

South Carolina



Planning Education Advisory Committee

Committee Members:

Stephen G. Riley, Chairman
Representing MASC
Term Expires: 2017

Phillip L. Lindler
Representing SCAC
Term expires: 2019

Cliff Ellis
Representing Clemson
University
Term expires: 2020

Christopher Witko
Representing USC
Term expires: 2020

Wayne Shuler
Representing SCAPA
Term expires: 2018

September 19, 2017

Ms. Anna Lewin
Chief Operating Officer
SC Community Loan Fund
1064 Gardner Rd., Ste. 302
Charleston, SC 29407

Re: *Application for Accreditation of CE credits-2017 Food Access Summit*

Dear Ms. Lewin:

On September 4, 2017 I received the above-referenced program materials submitted on behalf of the SC Community Loan Fund by the SC Food Access Task Force. Upon receipt of the materials, an email was sent to confirm receipt by all Committee members as well as a deadline set for comments.

Under the "no objection policy" adopted July 8, 2009, the request for accreditation is approved, and the signed "Notice of Decision" is attached. A formal after-the-fact approval will be handled as part of a Consent Agenda at the regular quarterly meeting of the Committee, scheduled at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 31, 2017. Please note that although the submitted request was for 240 minutes of instruction time, the maximum CE credits per year is 3.0 with no carry over from year to year.

Thank you for your efforts to help make this program a success.

Sincerely,

Stephen G. Riley, ICMA~CM
Chairman

cc: Phillip Lindler, Cliff Ellis, Christopher Witko and Wayne Shuler
Gregory Sprouse, SC Food Access Task Force

South Carolina Planning Education Advisory Committee (SCPEAC)

NOTICE OF DECISION

Title of Program: *Health and Planning Regional Planning*

11. The following action has been taken by the SCPEAC on this application:

ACCEPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION Date: September 19, 2017

REVIEWED BY FULL COMMITTEE Date: _____

a) X ACCREDITED for: 240 min. CE credits: 3.0

b) _____ DENIED ACCREDITATION


NOTE: The maximum CE credits per year is 3.0, credits do not carry over from year to year.

c) _____ RETURNED for more information

12. If accredited:

a) Authorized Course No.: 2017-10

b) Date of accreditation: 09/19/2017

Signature of SCPEAC Representative: _____


**For further information, contact Mr. Stephen G. Riley, Chairman,
843-341-4701 or steve@hiltonheadislandsc.gov**

**APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION
OF A CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Note: This certification form, together with the required information referenced therein, shall be submitted to the Committee. If no objections are raised by a member of the SCPEAC within 10 working days of receipt, the continuing education program shall be considered accepted. If an objection is raised, a teleconference meeting shall be scheduled, with appropriate public notice, as soon as reasonably possible, to review the application.

Applications are due no later than 30 days prior to the first scheduled presentation of a program or class. The Committee will consider extenuating circumstances where the 30 day deadline cannot be met.

1. Name and address of organization providing or sponsoring the orientation program:

- a. Organization Name: SC Community Loan Fund/SC Food Access Task Force
- b. Address: 1064 Gardner Road, Suite 302
- c. City: Charleston
- d. State: SC
- Zip Code: 29407
- e. Telephone: 843-973-7285
- f. Email: anna@sccommunityloanfund.org

2. Contact Information:

- a. Name of Contact Person: Anna Lewin
- b. Title: Chief Operating Officer
- c. Telephone: 843-973-7285
- d. Email: anna@sccommunityloanfund.org

3. Information on orientation program:

- a. Title of Program:

2017 Food Access Summit

- b. Date(s) and Location(s) of Program:

October 2, 2017; Columbia Conference Center 169 Laurelhurst Avenue Columbia, SC 29210

- c. Brief description of the program and its content:

Participants will have the opportunity to hear from local and regional leaders who have successfully led advocacy and policy change initiatives to increase food access in South Carolina and will learn about tools they need to develop and implement similar efforts in their own communities

4. Method of presentation (check all that apply. All sessions must have a Coordinator present):

- a. Presentor(s) in room with participants

☐

- b. Live presentation via close circuit TV, video conferencing, or similar; Coordinator present ☐
- c. Videotape or CD/DVD presentation; Facilitator present ☐
- d. Webinar or similar; Coordinator present ☐
- e. Other (describe) Combination of panel presentations and facilitated breakout sessions

5. Description of materials to be distributed (check/fill in all that apply):

a. Powerpoint handout:	<input type="checkbox"/>	number of slides:
b. Other handouts:	<input type="checkbox"/>	total pages:
c. CD/DVD: <input type="checkbox"/>		
d. Other (describe) <u>Handouts TBD; copies of reports/educational materials may be available (e.g., 2016 SC Food Access Report)</u>		
e. None: <input type="checkbox"/>		

6. When are materials distributed?

- a. Sent before the program: ☐
- b. Handed out at the program: ☐
- c. Other (describe) Handed out at various times during the event

7. Required attachments (5 copies distributed as described below):

- a. Course description and outline including estimated time per section
- b. Brochure, if available
- c. Course Presenter(s) and credentials (include brief resumes and qualifications)
- d. Copies of all handouts and course materials
- e. Evaluation Form and method of evaluation (each program must be evaluated)

8. Instruction Time:

- a. Indicate the total minutes of instruction time: 240

Note: Breaks, meals and introductions should not be counted. A reasonable period of Q and A should be included and counted.

9. Method of Advertisement:

- a. Describe the ways in which you intend to let potential attendees know about this orientation program:
website, social media, e-newsletter, press release

10. Certification. By Submitting this application, the applicant agrees to:

- a. Allow in-person observation, without charge, of the Program by the SCPEAC Committee members. Any food, travel or lodging costs will be the responsibility of the Committee member(s).

b. The applicant acknowledges that its approval for this Program may be withdrawn for violations of the regulations or failure to comply with the agreements and representations contained herein and as may be required by the SCPEAC.


i. Name of Organization: SC Food Access Task Force

ii. Name of Representative: Gregory Sprouse

iii. Title: Director of Research, Planning, and Development (Central Midlands Council of Governments)

iv. Phone: 803.744.5158

v. Email: gsprouse@centralmidlands.org

vi. Signature: Gregory Sprouse  Digitally signed by Gregory Sprouse
Date: 2017.09.04 21:25:56 -04'00'

vii. Date: 9/4/17

Application and all Materials may be submitted in one of the following means:

1. Electronic submission to each of the committee members listed below via email; or
2. Hardcopy via U. S. Mail, 1 copy each to each committee member; or
3. Electronic submission of the application via email to all committee members, and submit hardcopy supporting materials via U.S. Mail to each member, if materials not available electronically.
4. Please cc all applications to the Chairman's assistant, Krista Wiedmeyer at kristaw@hiltonheadislandsc.gov

To access committee members email and postal addresses visit the link below:
<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/scpeac/members.htm>



ABOUT

The third annual S. C. Food Access Summit will highlight efforts that improve access to healthy food for South Carolinians with limited financial resources. The summit will provide social policy tools, training and action-oriented ideas to educate and organize participants to support local and state efforts to make the food system equitable for all.

Whether you are curious about food policy and the role it plays in our healthy food systems or ready to integrate a food policy council in your community, this summit will provide you with the insight and engagement strategies you need.

AGENDA

9:30 AM Registration
10:00 AM Keynote: Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin
10:45 AM Update from Food Access Task Force
11:00 AM Panel Discussion
12:00 PM Lunch
1:00 PM Facilitated Regional Breakouts
3:15 PM Wrap Up and Discuss Next Steps

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
Midlands Council of Governments
SC Community Loan Fund
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
University of South Carolina Center of Research in Nutrition & Health Disparities



Bill Stanfield (left) & Germaine Jenkins (Right) pose in the Fresh Future Farms community garden. SCCLF funded this project through "Feeding Innovation," one of our healthy food programs.

Investing in Healthy Food Access

In South Carolina more than one million citizens live in food deserts where there is limited or no access to healthy affordable food. These regions can be found in every part of our state. Enabling residents in these neighborhoods to have access to healthy food can make a difference to them and to their communities in a variety of ways including spurring economic development, creating jobs, and reducing high obesity rates that result from the lack of healthy affordable food options.

In 2012 the South Carolina Food Policy Council and the South Carolina Community Loan Fund hosted a statewide workshop that focused on food access issues. The result of this workshop was the launch of the SC Food Access Task Force, a multi-disciplinary collaboration of public, private, and government organizations with the goal of expanding the availability of healthy food in food deserts throughout the state of South Carolina.

The SC Food Access Task Force advocates for a state sponsored Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) and seeks to raise awareness of the need to increase access to healthy food through the South Carolina Food Access Task Force report, the annual SC Food Access Summit, and more.

2017 SC Food Access Summit

Monday, October 2, 2017 | 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
Columbia Conference Center

The third annual SC Food Access Summit will focus on increasing healthy food access through local food policy and community-led advocacy efforts. Throughout the day, attendees will have the opportunity to hear from local and regional leaders who have successfully led advocacy and policy change initiatives to increase food access in South Carolina. To provide attendees with the tools they need to develop and implement similar efforts in their own communities, the afternoon session will include regional breakouts facilitated by Community Food Strategies. The summit will provide an opportunity to network and connect with other food advocates across the state, and to learn about strategies for influencing food policy in their regions.

Planning Committee: Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, Midlands Council of Governments, SC Community Loan Fund, SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, University of South Carolina Center of Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities.

Confirmed Sponsors:



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2017 Keynote Speaker

Mayor Steve Benjamin, City of Columbia



Mayor Steve Benjamin has served as Mayor of Columbia since April 2010, but his service to Columbia began in 1990 when he served as student body president at the University of South Carolina, later becoming the Student Bar Association President at the USC School of Law. Mayor Benjamin is currently

the Second Vice President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and will assume presidency of the conference in 2018. In addition, he is Chairman for Municipal Bonds for America, teaches a class at the University of South Carolina Honors College and is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and Sigma Pi Phi.



John Newman, AICP, LEED AP
Principal, John M. Newman Planning

John is a land use and environmental planning consultant with over 20 years' experience working with local and regional governments, industry, and the military. John is a Certified Planner and a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional.

Current Projects:

- Writing local governments comprehensive plans, zoning and land development ordinances, and master plans.
- Utilizing the Health + Planning Toolkit to incorporate Healthy Eating and Active Living policies into these local government documents
- Providing planning technical assistance to local governments in the Central Midlands
- Regional economic development planning
- Grassroots advocacy in support of local food systems and walkable communities

Education

BA, History

MPA, Environmental Administration

Current Affiliations

- American Institute of Certified Planners
- American Planning Association (APA)
- APA, SC Chapter
- Midlands Local Food Collaborative
- Midlands Food Alliance, Leadership Team and Policy Chair
- City of Columbia Food Policy Committee Co-Chair
- Carolina Farm Stewardship Association

Break Out Session Facilitators

Abbey Piner - Center for Environmental Farming Systems

Abbey has worked at the intersection of food and community development for over 10 years. She brings experience in Public Health and a Masters in Horticulture focused on urban agriculture and community engaged design to the work of building community-based food systems. Abbey has been housed at the Center for Environmental Farming Systems since 2013, and currently leads the multi-organization Community Food Strategies project team, which aims to develop and network local food councils across NC to increase the voice of local communities in influencing food systems change.

Jared Cates - Carolina Farm Stewardship Association

Jared holds a Masters of Social Work degree from UNC-Chapel Hill and has worked in community-based organizations in NC for over a decade. Since joining CFSA in 2011, his work on their Policy Team has focused on organizing and mobilizing community members around critical public policy issues related to food and agriculture. As a member of the Community Food Strategies team, Jared also supports the growing network of food councils across the Carolina through technical assistance on policy and advocacy.

Gini Knight - Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS)

For more than decade, Gini has managed multiple programs and communications strategies with several nonprofit organizations using private and public sector partnerships to address conservation and local food system issues. She holds a MS degree in Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development, operated an organic vegetable farm, and currently works for the Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS). As part of the Community Food Strategies team at CEFS, she manages communications and works with communities to build a growing network of food councils.

Megan Bolejack - Care Share Health Alliance

Megan serves as the Program Coordinator for Care Share Health Alliance. She provides technical assistance and facilitation to the Collaborative Networks and collective impact initiatives across the state. Megan collects and disseminates best practices, organizes webinars and trainings, and supports communication and technology for Care Share. As part of the Community Food Strategies team, she works on network development, training, and technical assistance for food councils. Megan received her BA in Psychology and Sociology from UNC- Charlotte and her Masters of Public Health from UNC-Greensboro.

Shorlette Ammons - Center for Environmental Farming Systems

Shorlette is an Eastern NC native who comes from a long lineage of farmworkers, cooks and storytellers. She now works at NC State University as Community Food Systems Outreach Coordinator with the Center for Environmental Farming Systems' (CEFS) where she leads an initiative to address root causes of food insecurity thru the lens structural racism. Shorlette is a former children's librarian with a Master's Degree in Library Science from North Carolina Central University, who has developed her community engagement experience by engaging and working closely with various community-based food systems projects. As part of the Community Food Strategies team, she works to support food councils in engaging with, understanding, and confronting racial equity in the food system.

Overall, the Food Access Summit met my expectations.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Comments:

2. The speakers were knowledgeable.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Comments:

3. There was a wide range of speakers and expertise.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Comments:

4. The keynote speaker was relevant and informative.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Comments:

5. The information that was presented was helpful and relevant to my job/organization.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Comments:

6. I would attend the Food Access Summit again next year.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Comments:

7. Please indicate the type of organization you work for:

- ☐ Non-profit

- ☐ State Government
- ☐ Federal Government
- ☐ Local Government (city/county)
- ☐ For Profit
- ☐ Faith Based
- ☐ Other (please specify)

8. How did you find out about the Food Access Summit?

- ☐ SCCLF Newsletter/E-Blast
- ☐ Other Organization Newsletter/E-blast
- ☐ Social Media
- ☐ Flyer
- ☐ Word of Mouth
- ☐ Other (please specify)

9. What was your primary reason(s) for attending the summit?

- ☐ Networking
- ☐ I was required to attend
- ☐ There was a specific topic on the agenda that I wanted to know more about.
- ☐ I was asked to be a speaker.
- ☐ Other (please specify)

10. What topics would you like to see covered at next year's summit?





2016 FOOD ACCESS UPDATE

EVALUATING
ACCESS TO
HEALTHY
FOOD IN
SOUTH
CAROLINA

A REPORT UPDATE BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA FOOD ACCESS TASK FORCE

The South Carolina Food Access Task Force was borne out of the SC Food Policy Council with support from the SC Department of Agriculture, to address the barriers to healthy food access in South Carolina. The Task Force is composed of members from the private, nonprofit, government, and academic sectors with representation from a variety of industries including transportation, health, farming, economic development, retail, and research.

The primary goal of the Task Force is to expand the availability of nutritious food by developing and equipping healthy food retail and wholesale markets in underserved communities through the formulation and implementation of key policy recommendations focused on reducing critical barriers to food access.

In 2014, the Task Force developed five key recommendations for state and local leaders that would enhance the supply of healthy, affordable food in every community and delivered them in a report titled "Access to Healthy Food in South Carolina." The recommendations in this document were rooted in a strategy that addresses capital, affordability, supply, planning, and transportation. This update will provide a summary of the progress that has been made since the initial report was released along with updated recommendations, success stories, and calls to action.

View the original report "Access to Healthy Food in South Carolina" at scfoodaccess.com/resources.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

In an effort to expand the availability of healthy food in our state, the South Carolina Food Access Task Force recommends policies to support the following areas:

1 CAPITAL: The General Assembly should continue to provide funding to support the healthy food financing initiative, which provides capital to support the establishment, renovation, or expansion of different food projects, including food hubs, farm businesses, mobile markets, small food stores, and large grocery stores that increase access to healthy food.

2 AFFORDABILITY: Ensure healthy foods are affordable to low-income individuals and families through expanding the number and reach of farmers markets and other healthy food outlets (e.g., direct marketing farmers, produce box programs) that accept SNAP, SNAP Healthy Bucks, WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers, and WIC fruit and vegetable vouchers. Ensure these locations are welcoming and accessible to people of all racial and socioeconomic backgrounds.

3 SUPPLY: Support existing and create new initiatives across the state recruiting, training, and stewarding food-producing farmers. Increase the coordination and support of existing businesses, nonprofits, and organizations in SC that are working on local food production, aggregation, processing, and distribution. This includes technical assistance for researching, writing, and applying for potential funding opportunities as well as increased outreach efforts and communication from sources offering funding and support. Increase opportunities to access capital for businesses and nonprofits bringing SC produced food to under-served populations and food deserts. Educate farmers on how to make their businesses sustainable and educate consumers on the benefits of supporting local, food-producing farmers and how to feasibly attain these products. Institutional markets using tax dollars to purchase food should be given supports to be able to feasibly obtain and use food produced in South Carolina.

4 PLANNING: Encourage local governments to integrate planning and zoning regulations into comprehensive plans that promote healthy food production, processing, distribution, and access.

5 TRANSPORTATION: Build collaborative relationships between healthy food advocates, community planners, and transportation agencies to identify and support a wide range of policies and projects that increase food security in communities with limited access to transportation.

RECOMMENDATION 1: CAPITAL

Summary of Progress

Based on the recommendation of the 2014 Food Access Task Force Report, in 2015, South Carolina Community Loan Fund (SCCLF) partnered with the South Carolina Coastal Conservation League, Eat Smart Move More SC, and the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association to advocate for state funding to support the Healthy Food Financing Initiative. As a result of these efforts, the South Carolina General Assembly included \$250,000 in the state budget for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative. This allocation was vetoed by the Governor, and not enough votes were secured to override the veto.

SCCLF continued its advocacy efforts in the 2016 session, and was able to secure \$250,000 in the budget approved by the South Carolina General Assembly. This time the Governor's veto of these funds was overridden, and the SCCLF was successful in obtaining state funds for the SC Healthy Food Financing Initiative in the state budget.



Update to Recommendation

The General Assembly should continue to provide funding to support the healthy food financing initiative, which provides capital to support the establishment, renovation, or expansion of different food projects, including food hubs, farm businesses, mobile markets, small food stores, and large grocery stores that increase access to healthy food.

Call to Action

South Carolina Food Access Task Force should support advocacy efforts to continue the successful work of the SC Healthy Food Financing Initiative, specifically:

- 1 mobilize their network of supporters to provide outreach to the public and to elected officials about the need for and benefits of healthy food financing;
- 2 publicize the success of projects that increase access to healthy foods; and
- 3 communicate with their legislators during the budget process about the need for funding for healthy food projects.

Success Story: Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI)

In 2011 South Carolina Community Loan Fund received a \$500,000 Healthy Food Financing Award from the US Department of Treasury, making it one of twelve Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) to receive Healthy Food Financing Initiative funding in the inaugural year of the program. Since that time, SCCLF has leveraged the award into more than \$2 million for its HFFI from foundations, individual investors, and financial institutions. SCCLF's \$2.98 million in financing has facilitated the development of \$15.3 million in healthy food projects throughout South Carolina.

SCCLF will revolve the funding from the state through its revolving loan fund, which means that these dollars will be recycled for new projects after being repaid by the borrower.

RECOMMENDATION 2: AFFORDABILITY

Summary of Progress

Vendors offering the SNAP Healthy Bucks program increased from 6 pilot farmers market sites in 2014 to 21 sites that include farmers markets, direct marketing farmers, farm stands, and a produce box program in 2016. SNAP redemptions at these sites totaled \$51,227.04 between January to December 2015; additionally, \$17,060 worth of Healthy Bucks incentives were redeemed during the same time-frame. The number of farmers markets accepting SNAP increased from 41 to 54, and the number of direct marketing farmers accepting SNAP increased from 32 to 152 from 2014 to 2016. A farmers market inventory was conducted to determine locations, hours of operation, and acceptance of SNAP. Two entities in the state – Hub City Farmers' Market (with subawards going to Travelers Rest and Johns Island Farmers Markets) and Diane's Call – received United States Department of Agriculture Farmers Market SNAP Support Grants to increase outreach of and capacity to accept and redeem SNAP.

Call to Action

- 1 The General Assembly should continue to provide funding to support the SNAP Healthy Bucks Program.
- 2 State agencies, nonprofits, and grassroots food policy councils should develop a coordinated effort to expand and market healthy food retail options that participate in nutrition assistance programs.
- 3 Farmers markets and other community-based healthy food retail outlets should ensure that people of different races/ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds are represented within their decision making structures (e.g., advisory boards), and that their vendors are also representative of different demographics.

Update to Recommendation

Ensure healthy foods are affordable to low-income individuals and families through expanding the number and reach of farmers markets and other healthy food outlets (e.g., direct marketing farmers, produce box programs) that accept SNAP, SNAP Healthy Bucks, WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers, and WIC fruit and vegetable vouchers. Ensure these locations are welcoming and accessible to people of all racial and socioeconomic backgrounds.



Success Story: FoodShare SC

FoodShare SC is a program dedicated to ensuring good healthy food to all. Customers are able to purchase a Fresh Food Box every other week filled with 12 to 16 varieties of fruits and vegetables for either \$20 in cash or \$10 in SNAP; SNAP customers receive a \$10 Healthy Bucks incentive for the remainder of the cost. Since its launch in April 2015, over 5,000 boxes have been purchased, with over 50% of sales coming from SNAP. The main hub for the program is the Booker Washington Heights Cultural Arts Center, located in a part of the city that experiences high health disparities. There are also 6 satellite locations throughout Richland and Lexington Counties where people can place and pick up their orders. FoodShare SC recently expanded to Fairfield County, and with the support of a USDA grant that is allowing the program to purchase a refrigerated truck, will soon expand to Marlboro, Dillon, and Marion Counties. Learn more about the program at <http://foodsharesc.org/>

RECOMMENDATION 3: SUPPLY

Summary of Progress

Food systems work to support food-producing farms has increased over recent years in South Carolina, and several food policy councils have organized to foster this activity. From 2011-2015 SC's Farm to Institution Program has grown from 52 to 231 schools, and in 2014 the program began expanding beyond schools and preschools in efforts to engage hospitals, businesses, government agencies, and other organizations. Grow Food Carolina, the state's first food hub which opened its doors in Charleston in 2011, has grown to support 75 farmers across the state. Additional food hubs are currently being organized in other regions, and programs training new and beginning farmers have expanded. Funding for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative was secured through the state budget giving enterprises which increase food access, including food-producing farmers, opportunities to utilize this funding. Several organizations such as the Swamp Rabbit Café and Grocery and Sustainable Midlands in conjunction with the Midlands Food Alliance secured Local Food Promotion Program or Farmers Market Promotion Program grant funding through the USDA. The SC Farm Aid Bill also became law, showing SC's support for the agricultural community and giving financial assistance to farmers who were affected by the 2015 flood.

Update to Recommendation

1. Support existing and create new initiatives across the state recruiting, training, and stewarding food-producing farmers. Increase the coordination and support of existing businesses, nonprofits, and organizations in SC that are working on local food production, aggregation, processing, and distribution. This includes technical assistance for researching, writing, and applying for potential funding opportunities as well as increased outreach efforts and communication from sources offering funding and support.
2. Increase opportunities to access capital for businesses and nonprofits bringing SC produced food to under-served populations and food deserts.
3. Educate farmers on how to make their businesses sustainable and educate consumers on the benefits of supporting local, food-producing farmers and how to feasibly attain these products. Institutional markets using tax dollars to purchase food should be given supports to be able to feasibly obtain and use food produced in South Carolina.

Call to Action

Potential focus areas for advocacy include: increased funding and support for local food aggregation, processing, and distribution; increased funding and support for new and beginning farmer training; incentives to encourage food producers to accept SNAP; supports for institutional markets who utilize tax dollars for food purchases to be able to prioritize and feasibly purchase food produced in South Carolina.



Success Story: New Farmer Programs

With the average age of SC farmers now up to 59 years, SC puts its largest industry at risk if it does not invest efforts into encouraging and training the next generation of successful agripreneurs. Many of those entering agriculture have very little direct experience.

The SC New and Beginning Farmer Program is the only statewide emerging farmer program in SC and achieves its objectives through collaboration with other statewide organizations and agencies who share their mission. The program began in 2010, has graduated over 200 participants, and hopes to secure state funding for the program within the next two years.

Lowcountry Local First's Growing New Farmers Program has trained over 130 new farmers and food systems leaders since 2011. In this five-month introductory-level program, participants receive curriculum-based instruction and experiential, hands-on field learning at DirtWorks Incubator Farm. Graduates receive a Certificate of Sustainable Agriculture from the College of Charleston.

Greenville Technical College's Sustainable Ag Certificate in Applied Science was developed in response to a need expressed by leaders of the region's agribusiness. The group had seen the surge in the number of start-ups in a variety of related ventures, and too often the passion and enthusiasm wasn't rounded out by the business knowledge needed to make the business itself sustainable. GTC's certificate program is structured to provide a solid foundation in farming as a profession and will begin fall of 2016.

RECOMMENDATION 4: PLANNING

Summary of Progress

The SC Health + Planning Advisory Committee partners have continued to promote the *SC Health + Planning Toolkit: A Healthy Eating and Active Living Policy Guide* as a key resource to assist communities with integrating healthy eating and active living principles into comprehensive plans. Over the past two years, numerous trainings on the Toolkit have been conducted to a wide variety of audiences, including the SC Chapter of the American Planning Association, SC Association of Counties, SC American Society of Landscape Architects, Urban Land Institute, and SC Obesity Summit.

The Advisory Committee has recently analyzed all current SC county comprehensive plans for overall trends and policy best practices related to healthy eating and active living as outlined in the Toolkit. The evaluation results, included in the *SC Healthy Comprehensive Planning Project Baseline Report*, create a baseline measurement of healthy eating and active living principles in county comprehensive plans. To date, a minimum number of counties are accounting for healthy eating and active living in comprehensive plans (only 2 counties are accounting for healthy eating and only 12 counties are accounting for active living in their comprehensive plans).

Targeted outreach and technical assistance to local level stakeholders in Aiken, Berkeley, Darlington, Florence, Greenwood, Orangeburg, Spartanburg, and York Counties has been conducted to encourage the integration of policies that promote healthy food production, processing, distribution, and access in county comprehensive planning.

Update to Recommendation

The Task Force upholds its initial recommendation to encourage local governments to integrate planning and zoning regulations into comprehensive plans that promote healthy food production, processing, distribution, and access.



Success Story: City of Florence

The City of Florence, in an effort to integrate healthy eating and active living into the community, is creating a zoning overlay district targeted at allowing specialty manufacturing and sales of foods and beverages. To coordinate and promote this district, Florence has hired a part time professional whose sole responsibility is making this district successful. Another key component of the district will be the location of the local food hub and farmer's market within its boundaries, which are strategically located adjacent to Florence's food desert. It is the intention of the City to promote locally sourced food products in this effort.

Call to Action

- 1 Counties should utilize the Toolkit to integrate healthy eating and active living principles when updating county comprehensive plans. A re-analysis of county comprehensive plans should be conducted to compare to the baseline evaluation to monitor the state's progress with integration of these best practice indicators into planning efforts.
- 2 While the focus of the *SC Health + Planning Toolkit* is on county comprehensive plans, the Toolkit should also be used in municipal comprehensive plans as well as in a wide range of local government planning efforts to develop policy related to planning and public health.
- 3 Planning partners have recently been working with local communities in select areas of the state to develop pedestrian plans in support of increased opportunities for active living. Specific regulatory recommendations are being provided to the communities, not only to promote walkability, but also improve access to healthy foods. These type of planning efforts at the local level should be expanded throughout the state.

RECOMMENDATION 5: TRANSPORTATION

Summary of Progress

In the past several years mobile markets and food trucks have emerged as a popular and effective short term intervention strategy for providing healthy food options in communities without reliable access to personal and public transportation options. New mobile market businesses and programs are being implemented in a number of communities across the state.

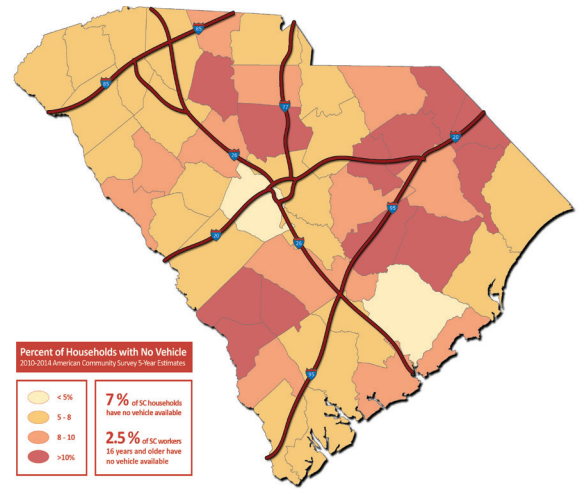
Food advocates, community planners, and representatives from transportation agencies have also been working together to better understand and frame the longer term issues surrounding the complex and interdependent relationships between land use, transportation, job security, and food security.

Call to Action

1 Despite the growing popularity and success of mobile markets as a means for increasing access to healthy foods, longer term policy based strategies are also needed to address food security issues in urban and rural communities with limited transportation access.

2 Food advocates, planners, and transportation agencies need to develop better interdisciplinary communication networks to build awareness and identify common ground. Facilitating an ongoing, open dialogue around transportation, food access, and job security issues will help to build collaborative, resource leveraging relationships and strengthen support for mutually beneficial policy, program, and project recommendations.

3 Potential focus areas for advocacy include: increased funding for transit, promotion of ridesharing programs, coordination between human service transportation providers, supporting development of mobile markets, subsidizing personal vehicle ownership in rural communities, and encouraging mixed-use, transit oriented development in urban areas.



Update to Recommendation

Build collaborative relationships between healthy food advocates, community planners, and transportation agencies to identify and support a wide range of policies and projects that increase food security in communities with limited access to transportation.



Success Story: Mobile Markets

In the Upstate, The Mill Village Mobile Market continues to bring farm fresh foods into "food-desert" communities where it sets up shop at local churches, businesses, and community centers throughout the Greenville area. Since 2010, the Hub City Mobile Market has steadily expanded its service in the Spartanburg area using a retrofitted step-van. In 2016 it plans to make over 400 stops at local churches, schools, community centers, corporate offices, and special events.

In the Midlands, Richland-Lexington School District Five has deployed a summer food truck to designated locations within the district as part of a continued effort to provide healthy meal options to students in need during the summer months.

In the Lowcountry, the Lowcountry Street Grocery is a new mobile farmers' market designed to make healthy, local food affordable and accessible to Charleston area residents. Service will be provided by a classic retrofitted school bus that will set up shop at multiple convenient locations six days a week.

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This report was updated by the South Carolina Food Access Task Force and produced by South Carolina Community Loan Fund with funding from the Kresge Foundation.