Collier County, Florida

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council and their partners are using a food policy council and working across sectors to improve public health and prevent chronic disease in Collier County.

Goals

- Build engagement, support, and credibility of the Food Policy Council as an effective deliberative body
- Develop a portfolio of policy and systems changes
- Strengthen communication and partnership across sectors
- Build a resilient supply chain for local growers of all scales

Background

- Population size: 384,902
- There has been a drastic increase in the incidence of strokes and other chronic conditions in the past few years.
- The Immokalee community, located in Collier, is part of a federally designated Promise Zone, signifying they’ve been historically impoverished and in need of food resources.

Success Stories

Collier County Food Policy Council successfully built communication and partnership across sectors to ensure a resilient food supply

Hired a Food Policy Coordinator who is responsible for convening and coordinating project research, policy and programmatic efforts of the Council and agency partnerships

Food Policy Coordinator is currently drafting a Proclamation for the Collier County Board of County Commissioners

Key Milestones from July – December 2020

- 250,000 partner organizations convened or engaged by the lead partner to promote access to foods that support healthy eating patterns
- 37 new food access points
- 320,000 individuals provided with foods that support healthy eating patterns

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