, Meet Yourself Events
 - Directories
- For all future meetings, allow folks to introduce themselves and provide a participant list with email addresses.
- Jamie will provide a webinar and ppt slides to share on the Resources page of the website for folks to keep up with the data results and our progress.