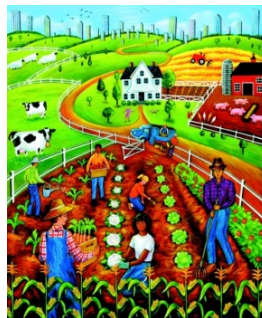


# Community Food Projects

## Indicators of Success

Fiscal Year 2011

Final Report



  
**Community  
Food  
Security  
Coalition**

3830 SE Division Street • Portland, OR 97202  
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Provided by the  
Community Food Security Coalition  
with funding from a  
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Agriculture**

Research,  
Education, and  
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National Institute  
of Food  
and Agriculture

1400 Independence  
Avenue SW  
Washington, DC  
20250

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**Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program: Indicators of Success**

Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program (CFPCGP) is a program that funds low-income community, non-profit organizations to develop projects using a proactive approach to combating food insecurity. Funded projects develop comprehensive, community solutions to food access issues, which increase the self-reliance of the community over their food systems.

The CFPCGP grew out of a philosophy promoting proactive approaches to hunger rather than relying only on food distribution, charity models of increasing food access for low-income people.

**Community food security (CFS)** is the basis for the community food project program and is defined as a condition in which all community residents obtain a safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes community self-reliance and builds social capital, economic equity, and promotes environmental stewardship.

To access the collective impacts generated by this program, the Community Food Security Coalition has compiled the data from the Community Food Project Indicators of Success (IOS) and from the Participant Impact Survey (PS) to show the compiled results from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA, funded projects and to showcase the vital work taken on by the grantees and their local community members.

I personally want to thank all the grantees for their contributions to the “Community Food Projects Indicators of Success Report” and to thank the Community Food Security Coalition for their work in compiling the results and to share this compelling story of the importance of sustainable food systems that build upon community and individual assets.

I encourage all grantees and future grantees through the use of this important evaluation tool to continue to tell the compelling story of the important work taken on in the communities by building stronger relationships between farmers and consumers, with the consumer gaining greater knowledge and appreciation of their local food source.

I wish you continued success,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dr. Jane M. Clary". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Dr. Jane M. Clary, National Program Leader, Nutrition/Extension  
Community Food Projects, Institute of Food Safety & Nutrition

## Acknowledgements

### A Letter From the Community Food Security Coalition

Each year I have the opportunity to work with Community Food Project grantees around the country as they develop and implement evaluations of their dynamic programs. It is deeply rewarding to learn about the innovative and integrated efforts that communities utilize to come together and improve their food systems. The data in this report is just a slice of the impactful work that is happening in these community food projects.

To learn more in depth information about Community Food Project grantees, you can visit the Food Security Learning Center's CFP Database hosted by WhyHunger at <http://www.whyhunger.org/cfp>.

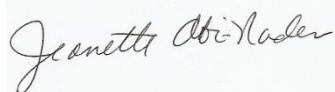
I would like to extend a hearty thank you to the organizations that worked hard to collect this data and ask their community members for feedback and input. (A list of contributing organizations can be found in the appendix.)

Additionally, thank you to the following organizations that provided and gave permission to use the photographs throughout this report:

- Adelante Mujeres, Forest Grove, OR. Photos courtesy Shawn Linehan.
- Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc., Elfrida, AZ.
- Common Good City Farm, Alexandria, VA.
- The Food Trust, Philadelphia, PA.
- Fresh Thinking Project, Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources, Hattiesburg, MS.
- Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon and Storey Counties, Dayton, NV. Photos courtesy Wendy Madison

Congratulations on another year of moving us toward a more sustainable and just food system.

In solidarity,



Jeanette Abi-Nader  
Community Food Security Coalition  
Evaluation Program Director



Our First Garden Vegetables  
Sano/Eating Healthy, Chiricahua Community Health  
Centers, Inc., Elfrida, Arizona.

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## Executive Summary

### Introduction and Methods

The USDA-funded National Institute of Agriculture (NIFA) Community Food Projects (CFP) Competitive Grants Program (CFPCGP) was designed to meet the food needs of low-income people; to increase the self-reliance of communities in meeting their own food needs; and to promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm and nutrition issues. Since its inception in 1996, around 400 grants programs have been awarded in 48 states through CFPCGP. (CFPCGP was formerly administered through CSREES).

To assess the collective impacts of this program, the web-based Community Food Projects Indicators of Success (IOS) was developed to track and monitor the important and common outputs and outcomes across the diverse and dynamic CFPs. (The CFP IOS was based on the Common Output Tracking Form (COTF) originally developed in 2005.) The CFP IOS reflects a focus on outcomes (e.g., economic and social equity, healthy food access) of CFP grantees and includes a participant survey component, or the Participant Impact Survey (PS), which measures the self-reported knowledge, attitude and behavior changes of project participants.

The CFP IOS is requested of CFP grantees in addition to their annual required CRIS (Current Research Information Systems) report and financial documents. Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC) administers the CFP IOS as part of CFSC's Training and Capacity Building CFP grant. Together, these reporting vehicles collect data that demonstrate the combined impact of Community Food Projects towards increasing community food security across the country.

Fiscal year 2011 marked the seventh year that grantees were asked to submit data on their program activities and outcomes. Of the 56 grantees funded for fiscal year 2011, 43 completed the IOS providing a response rate of 77%. Over the seven-year reporting period, around 400 grantees were funded through the CFPCGP. Of these, 268 Community Food Projects completed the form – providing annual response rates ranging from 37% to 79% and a response rate overall of 67%. These data were statistically weighted to represent the results of 100% of the active grantees operating between FY2005 and FY2011.

### CFP Indicators of Success Report Structure

This report provides a summary of the FY2011 grantee IOS reporting and PS survey results, as well as estimates for the entire seven years of data that have been collected on CFP activities. It is structured according to the fields of *Whole Measures for Community Food Systems* (WM CFS) (<http://www.foodsecurity.org/pubs.html#wm>), a value-based planning and evaluation tool developed by and for CFP grantees. The fields include Healthy People, Strong Communities, Thriving Local Economies, Vibrant Farms and Gardens, Sustainable Ecosystems and Justice and Fairness. Together, these value based practices reflect a vision for whole communities seen through the lens of community food system development. Whole Measures CFS was developed as a CFP project and included input from over one hundred Community Food Projects.

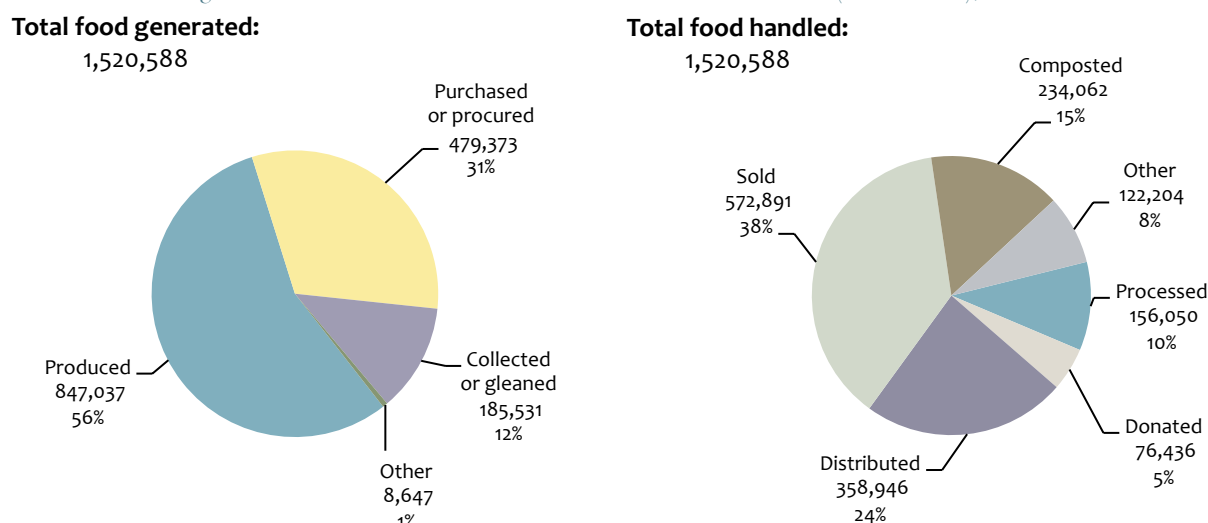
## The Activities of Community Food Projects

CFP grantees were involved in a myriad of activities to support community food security, the most common being training and capacity building, entrepreneurial food and agricultural activities and youth/school gardening and agricultural projects. Nutrition and health education, community gardens and food access and outreach were additional types of activities pursued by more than 40% of the USDA sponsored food projects during the 2011 fiscal year. Youth/school projects, the promotion of local food purchases and entrepreneurial food and agricultural activities have been the most common activities of CFPs since FY2005.

### HEALTHY PEOPLE

In a nation simultaneously challenged with hunger and obesity, the importance of healthy food for all is evident. In FY2011, the active CFPs are estimated to have generated and handled 1.5 million pounds of food including fruits and vegetables, meats, dairy items, eggs and honey.

Figure 1: Methods Used to Generate and Handle Food (in Pounds), FY2011



The number of people and organizations involved in and affected by these Community Food Projects during FY2011 was significant. Nearly 181,000 Americans were provided food as a result of the programs and about 54,000 were K-12 students or youth attending summer programs. Customers and food recipients varied in age, race and ethnicity and most resided in low-income areas. Almost 20,000 Americans receiving food from the CFPs were involved in USDA Food Assistance programs:

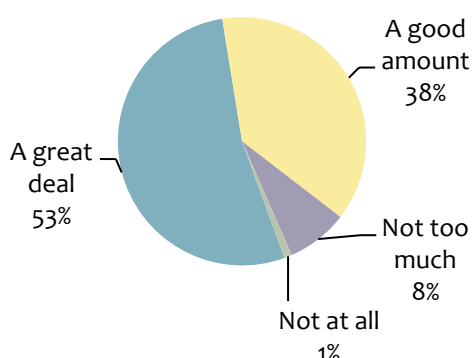
- 1,900 were Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) participants
- 9,600 were Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly food stamps) recipients
- 3,200 were elderly meal recipients
- 5,500 were Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program recipients

Nearly 9 in 10 CFP participants reported that they were healthier, provided healthier food for their families, and had increased their consumption of fruits and vegetables as a result of participating in

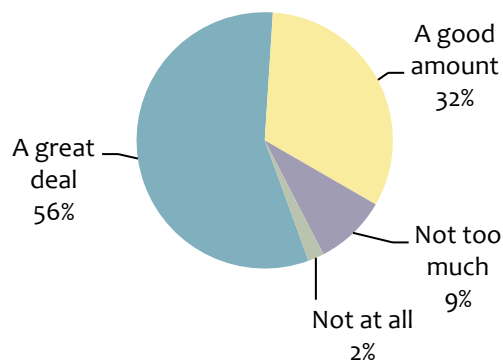
the project. Significant increases in participant knowledge and attitudes related to healthful eating and local food systems were also found.

Figure 2: Being Healthier and Eating More Fruits and Vegetables, FY2011

**Extent participation has helped me to be healthier**



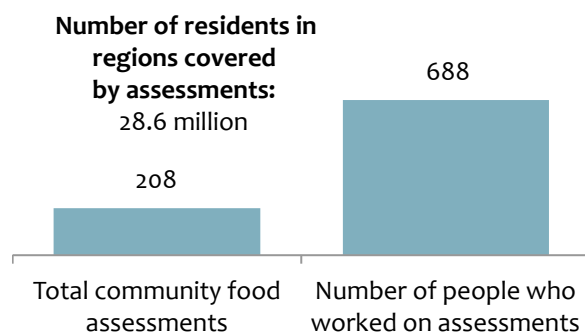
**Extent participation has helped me to eat more fresh fruits and vegetables**



#### STRONG COMMUNITIES

Creating self-reliant communities involves facilitating positive change for the existing local food system. During FY2011, the USDA-funded CFPs organized about 2,300 people and partnered with 280 organizations to strengthen community infrastructure. The CFPs and their partners conducted more than 200 community food assessments, formed more than 20 food policy councils and networks and implemented about 30 policies aimed at increasing community food security across the nation.

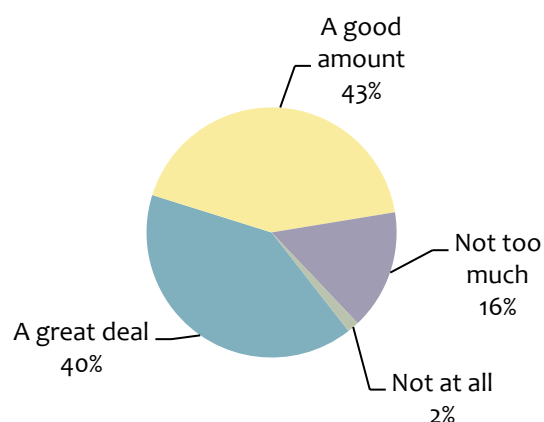
Figure 3: Food Policy Councils, Networks, Community Food Assessments and People, FY2011



An important component to building strong communities includes building power for community members to have a voice and leadership in policies affecting their community. More than 8 in 10 CFP participants felt they could make a greater difference in their community as a result of participating in CFP programs. Similar numbers of participants reported learning more about working collaboratively, developing stronger leadership skills and feeling more confident as leaders in their communities.

Figure 4: Making a Greater Difference in the Community, FY2011

**Extent participation has helped me to make a greater difference in my community**



#### THRIVING LOCAL ECONOMIES

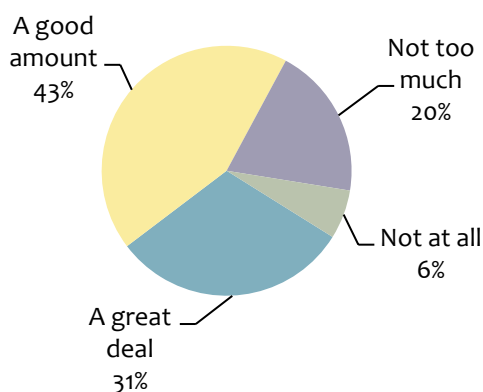
Increasing economic benefits to low-wealth communities and residents through increased jobs, micro-businesses and extended customer bases for local foods are important components of community food security.

- **Jobs and Businesses:** As a result of CFPs, about 100 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs were created and 155 micro-businesses were started or strengthened. Farmers and agricultural workers produced almost 60 value-added food products.
- **Farmers' Market:** CFPs started almost 80 farmers' markets in FY2011 which generated \$1.3 million in sales.

More than 70% of farmers participating in the programs reported increased confidence in their job skills and ability to run a small business or microenterprise. Six of ten farmers reported increasing the size of their local markets and increasing their customer base as a result of the CFP grant.

Figure 5: Learning How to Run a Small Food System Business, FY2011

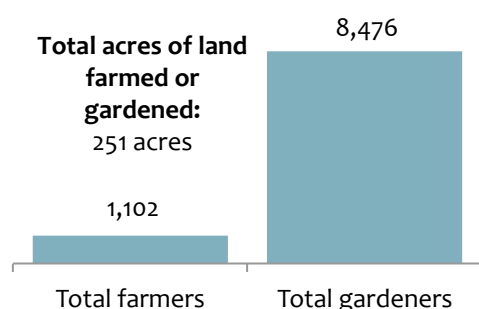
**Extent participation has helped me to learn more about how to run a small food system business**



# VIBRANT FARMS AND GARDENS

CFP work in FY2011 involved 1,100 farmers and the farming of 250 acres of land. In terms of community and urban gardens, CFPs are estimated to have worked with almost 8,500 gardeners and operated 580 gardens with over 2,200 gardens plots. CFPs worked locally and nationally to approve

Figure 6: Farmers, Gardeners and Farmland, FY2011

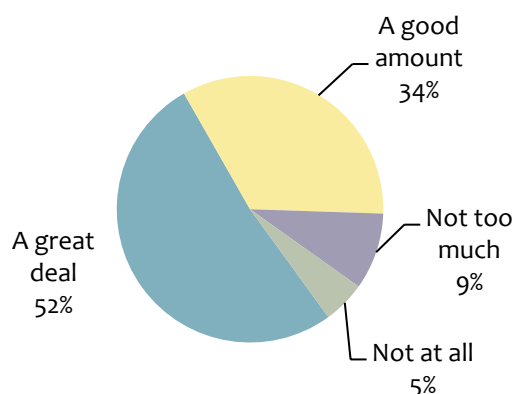


eight policy initiatives that supported small and mid-scale farms.

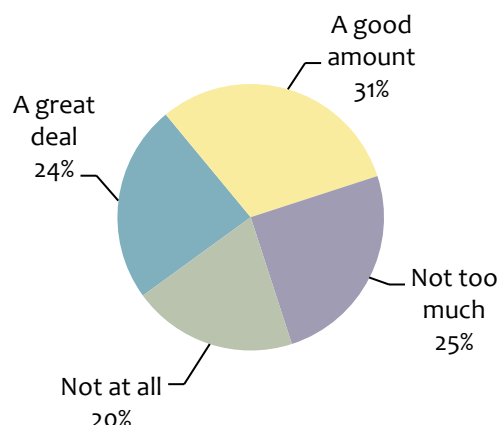
More than 80% of farmers reported gaining new farming and gardening skills and three-fourths reported diversifying their farm products. More than one-half of farmers reported increased income from farming or now being able to make a living in agriculture due to the USDA program.

Figure 7: Gaining New Farming and/or Gardening Skills and Make a Living in Agriculture, FY2011

Extent participation has helped me to gain new farming and/or gardening skills



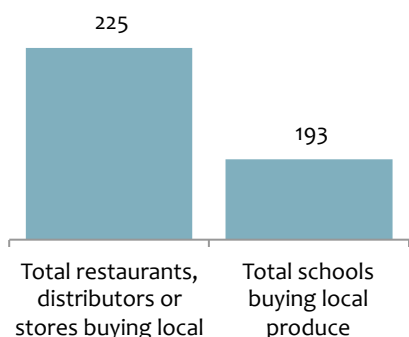
Extent participation has helped me to make a living in agriculture



## SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS

The preservation and use of agricultural land for farming and gardening is essential for community food reliance but also can serve a broader purpose - protection of the environment. About 4 acres of land were preserved through CFPs. Also, over 240 agricultural structures were built in FY2011 with USDA funding. To increase and sustain the demand for local agriculture, 225 restaurants/distributors/stores and 190 schools began buying local produce as part of the CFP work. In addition, 210 businesses were modified or renovated to include local, healthy foods.

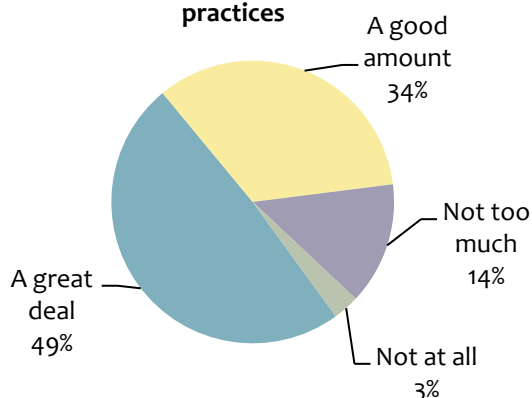
Figure 8: Local Food Buyers, FY2011



Most farmers participating in the program reported increased knowledge and improved attitudes related to sustainable agriculture and the environment. Eight in ten farmers reported increased use of sustainable or organic farming practices and improvement in food distribution.

Figure 9: Feeling a Stronger Connection to the Natural Environment, FY2011

**Extent participation has helped me to use more sustainable or organic farming or gardening practices**



## JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS

The underlying foundation of community food security relates to the promotion of justice and fairness in communities and the food system. The indicators for Justice and Fairness are inter-woven throughout the five fields described above. Some examples of how justice and fairness has been promoted and increased in each field are:

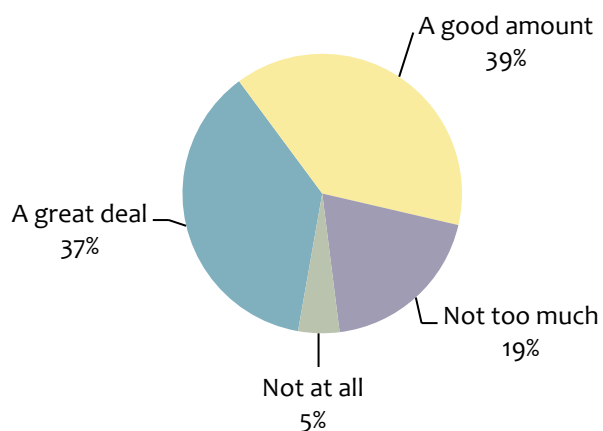
- Increased health and local food consumption by communities of color and low income communities (Healthy People)
- Increased leadership among people of color in food policy councils (Strong Communities)
- Increased jobs and micro-business opportunities for people of color and individuals with low-incomes (Thriving Local Economies)

- Three-quarters of farms increased their economic stability through diversifying products, increasing customers, and/or increasing their local market through involvement with the CFP (Vibrant Farms and Gardens)
- Increased number of businesses were modified to include local, healthy foods (Sustainable Ecosystems)

Community Food Projects that understand the connection between food insecurity, race, class and privilege are better equipped to implement activities that confront and change these dynamics. For example, more than three-quarters of community food project participants who were interviewed about social justice issues cited significant increases in their knowledge and behaviors related to dismantling race, class and privilege barriers in the food system.

Figure 10: Taking Action to Reduce the Effects of Race, Class and Privilege, FY2011




**Extent participation has helped me to take action that reduces the effects of race, class and privilege in my community**



## Conclusion




Although this report captures a subset of the work completed by USDA funded food projects, the progress made across all grantees is substantial. People are learning about the food system and taking on new leadership roles, acres of new land are being farmed and protected, healthy food is being delivered to residents in underserved areas and in schools and jobs and micro-businesses are being created. Systems change also is occurring through advocacy and new policy initiatives (see Figure 11). Adding to these successes is the fact that many of the CFP promoted practices work together to produce synergistic affect in communities. These system-wide findings demonstrate the important and integral role of Community Food Projects toward creating food security in communities across America.

Figure 11: Community Food Security at a Glance

Whole Measures (WM) Field	Indicator of Success	2011	2005-2011
Healthy People 	Pounds of food generated and handled	1.5 million	21.6 million
	-- pounds produced	847,000	6.8 million
	-- pounds donated	76,000	883,000
	-- pounds sold	573,000	6.7 million
	Customers and food recipients	181,000	2.9 million
	-- FMNP participants	1,900	112,000
	-- SNAP recipients	9,600	110,000
	-- SFMNP meal recipients	3,300	61,000
	-- WIC Program recipients	5,500	58,000
	-- school or summer youth meal recipients	54,000	1.8 million
Strong Communities 	Food policy councils/networks formed	20	90
	Organizations represented on the councils or networks	280	1,200
	Individuals on the council(s) or network(s) and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community*	2,300	6,900
	-- those who are people of color*	1,500	2,600
	Approved policies	30	270
	-- people affected by policies	3.3 million	42.0 million
	Community food assessments completed	200	670
	-- people affected by assessments	28.7 million	51.8 million
Thriving Local Economies 	FTE jobs created	100	2,700
	Micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or supported	155	4,000
	Farmers' markets started*	80	170
	-- sales of farmers' markets*	\$1.3 million	\$3.0 million
	New and/or value-added products developed	60	1,700
	-- sales of products*	\$53,000	\$61,000

\* Tracking of this indicator began in 2010.



Whole Measures (WM) Field	Indicator of Success	2010	2005-2010
Vibrant Farms and Gardens 	Farmers participating	1,100	14,800
	-- those participating in farmers' markets*	340	2,900
	Gardeners participating	8,500	36,700
	Acres of land farmed or gardened	250	58,000
	Gardens operated	580	3,900
	Number of policies approved that support small- and mid-scale farmers *	5	50
Sustainable Ecosystems 	Acres of land preserved	4	3,000
	Restaurants/distributors/stores buying local	225	920
	Schools buying local produce	190	2,900
	Businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy food*	210	440
	Structures built*	240	370
	Community kitchens built	7	35
Justice and Fairness  (These indicators are represented in a WM CFS field above and repeated here.)	Pounds of food generated and handled	1.5 million	21.6 million
	Customers and food recipients	181,000	2.9 million
	-- FMNP participants	1,900	112,000
	-- SNAP recipients	9,600	110,000
	-- SFMNP meal recipients	3,300	61,000
	-- WIC Program recipients	5,500	58,000
	-- school or summer youth meal recipients	54,000	1.8 million
	Organizations represented on the councils or networks	280	1,200
	Individuals on the council(s) or network(s) and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community*	2,300	6,900
	-- those who are people of color*	1,500	2,600
	FTE jobs created	100	2,700
	Micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or supported	155	4,000
	Schools buying local produce	190	2,900
	Businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy food*	210	440

\* Tracking of this indicator began in 2010.

## Introduction

Community Food Security is a condition in which all community residents obtain a safe, culturally appropriate, nutritionally sound diet through an economically and environmentally sustainable food system that promotes community self-reliance and social justice.<sup>1</sup>

At a basic level, Community Food Security is about making healthy food accessible to all. It focuses on bringing fresh, local food into low-wealth communities through support of local growers and producers and changes to the local food system infrastructure. At a systems level, community food security is about food justice and the transformation of the current food system to eliminate food disparities and inequities.<sup>2</sup>

### Community Food Security and the Community Food Project's Competitive Grant Program

The Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program (CFPCGP) has existed since 1996 as a program to fight food insecurity through developing community food projects that help promote the self-sufficiency of low-income communities. Community Food Projects (CFPs) are designed to increase food security in communities by bringing the whole food system together to assess strengths, establish linkages, and create systems that improve the self-reliance of community members over their food needs. Community Food Projects aim to:

- Meet the needs of low-income people by increasing their access to fresher, more nutritious food supplies.
- Increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own food needs.
- Promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues.
- Meet specific state, local, or neighborhood food and agricultural needs for infrastructure improvement and development.
- Plan for long-term solutions.
- Create innovative marketing activities that mutually benefit agricultural producers and low-income consumers.

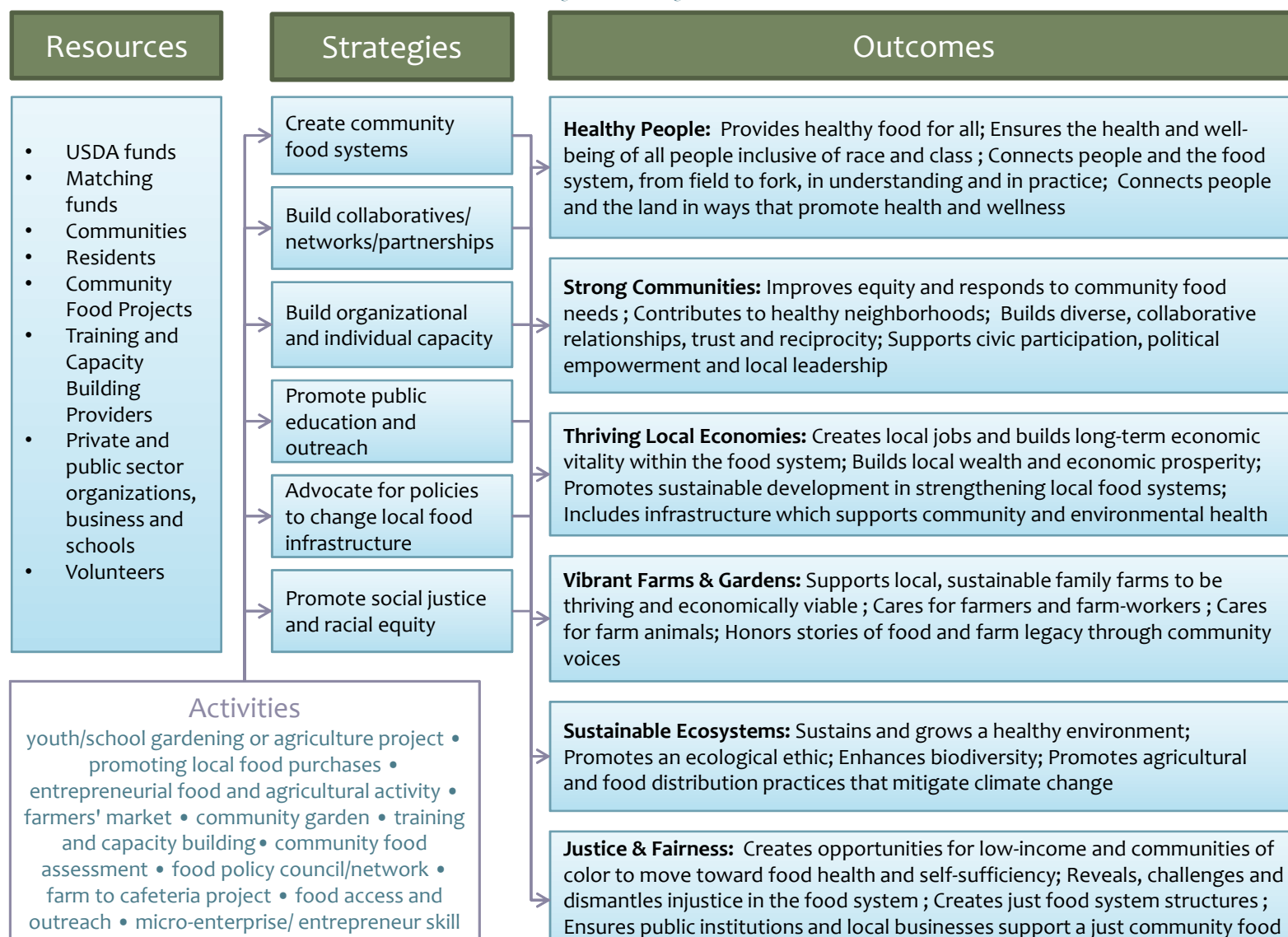
CFP projects also develop linkages between two or more sectors of the food system, support the development of entrepreneurial projects, develop innovative connections between the for-profit and non-profit food sectors, and encourage long-term planning activities and multi-system approaches. These linkages build long-term capacity of communities to address the food and agricultural problems of communities, such as food policy councils and food planning associations.

The following figure presents a logic model that demonstrates the flow of resources and strategies used to achieve the outcomes of the Community Food Project's Competitive Grant Program.

<sup>1</sup> Based on a definition by Mike Hamm and Anne Bellows

<sup>2</sup> Gottlieb, R., & Joshi, A. (2010). *Food Justice*. MIT Press; Cambridge, MA, p. 6.

Figure 12: Logic Model



CFP grants are intended to help eligible private non-profit entities that need a one-time infusion of federal assistance to establish and carry out multipurpose Community Food Projects. Projects are funded from \$10,000-\$300,000 and from one to three years. They are one-time grants that require a 50% match in resources. Approximately 12% of the submitted proposals have received awards during the history of this program. Funds have been authorized through the fiscal year 2012 at \$5 million per year.

### Study Methods

The CFP Indicators of Success (IOS) was created through the collaborative partnership of the Community Food Project Competitive Grants Program (CFPCGP), Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC), National Research Center, Inc. (NRC), and nearly 70 CFP grantee organizations. The CFP IOS reflects a focus on outcomes (e.g., economic and social equity, healthy food access) of CFP grantees and includes a participant survey component, or the Participant Impact Survey (PS). The CFP IOS was designed to report the actual or estimated total number of participants served or the outputs and outcomes achieved during the current fiscal year. The CFP PS measures the self-reported changes in community residents resulting from Community Food Projects. The CFP PS intends to measure the knowledge, attitude and behavior changes of project participants. The CFP IOS is based on the Common Output Tracking Form (COTF), originally developed in 2005 and used through 2009, to capture the activities and outputs of CFP grantees.

At the foundation of the CFP IOS are six core fields of practice that reflect a vision for whole communities seen through the lens of community food system development. These fields include Healthy People, Strong Communities, Thriving Local Economies, Vibrant Farms and Gardens, Sustainable Ecosystems and Justice and Fairness. Developed with input from over one hundred Community Food Projects, these fields are described in *Whole Measures for Community Food Systems* (<http://www.foodsecurity.org/pubs.html#wm>).

The web-based CFP IOS and CFP PS were developed to understand the impacts across Community Food Projects by tracking their most common outputs and outcomes. While not meant to capture the full picture of all that CFP grantees accomplish, these results are intended to provide a shared reporting system for those outcomes that are most easily quantified and that demonstrate the overall productivity of the CFPCGP. The collective results can serve as an important resource for future advocacy and promotion of community food security.

Since fiscal year 2005, the Community Food Projects Staff at the United States Department of Agriculture/ National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA/NIFA, formerly CSREES) have requested that all grantees complete these tracking measures in addition to submitting their required reporting. The CFSC has been funded through a Training and Capacity Building grant to assist CFP grantees in completion of the form and to manage data collection and reporting. Fiscal year 2011 marks the seventh year the data have been collected on CFP grantee activities. Of the 56 grantees funded for fiscal year 2011, 43 completed the CFP IOS providing a response rate of 76%. Over the seven-year reporting period, around 400 grantees were funded through the CFPCGP. Of these, 268 Community Food Projects completed the form – providing annual response rates ranging from 37% to 79% and an overall response rate of 67%. As with IOS, administration of the PS was not mandatory. A total of 32 grantees administered PS to a total of 801 participants in fiscal year 2011.

CFP IOS data submitted by grantees were cleaned, synthesized and statistically weighted by NRC to reflect 100% participation. Data for PS surveys administered by the grantees remain unweighted.

Where the CFP IOS and the previous COTF aligned, the impacts of CFP grantees since fiscal year 2005 are shown in sum. These summative figures contain the notation “FY2005-FY2011” while data for fiscal year 2011 only are designated with “FY2011.”

### Study Limitations

As with every study, there are a number of limitations the reader should keep in mind. The challenges to these data result from 1) non-response bias (grantees who did not complete the form), 2) the nature of self-reported data, and 3) the difficulty that organizations working in multi-sectors often face in tracking participation. To compensate for non-response, the responses of the responding CFPs were statistically weighted to reflect the full percent of active, funded organizations during the fiscal time periods. *Appendix A: Methods* provides more information on the weighting schemes during each reporting period and *Appendix B: Unweighted IOS Results* displays the unweighted data provided by the participating FY2011 grantees.

Despite limitations, CFP IOS provides an efficient method to collect outputs from organizations and programs across the country. This report describes the reach, activities and outcomes of the grant recipients of the Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program (CFPCGP for the fiscal years of 2005 through 2011). This current year plus six year data summary demonstrates the significant impact of Community Food Projects towards increasing community food security across the country.

## The Activities of Community Food Projects

Community Food Projects participate in a myriad of activities, some common and others quite unique (see *Appendix D: Definitions* for complete descriptions). The activities shared by about half or more of grantees in FY2011 included work in the areas of training and capacity building, entrepreneurial food and agricultural activity and youth/school gardening or agricultural projects. About two in five grantees participated in community gardens, food access and outreach, job skills training and farmers' markets and about one in three grantees participated in micro-enterprise/entrepreneur skill training, urban agriculture and local food distribution.

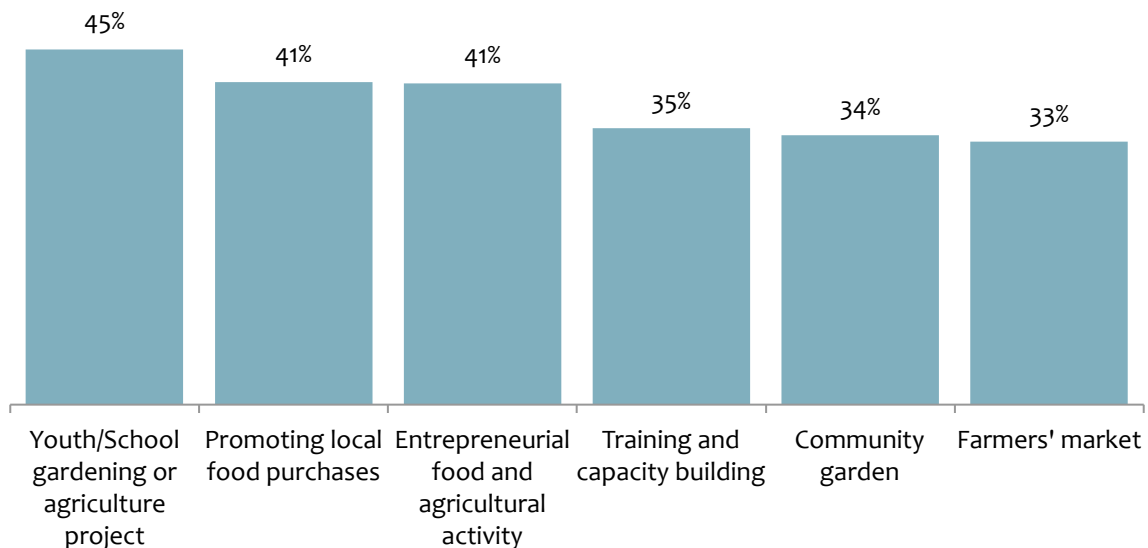
Figure 13: Grantee Activities, FY2011

	Percent
Training and capacity building	53%
Entrepreneurial food and agricultural activity	49%
Youth/School gardening or agriculture project	47%
Nutrition and health education	44%
Community garden	42%
Food access and outreach	42%
Job skills training	42%
Farmers' market	40%
Micro-enterprise/Entrepreneur skill training	35%
Urban agriculture	35%
Local food distribution	33%
Promoting local food purchases	30%
Farm to cafeteria project	26%
Food policy council/network	26%
Community food assessment	19%
Restoration of traditional foods/agriculture	16%
Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program	14%
Emergency food collection and distribution	14%
Planning grants	14%
Farm/Grower cooperative	12%
Community or incubator kitchen/value-added production/processing	9%
Immigrant/Migrant farm project	9%
Food-buying cooperative	5%
Other	12%

Note: Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

Since tracking grantee activities began in FY2005, youth/school gardening or agriculture projects, promoting local food purchases and entrepreneurial food and agricultural activities have been the most common activities among grantees. Compared to previous years, FY2011 saw a decline in the number of grantees participating in emergency food collection and distribution, local food distribution, community food assessments and community or incubator kitchen/value-added production/processing.

Figure 14: Common Grantee Activities, FY2005-FY2011



Activities that saw the greatest growth since tracking began included job skills training (from 17% in FY2005 to 42% in FY2011), community gardens (increase from 21% to 42%), training and capacity building (from 33% to 53%), youth/school gardening or agriculture projects (from 33% to 47%) and urban agriculture (from 21% in FY2009 to 35% in FY2011).

Figure 15: CFP Activities with Highest Growth, FY2005-FY2011

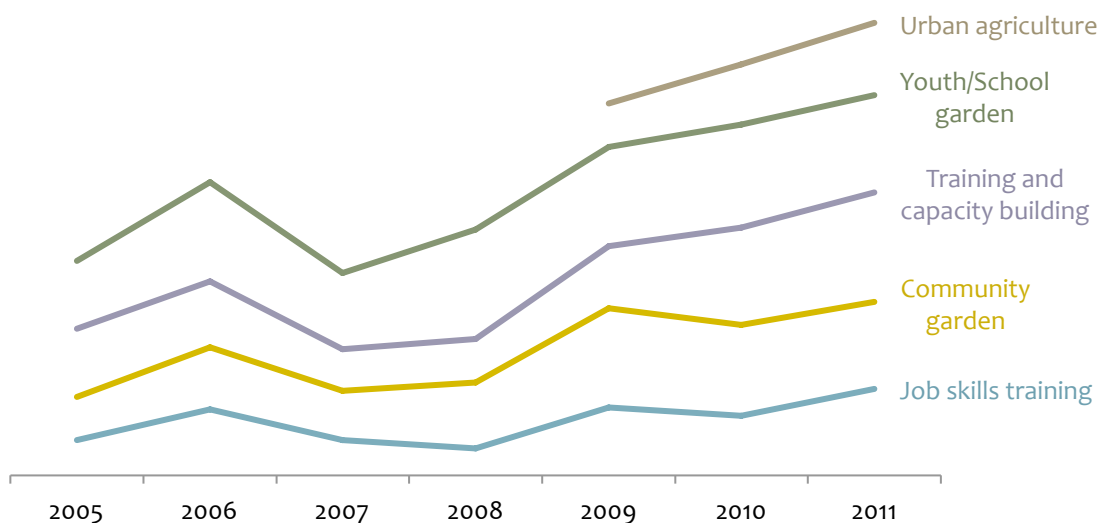


Figure 16: Grantee Activities, FY2005-FY2011

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall	Change since tracking started
Training and capacity building	53%	47%	30%	21%	20%	32%	33%	35%	+20%
Entrepreneurial food and agricultural activity	49%	50%	33%	32%	39%	34%	42%	41%	+7%
Youth/School gardening or agriculture project	47%	50%	48%	53%	37%	48%	33%	45%	+14%
Nutrition and health education	44%	41%	.	.	.	.	.	15%	+3%
Job skills training	42%	29%	33%	13%	17%	32%	17%	27%	+25%
Community garden	42%	44%	48%	32%	24%	30%	21%	34%	+21%
Food access and outreach	42%	62%	33%	24%	22%	36%	.	32%	+6%
Farmers' market	40%	35%	30%	24%	30%	38%	33%	33%	+7%
Urban agriculture	35%	29%	21%	.	.	.	.	13%	+14%
Micro-enterprise/Entrepreneur skill training	35%	38%	12%	16%	17%	32%	29%	27%	+6%
Local food distribution	33%	47%	.	.	.	.	.	14%	-14%
Promoting local food purchases	30%	47%	42%	32%	41%	50%	46%	41%	-16%
Farm to cafeteria project	26%	9%	15%	13%	20%	38%	25%	21%	+1%
Food policy council/network	26%	15%	21%	18%	17%	36%	33%	24%	-7%
Community food assessment	19%	15%	21%	21%	24%	32%	33%	23%	-14%
Restoration of traditional foods/agriculture	16%	18%	15%	8%	4%	18%	21%	14%	-5%
Planning grants	14%	3%	9%	18%	15%	.	.	9%	-1%
Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program	14%	12%	21%	11%	17%	28%	17%	17%	-3%
Emergency food collection and distribution	14%	6%	9%	16%	15%	26%	.	12%	-12%
Farm/Grower cooperative	12%	12%	9%	24%	20%	26%	12%	16%	--
Immigrant/Migrant farm project	9%	9%	3%	8%	7%	14%	12%	9%	-3%
Community or incubator kitchen/value-added production/processing	9%	9%	15%	16%	11%	20%	25%	15%	-16%
Food-buying cooperative	5%	0%	3%	3%	7%	10%	8%	5%	-3%
Other	12%	21%	.	.	.	.	.	6%	-9%

Note: Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. Cells containing "." indicate the item was not available as a response option during that year's data collection.

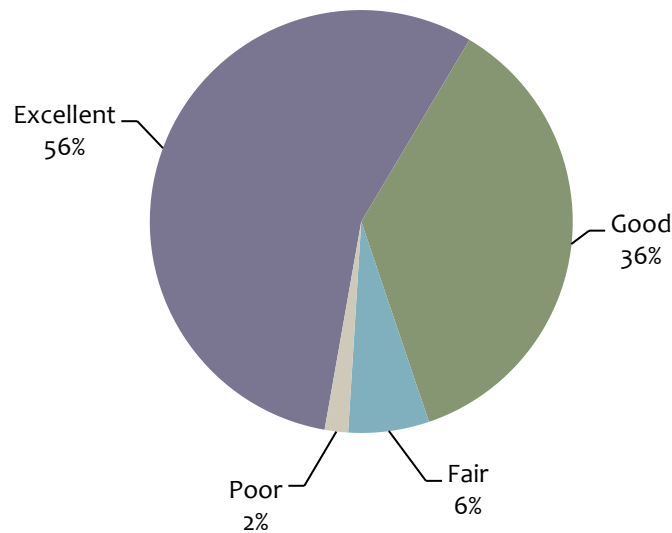


### CFP Participants' Experience in CFP Programs

According to PS survey results, participants had been involved with CFP programs for about 1 year on average, and when asked to rate their overall experience in their program, 9 in 10 participants had excellent or good experiences.

Figure 17: Overall Experience in CFP Programs, FY2011

How would you rate your overall experience participating in this program? (N=615)



## Indicators of Success

The CFP IOS framework is based on the fields of practice from Whole Measures for Community Food Systems: Values-Based Planning and Evaluation (Whole Measures CFS). The six fields include: Healthy People, Strong Communities, Thriving Local Economies, Vibrant Farms and Gardens, Sustainable Ecosystems and Justice and Fairness. Together, these fields of practice comprise a vision for a whole community food system as articulated with input from over a hundred Community Food Projects. The data collected from grantees has been organized into the field that most closely relates. A description of each outcome category as defined by Whole Measures CFS is presented at the head of each section to provide context for the data.

As with all systems, however, their functions are overlapping and many data/impacts support more than one field of practice. Because Justice and Fairness is a foundational practice for creating a whole community food system, the indicators for this field are intertwined within the other five fields. Thus, for the purposes of this report, the indicators of Justice and Fairness are included throughout the other five fields and only highlighted under Justice and Fairness.



Rod Kass and Marta Abril of Comiendo Sano/Eating Healthy, Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc., Elfrida, Arizona.

## Healthy People

*Community and individual health includes our physical, social, mental, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing. All of these dimensions are intrinsically connected to food and food systems. For example, engaging with community members at farmers' markets promotes our social connectedness. Learning to prepare our own food contributes to our mental development and enhances our resiliency. Growing food helps develop our physical and spiritual awareness as we connect to larger natural systems. Whole communities need whole people and community food systems that increase access to healthy food while also cultivating broader dimensions of health. – Whole Measures for Community Food Systems: Values-based Planning and Evaluation*

## Food Generated and Handled

At the foundation of changes to the people, economy, land, and environment brought by these Community Food Projects, is the food itself. The grantees have grown, handled, and contributed vast quantities of fresh, locally grown produce. They have also affected system change by advocating for policies that change the local food infrastructure, promoting public education and outreach and building the capacity of organizations and individuals. Many in American society have an abundance of food. Yet as a nation, we are still challenged with hunger and obesity making the importance of healthy food all the more significant. Community Food Projects almost universally use sustainable farming practices, incorporate education and training and work to empower the individuals involved with the growing of food. Therefore, understanding the volume of the food generated and handled in this context is essential to grasping the breadth of their success.

The CFPs active in FY2011 are estimated to have generated and handled almost 1.5 million pounds of food. Of these 1.5 million pounds of food, grantees sold 573,000 pounds, distributed 560,000 pounds and composted 230,000 pounds. Since FY2005, grantees have generated an estimated 21.6 million pounds of food, of which 6.9 million was sold and 6.4 million was distributed.

Figure 18: Methods Used to Generate Food (in Pounds), FY2011

	Total	Average
Total food generated	1,520,588	36,487
Produced (grown by program and participants)	847,037	23,229
Purchased or procured (obtained from sources outside the program at a cost)	479,373	33,463
Collected or gleaned (obtained from sources outside the program at no cost)	185,531	35,615
Otherwise generated	8,647	3,320

Figure 19: Methods Used to Generate Food (in Pounds), FY2005-FY2011

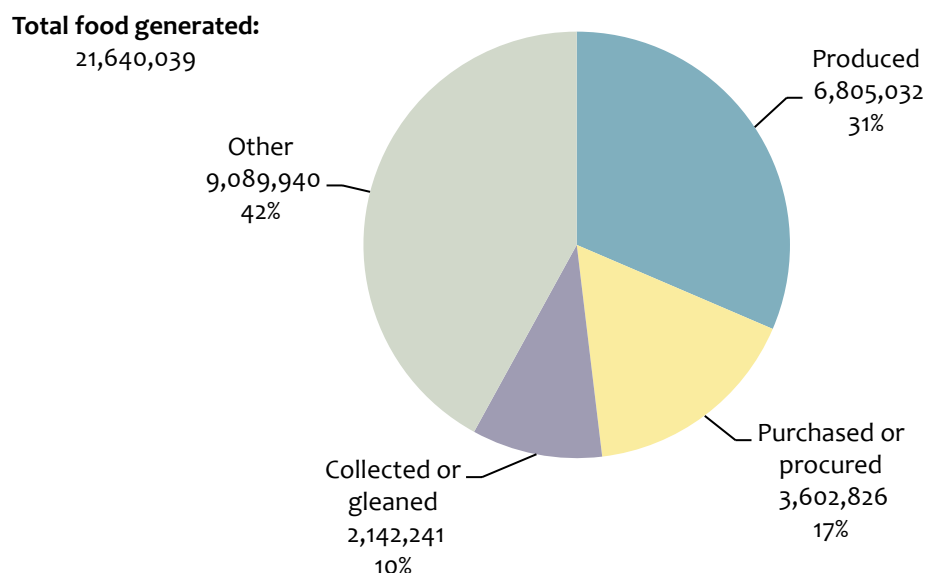


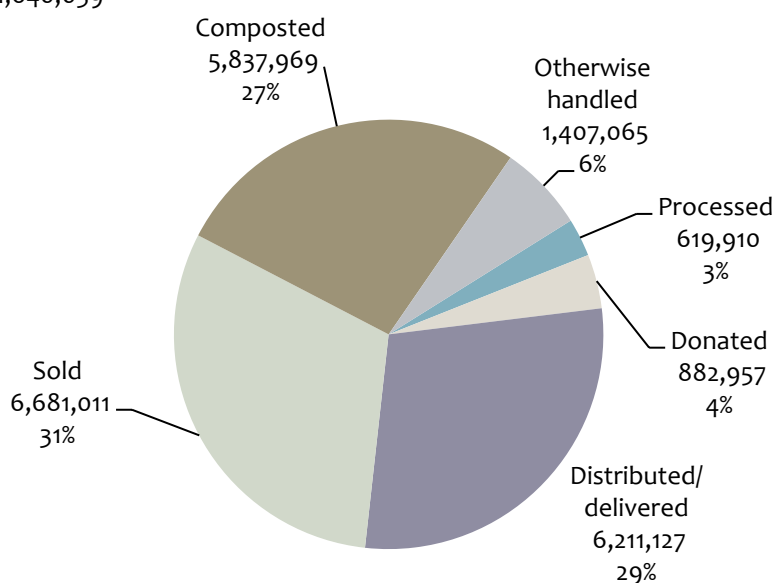
Figure 20: Methods Used to Handle Food (in Pounds), FY2011

	Total	Average
Total food handled	1,520,588	36,487
Processed (made into meals or food products)	156,050	5,991
Donated (to organizations for free)	76,436	3,261
Distributed/delivered (to individuals for free)	358,946	13,781
Sold (to individuals or organizations for money/income)	572,891	18,329
Composted (converted to fertilizer)	234,062	10,572
Otherwise handled	122,204	11,729

Figure 21: Methods Used to Handle Food (in Pounds), FY2005-FY2011

Total food handled:

21,640,039



### People Fed by Community Food Projects

A significant number of people received local, fresh food from community food project work, and according to PS survey results, about one-third of CFP participants were unable to afford enough food to eat and half were unable to afford enough of the kinds of food they wanted to eat. About 181,000 people are estimated to have received healthy food as a result of the CFPCGP during FY2011. Of the 181,000 customers or food recipients, an estimated 9,600 SNAP participants, 3,300 Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) participants and 1,900 Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) participants received food. Additionally, about 54,000 youth received about 1.9 million meals during FY2011.

Grantees have served about 2.8 million customers and food recipients since FY2005, with youth being the majority of these customers (1.8 million). WIC, SNAP, SFMNP and FMNP participants comprised about 340,000 of the customers and food recipients served between FY2005 and FY2011.

Figure 22: Food Security Issues Faced by Household within Last 30 Days, FY2011

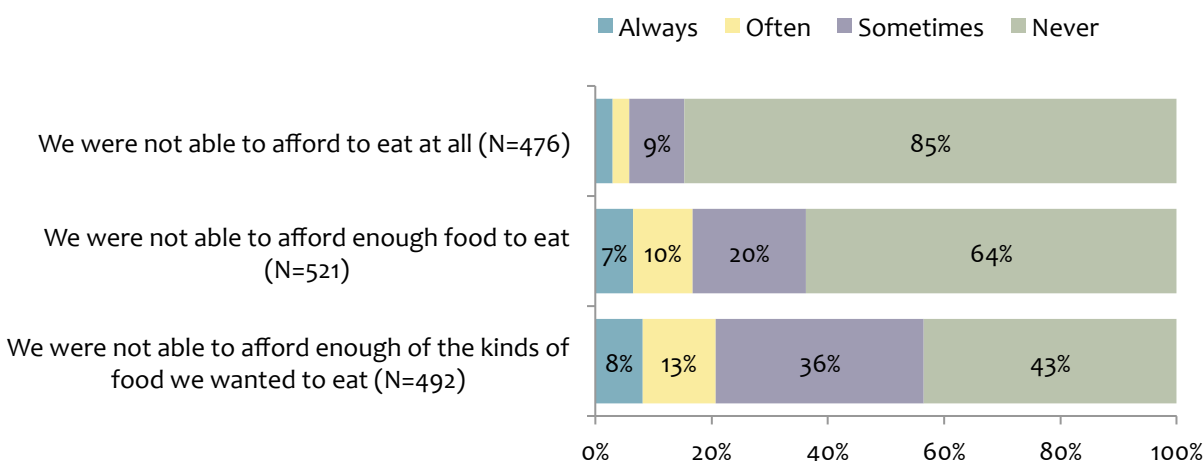
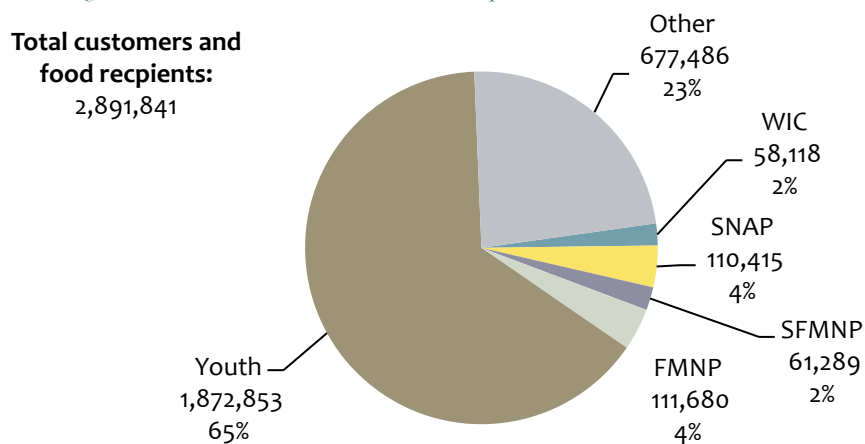


Figure 23: Customer and Food Recipients, FY2011

	Total	Average
Total number of customers or food recipients	181,426	4,494
a) Number of WIC recipients	5,487	281
b) Number of SNAP (food stamp) recipients	9,659	494
c) Number of Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) recipients	3,283	280
d) Number of Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) participants	1,894	208
e) Number of school or summer youth meal recipients	54,076	3,194
- Number of meals served to students/youth	1,931,352	123,584
f) Number of other customers or food recipients	107,026	2,935
Number of schools buying local produce (new starts or those ongoing)	193	19

Figure 24: Customer and Food Recipients Overall, FY2005-FY2011



Customers and food recipients varied in age, race and ethnicity, and most resided in low-income areas. In FY2011, about 70% of projects served food stamp recipients, about 60% served WIC recipients and about 60% worked with underserved or socially disadvantaged farmers. Fewer grantees in FY2011 reported working with college age adults than in previous years. The racial and ethnic compositions of the populations served have remained consistent and diverse since 2005.

Figure 25: Special Populations Served, FY2005-FY2011

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
Indian nations, reservations	29%	24%	29%	22%	26%	34%	32%	28%
Head Start	27%	21%	32%	41%	36%	30%	52%	34%
Underserved or socially disadvantaged farmers	59%	44%	48%	49%	52%	66%	68%	55%
WIC recipients	63%	62%	71%	76%	64%	64%	0%	57%
SNAP (food stamp) recipients	71%	71%	77%	80%	74%	72%	92%	77%
Low-income areas or neighborhoods	98%	91%	90%	95%	95%	94%	16%	83%
Other	29%	24%	97%	100%	98%	100%	92%	73%

Note: Totals may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

Figure 26: Age of Populations Served, FY2005-FY2011

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
Infants (birth - 2)	<b>29%</b>	29%	29%	34%	38%	35%	24%	31%
Children (3-12)	<b>63%</b>	59%	81%	78%	67%	67%	52%	66%
Teens (13-18)	<b>76%</b>	82%	94%	85%	81%	75%	68%	79%
College age (19-22)	<b>78%</b>	85%	90%	90%	86%	83%	80%	84%
Adults (20-54)	<b>100%</b>	100%	97%	98%	98%	98%	96%	98%
Seniors (55+)	<b>85%</b>	91%	90%	95%	90%	92%	84%	90%

Note: Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

Figure 27: Race of Populations Served, FY2005-FY2011

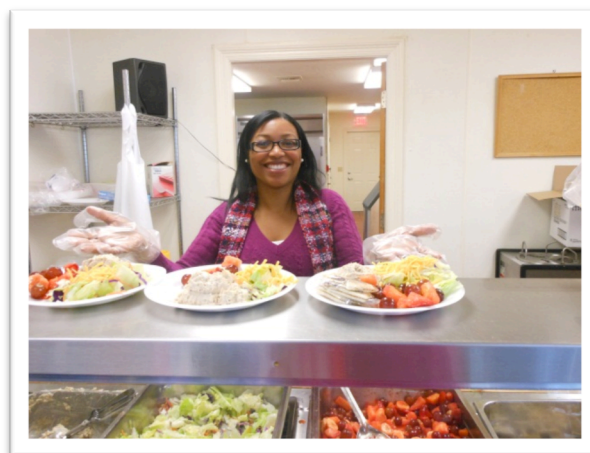
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
American Indian/Eskimo/Aleut	<b>61%</b>	44%	60%	50%	52%	70%	56%	55%
Asian or Pacific Islander	<b>56%</b>	53%	60%	55%	71%	72%	72%	62%
Black or African-American	<b>80%</b>	76%	77%	77%	88%	85%	92%	82%
Hispanic or Latino	<b>80%</b>	76%	77%	82%	90%	83%	92%	83%
White or Caucasian	<b>98%</b>	97%	93%	95%	98%	96%	100%	97%
Bi-racial or Multi-racial	<b>83%</b>	91%	87%	82%	83%	87%	92%	87%
Other	<b>17%</b>	29%	37%	33%	38%	43%	24%	31%

Note: Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

## Changes in Participants Lives as a Result of CFPs

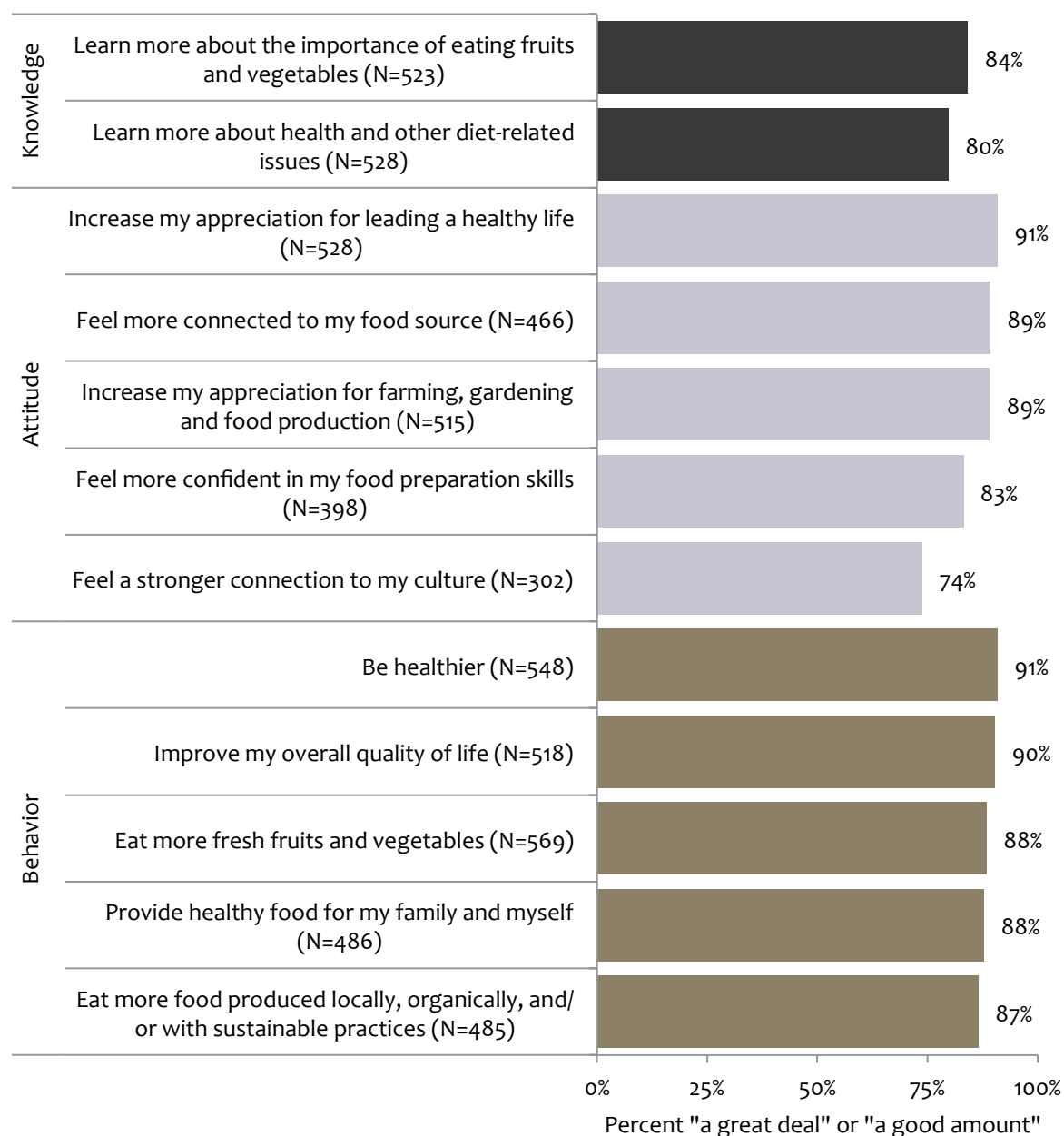
When asked how Community Food Projects had changed their lives, participants reported significant changes in the areas of health. Nine in 10 program participants reported being healthier and eating more fruits and vegetables.

Participants reported significant attitudinal and knowledge changes, as well. They increased their knowledge in the areas of benefits of fruit and vegetable consumption and overall health and diet. They reported stronger connections to their food source and increased appreciation for living a healthy lifestyle. Ninety percent reported that the quality of their lives had improved a “great amount” or a “good deal” as result of participating in the program.



Alisia Hansell, Fresh Thinking Project Coordinator, serves salads to clubhouse consumers at an Appreciation for Good Health Luncheon. Fresh Thinking Project, Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources, Hattiesburg, MS.

Figure 28: CFP Participant Survey Results for Healthy People, FY2011





## Strong Communities

*Food can be a common and unifying force socially, culturally, and spiritually. A strong food system builds strong communities across class, race, age, education, and other social categories. Cultivating leadership from within a community and forging relationships based on characteristics such as trust, respect, and transparency can strengthen resilience, build capacity and enhance engagement for change toward a shared vision of whole community.*

An integral component of community food security is to empower and strengthen communities to increase the quality of life of their inhabitants. As a result, a strong community is also just and fair. While comprising separate fields in the *Whole Measures for Community Food Systems*, the changes in participants' lives that relate to Justice and Fairness are reported within Strong Communities to demonstrate their inherent linkages and interconnectedness.

### Food Policy Councils, Networks, Community Food Assessments and People

Strategies often used by CFPs to strengthen communities focus on building collaboratives, policy advocacy and the creation of community food systems. Projects also seek to strengthen communities through capacity building (organizational and individual) and public education and outreach. CFPs were involved in many activities that worked towards creating systematic changes in the food system. Conducting needs assessments, forming community collaboratives to address

shared community needs and policy advocacy are key activities chosen by CFPs to create systematic changes to local food systems. CFPs work to create empowered and competent communities through strategic partnership of community organizations and individuals. Whether large or small, well-endowed or under-funded, these food councils or networks work together to solve community food issues through collaborative problem solving, multi-sector cooperation, public education, and policy advocacy.



Elementary students proudly display the pumpkins they grew in the Dayton, Nevada Elementary School Garden. Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon and Storey Counties, Dayton, NV. Photo courtesy Wendy Madson.

Often, CFPs conduct a community food assessment (CFA) as a community-wide study to aid their effort. CFAs identify what is happening with food in a community, including both strengths and weaknesses. Often, a CFA will use a variety of data collection methods to compile general community characteristics, community

food resources, food resource accessibility, food availability and affordability and community food production resources. Through such assessments, a diverse set of stakeholders work together to research their local food system and mobilize efforts to improve the system. Grantees completed a total of 672 CFAs since FY2005, with 208 of these occurring in FY2011. About 65,000 volunteers have worked about 230,000 hours with grantees since FY2005. FY2011 alone saw 11,000 volunteers contribute 120,000 hours. (Note that the number of volunteers has been tracked since FY2005, but the number of volunteer hours has been tracked since FY2010).

Policy advocacy is an activity commonly undertaken by CFPs to create systematic change to community food systems. The principal aims of food policy advocacy are to develop, introduce, reform, and implement policies that allow communities to provide healthy food accessible to all residents. The advocacy occurs at multiple levels –institutional/organizational, local, and state.

An estimated 23 food policy councils and networks were formed through USDA funding in FY2011, bringing the total number of councils and networks up to about 90 since FY2005. About 280 organizations were represented on these councils in FY2011. The 23 food policy councils/networks enacted 29 food policies in FY2011. A total of 269 food policies have been implemented by the CFPs over the past seven years, affecting 42 million people.

Although many of the elements of justice and fairness are difficult to quantify at a system or individual level, grantees reported on a number of indicators that may suggest communities and their food systems are taking steps to improve issues of equity. In FY2011, an estimated 1,468 residents of color served on food policy councils and/or performed community leadership roles as a result of CFP work. More than 60% of food policy council members and participants in leadership roles were people of color.

Figure 29: Food Policy Councils, Networks, Community Food Assessments and People, FY2011

	Total	Average
Number of food policy councils/networks formed or operated	23	1
Number of organizations represented on the council(s) or network(s)	281	15
Number of community members on the council(s) or network(s) and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community	2,336	53
Number of community members on the council(s) or network(s) and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community who are people of color (percent of all members)	1,262 (41%)	33
Number of youth participants (under age 18) assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in community (percent of all members)*	942 (45%)	38
Total number of policies approved	29	2
Number of participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community	1,799	41
Number of residents affected by policies	3,331,777	365,476
Total number of community food assessment completed	208	18
Number of residents living in regions covered by assessments (in millions)	28,653,674	2,000,175
Total number of partners that are organizations/groups (e.g., schools, churches, government, hospitals, community-based organizations, small businesses and micro-enterprises)	1,031	19
- Number of the people above who worked on community food assessments	688	41
Total number of volunteers	11,347	249
- Number of volunteer hours	119,953	2,783
Total number of participants	48,413	929
- Number of youth participants (percent of all participants)	22,976 (52%)	551
- Number of participants in all training programs (percent of all participants)*	10,316 (58%)	293
- Number of participants who received one-on-one technical assistance (percent of all participants)*	1,473 (18%)	45

\* Added FY2011

Figure 30: Food Policy Councils, Networks, Community Food Assessments and People, FY2005-FY2011

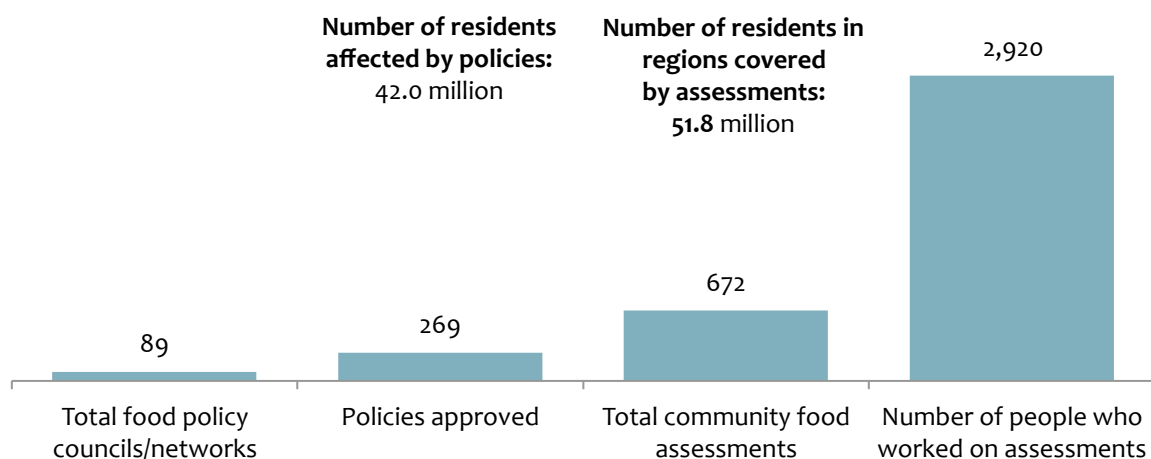


Figure 31: Food Policy Councils, Networks and Community Food Assessments, FY2005-FY2011

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
Number of food policy councils/networks formed or operated	23	26	1	3	8	10	16	89
Number of organizations represented on the council(s) or network(s)	281	329	38	51	272	202	.	1,173
Number of community members on the council(s) or network(s) and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community	2,336	2,099	164	404	753	1,117	.	6,873
Number of community members on the council(s) or network(s) and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community who are people of color (percent of all members)	1,262 (41%)	1,165 (55%)	.	.	.	.	.	2,633 (42%)
Number of youth participants (under age 18) assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in community (percent of all members)*	942 (45%)							942 (45%)
Total number of policies approved	29	57	20	15	79	60	8	269
Number of residents affected by policies (in millions)	3.3	5.4	5.9	14.2	3.6	9.7	.	42.0
Total number of community food assessment completed	208	105	6	17	327	8	.	672
Number of residents living in	28.7	7.7	.2	.9	8.0	6.3	.	51.8

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
regions covered by assessments (in millions)								
Total number of partners that are organizations/groups (e.g., schools, churches, government, hospitals, community-based organizations, small businesses and micro-enterprises)	<b>1,031</b>	1,918	.	.	.	.	.	2,949
- Number of the people above who worked on community food assessments	<b>688</b>	565	113	335	347	872	.	2,920
Total number of volunteers	<b>11,347</b>	7,404	10,710	16,488	11,873	3,498	4,041	65,361
- Number of volunteer hours	<b>119,593</b>	111,089	.	.	.	.	.	230,682
Total number of participants	<b>48,413</b>	68,359	107,337	254,706	186,299	107,073	13,636	785,823
- Number of youth participants (percent of all participants)	<b>22,976 (52%)</b>	27,295 (40%)	.	.	.	.	.	50,270 (6%)
- Number of participants in all training programs (percent of all participants)*	<b>10,316 (58%)</b>	.	.	.	.	.	.	10,316 (58%)
- Number of participants who received one-on-one technical assistance (percent of all participants)*	<b>1,473 (18%)</b>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,473 (18%)

\* Added FY2011

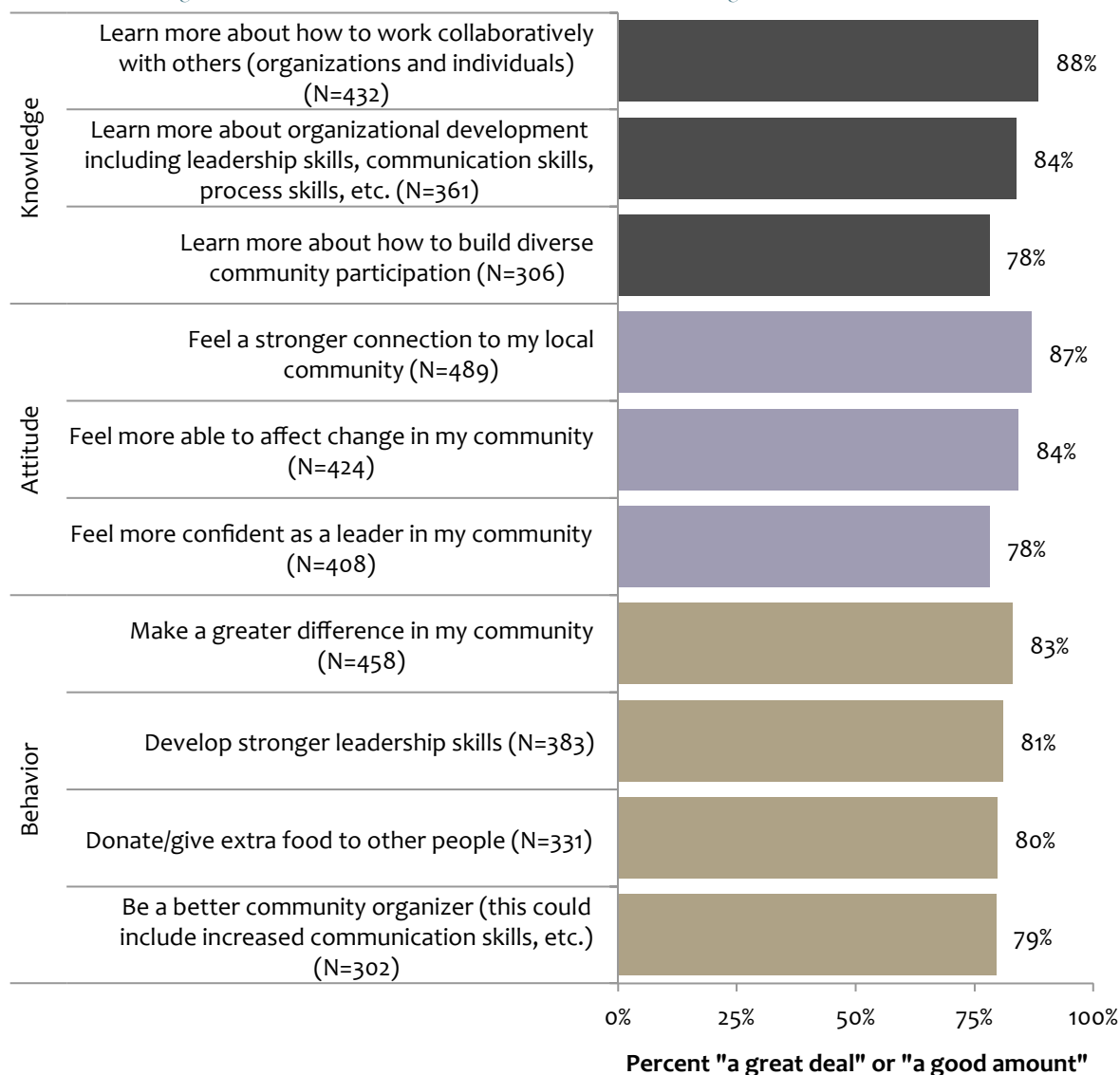


Clubhouse consumers participate in Zumba at the Fresh Thinking Knowledge Dissemination Conference. Fresh Thinking Project, Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources, Hattiesburg, MS.

### Changes in Participants Lives as a Result of CFPs

The various activities that strengthen community capacity led many CFP participants to feel a stronger connection to their local community; 87% reported feeling this way (“a great deal” or “a good amount”) as a result of their participation. About 8 in 10 participants reported developing stronger leadership skills and felt more confident as a leader in their communities. Almost 9 in 10 participants reported having learned more about how to work collaboratively with others.

Figure 32: Individual/Resident Indicators of Strong Communities, FY2011



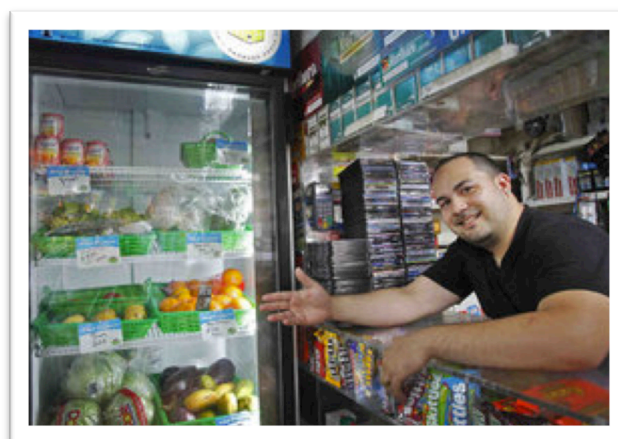


## Thriving Local Economies

*Thriving local economies depend upon the ecological integrity of the earth, its ecosystems, and species living within those ecosystems. Thriving local economies form decisions that ensure the wellbeing of future generations. They account for hidden costs in decision-making and work to build systems that regenerate output (wastes) into input (resources). Thriving local economies may utilize decentralized, participatory, and democratic processes designed to be informed by diverse community members and based upon a community's assets. – Whole Measures for Community Food Systems: Values-based Planning and Evaluation*

### Economic Impact of CFPs

One of the defining elements of community food security work is its emphasis on facilitating community self-reliance. CFPs actively pursue and build collaboratives, networks and partnerships to grow a community's capacity and reinforce the societal and economic connections that form a true and just community. Food security programs help to keep family farms in business and they keep farmers current with the latest information about efficient agriculture and the business of farming. Grantees create small businesses that rely on local suppliers and neighborhood consumers whose payrolls and purchases keep money in the community. The value of "buy local" is understood by everyday people across America, in no small part, because of the message spread by food projects.



Robles Grocery received a customized mini-conversion, which allowed the store to greatly expand their inventory of fresh produce and other healthy products. Healthy Corner Store Initiative, The Food Trust, Philadelphia, PA.

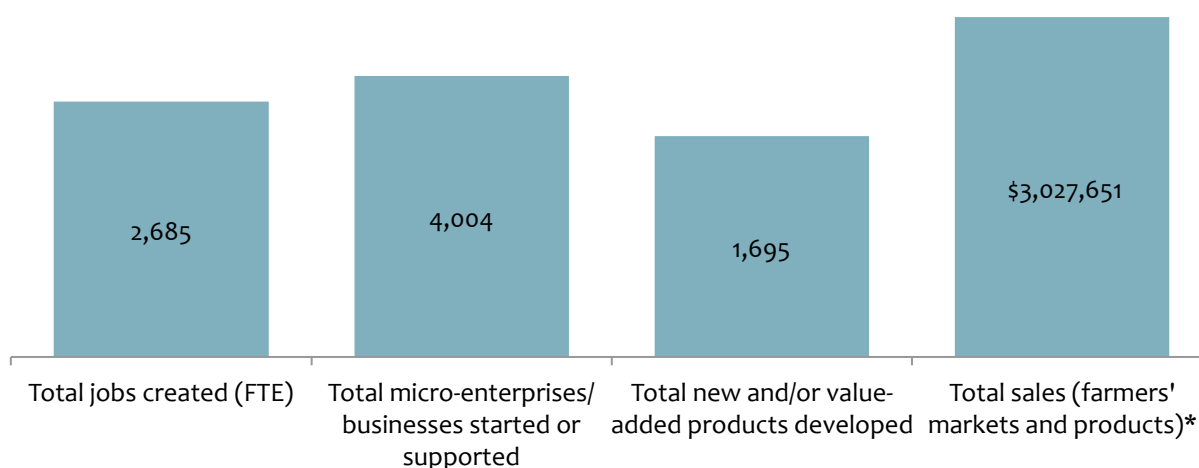
Despite current economic struggles, CFPs created 105 FTE jobs in FY2011 (down from 240 in FY2010) and started or supported 155 micro-enterprises/businesses. Also in the past year, CFPs operated 79 farmers' markets, which made almost \$1.3 million in sales. Grantees also developed 56 value-added products that generated about \$53,000. Since FY2005, CFPs have created almost 2,700 jobs and started or supported over 4,000 micro-enterprises/businesses.

Figure 33: Thriving Local Economies, FY2011

	Total	Average
Total number of participants	48,413	929
Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs created	105	4
Number of micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or supported	155	5
Number of farmers markets started or operated	79	4
- Total sales of local food (e.g., farmers' markets, CSAs, neighborhood stores, etc.)	\$1,284,490	\$51,911
Number of new and/or value-added products developed	56	4
- Total sales of new and/or value-added products	\$53,050	\$5,819
Number of farms started or built on/developed*	104	6

\* Added FY2011

Figure 34: Jobs, Businesses and Sales, FY2005-FY2011



\* Added in 2010.

Figure 35: Thriving Local Economies, FY2005-FY2011

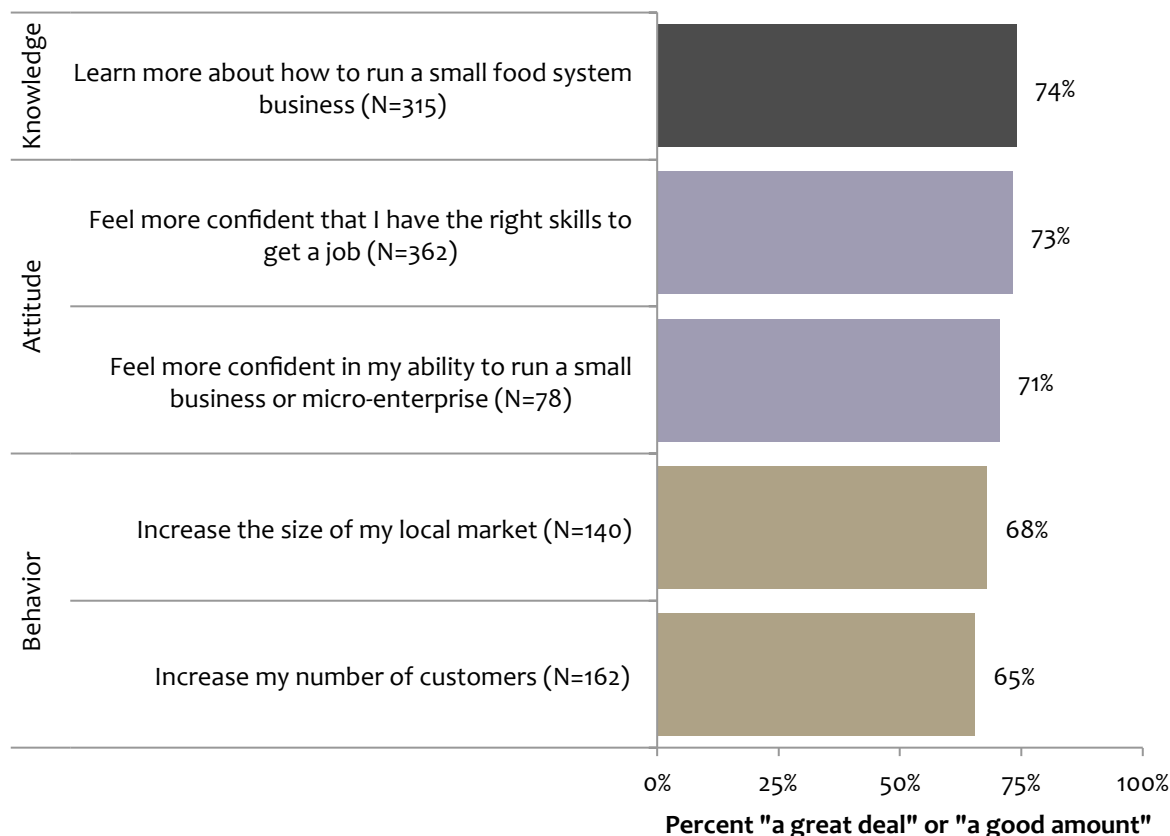
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
Total number of participants	48,413	68,359	107,337	254,706	186,299	107,073	13,636	785,823
Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs created	105	240	467	344	262	359	907	2,685
Number of micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or supported	155	255	784	544	198	703	1,365	4,004
Number of farmers markets started or operated	79	91	.	.	.	.	.	170
- Total sales of local food (e.g., farmers' markets, CSAs, neighborhood stores, etc.)	\$1,284,490	\$1,682,110	\$.	\$.	\$.	\$.	\$.	\$2,966,600
Number of new and/or value-added products developed	56	548	206	65	190	316	314	1,695
- Total sales of new and/or value-added products	\$53,050	\$8,005	\$.	\$.	\$.	\$.	\$.	\$61,054
Number of farms started or built on/developed	104	.	.	.	.	.	.	104

\* Added FY2011

### Changes in Participants Lives as a Result of CFPs

Participants in CFPs' activities reported the gains in their knowledge about running a small business and increasing their customer base and market size. Additional economic gains for participants are reflected in the Vibrant Farms and Garden section found on page 33 (i.e., diversify farm products and increase income from farming/gardening) and in the Sustainable Ecosystems section found on page 37 (i.e., increased confidence in farming/gardening skills and improve the way in which food grown is distributed).

Figure 36: Individual/Resident Indicators of Thriving Economies, FY2011





## Vibrant Farms and Gardens

*Vibrant farms are central to the health and vitality of community-based food systems. While diverse in scale, methods, crops and markets, farms that contribute whole communities often embody practices that eliminate or minimize pesticides, support biodiversity, promote humane treatment of animals, and provide safe, just working conditions. Vibrant farms are often “local farms” that shorten the gap between farmer and consumer and actively contribute to sustaining and revitalizing regional food systems and economies. The continuation of traditional farms and practices, multigenerational family farms, and support for young farmers and immigrant farmers are essential to the future of farming, and food for all. – Whole Measures for Community Food Systems: Values-based Planning and Evaluation*

### Farms, Gardens and Land

Farmland is decreasing rapidly in its availability. The protection of these lands and their supporting agriculture provides food security, clean drinking water, flood mitigation, food and cover for wildlife, open space, jobs and economic stability. Community gardens also provide the benefit of community food security while increasing social connections, neighborhood beautification and safety and opportunities for healthy living for residents. These benefits are the result of CFPs advocating for policy changes that support the local food infrastructure and support the sustainable farming practices used in the community. Education and outreach are key components of this advocacy as the knowledge bestowed upon the community enables these changes.

About 250 acres of land were farmed or gardened by CFPs in FY2011, with an estimated total of 58,000 acres farmed as part of the Community Food Project work since FY2005. In FY2011, grantees worked with 1,100 farmers, and about one-third of these farmers (340) participated in farmers’ markets. An additional 8,500 gardeners worked 580 gardens as a part of CFPs activities. All told, CFPs have touched almost 15,000 farmers and 37,000 gardeners since FY2005. Additionally, CFPs were able to enact 5 policies that supported small- and mid-scale farmers in the past year.



Student interns developed and maintained an organic community garden and taught elementary students more about growing vegetables in the school gardens. Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon and Storey Counties, Dayton, NV. Photo courtesy Wendy Madson.

Figure 37: Vibrant Farms and Gardens, FY2011

	Total	Average
Number of participants who are farmers (percent of all participants)	1,102 (17%)	31
- Number of farmers participating in farmers' markets	340	14
Number of participants who are gardeners (percent of all participants)	8,476 (31%)	210
Amount of land farmed or gardened by project (acres)	251	7
Number of gardens operated on land	580	16
Number of garden plots available within these gardens	2,235	78
Number of policies approved that support small and mid scale farmers (percent of all policies)	5 (100%)	1
Number of policies approved to increase equitable employment practices for farm workers (percent of all policies)	4 (100%)	2
Number of policies approved to increase the health and safety for food system workers (percent of all policies)	0 (0%)	0

Figure 38: Farmers, Gardeners and Farmland, FY2005-FY2011

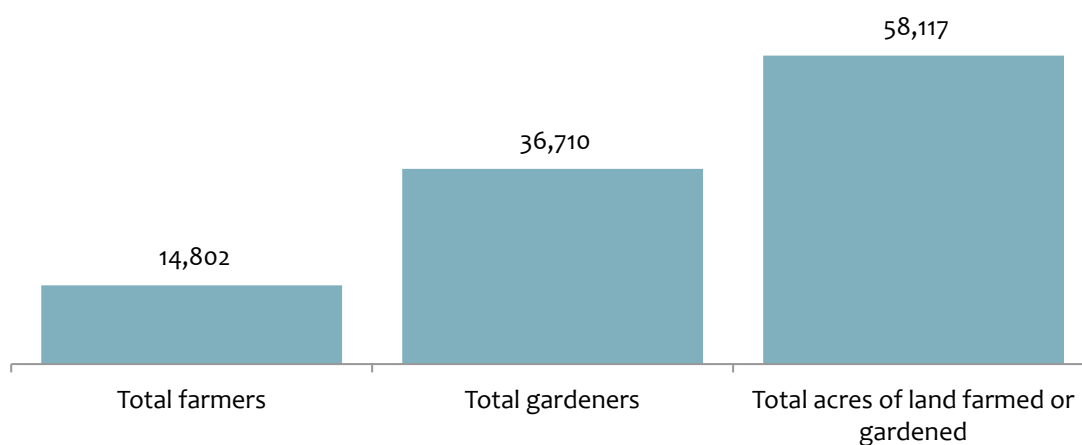


Figure 39: Vibrant Farms and Gardens, FY2005-FY2011

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
Number of participants who are farmers (percent of all participants)	<b>1,102</b> <b>(17%)</b>	3,004 (23%)	864 (2%)	1,411 (6%)	2,094 (11%)	3,180 (14%)	3,147 (45%)	14,802 (17%)
- Number of farmers participating in farmers' markets*	<b>340</b>	2,511	.	.	.	.	.	2,851
Number of participants who are gardeners (percent of all participants)	<b>8,476</b> <b>(31%)</b>	4,393 (33%)	6,045 (23%)	4,906 (11%)	3,059 (14%)	660 (67%)	3,272 (79%)	36,710 (36%)
Amount of land farmed or gardened by project (acres)	<b>251</b>	1,872	1,347	28,699	1,165	19,667	5,117	58,117
Number of gardens operated on land	<b>580</b>	865	1,086	693	350	229	119	3,921
Number of garden plots available within these gardens	<b>2,235</b>	3,502	2,380	2,335	2,161	1,197	1,108	14,918
Number of policies approved that support small- and mid-scale farmers (percent of all policies)*	<b>5</b> <b>(100%)</b>	43 (50%)	.	.	.	.	.	48 (20%)
Number of policies approved to increase equitable employment practices for farm workers (percent of all policies)*	<b>4</b> <b>(100%)</b>	0 (0%)	.	.	.	.	.	4 (5%)
Number of policies approved to increase the health and safety for food system workers (percent of policies)*	<b>0</b> <b>(0%)</b>	0 (0%)	.	.	.	.	.	0 (0%)

\* Added in 2010.



Neighborhood kids relax and enjoy summer harvest. Common Good City Farm, Alexandria, VA.

### Changes in Participants Lives as a Result of CFPs

Participants in CFPs' activities reported gaining new farming and/or gardening skills; about four in five reported the CFP programs helped them a "great deal" or a "good amount." In terms of their behaviors, about three-quarters felt they were better equipped to diversify their farm products and about half felt they could make a living in agriculture or increase their incomes from farming or gardening. Additional gains for vibrant farms and gardens are reflected in the Thriving Economies section found on page 32 (i.e., increased size of my local market) and in the Sustainable Ecosystems section found on page 37 (i.e., number of community kitchens built or on farm structures).

Figure 40: Individual/Resident Indicators of Vibrant Farms and Gardens, FY2011



## Sustainable Ecosystems

*Sustainable, balanced ecosystems are built upon interdependent relationships, depend upon clean air and water and healthy soil, and provide the foundation for all life. Developing whole communities and strong and just food systems means honoring this interdependence and enhancing ecological integrity through our actions. A sustainable food system depends upon a sustainable ecosystem and produces, processes, and distributes food in a way that supports and enhances rather than destroys ecological systems. – Whole Measures For Community Food Systems: Values-based Planning and Evaluation*

## Local Produce

Using such strategies as promoting public education and outreach, building capacity and establishing collaborative and partnerships, CFPs preserved 4 acres of land in FY2011 (down from 57 acres in FY2010). Since 2005, grantees have preserved 3,000 acres of land. Almost one-quarter (225) of the total 920 restaurants/distributors/stores buying local food were acquired in FY2011, and an additional 190 schools began buying local as well (up from 60 in FY2010). In sum, 2,900 schools have bought food from CFPs. Also during FY2011, grantees renovated or modified over 200 businesses to include local, healthy food and constructed 240 agriculture structures (e.g., greenhouses and chicken coops).



Nicolas and Norma sell their produce at the Forest Grove Farmers Market. Adelante Mujeres, Forest Grove, OR. Photo courtesy Shawn Linehan.

Figure 41: Sustainable Ecosystems, FY2011

	Total	Average
Land preserved (acres)	4	2
Number of gardens worked that use organic and/or sustainable agricultural practices (percent of all gardens)*	293 (97%)	9
Number of restaurants/distributors/stores buying local (new starts or those ongoing)	225	8
Number of schools buying local produce (new starts or those ongoing)	193	19
Number of businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy foods (new starts or those ongoing)	210	23
Number of agricultural structures built (e.g., greenhouses, chicken coops, etc.)	240	11
Number of community kitchens built or significantly modified/enhanced	7	1

\* Added FY2011.

Figure 42: Land Preserved and Local Food Buyers, FY2005-FY2011



Figure 43: Sustainable Ecosystems, FY2005-FY2011

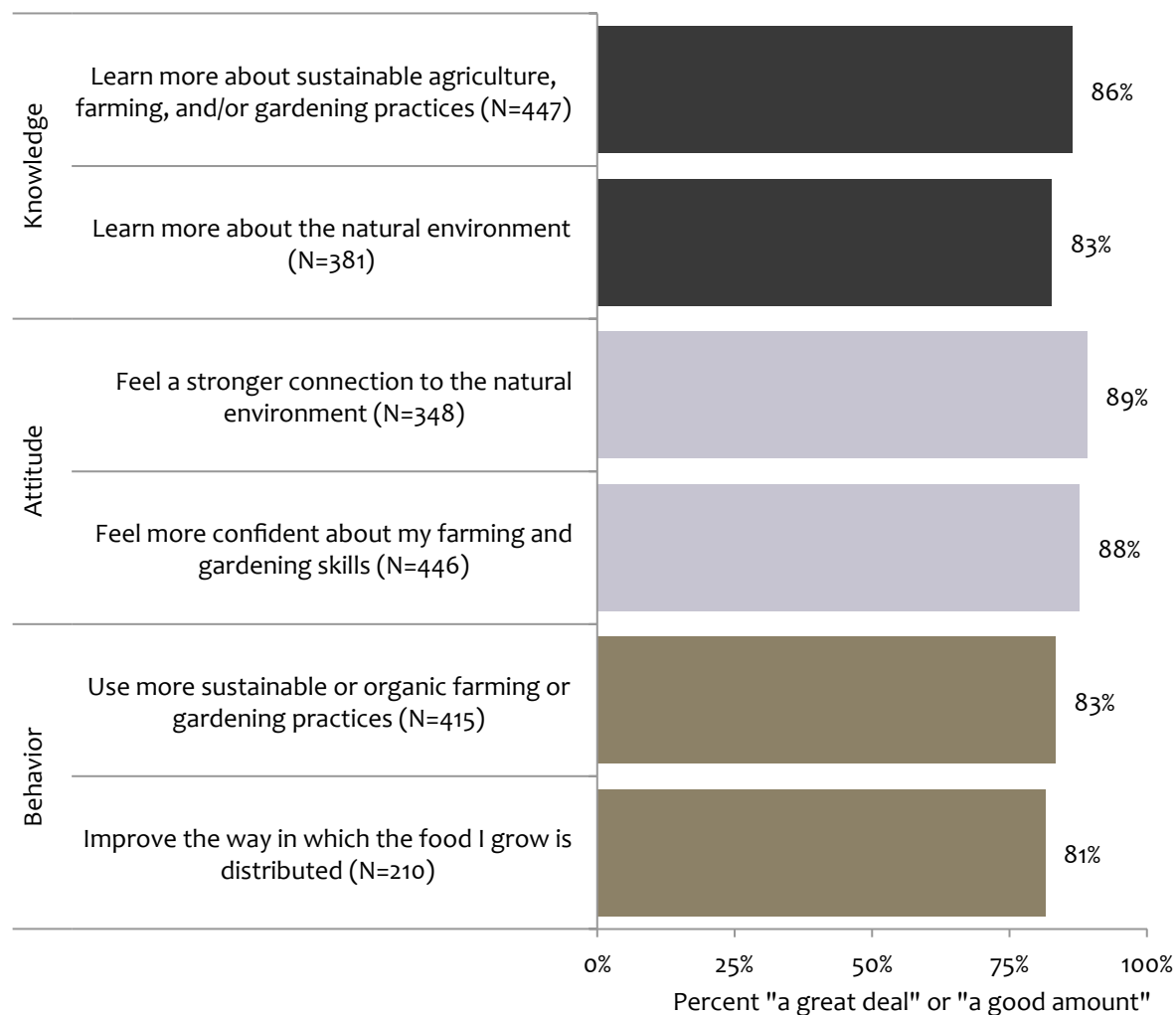
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
Land preserved (acres)	4	57	17	85	300	122	2,413	2,998
Number of gardens worked that use organic and/or sustainable agricultural practices (percent of all gardens)*	293 (97%)							293 (97%)
Number of restaurants/distributors/stores buying local (new starts or those ongoing)	225	222	60	87	85	146	95	920
Number of schools buying local produce (new starts or those ongoing)	193	60	27	289	306	1,126	899	2,899
Number of businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy foods (new starts or those ongoing)	210	233	.	.	.	.	.	443
Number of agricultural structures built (e.g. greenhouses chicken coops, etc.)	240	133	.	.	.	.	.	373
Number of community kitchens built or significantly modified/enhanced	7	5	10	2	2	8	3	35

\* Added FY2011.

### Changes in Participants Lives as a Result of CFPs

About four in five CFP program participants reported increased knowledge related to sustainable agriculture, farming and gardening practices. A similar proportion reported feeling more confident in their farming and gardening skills. Most participants felt they used more sustainable or organic farming or gardening practices. As noted in the previous two sections, Thriving Economies (page 30) and Vibrant Farms and Gardens (page 33), show related and interconnected participant impacts.

Figure 44: Individual/Resident Indicators of Sustainable Ecosystems, FY2011





## Justice and Fairness

*Just and fair food and farms come from food systems deliberately organized to promote social equity, justice, worker rights, and health through all activities. Achieving justice and fairness is an ongoing and evolving process involving many members of a community. It is a process that cultivates appropriate venues to recognize and dismantle unjust systems and that works to create alternative just systems. – Whole Measure for Community Food Systems: Values-based Planning and Evaluation*

## Pursuing Equitable Communities

The underlying foundation of community food security relates to the promotion of justice and fairness in communities and the food system. Although many of the elements of justice and fairness are difficult to quantify at a system level, grantees reported on a number of indicators that may suggest communities and their food systems are taking steps to improve issues of equity. The indicators for Justice and Fairness are inter-woven throughout the five fields described above (with participant impacts highlighted in Strong Communities). Some examples of how justice and fairness has been promoted and increased in each field are:

- Increased health and local food consumption by communities of color and participants in the Federal assistance programs; increased consumption of healthy and local foods through school meal purchases. (Healthy People)
- Increased leadership among people of color in food policy councils; increased number of organizations represented on food policy councils. (Strong Communities)
- Increased jobs and micro-business opportunities for people of color and individuals with low-incomes; Increased number of farmers' markets in low-income communities and communities of color. (Thriving Local Economies)
- Increased economic stability through diversifying products; increased customers; increased local market. (Vibrant Farms and Gardens)
- Increased number of stores buying local produce; increased number of businesses modified - to include local, healthy foods; increased number of community kitchens; increased land preserved. (Sustainable Ecosystems)



Snackin' Fresh youth sell the produce they grew in their school garden to their community outside a corner store. Healthy Corner Store Initiative, The Food Trust, Philadelphia, PA.



Figure 45: Justice and Fairness, FY2011

	Total	Average
Pounds of food generated and handled	1,520,588	36,487
Total number of customers or food recipients	181,426	4,494
-- FMNP participants	1,894	208
-- SNAP recipients	9,659	494
-- SFMNP meal recipients	3,283	280
-- WIC Program recipients	5,487	281
-- school or summer youth meal recipients	54,076	3,194
Organizations represented on the councils or networks	281	15
Individuals on the council(s) or network(s) and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community	2,336	53
-- those who are people of color	1,468	36
FTE jobs created	105	4
Number of micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or supported	155	5
Number of schools buying local produce (new starts or those ongoing)	193	19
Number of businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy foods (new starts or those ongoing)	210	23

Figure 46: Indicators of Justice and Fairness, FY2005-FY2011

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
Pounds of food generated and handled (in millions)	1.5	1.4	0.8	1.4	3.2	6.8	6.4	21.6
Total number of customers or food recipients	181,426	163,570	100,444	1,139,770	821,383	481,235	4,014	2,891,841
-- FMNP participants	1,894	4,719	13,842	30,976	34,652	25,597	.	111,680
-- SNAP recipients	9,659	11,180	3,338	10,881	21,744	53,612	.	110,415
-- SFMNP meal recipients	3,283	9,303	13,516	595	624	33,968	.	61,289
-- WIC Program recipients	5,487	5,417	4,873	15,901	7,260	15,166	4,014	58,118
-- school or summer youth meal recipients	54,076	9,182	13,154	972,776	584,474	239,191	.	1,872,853
Organizations represented on the councils or networks	281	329	38	51	272	202	.	1,173
Individuals on the councils or networks and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community*	2,336	2,099	164	404	753	1,117	.	6,873
-- those who are people of color*	1,468	1,165	0	0	0	0	.	2,633
FTE jobs created	105	240	467	344	262	359	907	2,685
Number of micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or	155	255	784	544	198	703	1,365	4,004

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Overall
supported								
Number of schools buying local produce	193	60	27	289	306	1,126	899	2,899
Number of businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy foods	210	233	.	.	.	.	.	443

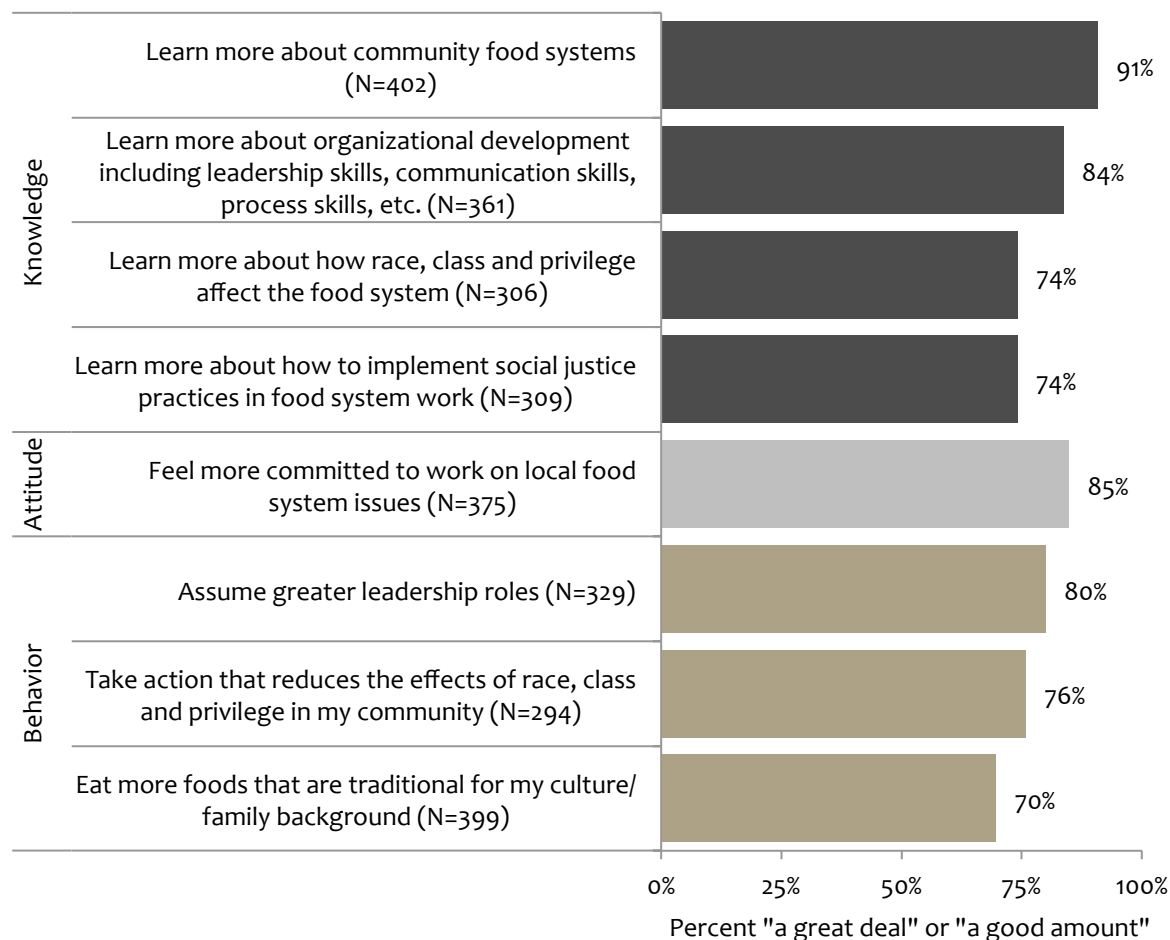
### Changes in Participants Lives as a Result of CFPs

Participation in Community Food Projects often resulted in increased learning and action in the areas of justice and fairness. Community Food Projects that understand the connection between food insecurity, race, class and privilege are better equipped to implement activities that confront and change these dynamics. Examples of changes in participants' knowledge, attitude, and behavior that are described in the above fields include:

- Increased knowledge about eating healthy foods and diet-related diseases; increased feelings of connection to food source; increased confidence in food preparation; increased connection to one's culture; increased ability to provide food for self and family; Increased health. (Healthy People)
- Increased knowledge of how to implement social justice practices; Increased leadership and organizational development skills; Increased connection to community; Increased confidence as a leader and with ability to affect change; Increased leadership roles; Increased knowledge and behaviors related to dismantling race, class and privilege barriers in the food system. (Strong Communities)
- Increased knowledge for running a small business; Increased confidence in skills to get a job; Increased diversification of farm products; Increased customer and market size; Increased ability to make a living in agriculture. (Thriving Local Economies and Vibrant Farms and Gardens)
- Increased knowledge of farming and gardening; increased confidence in farming/gardening skills; increased connection to nature; increased sustainable/organic practices. (Sustainable Ecosystems)
- Increased knowledge of on how race, class and privilege affect community food systems; Increased action taken to help reduce the effects of race, class and privilege; Increased consumption of traditional and culturally relevant foods. (Justice and Fairness)

Participation in Community Food Projects often resulted in increased learning and action in the areas of justice and fairness. A strong majority of residents participating in CFPs with a focus on race and equity issues reported increased knowledge of community food systems (91%) and a stronger commitment to work on local food system issues (85%). Three-quarters of participants reported increased knowledge on how race, class and privilege affect these systems and had taken action to help reduce these affects in their communities. About 7 in 10 participants surveyed reported eating foods more traditional to their culture/family background.

Figure 47: CFP Participant Survey Results for Justice and Fairness, FY2011



## Conclusion

The grantees of the Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program showed their strength by building capacity in their communities and providing education, skills, food and resources to a diverse group of residents and food insecure communities across the nation.

More than 1.5 million pounds of local, healthy food was distributed to more than 180,000 people in FY2011. Most of these people lived in low-income neighborhoods. With fast food available easily and cheaply for many Americans, the impact of providing healthy fresh fruits and vegetables cannot be overstated. Over 50,000 children and youth in schools or summer programs ate fresh fruits and vegetables because of farm-to-cafeteria programs. More than 190 schools started to buy local produce due to the CFP program.






SNAP and WIC recipients purchased local produce at farmers markets, and elder food recipients received seasonal fruit and vegetable shipments from local CSAs. Nearly 9 in 10 CFP participants reported they were healthier, provided healthier foods for their families, and had increased their fruit and vegetable consumption as a result of participating in the program. These healthy foods provide recipients not only with the nutrition to stay well, but also encourage healthy eating habits that can last a lifetime.

In FY2011, 1,100 farmers - many limited-resource - were trained on sustainable agriculture and business management. Hundreds of jobs and micro-businesses supporting the local food system were created, and customer bases for local agriculture were increased. Farm-to-cafeteria programs were created throughout the country providing markets for local farmers. Farmers participating in the program reported significant gains in knowledge of sustainable agriculture and business practices and more than one-half reported increased income as a result of the grant program.


Community food system capacity and infrastructure was enhanced through community food assessments, the formation of food policy councils and networks and the implementation of new policies. Two hundred community food assessments were completed in FY2011 and 30 new policies were enacted affecting more than 30 million residents lived in the communities where these community-wide changes were made. Residents participating in these assessments and collaboratives reported significant knowledge changes related to their local food systems, increased connection to their communities and increased motivation to become involved as leaders and community organizers to promote stronger communities. More than 2,300 residents assumed new or enhanced leadership roles in the communities they served.

The FY2011 results from the Community Food Projects program continue to demonstrate the importance of these grants for improving the health, environment and economy of this country, where residents of almost every age are taught about healthy food supply and where residents have access to delicious, abundant locally produced fruits, vegetables and meat. Further, the system-wide changes made to communities across America work to ensure community food security will be sustained. The following table provides a summary view the work of the CFPs in FY2011 as well as a summary of the outputs and outcomes from the fiscal years of 2005 through 2011.

Figure 48: Community Food Security at a Glance

Whole Measures (WM) Field	Indicator of Success	FY2011	FY2005-FY2011
<b>Healthy People</b> 	Pounds of food generated and handled	1.5 million	21.6 million
	-- pounds produced	847,000	6.8 million
	-- pounds donated	76,000	883,000
	-- pounds sold	573,000	6.7 million
	Customers and food recipients	181,000	2.9 million
	-- FMNP participants	1,900	112,000
	-- SNAP recipients	9,600	110,000
	-- SFMNP meal recipients	3,300	61,000
	-- WIC Program recipients	5,500	58,000
	-- school or summer youth meal recipients	54,000	1.8 million
<b>Strong Communities</b> 	Food policy councils/networks formed	20	90
	Organizations represented on the councils or networks	280	1,200
	Individuals on the council(s) or network(s) and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community*	2,300	6,900
	-- those who are people of color*	1,500	2,600
	Approved policies	30	270
	-- people affected by policies	3.3 million	42.0 million
	Community food assessments completed	200	670
	-- people affected by assessments	28.7 million	51.8 million
<b>Thriving Local Economies</b> 	FTE jobs created	100	2,700
	Micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or supported	155	4,000
	Farmers' markets started*	80	170
	-- sales of farmers' markets*	\$1.3 million	\$3.0 million
	New and/or value-added products developed	60	1,700
	-- sales of products*	\$53,000	\$61,000
<b>Vibrant Farms and Gardens</b> 	Farmers participating	1,100	14,800
	-- those participating in farmers' markets*	340	2,900
	Gardeners participating	8,500	36,700
	Acres of land farmed or gardened	250	58,000
	Gardens operated	580	3,900
	Number of policies approved that support small- and mid-scale farmers *	5	50
<b>Sustainable Ecosystems</b> 	Acres of land preserved	4	3,000
	Restaurants/distributors/stores buying local	225	920
	Schools buying local produce	190	2,900
	Businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy food*	210	440
	Structures built*	240	370
	Community kitchens built	7	35

\* Tracking of this indicator began in 2010.

Whole Measures (WM) Field	Indicator of Success	FY2011	FY2005-FY2011
Justice and Fairness   (These indicators are represented in a WM CFS field above and repeated here.)	Pounds of food generated and handled	1.5 million	21.6 million
	Customers and food recipients	181,000	2.9 million
	-- FMNP participants	1,900	112,000
	-- SNAP recipients	9,600	110,000
	-- SFMNP meal recipients	3,300	61,000
	-- WIC Program recipients	5,500	58,000
	-- school or summer youth meal recipients	54,000	1.8 million
	Organizations represented on the councils or networks	280	1,200
	Individuals on the council(s) or network(s) and participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community*	2,300	6,900
	-- those who are people of color*	1,500	2,600
	FTE jobs created	100	2,700
	Micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or supported	155	4,000
	Schools buying local produce	190	2,900
	Businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy food*	210	440

\* Tracking of this indicator began in 2010.

## Appendix A: Methods

At the foundation of the CFP IOS are six core fields of practice that reflect a vision for whole communities seen through the lens of community food system development. These fields include Healthy People, Strong Communities, Thriving Local Economies, Vibrant Farms and Gardens, Sustainable Ecosystems and Justice and Fairness. Developed with input from over a hundred Community Food Projects, these fields are described in *Whole Measures for Community Food Systems* (<http://www.foodsecurity.org/pubs.html#wm>).

The CFP IOS was created through the collaborative partnership of the CFPCGP, CFSC, NRC, and nearly 70 CFP grantee organizations. The CFP IOS reflects a focus on outcomes (e.g., economic and social equity, healthy food access) of CFP grantees and includes a participant survey component, or the Participant Impact Survey (PS). The CFP IOS was designed to report the actual or estimated total number of participants served or the outputs and outcomes achieved during the current fiscal year. The CFP PS measures the self-reported changes in community residents resulting from Community Food Projects. The CFP PS intends to measure the knowledge, attitude and behavior changes of project participants. The CFP IOS is based on the Common Output Tracking Form (COTF), originally developed in 2005, to capture the activities and outputs of CFP grantees.

### Indicators of Success (IOS) Data Collection

Since fiscal year 2005, the Community Food Projects Staff at the United States Department of Agriculture/ National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA/NIFA formerly CSREES) have requested that all grantees complete the CFP Indicators of Success in addition to submitting their required annual CRIS report; completion of these tracking measures are not mandatory. The CFSC has been funded through a Training and Technical Assistance grant to assist CFP grantees in completion of the form and to manage data collection and reporting. Fiscal year 2011 marks the seventh year the data have been collected on CFP grantee activities. Of the 56 grantees funded for fiscal year 2011, 43 completed the IOS providing a response rate of 77%. Grantees were given the opportunity to review their submitted IOS data and make any corrections.

About 33% of grantees over the six-year period opted out of completing the forms. To compensate for this non-response, the data of the responding CFPs were statistically weighted to reflect the full percent of active, funded organizations during the fiscal time periods (i.e., weighted to reflect 100% participation). For example, in 2011, 43 of the 56 grantees provided IOS data, thus the responses were multiplied by a factor of 1.30 ( $56 \div 43$ ). Response rates and weights used for CFP reporting appear in the following table.

Year	Number of grantees	Number of completed forms (COTF or IOS)	Response Rate	Weight
2005	65	24	37%	2.71
2006	65	50	77%	1.30
2007	70	46	66%	1.52
2008	65	38	58%	1.71
2009	42	33	79%	1.27
2010	81	34	42%	2.38
2011	56	43	77%	1.30

### Participant Impact Survey (PS) Data Administration and Data Collection

The Participant Impact Survey (PS) measures the self-reported changes in community residents resulting from Community Food Projects and is intended to measure the knowledge, attitude and behavior changes of project participants. Grantees were provided instructions for administering the PS to their participants. Administration included five basic steps and is detailed in the *CFP PS Guide* (available under separate cover):

- Customizing the survey for program participants
- Selecting the survey participants
- Deciding when to survey
- Selecting a survey administration mode and collecting data
- Entering the data into the CFP IOS system

After administering the survey to their participants, grantees entered the survey data into an online data collection form. NRC collected these data for integration into the IOS report. Grantees submitting PS data received aggregated results of their programs for use in program improvement, reporting and grant writing. As with IOS, administration of the PS was not mandatory. A total of 32 grantees administered PS to a total of 81 participants. Data for the CFP PS by the grantees remain unweighted.

### Study Limitations

As with every study, there are a number of limitations the reader should keep in mind. The challenges to these data result from 1) non-response bias (grantees who did not complete the form), 2) the nature of self-reported data, and 3) the difficulty that organizations working in multi-sectors often face in tracking participation:

- 1) Reporting for the CFP grantees was not mandated. Thus, about 33% of grantees over the six-year period opted out of completing the forms. To compensate for this non-response, the responses of the responding CFPs were statistically weighted to reflect the full percent of active, funded organizations during the fiscal time periods. For example, in 2011, 43 of the 83 grantees provided IOS data, thus the responses were multiplied by a factor of 1.90 ( $83 \div 43$ ). The unweighted data provided by FY2011 grantees participating in the IOS are presented in *Appendix B: Unweighted IOS Results*. These data might be viewed as the minimum amount of activity and impact made by the USDA -funded CFPs during this reporting period.
- 2) Because of the nature of self-reported data, recording and data entry errors are possible.
- 3) Many of the questions do not require that the grantee report unique numbers; therefore, a portion of the reported numbers could be redundant, suggesting a broader reach for what grantees accomplished. It is unknown if these repeated values represent an averaging of actual amounts across the grantees activities (since tracking the data per activity may not be feasible for the grantee) or if these are data entry errors.

Despite limitations delineated here, CFP IOS (and formerly the COTF) provides an efficient method to collect outputs from organizations and programs across the country.





## Appendix B: Unweighted IOS Results

The following CFP grantees provided the FY2011 data included in this report. The results in this appendix display the unweighted data reported by these grantees. Additionally, several write-in, or open-ended, questions were included on the IOS. The respondents' verbatim responses are presented as entered in the online form and have not been edited for spelling or grammar; some information has been redacted to protect the anonymity of the grantees.

- Adelante Mujeres
- American Friends Service Committee
- Angelic Organics Learning Center
- Athens Land Trust, Inc.
- Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc.
- Common Good City Farm
- Community Action Duluth
- Community Food Bank, Inc.
- Community Food Security Coalition, Inc.
- Community Teamwork, Inc.
- Corporation for Findlay Market of Cincinnati
- FareStart
- First Nations Development Institute
- Fondy Food Center, Inc.
- Food Trust
- Four Directions Development Corporation
- Fresno Metro Ministry
- Growing Power, Inc.
- Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon and Storey Counties
- Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa, Inc.
- Janus Youth Programs, Inc.
- The Lower Eastside Girls Club of NY
- Mandela MarketPlace, Inc.
- McIntosh Sustainable Environment and Economic Development
- Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative, Inc.
- Myrtle Ave Commercial Revitalization and Development Corp
- National Center for Appropriate Technology
- New York Sustainable Agriculture Working Group
- Northwest Indian College
- Our School at Blair Grocery, Inc.
- Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
- Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources
- Soil Born Farm Urban Agriculture Project
- Solid Ground Washington
- Southern Ute Community Action Program
- Southside Community Land Trust
- Sustainable Food Center
- United Methodist Ministries, Missouri River District
- University of Alaska, Fairbanks
- Waipa Foundation
- Women's Environmental Institute at Amador Hill
- World Hunger Year, Inc.
- YMCA of Central New Mexico

Section 1: Organization Information: Activities		
The following is a list of activities common to community food projects. Please indicate all of the activities in which your project dedicates a SIGNIFICANT amount of time or resources. (Mark all that apply.)	Percent	Count
Community food assessment	19%	8
Community garden	42%	18
Community or incubator kitchen/value-added production/processing	9%	4
Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program	14%	6
Emergency food collection and distribution	14%	6
Entrepreneurial food and agricultural activity	49%	21
Farm/Grower cooperative	12%	5
Farm to cafeteria project	26%	11
Farmers' market	40%	17
Food access and outreach	42%	18
Food-buying cooperative	5%	2
Food policy council/network	26%	11
Immigrant/Migrant farm project	9%	4
Job skills training	42%	18
Local food distribution	33%	14
Micro-enterprise/Entrepreneur skill training	35%	15
Nutrition and health education	44%	19
Planning grants	14%	6
Promoting local food purchases	30%	13
Restoration of traditional foods/agriculture	16%	7
Training and capacity building	53%	23
Urban agriculture	35%	15
Youth/School gardening or agriculture project	47%	20
Other	12%	5

\* Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

“Other” activities:

- Gleaning Project
- Outreach and Education
- CFP grant administration
- policy & advocacy
- support for socially disadvantaged urban farmers and gardeners

Section 2: Program Participation: Food Recipients and Customers			
People who receive or purchase food as a result of your project	Count	Total	Average
Total number of customers or food recipients	N=31	139,309	4,494
a) Number of WIC recipients	N=15	4,213	281
b) Number of SNAP (food stamp) recipients	N=15	7,417	494
c) Number of Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) recipients	N=9	2,521	280
d) Number of Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) participants	N=7	1,454	208
e) Number of school or summer youth meal recipients	N=13	41,523	3,194
- Number of meals served to students/youth	N=12	1,483,002	123,584
f) Number of other customers or food recipients	N=28	82,181	2,935

Section 2: Program Participation: Participants			
People who participate in education or training programs, or who receive financial assistance and benefits other than food as a result of your project	Count	Total	Average
Total number of participants	N=40	37,174	929
a) Number of youth participants	N=32	17,642	551
b) Number of adult participants	N=39	19,532	501
c) Number of participants in all training programs	N=27	7,921	293
d) Number of participants who are farmers	N=27	846	31
- Number of farmers participating in farmers' markets	N=19	261	14
e) Number of participants who are gardeners	N=31	6,508	210
f) Total number of organizations or groups receiving technical assistance, training, etc. (e.g. schools, churches, government, hospitals, community-based organizations, small businesses and micro-enterprises)	N=27	659	24
g) Number of participants who received one-on-one technical assistance	N=25	1,131	45

Section 2: Program Participation: Partners			
People or organizations that have played a significant role in helping plan and/or implement your project's activities	Count	Total	Average
a) Total number of partners that are organizations/groups (e.g., schools, churches, government, hospitals, community-based organizations, small businesses and micro-enterprises)	N=41	792	19
b) Total number of partners that are individuals involved with your program	N=36	3,760	104
- Number of the people above who worked on community food assessments	N=13	528	41
c) Total number of volunteers	N=35	8,713	249
- Number of volunteer hours	N=33	91,830	2,783

Section 2: Program Participation: Age		
Please indicate the age groups of your program participants. (Please include all food recipients, customers, program participants and partners.)	Count	Percent of respondents
Infants (birth - 2)	N=12	29%
Children (3-12)	N=26	63%
Teens (13-18)	N=31	76%
College age (19-22)	N=32	78%
Adults (20-54)	N=41	100%
Seniors (55+)	N=35	85%
Number of respondents answering question	N=41	--

*\*Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. Percentages have been calculated based on the number of respondents who answered the question.*

Section 2: Program Participation: Race/Ethnicity		
Please indicate the ethnic/racial backgrounds of your program participants. (Please include all food recipients, customers, program participants and partners.)	Count	Percent of respondents
American Indian/Eskimo/Aleut	N=25	61%
Asian or Pacific Islander	N=23	56%
Black or African-American	N=33	80%
Hispanic or Latino	N=33	80%
White or Caucasian	N=40	98%
Bi-racial or Multi-racial	N=34	83%
Other	N=7	17%
Number of respondents answering question	N=41	--

*\*Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. Percentages have been calculated based on the number of respondents who answered the question.*

Section 2: Program Participation: Special Populations		
Please indicate any special populations participating in your activities. (Please include all food recipients, customers, program participants and partners.)	Count	Percent of respondents
SNAP (food stamp) recipients	N=29	71%
Head Start	N=11	27%
Indian nations, reservations	N=12	29%
Low-income areas or neighborhoods	N=40	98%
Underserved or socially disadvantaged farmers	N=24	59%
WIC recipients	N=26	63%
Other	N=12	29%
Number of respondents answering question	N=41	--

*\*Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. Percentages have been calculated based on the number of respondents who answered the question.*

**“Other” special populations**

- Free and Reduced Lunch Students
- Urban Indian people
- seniors
- Homeless Adults
- residents of food deserts
- Native American-controlled nonprofits
- native Hawaiians
- developmentally disabled persons
- Seniors
- Refugees
- Title 1; Youth
- seniors/senior FMNP recipients/disabled populations

Section 3: Farmland and Gardens			
Farmland and Gardens	Count	Total	Average
a) Amount of land farmed or gardened by project (acres)	N=29	192	7
b) Land preserved as newly protected in escrow or trust (acres)	N=2	3	2
c) Number of gardens operated on land	N=27	445	16
Number of garden plots available within these gardens	N=22	1,716	78
Number of gardens worked that use organic and/or sustainable agricultural practices	N=26	481	18

Section 4: Food			
Total pounds of food generated and handled:	Count	Total	Average
Total pounds of food generated and handled	N=32	1,167,595	36,487

Section 4: Food Generated			
For the total food generated, please indicate the how many pounds of this food were generated using the following methods:	Count	Total	Average
a) Produced (grown by program and participants)	N=28	650,404	23,229
b) Purchased or procured (obtained from sources outside the program at a cost)	N=11	368,090	33,463
c) Collected or gleaned (obtained from sources outside the program at no cost)	N=4	142,461	35,615
d) Other method	N=2	6,640	3,320

Section 4: Food Handled			
For the total food handled, please indicate how many pounds of this food were handled using the following methods:	Count	Total	Average
a) Processed (made into meals or food products)	N=20	119,824	5,991
b) Donated (to organizations for free)	N=18	58,692	3,261
c) Distributed/delivered (to individuals for free)	N=20	275,619	13,781
d) Sold (to individuals or organizations for money/income)	N=24	439,898	18,329
e) Composted (converted to fertilizer)	N=17	179,726	10,572
f) Other	N=8	93,835	11,729

Section 5: Economic Impact			
	Count	Total	Average
a) Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs created	N=23	81	4
b) Number of micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or supported	N=22	119	5
c) Number of restaurants/distributors/stores buying local (new starts or those ongoing)	N=22	173	8
d) Number of schools buying local produce (new starts or those ongoing)	N=8	148	19
e) Number of businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy foods (new starts or those ongoing)	N=7	161	23
f) Number of agricultural structures built (e.g. greenhouses chicken coops, etc.)	N=17	184	11
g) Number of community kitchens built or significantly modified/enhanced	N=5	5	1
h) Number of farmers markets started or operated	N=17	61	4
- Total sales of local food (e.g., farmers' markets, CSAs, neighborhood stores, etc.)	N=19	\$986,304	\$51,911
i) Number of new and/or value-added products developed	N=10	43	4
- Total sales of new and/or value-added products	N=7	\$40,735	\$5,819
j) Number of farms started or built on/developed	N=14	80	6

Section 6: Community Food Assessments			
This section collects data on community food assessment (CFA) activities that took place during this reporting period. For projects involved in more than one community food assessment, data may be combined and reported in aggregate.	Count	Total	Average
Total number of community food assessment completed	N=9	160	18
Number of residents living in regions covered by assessment(s)	N=11	22,001,928	2,000,175
Number of business plans developed	N=8	35	4

Section 7: Community Leadership			
Leadership roles can take on many forms. Examples might include participation on food policy councils, serving as a neighborhood council representatives, organizing a community garden meeting, etc.	Count	Total	Average
Number of participants assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community	N=34	1,381	41
Number of participants of color assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community	N=30	999	33
Number of youth participants (under age 18) assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in community	N=19	723	38

Section 8: Food Policy Councils			
	Count	Total	Average
Number of food policy councils/networks formed or operated	N=14	18	1
Number of organizations represented on the council(s) or network(s)	N=14	216	15
Number of individuals on the council(s) or network(s)	N=13	413	32
Number of individuals of color on the council(s) or network(s)	N=12	128	11

Section 9: Food Policies			
Food Policies: Please include both formal and informal policies and occurring at the organizational or governmental level.	Count	Total	Average
Total number of policies approved	N=13	22	2
Number of residents affected by policy(ies)	N=7	2,558,329	365,476
Number of policies approved to increase the health and safety for food system workers	N=0	.	.
Number of policies approved that support small and mid scale farmers	N=4	4	1
Number of policies approved to increase equitable employment practices for farm workers	N=2	3	2



Section 10: CFP Participant Impact Survey		
Did you administer the CFP PS to project participants?	Percent	Count
Yes	65%	28
No	35%	15
Total	100%	43

Section 10: CFP Participant Impact Survey			
If yes, please provide the following information:	Count	Total	Average
How many total surveys did you distribute?	N=28	1,635	58
How many completed surveys did you receive?	N=28	1,285	46
What percentage of your total participants do these completed surveys represent?	N=26	1,077	41

#### How do you intend to use the results of your PS survey?

- Gauge attitude and behavior impacts of participating in urban growing.
- The modified survey was given to youth who learned how to garden. The results will be used to improve the way we deliver/teach the program to the children and their schools.
- Evaluation of program effectiveness
- WE will look for gaps in who is served and improve outreach methods accordingly.
- We will use the results in an annual report and share them back with our community leaders through our participatory program evaluation and goal setting retreat for the upcoming season.
- To improve the overall quality of the program, by enhancing program activities and deliverables.
- We used the results of our PS survey to develop grant proposals for the next step of our project and to inform a business plan.
- to improve the program--they provided useful perspective
- Surveys were administered to all families receiving the grow towers who were active in the program. Of 59 original participants, 8 were deemed dropouts for reasons of death, moved, or illness. Survey results will be used for continuous program improvement.
- To improve our project.
- We will analyze them and use them for our grant reporting. We will also share this information with the community, partners and the public.
- Due to the complexity in scope of work and programs offered through the CFP, [redacted] selected a 'sample set' of our collaborative projects and program participants to survey. The results of the surveys received will be shared at the [redacted] Annual Retreat to provide valuable feedback to modify and improve programming and efforts. The feedback will also be incorporated into overall project evaluation and shared with the public in [redacted]'s Annual Report.
- To help us in our project planning and development
- To inform future programming.
- We will use the results to help evaluate the performance of the [redacted] Manager and other program staff and to learn how we can make improvements in our overall program.
- As a tool to evaluate achievement of key objectives and to identify changes in project strategies (e.g., training, resources, etc.) in year two as a way to be responsive to the needs of project participants.
- To improve future services in Food Sovereignty work
- Additional feedback to stakeholders
- We plan to use the results to improve the program and to publicize the impact.
- The data will be reviewed by [redacted] staff, partners and participants as part of its ongoing participatory, empowerment, evaluation of the project.

Note - our consumer surveys only went out to bulk consumers, so we do not have data on end consumer impacts.

- We plan on strengthening the curriculum we developed on Food Sovereignty and train other teachers to teach this curriculum. Education is power!

- To improve programs, to increase offerings at the farm stand, to improve farm stand to meet customer needs
- Our organizational partners said:

“Along with verbal feedback, we plan to use the results of the Participant Survey to adapt the program to better meet the needs of our volunteers and the community. We will take into account specific suggestions, as well as areas where people indicated the program needs improvement.”

“Surveys were administered verbally in youth and adult classes. We have encountered difficulty implementing a survey system that is easy for staff to administer and interpret and are working on improving this process. Due to the difficulty mentioned above, we are not currently gathering results that are very useful. We are eager to administer the survey in a more effective manner and gather results that can be used to target our programming most effectively. We welcome any insight or suggestions as to how to improve this process.”

“I plan to use the survey to implement any ideas. Use the comments to help me know what my CSAs want me to do differently to make it work for them. Hopefully help [redacted] to receive donation and grant money. To improve the whole operation of [redacted].”

- We plan to use the results of the surveys to improve our food sovereignty program. We will use the results to plan our community gardens, food distribution program, selections at farmers markets, and to work on local food policy development.
- Our PS surveys were targeted toward the several farmers who were directly involved in caring for the chickens raised as part of this project. Their feedback will be very useful in providing recommendations for others interested in raising chickens for money or as food for their families.
- Improve future programming and outreach. Help with strategic planning and evaluation tools for the future. Help with advocacy for policy changes.

#### Why did you choose not to administer the CFP PS to project participants?

- Our [redacted] members began in July of 2011, so it will be best to report on a full school year. We will submit survey results in 2012.
- The number of individuals that I provide technical services to are too small in number for any meaningful survey results. I queried individuals about the efficacy of the services received informally. Both recipients who submitted or attempted to submit a CFP during FY11 indicated that the technical services received substantively improved their applications.
- Many of our participants don't speak english or spanish and we don't have resources for translation. Many of our participants don't read. The survey seems more appropriate for people who have been formally educated.
- We have a Training & Technical Assistance grant with many participants, and less direct connections to them.
- We had questions regarding modifying the survey and plan to do it later.
- Unexpected change in technical/online infrastructure prohibited timely and effective survey of participants.
- We attempted to administer the CFP PS to project participants, with the goal of 100% participation (all participants were willing). However, we encountered Hmong language difficulties that will require the CFP PS to be significantly modified, which we have corresponded about with [redacted] and [redacted]. We are in the process of modifying the CFP PS and plan to re-attempt survey administration after the survey after the first of the year. We will report back at that time.

The structure of the questions and the response categories in the survey does not work well for [redacted]'s Hmong farmers, who have not had formal education. Our translator made this distinction with great specificity, saying that the Hmong in St. Paul or Sacramento, or even those Hmong in Milwaukee who have had formal education, might not have any difficulty understanding the survey. However, [redacted]'s Hmong farmers, none of whom have had formal education, experience difficulty in comprehending the survey questions and the associated response categories. Our translator recommended a numbered Likert-type scale (1 to 5) as easier for [redacted]'s Hmong farmers to understand.

In addition, we found that each question and the response categories associated with it took approximately 5 minutes or more of explanation. This led to response fatigue for our respondents, which was evident in the number of “don't know” responses to the questions in Section 1 of the survey alone, which took close to 30 minutes to complete. Our translator expressed concern that the farmers for whom he was doing the translation were answering out of a sense of obligation to complete the survey, but that they lacked true understanding of its content. He was very concerned that we would not be able to obtain useful or valid responses.

As an example, the concept of “more,” which appears in so many of the survey questions, doesn’t exist in the Hmong language in the way that a native speaker of English would understand it. In Hmong, “more” is tied to a specific context, such as a list of farming skills or specifics about the natural environment. “Sustainability” does not translate well either for this Hmong population, which is very focused on the here and now and this life, as opposed to thinking about future generations, as the majority culture does, or seven generations ahead, as other indigenous people might do.

Though we were able to modify the survey to remove questions that weren’t relevant to the [redacted] project, the farm manager and I were unable to anticipate these types of linguistic and translation difficulties. Our translator will help us modify the survey to get the valid and useful responses we seek, and the Hmong farmers who attempted to take the survey indicated a willingness to attempt it again. We are optimistic that we can obtain 100% participation in the survey, if it is modified appropriately.

Our translator also recommended that we develop skills-specific pre- and post-surveys, which would be easier to understand for [redacted]’s Hmong farmers. We have some example instruments used by Michael Fields Agricultural Institute (East Troy, WI) following their farming skills workshop trainings. We are planning to modify these instruments to fit the [redacted] context and implement them as well.

- logistical and privacy concerns which we hope to address before the end of our project in next fiscal year
- Our rural sites balk at formal evaluation tools; we hope to use this survey next year - we think we have built enough trust that they will participate. We would note that the sheer volume of potential survey participants is daunting.
- We administered our own survey that was developed by the evaluator hired for the CFP. The results were given to the evaluator for analysis. [redacted] received no response or any of the expected documents from the evaluator. Because of this, [redacted] terminated the arrangement with the evaluator. We will be using the CFP survey for the 2012 fiscal year.
- this project focus on under age minors and we do not have the capacity to obtain parental consent.
- Was not aware of it during process.
- Participants were surveyed via focus groups and online surveys for the food assessment. Contact information was not collected for many participants for confidentiality.
- We did participate in the participant survey, but in the pilot Spanish version to give feedback on the translation. We don’t really have results from the survey itself...

## Appendix C: Participant Impact Survey Results

The CFP Participant Impact Survey (PS) measures the self-reported changes in community residents resulting from Community Food Projects. The CFP PS intends to measure the knowledge, attitude and behavior changes of project participants. Grantees can customize the PS to best fit their projects.

For FY2011, 32 grantees submitted PS surveys for compilation. Almost all grantees asked participants to rate their overall experience their projects and most grantees focused on assessing knowledge gains as a results of participating in the projects.

Frequency of PS Survey Items Asked by Grantees, FY2011		
	Number of grantees asking question (N=32)	Percent of grantees (out of 32)
<b>Q1: Knowledge gains</b>		
a) Learn more about community food systems	24	75%
b) Learn more about health and other diet-related issues	23	72%
c) Learn more about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables	24	75%
d) Gain new farming and/or gardening skills	25	78%
e) Learn more about sustainable agriculture, farming, and/or gardening practices	23	72%
f) Learn more about the natural environment	18	56%
g) Learn more about how to run a small food system business	20	63%
h) Learn more about how race, class and privilege affect the food system	19	59%
i) Learn more about how to build diverse community participation	20	63%
j) Learn more about how to work collaboratively with others (organizations and individuals)	24	75%
k) Learn more about how to implement social justice practices in food system work	19	59%
l) Learn more about organizational development including leadership skills, communication skills, process skills, etc.	20	63%
<b>Q2: Attitude change</b>		
a) Feel more connected to my food source	23	72%
b) Increase my appreciation for leading a healthy life	21	66%
c) Feel more confident in my food preparation skills	17	53%
d) Feel a stronger connection to my culture	19	59%
e) Increase my appreciation for farming, gardening and food production	24	75%
f) Feel more confident about my farming and gardening skills	22	69%
g) Feel a stronger connection to the natural environment	18	56%
h) Feel a stronger connection to my local community	22	69%
i) Feel more confident that I have the right skills to get a job	18	56%
j) Feel more confident as a leader in my community	20	63%
k) Feel more able to affect change in my community	22	69%
l) Increase my commitment to social justice issues	20	63%

Frequency of PS Survey Items Asked by Grantees, FY2011		
	Number of grantees asking question (N=32)	Percent of grantees (out of 32)
m) Feel more committed to work on local food system issues	20	63%
n) Feel more confident in my ability to run a small business or micro-enterprise	15	47%
<b>Q3: Behavior change</b>		
a) Eat more fresh fruits and vegetables	24	75%
b) Eat more food produced locally, organically, and/or with sustainable practices	24	75%
c) Eat more foods that are traditional for my culture/family background	19	59%
d) Provide healthy food for my family and myself	22	69%
e) Be healthier	23	72%
f) Use more sustainable or organic farming or gardening practices	22	69%
g) Improve the way in which the food I grow is distributed	15	47%
h) Diversify my farm products	17	53%
i) Increase my income from farming/gardening	15	47%
j) Make a living in agriculture	14	44%
k) Increase my number of customers	15	47%
l) Increase the size of my local market	16	50%
m) Donate/give extra food to other people	21	66%
n) Develop stronger leadership skills	20	63%
o) Assume greater leadership roles	19	59%
p) Take action that reduces the effects of race, class and privilege in my community	18	56%
q) Make a greater difference in my community	23	72%
r) Be a better community organizer (this could include increased communication skills, etc.)	18	56%
s) Improve my overall quality of life	24	75%
<b>Q4: How long have you been participating in this program?</b>	25	78%
<b>Q5: How would you rate your overall experience participating in [Project ABC]?</b>	29	91%
<b>Q6: Food security</b>		
a) We were not able to afford enough food to eat	22	69%
b) We were not able to afford enough of the kinds of food we wanted to eat	20	63%
c) We were not able to afford to eat at all	20	63%

## FY2011 PS Survey Results

Survey Audience		
Audience	Count	Percent of respondents
Food recipients/customers	225	28%
Participants	640	80%
Partners	247	31%
Number of respondents answering question	801	--

Total may exceed 100% as multiple response selections were allowed. Percentages have been calculated based on the number of respondents who answered the question.

Knowledge Gains						
Please indicate to what extent this program has helped you to...	A great deal	A good amount	Not too much	Not at all	Total	
Learn more about community food systems	47%	44%	8%	1%	100%	N=402
Learn more about health and other diet-related issues	38%	41%	17%	4%	100%	N=528
Learn more about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables	48%	36%	13%	3%	100%	N=523
Gain new farming and/or gardening skills	52%	34%	9%	5%	100%	N=601
Learn more about sustainable agriculture, farming, and/or gardening practices	52%	34%	11%	2%	100%	N=447
Learn more about the natural environment	43%	40%	15%	2%	100%	N=381
Learn more about how to run a small food system business	31%	43%	20%	6%	100%	N=315
Learn more about how race, class and privilege affect the food system	38%	36%	20%	6%	100%	N=306
Learn more about how to build diverse community participation	37%	41%	18%	4%	100%	N=306
Learn more about how to work collaboratively with others (organizations and individuals)	45%	43%	9%	3%	100%	N=432
Learn more about how to implement social justice practices in food system work	33%	41%	21%	5%	100%	N=309
Learn more about organizational development including leadership skills, communication skills, process skills, etc.	42%	42%	13%	3%	100%	N=361

Attitude Changes						
Please indicate to what extent this program has helped you to...	A great deal	A good amount	Not too much	Not at all	Total	
Feel more connected to my food source	50%	39%	9%	2%	100%	N=466
Increase my appreciation for leading a healthy life	52%	39%	7%	2%	100%	N=528
Feel more confident in my food preparation skills	44%	39%	14%	3%	100%	N=398
Feel a stronger connection to my culture	39%	34%	21%	5%	100%	N=302
Increase my appreciation for farming, gardening and food production	55%	34%	9%	2%	100%	N=515
Feel more confident about my farming and gardening skills	47%	41%	10%	2%	100%	N=446
Feel a stronger connection to the natural environment	50%	39%	9%	2%	100%	N=348
Feel a stronger connection to my local community	46%	40%	11%	2%	100%	N=489
Feel more confident that I have the right skills to get a job	37%	36%	22%	5%	100%	N=362
Feel more confident as a leader in my community	39%	39%	19%	3%	100%	N=408
Feel more able to affect change in my community	41%	43%	15%	1%	100%	N=424
Increase my commitment to social justice issues	41%	35%	23%	2%	100%	N=293
Feel more committed to work on local food system issues	46%	38%	13%	2%	100%	N=375
Feel more confident in my ability to run a small business or micro-enterprise	29%	41%	22%	8%	100%	N=78

Behavior Changes						
Please indicate to what extent this program has helped you to...	A great deal	A good amount	Not too much	Not at all	Total	
Eat more fresh fruits and vegetables	56%	32%	9%	2%	100%	N=569
Eat more food produced locally, organically, and/or with sustainable practices	48%	39%	11%	3%	100%	N=485
Eat more foods that are traditional for my culture/family background	42%	27%	24%	6%	100%	N=399
Provide healthy food for my family and myself	53%	35%	9%	3%	100%	N=486
Be healthier	53%	38%	8%	1%	100%	N=548
Use more sustainable or organic farming or gardening practices	49%	34%	14%	3%	100%	N=415
Improve the way in which the food I grow is distributed	39%	43%	10%	8%	100%	N=210
Diversify my farm products	36%	39%	17%	8%	100%	N=233
Increase my income from farming/gardening	27%	27%	23%	24%	100%	N=230
Make a living in agriculture	24%	31%	25%	20%	100%	N=140
Increase my number of customers	29%	36%	22%	12%	100%	N=162
Increase the size of my local market	29%	39%	19%	14%	100%	N=140
Donate/give extra food to other people	44%	35%	12%	8%	100%	N=331
Develop stronger leadership skills	46%	35%	16%	3%	100%	N=383
Assume greater leadership roles	42%	38%	18%	2%	100%	N=329
Take action that reduces the effects of race, class and privilege in my community	37%	39%	19%	5%	100%	N=294
Make a greater difference in my community	40%	43%	16%	2%	100%	N=458
Be a better community organizer (this could include increased communication skills, etc.)	43%	36%	17%	3%	100%	N=302
Improve my overall quality of life	50%	41%	8%	2%	100%	N=518

Length of Participation		
How long have you been participating in this program?	Percent of respondents	Count
Less than 3 months	28%	137
3 months to less than 6 months	13%	64
6 months to less than 1 year	18%	87
1 year to less than 2 years	24%	118
2 years or longer	18%	91
Total	100%	497

Length of Participation		
How long have you been participating in this program?	Average	Count
Average length of participation (in months)	11.6	497



Length of Participation		
How would you rate your overall experience participating in [Project ABC]?	Percent of respondents	Count
Excellent	56%	343
Good	36%	223
Fair	6%	38
Poor	2%	11
Total	100%	615

Food Security						
The following are statements people have made about the food in their household. Please tell us how often this statement has been true for your household in the past 30 days.	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Total	
We were not able to afford enough food to eat	7%	10%	20%	64%	100%	N=521
We were not able to afford enough of the kinds of food we wanted to eat	8%	13%	36%	43%	100%	N=492
We were not able to afford to eat at all	3%	3%	9%	85%	100%	N=476

Respondent Gender		
What is your gender?	Percent of respondents	Count
Female	58%	344
Male	42%	247
Total	100%	591

Respondent Age		
Which of the following includes your age?	Percent of respondents	Count
17 or younger	27%	173
18 – 24	10%	68
25 – 34	12%	80
35 – 44	10%	66
45 – 54	15%	100
55 – 64	13%	88
65 years or older	12%	77
Total	100%	652

Respondent Ethnicity		
Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino?	Percent of respondents	Count
Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic or Latino	24%	134
No, not Spanish, Hispanic or Latino	76%	434
Total	100%	568

Respondent Race		
What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be)	Percent of respondents	Count
American Indian or Alaskan Native	12%	71
Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander	4%	25
Black or African American	38%	231
White	36%	218
Other	19%	118
Number of respondents answering question	--	609

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. Percentages have been calculated based on the number of respondents who answered the question.

Respondent Education		
What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed? (mark one box)	Percent of respondents	Count
12th Grade or less, no diploma	42%	206
High school diploma	12%	58
Some college, no degree	16%	78
Associate's degree (e.g. AA, AS)	8%	37
Bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, AB, BS)	10%	49
Graduate degree or professional degree	12%	57
Total	100%	485

Respondent Income		
How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Percent of respondents	Count
Less than \$15,000	45%	216
\$15,000 to \$24,999	19%	91
\$25,000 to \$49,999	19%	93
\$50,000 to \$74,999	10%	47
\$75,000 to \$99,999	4%	17
\$100,000 or more	3%	14
Total	100%	478

## PS Survey Results by Year

Question 1: Knowledge gains		
Percent "a great deal" or "a good amount"	2010	2011
Learn more about community food systems	90%	91%
Learn more about health and other diet-related issues	82%	80%
Learn more about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables	85%	84%
Gain new farming and/or gardening skills	80%	86%
Learn more about sustainable agriculture, farming, and/or gardening practices	73%	86%
Learn more about the natural environment	71%	83%
Learn more about how to run a small food system business	69%	74%
Learn more about how race, class and privilege affect the food system	70%	74%
Learn more about how to build diverse community participation	81%	78%
Learn more about how to work collaboratively with others (organizations and individuals)	83%	88%
Learn more about how to implement social justice practices in food system work	74%	74%
Learn more about organizational development including leadership skills, communication skills, process skills, etc.	72%	84%

Question 2: Attitude changes		
Percent "a great deal" or "a good amount"	2010	2011
Feel more connected to my food source	91%	89%
Increase my appreciation for leading a healthy life	89%	91%
Feel more confident in my food preparation skills	78%	83%
Feel a stronger connection to my culture	75%	74%
Increase my appreciation for farming, gardening and food production	82%	89%
Feel more confident about my farming and gardening skills	82%	88%
Feel a stronger connection to the natural environment	73%	89%
Feel a stronger connection to my local community	84%	87%
Feel more confident that I have the right skills to get a job	77%	73%
Feel more confident as a leader in my community	77%	78%
Feel more able to affect change in my community	79%	84%
Increase my commitment to social justice issues	72%	75%
Feel more committed to work on local food system issues	83%	85%
Feel more confident in my ability to run a small business or micro-enterprise	.	71%

Question 3: Behavior changes		
Percent "a great deal" or "a good amount"	2010	2011
Eat more fresh fruits and vegetables	89%	88%
Eat more food produced locally, organically, and/or with sustainable practices	83%	87%
Eat more foods that are traditional for my culture/family background	78%	70%
Provide healthy food for my family and myself	91%	88%
Be healthier	89%	91%
Use more sustainable or organic farming or gardening practices	73%	83%
Improve the way in which the food I grow is distributed	75%	81%
Diversify my farm products	73%	75%
Increase my income from farming/gardening	52%	53%
Make a living in agriculture	53%	55%
Increase my number of customers	71%	65%
Increase the size of my local market	67%	68%
Donate/give extra food to other people	80%	80%
Develop stronger leadership skills	80%	81%
Assume greater leadership roles	71%	80%
Take action that reduces the effects of race, class and privilege in my community	77%	76%
Make a greater difference in my community	78%	83%
Be a better community organizer (this could include increased communication skills, etc.)	79%	79%
Improve my overall quality of life	90%	90%

Question 5: Overall experience		
Percent "excellent" or "good"	2010	2011
How would you rate your overall experience participating in [Project ABC]?	94%	92%

Question 6: Food Security		
Percent "always" or "often"	2010	2011
We were not able to afford enough food to eat	13%	17%
We were not able to afford enough of the kinds of food we wanted to eat	27%	21%
We were not able to afford to eat at all	7%	6%

## Appendix D: Definitions

**Community Food Assessment.** A community food assessment is a collaborative and participatory process to systematically examine a broad range of community food assets and resources, so as to inform on local issues that need attention and change actions to make the community more food secure.

**Community Garden.** A community garden is a garden where people share basic resources—land, water, and sunlight. Community gardens are the sites of a unique combination of activities such as food production, recreation, social and cultural exchange, and the development of open space, community spirit, skills, and competence.

**Community or Incubator Kitchen/ Value-Added Production / Processing.** A community kitchen is a shared use facility that enables growers and small business people to process their own agricultural or food products to add value prior to sale.

**Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Program.** CSA is a mutual commitment between a nearby farmer and the people who eat the food that the farmer produces. The farm feeds the CSA members; the members support the farm and share the inherent risks and potential bounty.

**Emergency Food Collection and Distribution.** Collection and procurement of edible foods that are then distributed through food banks, food pantries, and congregate feeding programs. Including but not limited to, gleaning, farmer/grower donations, food drives, and institutional donations of prepared and perishable foods.

**Entrepreneurial Food and Agricultural Activity.** Any activity related to the marketing of food products. Examples of these could include a single farm stand (as opposed to a farmers' market) and a value-added food product cottage industry.

**Farm/ Grower Cooperative.** A group of farmers who are working together to market their products. This group may or may not have articles of incorporation or other agreed upon guidelines or rules.

**Farm to Cafeteria Project.** Included in this category are Farm to School, Farm to College and Farm to Institution projects. Farm to Cafeteria projects link local farmers with nearby schools or institutions to increase consumption of fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables. Students and/or other community members learn about the origin of their food, while small and medium-sized farmers are able to avail themselves of a local market to supplement their income. One project may include single or multiple schools, school districts, or institutions depending on the structure of project activities.

**Farmers' Market.** Organization that provides resources and a gathering place for farmers and consumers to exchange products.

**Food Access and Outreach.** Informational and educational activities and campaigns to inform low-income people of their potential eligibility for and benefits available from government nutrition assistance programs, including but not limited to, SNAP (food stamps), school lunch and breakfast, WIC, summer food, elderly meals, and farmers' market nutrition programs.

**Food-buying Cooperative.** A group of people or organizations that purchases food together in bulk to receive discounted prices or increased access.

**Food Policy Council/ Network.** A Food Policy Council (FPC) is comprised of stakeholders from various segments of a state or local food system. Councils can be officially sanctioned through a government action (such as legislation or an Executive Order) or can be a grassroots effort. While this category is not limited to policy initiatives, many FPCs' primary goal is to examine the operation of the local food system and provide ideas or recommendations for how it can be improved.

**Immigrant/ Migrant Farm Project.** A project that works with immigrant or migrant farm workers to support their ability to make a living in agriculture through providing additional social services or employment development support.

**Job Skills Training.** Training to support someone in developing the necessary skills to obtain and keep a job.

**Micro-enterprise/ Entrepreneur Skill Training.** Training to support someone in starting and maintaining a small-scale, food-related business venture. These projects are typically capitalized at under \$35,000 with three or fewer employees initially.

**Planning Grants.** Many community food project activities include some degree of project planning. This activity is for proposals specified as planning grants. These activities often include some form of community assessment, business planning, and/or building collaborations and partnerships.

**Promoting Local Food Purchases.** An education, outreach, or public relations campaign that highlights the benefits of purchasing raw and value-added local foods and food products. This may encompass support for activities such as buy-local campaigns, community supported agriculture, farm-to-cafeteria efforts, and farmers' markets.

**Restoration of Traditional Foods/ Agriculture.** Activities (other than immigrant farmer projects) that focus on supporting the use of traditional food and agriculture and rely on agricultural knowledge bases held by indigenous people.

**Training and Capacity Building.** Includes services to support a wide variety of projects and initiatives, through trainings and workshops, practical publications, mentoring, and other individualized assistance.

**Urban Agriculture.** Promoting or growing of agricultural products within an urban environment. While many of the other project activities (community gardening, youth agricultural project, immigrant/migrant farm project) may also include growing food in urban areas, this activity is aimed specifically at utilizing urban lands for the production of agricultural crops.

**Youth/ School Gardening or Agriculture Project.** Includes all youth activities related to community food systems, other than farm to school projects. These activities could include composting and vermiculture.