Cumberland County, North Carolina

Cumberland County Department of Public Health and partners are improving food accessibility by partnering with local residents, developing a food policy council and using community data to understand the needs of their locality.

Goals

- Sign a charter between Cumberland County and Ft. Bragg that establishes a joint County and Installation Food Policy Council
- Commence a Food System Assessment, including at least three policy recommendations
- Implement at least two policies, systems, or environmental priorities identified by the Food Policy Council

Background

- Population size: 332,330
- 20 census tracts met the definition of a food desert, including five census tracts located on Ft. Bragg.
- 13% of residents have limited access to healthy food and nearly 19% of residents are considered food insecure.

Success Stories

Formation of multiple subcommittees: one subcommittee will assist with food environment assessments, and the other will assist in the establishment of a Joint Cumberland County/Ft. Bragg Food Policy Council

Partners hosted a Healthiest Cities and Counties Kick-Off meeting for community partners to connect

Strengthened relationship with homeless serving agencies

Key Milestones from July – December 2020

- 8 community convenings or meetings related to access to foods that support healthy eating pattern
- 50 individuals that attended community convenings or meetings related to access to foods that support healthy eating patterns
- 22 partner organizations convened or engaged by the lead partner to promote access to foods that support healthy eating patterns

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