



Regional Roundtable: Building Resilient Food Systems

Triangle J Council of Governments
July 24, 2020

Jared Cates,
Community Food Strategies
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association



Food Supply During Covid-19: Innovative Ideas for Local Governments

Click here to sign up to receive a notification when registration is available for this course



Overview



Register



Materials



Contact



This is a free 45-minute On-Demand Webinar. If you would like access to the on-demand webinar, please register [HERE](#). If you have any questions, please contact fulton@sog.unc.edu.

Local governments are being tested by stay-at-home measures, the economic downturn, and new health and safety requirements. Collaborative leadership encourages and enables the kinds of interactive planning and resource sharing needed to feed vulnerable populations and support our agricultural partners during

LEAD FACULTY



Patrice Roesler

Manager of Elected Official Programming, Center for Public Leadership and Governance

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- | | |
|---------|---|
| May 27 | School Nutrition Programs |
| June 3 | Community Gardens and Farms |
| June 10 | Leveraging Underutilized Infrastructure to Improve Food Access & Supply |
| June 17 | Food Business Innovation in the Time of COVID-19 |

<https://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/food-supply-during-covid-19-innovative-ideas-local-governments>



What are food systems?



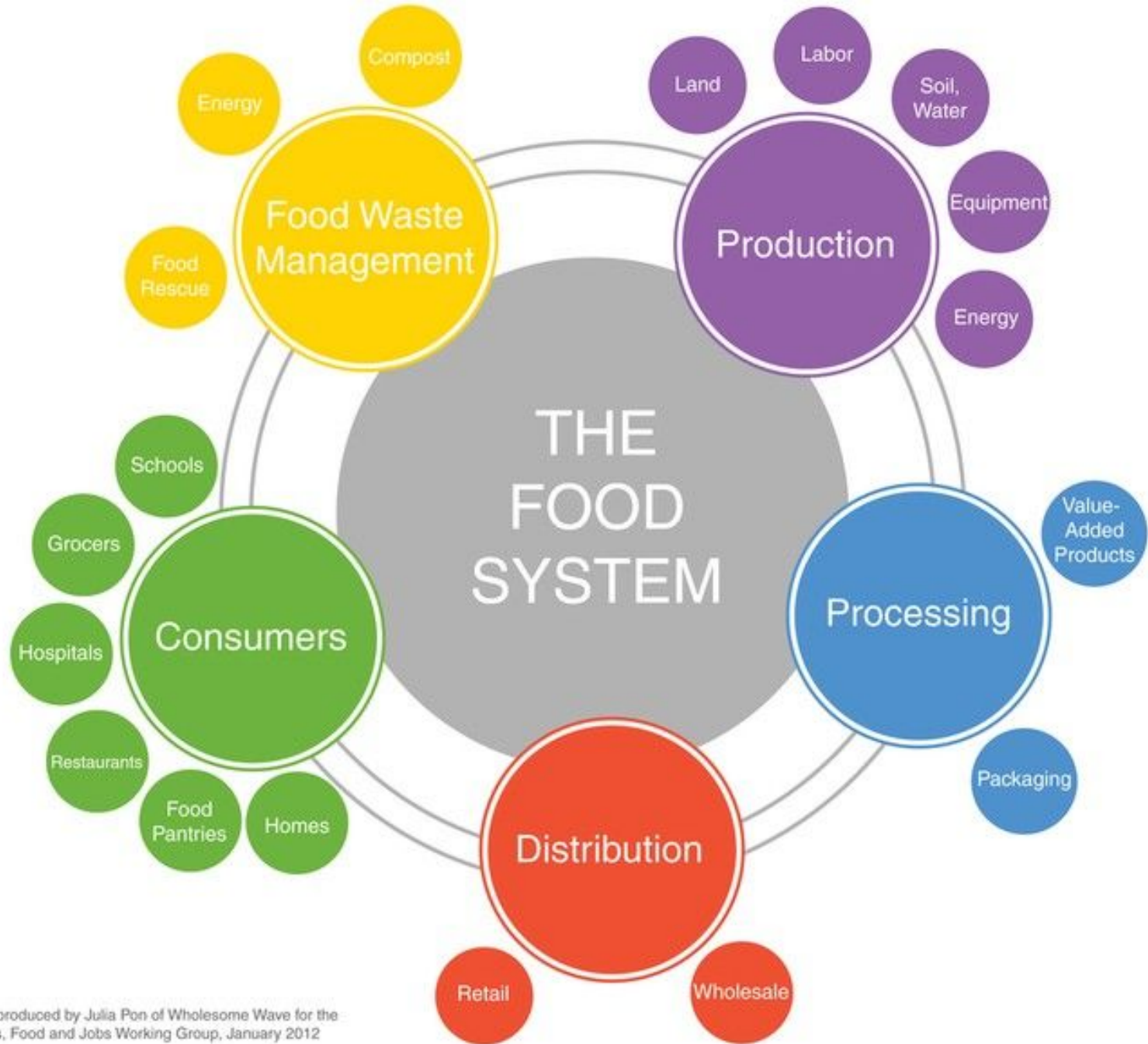
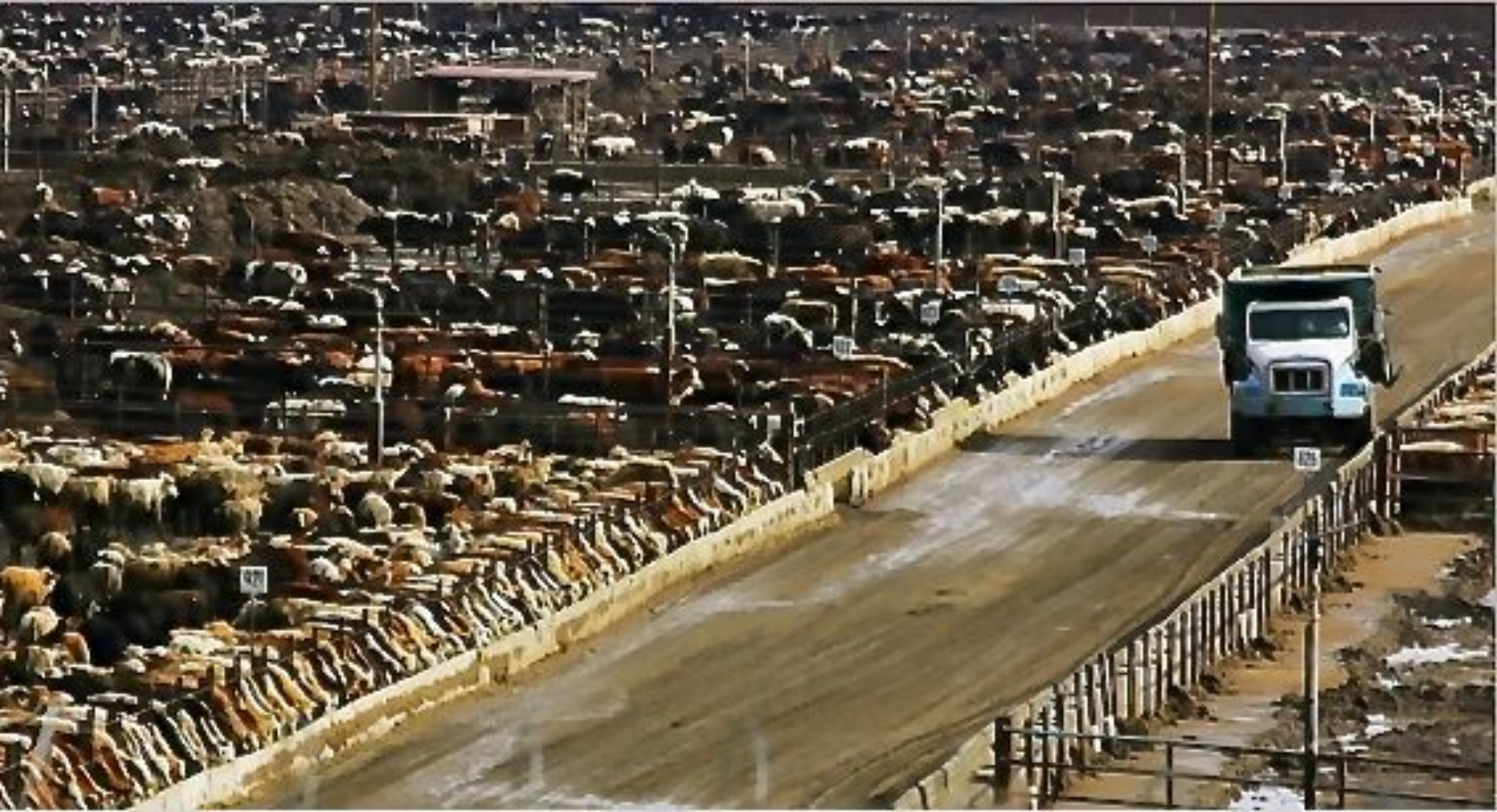


Diagram produced by Julia Pon of Wholesome Wave for the CT Farms, Food and Jobs Working Group, January 2012

https://medium.com/@sarah_k_mock/the-problem-with-the-food-system-is-it-works-39604d56a84f





<https://www.bigpicturebeef.com/feedlot-beef>









<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/apr/24/real-cost-of-roast-chicken-animal-welfare-farms>



<https://civileats.com/2018/11/07/workers-fear-injury-as-administration-clears-way-for-faster-chicken-slaughter/>



<https://www.motherearthnews.com/homesteading-and-livestock/chicken-butcher-day-zbcz1609>



A resilient food system is able to withstand and recover from disruptions in a way that ensures a sufficient supply of acceptable and accessible food for all.

- John Hopkins Food Policy Networks Food System Resilience Project



Together Let's Build a
Better Food System!

MIDWAY PLANTATION SLAVE CEMETERY

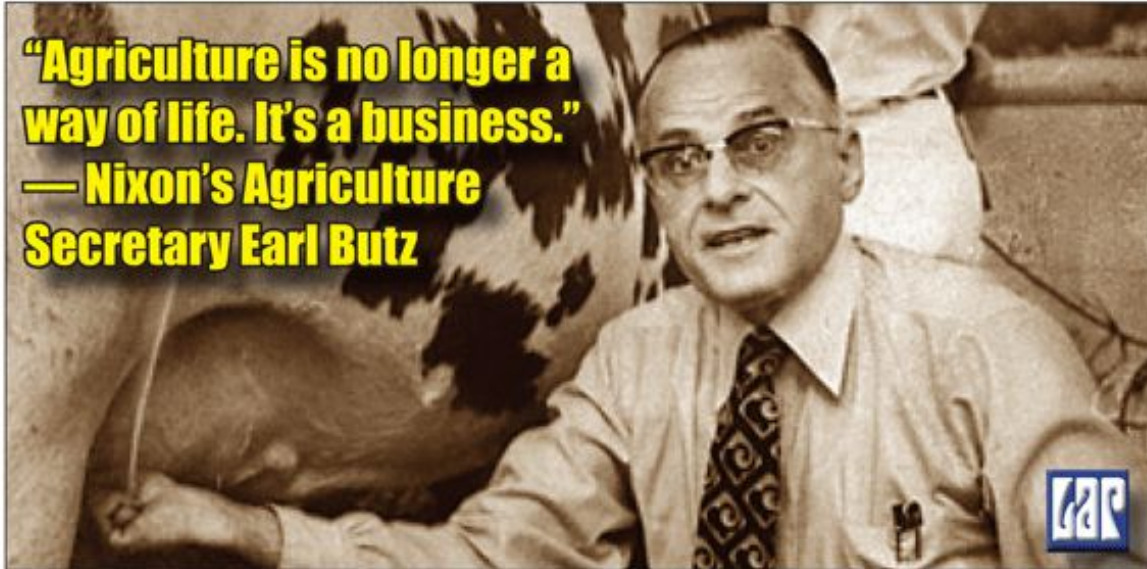
A short distance east of this marker is the site of the Midway Plantation slave cemetery which holds the remains of many of the African Americans who labored on the 1,000 acre plantation in the bonds of slavery during the mid-nineteenth century. By 1850 some 38 slaves toiled on the plantation and through their efforts Lysander McGavock's Midway thrived and boasted of 600 acres of improved farmland and produced cash crops of corn and tobacco.

1992



<https://www.aaas.org/dust-bowl-wake-call-environmental-practices>

**“Agriculture is no longer a way of life. It’s a business.”
— Nixon’s Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz**



<https://www.laprogressive.com/good-food-movement/>

“Get big or get out”

Created direct payment subsidies in the 1970’s

Butz urged to resign for insulting race joke

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — An aide to Agriculture Secretary Earl L. Butz said yesterday Butz has not resigned and has no plans to do so “at this time.”

The aide denied a report published by the Los Angeles Times that Butz had offered to resign following Friday’s “severe reprimand” by President Ford for making a racial slur in the form of a joke.

Butz was reported excluded to his Washington apartment and unavailable for comment.

Butz cancelled an address to a campaign rally in Toledo, Ohio, yesterday. Sources said Ohio Republican officials asked Butz not to appear.

The controversial remarks were reportedly made by Butz to a group of farmers aboard an airplane following the Republican national convention in August and reported by John Dean, senior White House counsel involved in the Watergate scandal, in an article in Rolling Stone magazine.

Dean, in the story, said “a senior official” had made derogatory remarks about blacks when asked why the Republican party could not attract more black voters.

New Times magazine later identified Butz as the one who repeated a joke suggesting that “niggers only want three things” and describing them as good men, “time slaves” and “a warm place” to defecate.

Saturday, Democratic presidential candidate Jimmy Carter said Butz’ remark reflected on Ford “to the extent it is confined.” Lawmakers called the remark “racist” and “insulting,” and said the reprimand Ford issued Friday was not enough.

Sen. Robert Dole, Ford’s running mate, said Butz’ statement was “repulsive.” But, in his view, no doubt like things Carter has said.

Reaction to the incident, one of several two-to-the-month gambles for 1976, gave Ford a new political campaign strategy: should he keep Butz in the cabinet and take his chances with public outrage, or fire Butz and choose others in farm areas where he is popular?

Campaigning in Pittsburgh, Carter pointed to the issue.



EARL BUTZ
— in exclusive

“I don’t think anybody could make any more derogatory statement than Mr. Butz did make about black people,” he told reporters. “I thought it was disgraceful, and I don’t believe I would permit that to be done by any of the people who worked under my administration while I was president. But as I said, there are many more reasons to fire Mr. Butz.”

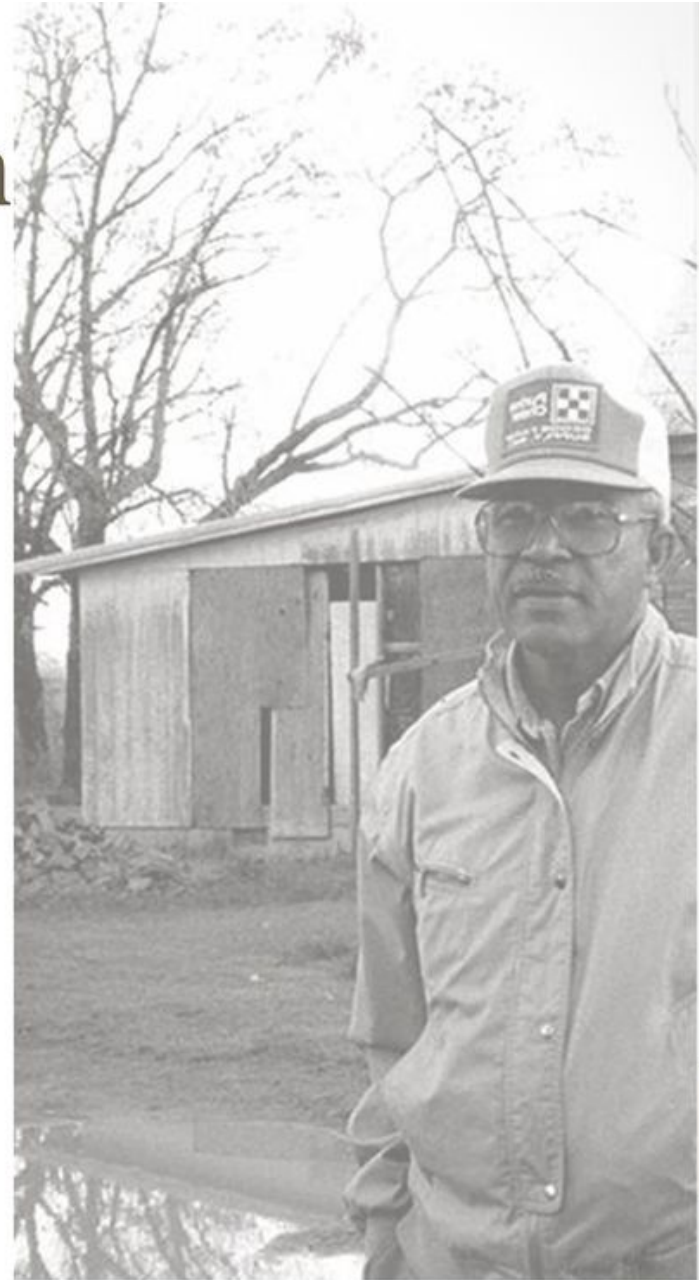
He suggested the incident in “statements he made in the past that were embarrassing to California and to Indiana.”

Butz arrived Ford’s side in 1974 by telling a joke about the Pope and Butz, seated in a mock Italian street. He has stirred other controversies with spite as executive issues, once suggesting that lawmakers were to blame for soaring meat prices.

<https://www.quotationof.com/earl-butz.html>

Pigford v Glickman

- Class action lawsuit
- 400 farmers
- Systemic discrimination by USDA
 - Periods of 1983-1997
 - PIGFORD vs GLICKMAN, 1998
 - 2008, \$100 million settlement
 - Additional \$1.25 billion in 2010 (Pigford II)





United States Department of Agriculture

Economic
Research
Service

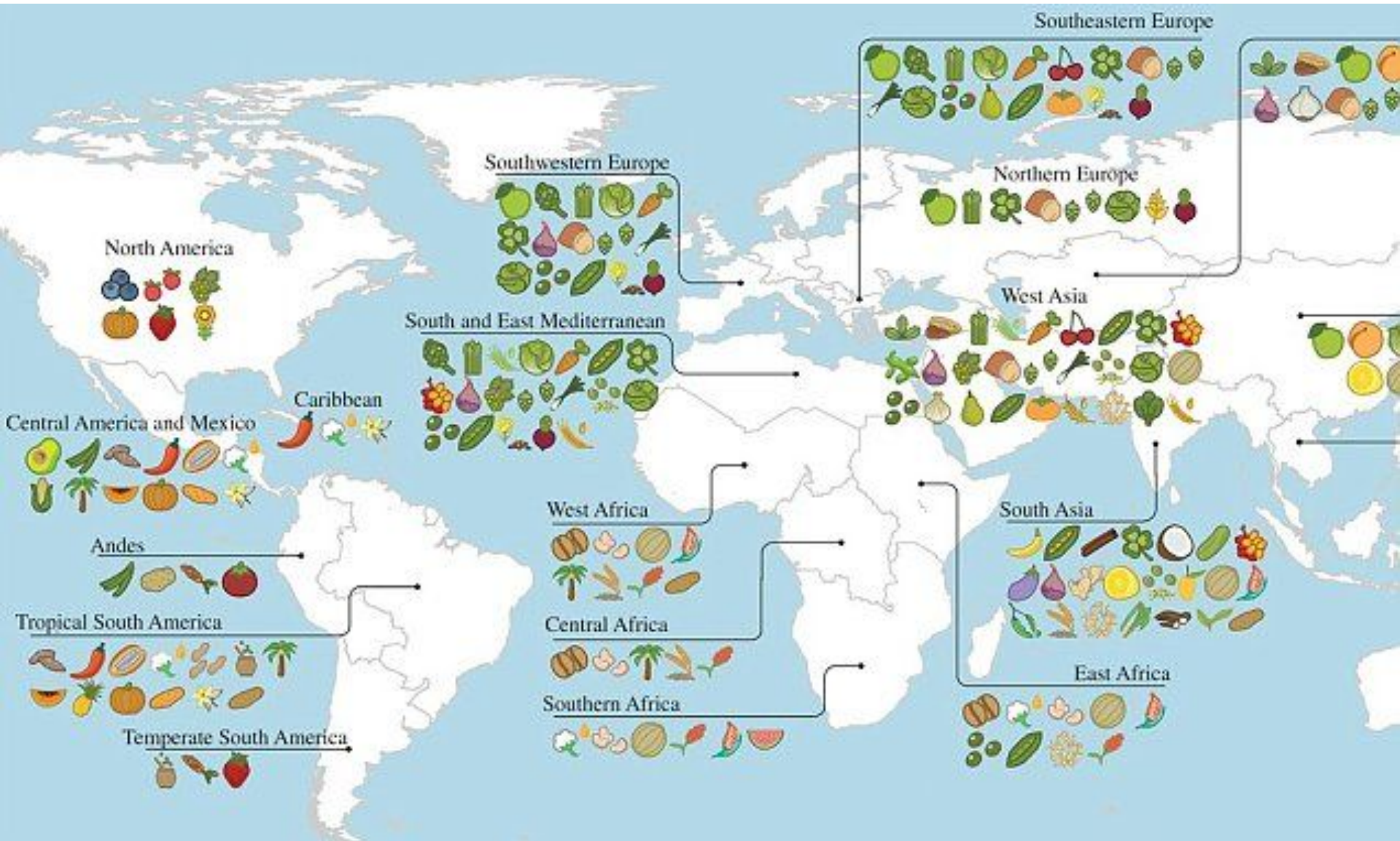
Economic
Information
Bulletin
Number 189

March 2018

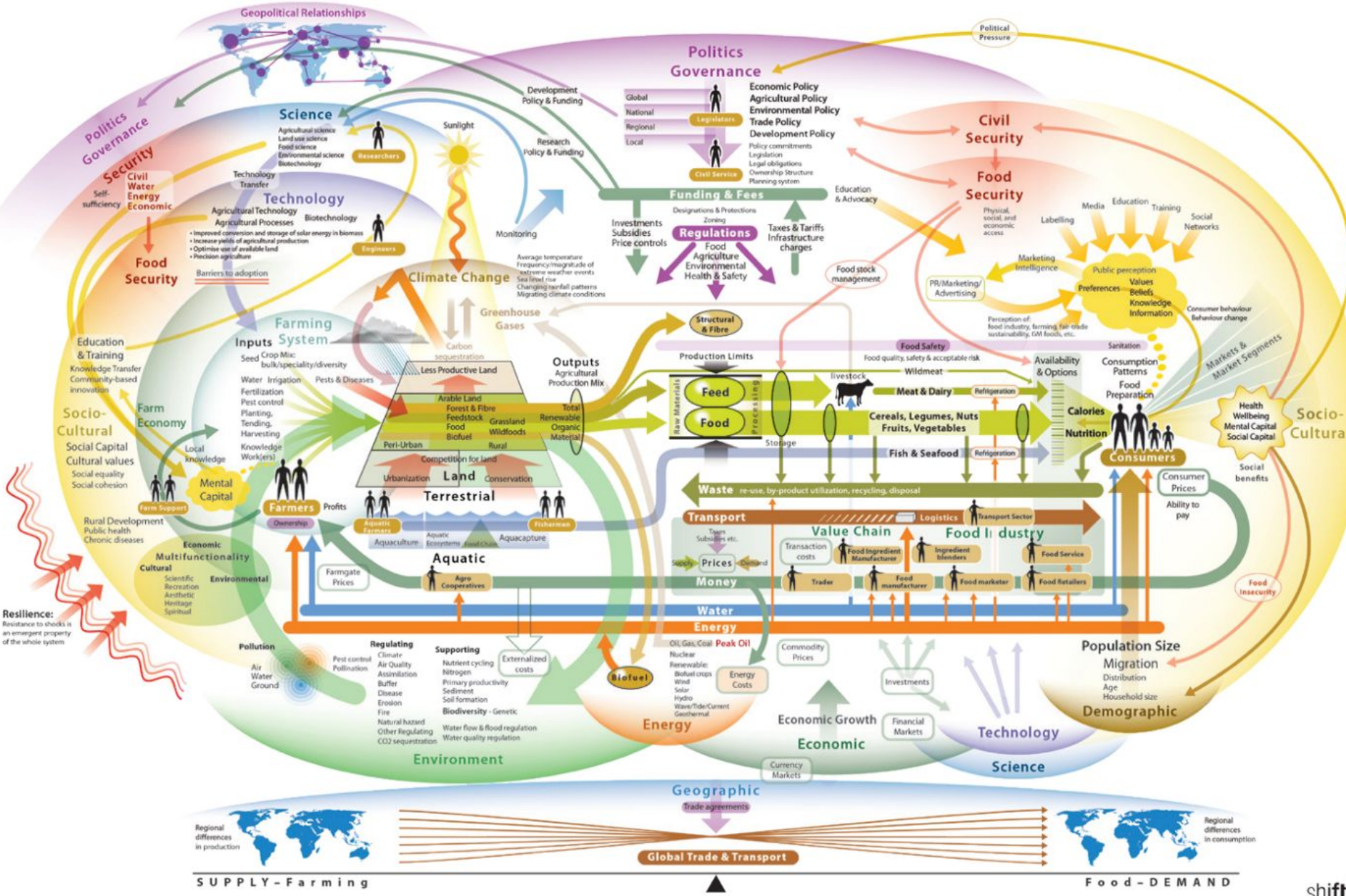
Three Decades of Consolidation in U.S. Agriculture

James M. MacDonald, Robert A. Hoppe,
and Doris Newton





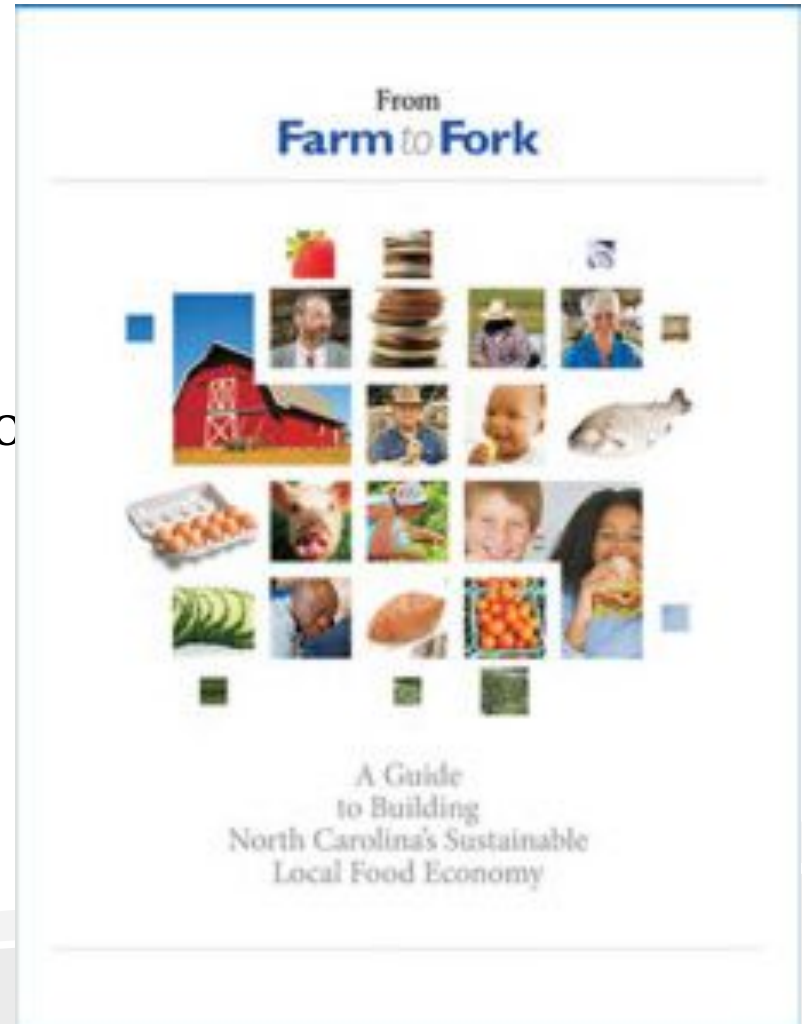
Global Food System Map






2010 Farm to Fork Guide

- Statewide process to develop recommendations to build NC's sustainable local food economy.
- Recommendation 1: Engage decision makers in strategic food systems planning and implementation
 - Establish statewide food policy council
 - Support local food policy council development



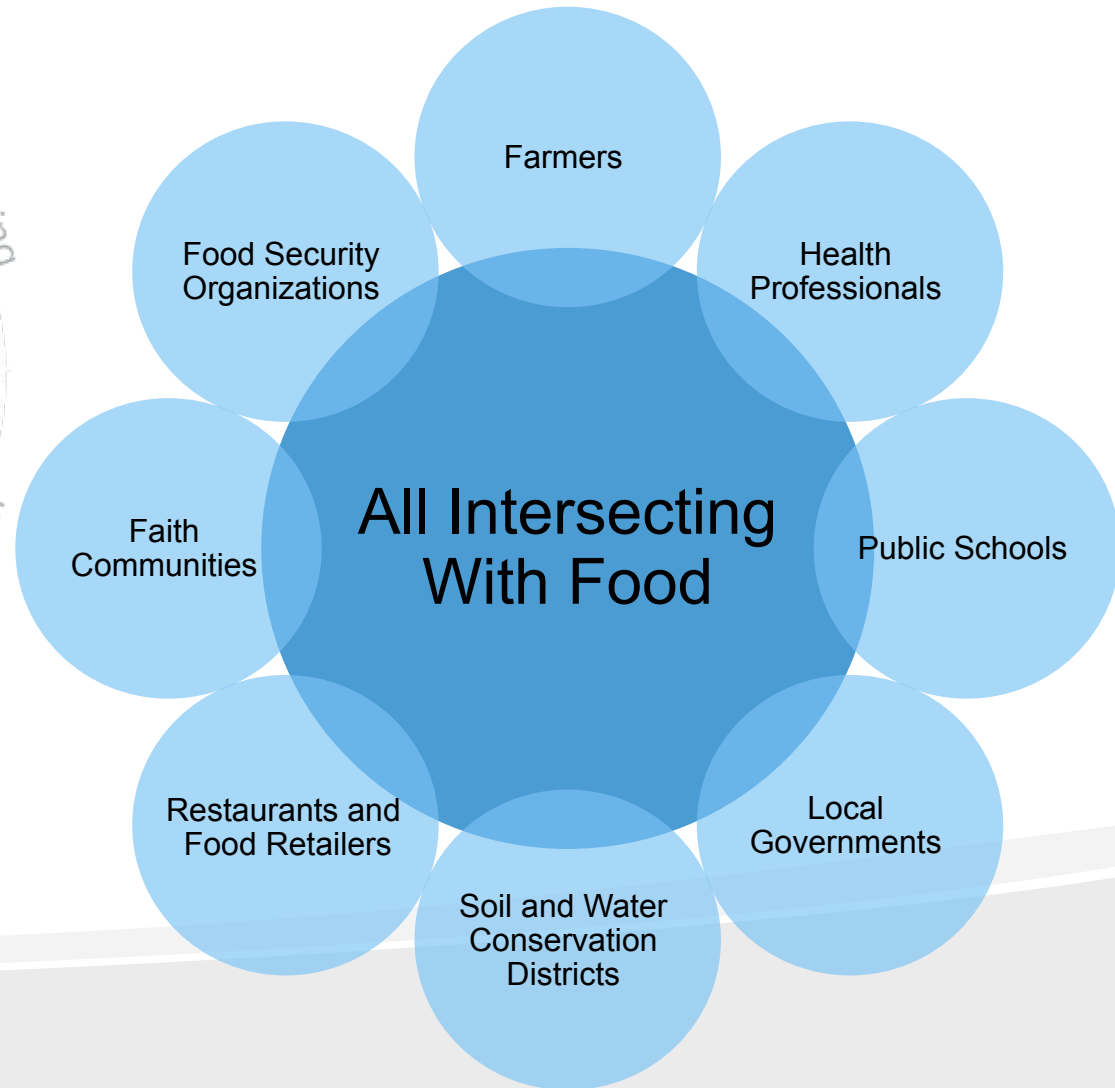
Food Councils build connections to improve:

- 
- health
 - food equity and access
 - natural resource protection
 - economic development around food
 - emergency response around food
 - and production agriculture

.....for **ALL** of its community's residents and workers.

Food Councils solve broad food system issues by giving communities more control over the ways they produce, consume and dispose of food.

Who's involved?



What do food councils do?

- **Assess** the current food system
- **Connect** stakeholders to align efforts
- **Educate** leaders and the community
- **Recommend** policy and program changes





Community Food Strategies is a team of food system experts with members based at these seven organizations and initiatives. The team supports a network of 36 independent community-based food councils across North Carolina by working to inspire connections and amplify collective action so that community voices are heard and food policy shifts toward more equitable outcomes. The initiative works collaboratively to help build an equitable, community driven food system that improves the quality of life for all people. **Abbey Piner** – Center for Environmental Farming Systems

Amy Marion – Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project

Gini Knight – Center for Environmental Farming Systems

Brandy Bynum Dawson – NC Rural Center

Jared Cates – Carolina Farm Stewardship Association

LaShauna Austria – Kindred Seedlings Farm

Lindsey Carver – Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC

Megan Bolejack – Care Share Health Alliance

Shorlette Ammons – Committee on Racial Equity at the Center for Environmental Farming Systems



What we do:

- Champion & support food councils and community work
- Bring people together
- Build alliances
- Ask the questions
- Provide tools and trainings
- Offer network structure

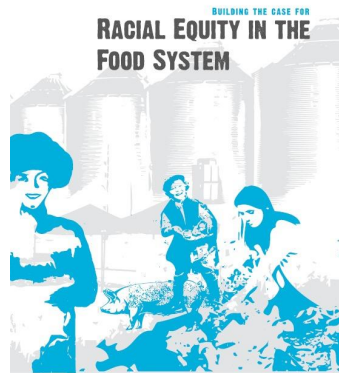


Tools for Food System Resilience



COMMUNITY FOOD
STRATEGIES

Racial Equity



Cai CENTER FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

Partner in this work:
www.dRworks.org



EMBEDDING A RACIAL EQUITY PRACTICE

In December 2017, we introduced an intention to embed a racial equity practice across Community Food Strategies' work.

WHAT WE DID:

Evaluation Measures

All event evaluations included asked attendee's perception of inclusion at the event.

Micro-grants: 13 food councils awarded

A focus on RE was a key priority for funding. Those awarded were required to attend a RE training.

- One FC hired an RE coach.
- Another hosted listening sessions to re-frame their coalition grounded in a RE approach.

Level 1 & 2 Racial Equity Trainings

Three Level 1 trainings, attended by 95 ppl, 17 FCs.

One Level 2 workshop to further one FCs ability to use RE language and tools specific to their work.

In-between Webinars

51 attendees across 15 food councils learned this method for building a community of practice around racial equity, their work.

- This council was accepted to share their work of centering RE as a FC at a conference in March 2019.

Equitable Food System Video & Discussion

We shared this video at all regional gatherings and facilitated group conversations about equity and shared goals.

Equity Assessment

All team members completed two equity assessments for our project which influenced our 2019 strategic planning.

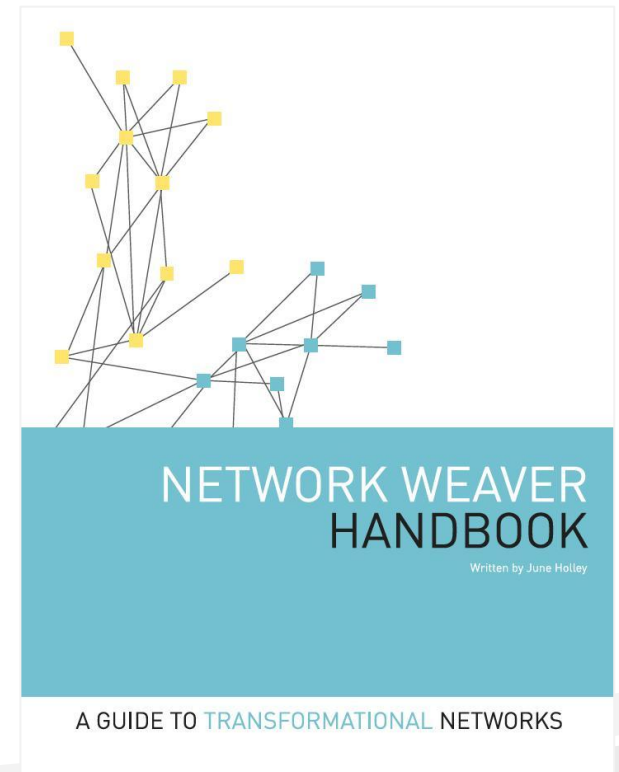


COMMUNITY FOOD
STRATEGIES



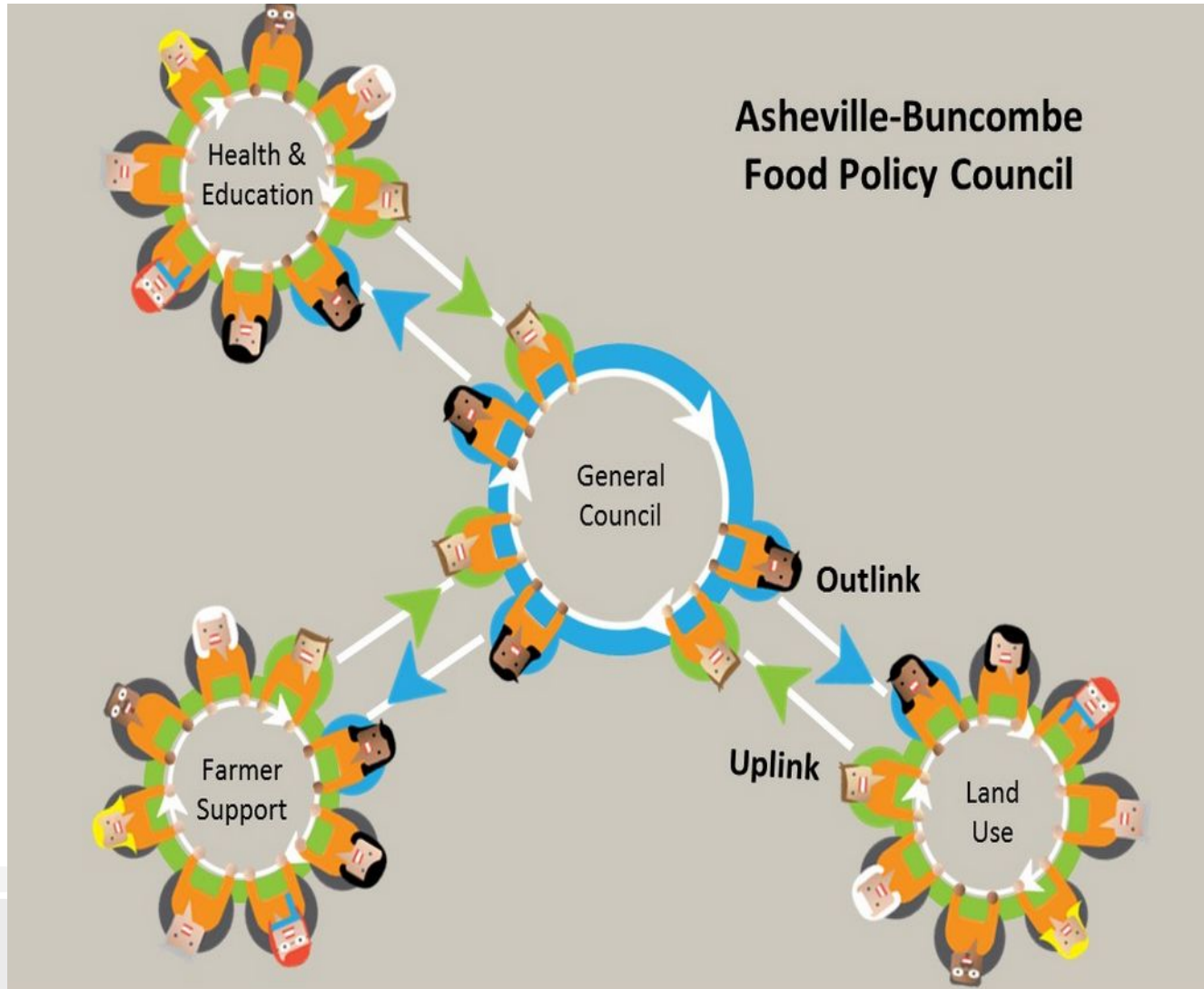
A Network and Systems Approach

- **Multiple agencies**
- **Multi-stakeholder environments**
- **Adaptive leadership**
- **Innovation and learning**
- **Experiment**



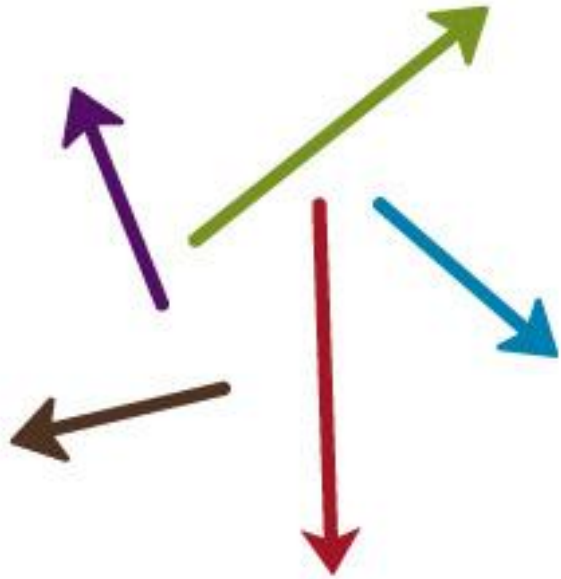
#collaborativegovernance

www.circleforward.us

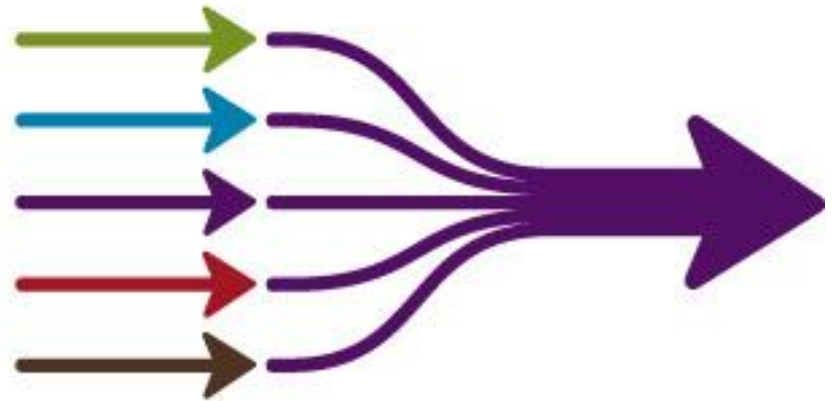




Collective Impact

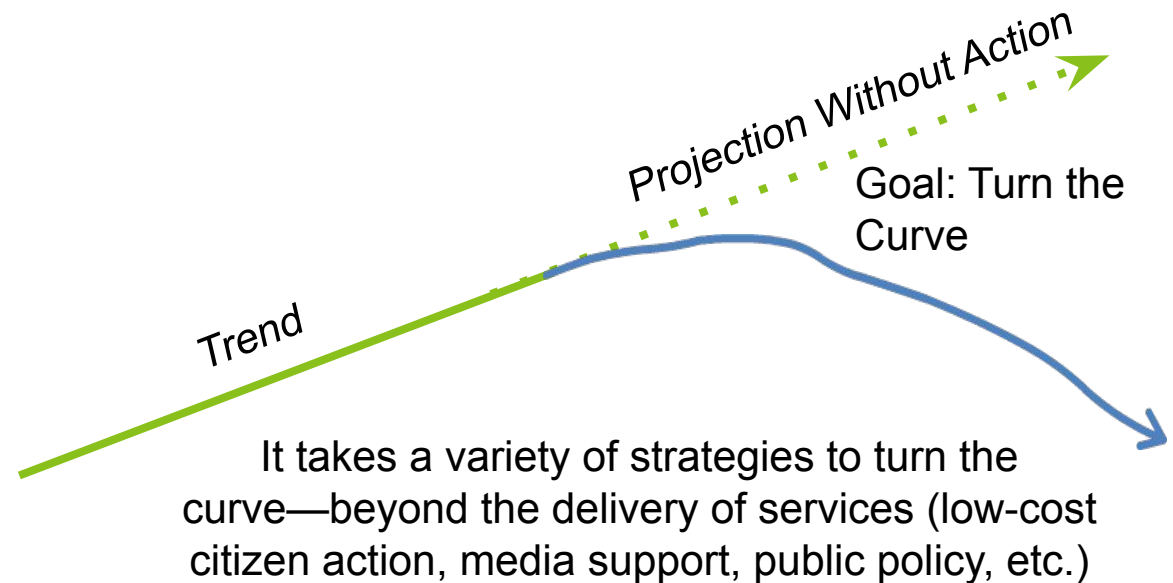
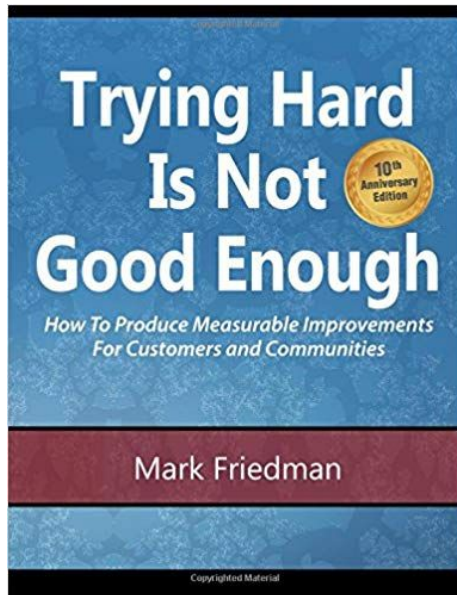


BEFORE



AFTER

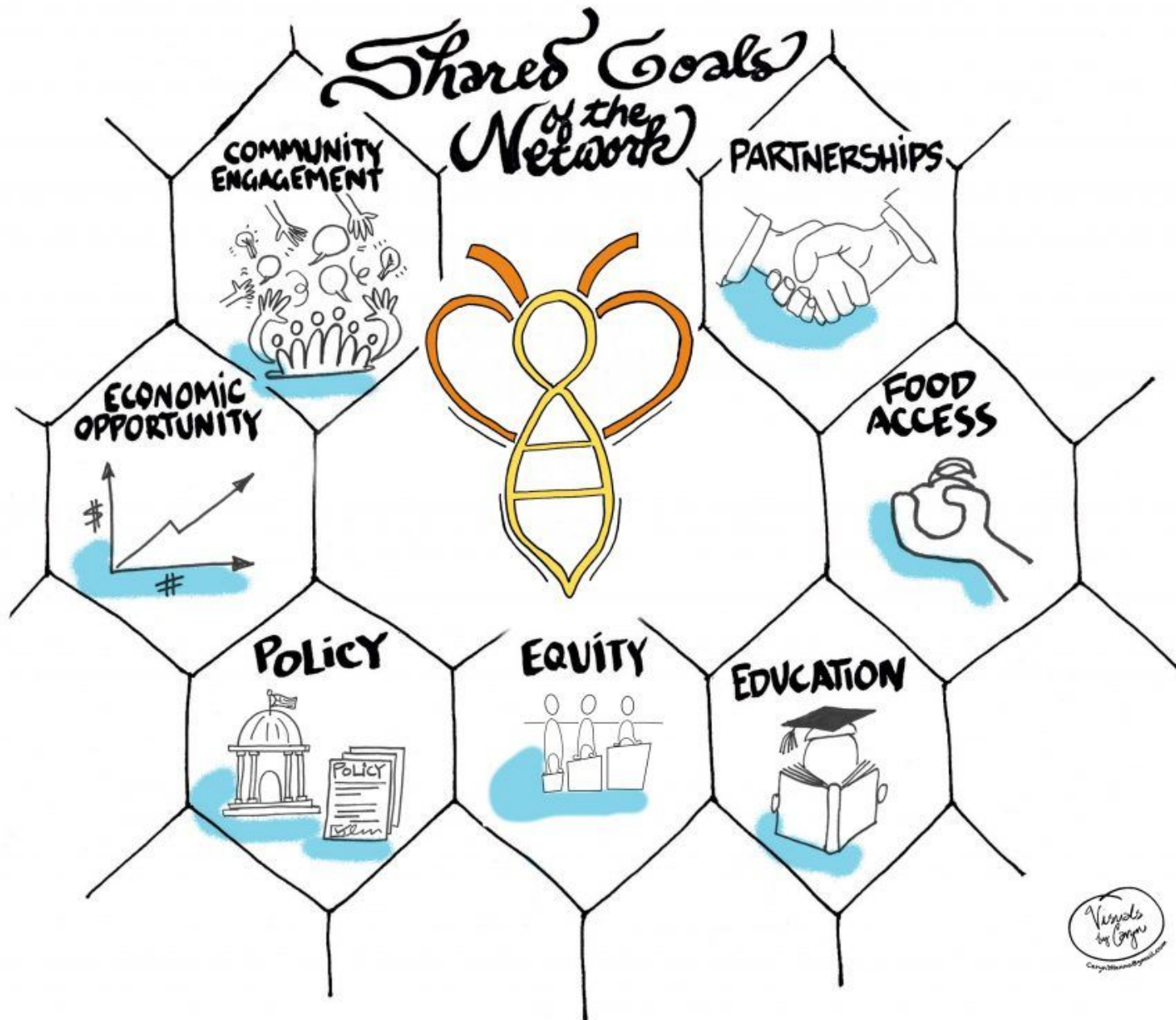
Results-Based Accountability: “Turning the Curve”



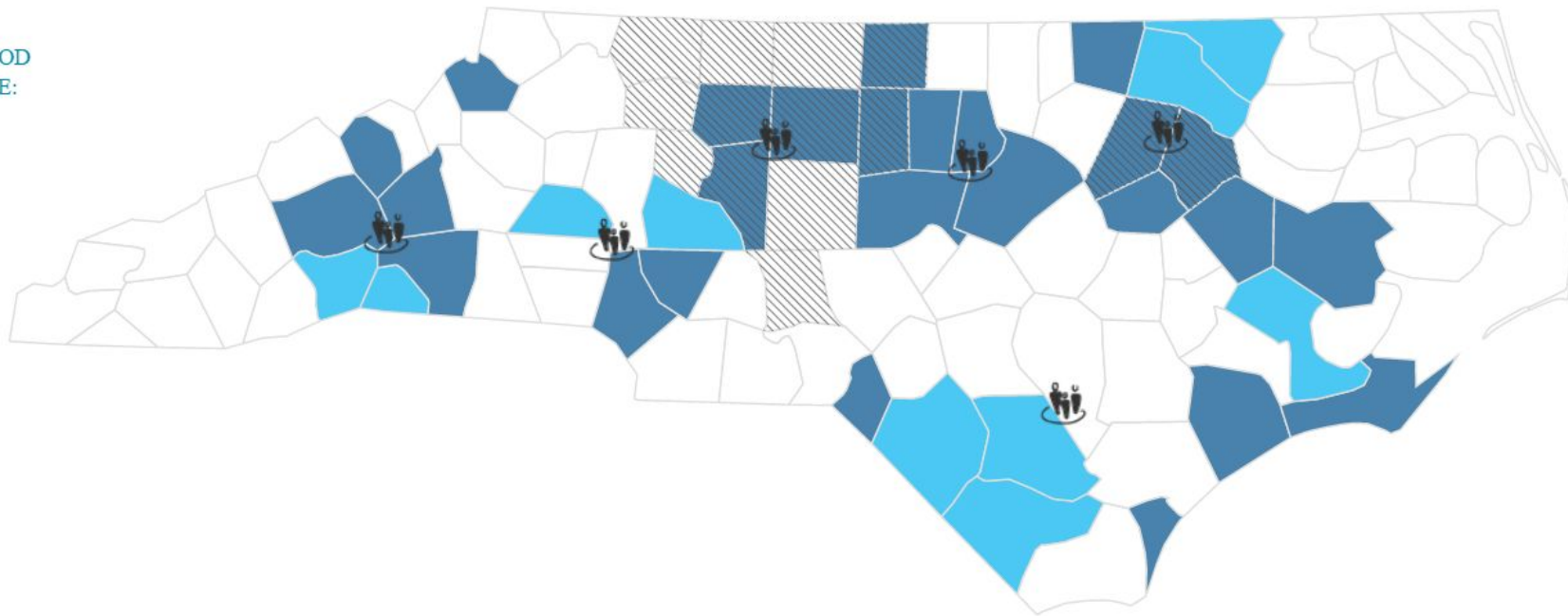
Vision of the Network of NC Food Councils

To build a resilient and equitable food and farming system across all counties in North Carolina.





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E:



DURHAM

FARM AND FOOD NETWORK

CREATING A COLLABORATIVE, INNOVATIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM



CAPITAL AREA FOOD NETWORK



ORANGE COUNTY FOOD COUNCIL

Location: Halifax County

Themes during the COVID-19 pandemic:

Network Value: youth engagement

Action: Providing community meals and food boxes, civic engagement, collaboration with restaurants, culture building around healthy food and lifestyles

Youth have continued existing civic engagement projects, first with census counts and then with voter registration. They have also developed fliers and social media posts to encourage COVID-19 safety measures including social distancing and wearing masks.

The ABC2 project has also partnered with a local restaurant, Hen and the Hog and a local caterer to make meals for families in need on Saturdays, when school meals are not available. They are serving about 400 meals/weekend to families and seniors across the county - free of charge and no forms required. The project has been funded in part by the County Commissioners of Halifax County.

ABC2 has also partnered with CFSA and their FarmsSHARE program to provide 25 free boxes of locally produced produce and meat a week for 8 weeks.



A BETTER CHANCE A BETTER COMMUNITY ENFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA

ABC2/GROW-K Youth Food Council





The Cape Fear Food Council is working to enhance communication and collaboration between food assistance providers during the COVID-19 pandemic response.

Regular conference calls are held for New Hanover, Pender and Brunswick Counties.

To request information about joining any of these calls, please contact us at capefearfoodcouncil@gmail.com.

Location: New Hanover County

Themes during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- **Network Value:** Power of existing relationships, existing credibility
- **Action:** Organizing & coordination, food distribution and relief efforts, information distribution, local farm/food promotion

The Cape Fear Food Council immediately began hosting weekly calls with local government to collect resources for food assistance guides and ongoing needs for New Hanover, Pender, and Brunswick Counties.

They launched online resources maps in each county that are continually updated from the weekly calls.

They have also hosted calls to coordinate food delivery to populations that need food like seniors and kids.

They initiated a texting campaign to better reach populations that may not have internet access or other ways of accessing information.

FEAST Down East (a council member) partnered with CFSA on their FarmSHARE program and distributed 800 boxes of locally produced produce and meat to out of work restaurant and hospitality workers.

Themes during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- **Network Value:** Noticed/acknowledged for cross-sector organizing & relationships
- **Action:** Coordination, community/home gardens, food distribution

Davidson County Local Food Network was invited to join a call for coordinating a COVID-19 response to the community. They were recognized for their organizing and existing relationships across sectors, and asked to be the hub for local food & resources guide.

Created google maps for food pantries and free meals as well as local farms.

In partnership with Cooperative Extension and the health department they distributed home garden kits and created an online education series for beginning gardeners.

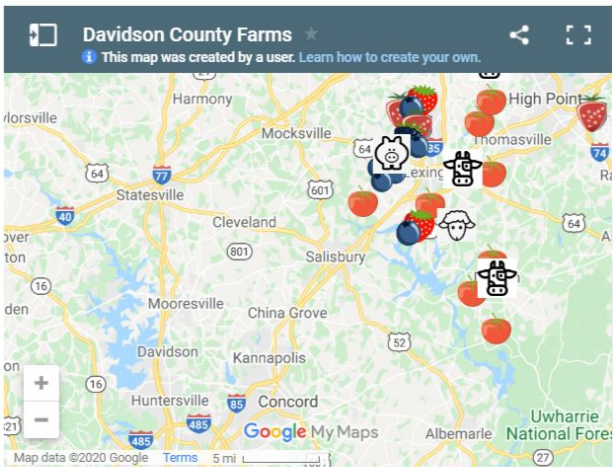
Working with the city of Lexington to provide resources, like topsoil, for community gardens.



FIND THE NEAREST FOOD PANTRY OR FREE MEAL



FIND A FARM NEAREST YOU





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- John Hopkins Food Policy Networks Food System Resilience Project



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