WHOLE MEASURES FOR COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS:

Stories from the Field

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As with the development of Whole Measures for Community Food Systems (WM CFS), many voices contributed to this report. We are especially grateful to WM CFS mentors and community partners who participated in an 18-month intensive mentoring program and contributed greatly to a deeper understanding of how to use WM CFS for community change and empowerment.

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* We are grateful to these organizations for contributing photographs to this document

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* We are grateful to these organizations for contributing photographs to this document
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**WHOLE MEASURES CFS FIELDS AND PRACTICES**

BACK COVER
WELCOME

If you’re reading this report, then most likely you’re wondering if Whole Measures for Community Food Systems (WM CFS) is an appropriate tool for measuring or planning your organization’s community food system* work. Stories from the Field serves as a companion piece to WM CFS by providing the experiences of community partners who have used WM CFS in innovative ways. Our hope is that their stories will inform and inspire your work as you consider how to best utilize WM CFS.

Whole Measures for Community Food Systems is a whole-system framework that can be used as a tool for community transformation. Organizations have specifically used WM CFS to revise the focus and strategy of their organization, evaluate programs, bring together community partners and plan community events. The community partners highlighted in this report learned that WM CFS is a flexible and unique tool that can be used for value-based evaluation, planning, capacity building and community development.

At the core of WM CFS is the foundational value that Justice and Fairness are central to community food systems work. The organizations highlighted here learned that the way evaluation and planning are implemented is critical to operating within its core values. As you will see, using WM CFS contributed to the ongoing process of community transformation. By modifying this tool to best suit their needs, these community partners created a focused way to impact their community, using their values as the guide to implement their work.

Stories from the Field is structured by each of the potential uses of WM CFS, even though these uses often intersect and overlap. Within each section, there is a description of how the organization adapted and used WM CFS to fit their needs, highlighting the challenges and responses, participant feedback and lessons learned. As you read through the report, you will notice some words in bold. These words and concepts are defined in the glossary at the end of the document on page 33-34. You will also find more background information on our funding and the mentoring program process, which led to the creation of this report, under Project History and Funding on page 31.

By using Whole Measures CFS, organizations can think in terms of the broadest possible picture for a healthy community as defined by the six WM CFS fields of practice:

- Justice and Fairness
- Strong Communities
- Vibrant Farms and Gardens
- Healthy People
- Sustainable Ecosystems
- Thriving Local Economies

* All terms bolded in Stories from the Field can be found defined in the glossary starting on pages 33-34.
OUR STORY

The Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC)² was inspired by the work of Center for Whole Communities (CWC)³ who published Whole Measures: Transforming Our Vision of Success in 2007. With this tool, CFSC wanted to encourage people to change how they measure success and to look consciously at what they value.

CWC’s Whole Measures (WM) states that the relationship between land, people and food is an essential foundation for creating a whole community. This concept is central to CFSC’s Whole Measures for Community Food Systems publication, which is a community food system version of WM.

- Are you looking for an innovative, participatory method of evaluating your community food systems work?

- Do you value participatory and reflective strategies for telling the story of your organization’s impact?

These questions, answered by applicants to CFSC’s Whole Measures for Community Food Systems mentoring program⁴, capture some of the appeal of using WM CFS as a planning and evaluation tool. This appeal has led diverse organizations - advocates for food justice, social change, and racial equity that value story telling and community input - to be drawn to WM CFS.

Through CFSC’s mentoring process, it became clear that each participating organization would utilize the tool in unique, specific and evolving ways. Organizations like the Nuestras Raíces, Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program, Sustainable Sound, and Earth Learning utilized Whole Measures for Community Food Systems primarily as a tool for project planning. Healthy Solutions, the Community Food Security Coalition, and WhyHunger applied WM CFS as a strategic planning tool. And The Food Project and The Community Food Project Competitive Grants Program utilized Whole Measures CFS for project planning and evaluation.

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³ [http://www.wholecommunities.org/](http://www.wholecommunities.org/)
⁴ See page 31 for full description of project history and funding.
When CFSC first began working with partner organizations to develop the community food system version of Whole Measures, they learned early on that not all groups resonated with this approach. WM CFS is about community engagement and empowerment as much as it is about evaluation. It is an evaluation and planning process that aims to elevate and inform dialogue about the values that truly matter, while analyzing the impacts of work and activities. As such, it is designed as a compliment to standard evaluation tools.

The designers of WM CFS learned that implementing the tool requires a unique set of skills and knowledge, principles and practices. We call these ‘core capacities.’ The WM CFS core capacities are an evolving collection of principles and practices that are critical to its success. The mentoring group and learning community that used WM CFS focused on cultivating and exploring these capacities throughout all of their work.

- **Act with Justice and Fairness:** Though justice and fairness are identified as one of the core fields of practice for Whole Measures CFS, this concept is central to all aspects of community food system work. Community partners found that evaluating how well their programs contributed to justice and fairness was often a reflection of how their organizational culture and practices either contributed or detracted from justice and fairness.

- **Embody Transformational Leadership:** Each person engaged with WM CFS has a role as a transformational leader. Consciousness around how our being, seeing and doing inspires community engagement helps us be effective agents for change.

- **Design Collaborative Processes:** Designing processes that ensure participant engagement requires understanding the big picture context and being attentive to process, relationships, and results. Skillful and compassionate facilitation enhances the process and creates a space for open exploration. Meeting location and schedule, inclusive facilitated discussion, and participatory and clear decision-making processes are all examples of important steps along the way that enhance participation and deepen the impacts achieved.

- **Convene Conversations that Matter/Dialogue:** Taking care to include openness to new ideas and multiple perspectives, listening for understanding,
speaking honestly, accepting paradox as normal, and suspending judgment all contribute to new ways of thinking and working together. Finding the tools to hold and sustain difficult conversation, differing opinions and strong conflicts is important to maintaining an open dialogue.

**Cultivate Storytelling**: Woven into the stories we tell are the fundamental values and traditions of our cultures and peoples. It is critical that each person have an opportunity to share his or her story and perspective, and to listen openly to every story told.

**Maintain Relationships as Primary**: The tools and processes used are intended to help participants gain better understanding of how the parts are related to the whole. For example, examining how activities and programs, organizational mission, and shared culture and society connect to the health of land and people.

**Inspire and Create Action**: Community change will be sustained more effectively when people are inspired and given the space and processes to take action. Modeling and presenting positive action are usually more effective than prescribing action.

**Respect and Honor the Capacities and Assets of All People**: Assessment processes can be people-focused, accessible, and democratic. Whole Measures CFS seeks to promote the fullest and most diverse participation possible by offering different means or pathways for people to engage in the process.

While the above core capacities speak to our highest ideals, they also reflect the basics of respecting one another and creating programs demonstrating that deep respect.

In the stories that follow, you will see examples of each core capacity put into practice. The sample activities (listed on page 28) used by community partners to implement WM CFS also give very practical recommendations about how to bring these capacities to light. Finally, the lessons learned, highlighted at the end of each community profile, reinforce the necessity of practicing the core capacities in a meaningful way.
PROJECT PLANNING

THE ORGANIZATION – NUESTRAS RAÍCES

In 1992, retired migrant farm workers from rural Puerto Rico turned a vacant lot in South Holyoke into a community garden. At this community garden, “La Finquita,” they taught neighborhood children how to grow food. Nuestras Raíces was created to manage the garden and to develop a greenhouse in downtown Holyoke. This grassroots organization has since grown and now there are 8 community gardens, 2 youth gardens, and a 30-acre farm. Nuestras Raíces is known for building cultural pride and helping to empower low-income Latinos to address environmental, economic development, substance abuse, and food security issues through projects involving the environment, food, and agriculture.

Urban agriculture has been an effective way for Nuestras Raíces to promote community development because it allows the residents of downtown Holyoke to maintain a connection to their culture. Agriculture-based projects, such as community gardens, build on member skills and knowledge, and allow them to improve their community through youth education. The primary programs of Nuestras Raíces are Community Gardens, Youth Leadership, Environmental Justice Organizing, and La Finca, Nuestras Raíces’ farm. Nuestras Raíces is a founding partner and one of the three organizations involved with the Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council (HFFPC). The HFFPC is funded by the “Kellogg Food and Community Initiative,” which funds projects to develop community-based strategies to improve access to healthy food and create safe places to exercise.

ADAPTING AND USING
WM CFS – FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVE

Nuestras Raíces applied Whole Measures CFS primarily to their youth leadership programs, including a Farm to School initiative to infuse Holyoke schools’ meals with locally grown, culturally appropriate food. Their goal was to serve culturally inclusive food in schools (promoting food sovereignty), cultivate new leadership, and provide education on the issues. As part of the process, Diego Angarita, a Nuestras Raíces’ staff member, and Catherine Sands, Nuestras Raíces’ consulting project evaluator, studied at the Interaction Institute for Social Change and Center for Whole Communities to expand their conceptual understanding of WM CFS.

Nuestras Raíces first formed an evaluation team, then introduced Whole Measures CFS to an inter-generational action team comprised of representatives from Fertile
Ground, Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council, Nuestras Raíces farmers, Holyoke students, school food service providers, and Farm to School advocates. As part of their youth programming, the action team worked with Nuestras Raíces youth to “create ownership of the Whole Measures language.” Since WM CFS was not developed with youth in mind, time and intention was required to explore each field. The language was then modified, allowing them to communicate in a more meaningful way.

Even though the youth had personal experiences with the Whole Measures CFS concepts (especially those relating to health and justice), they had never analyzed them. The youth practiced public speaking and critical thinking by presenting a field and thinking about the corresponding practices, which helped them to better understand the WM CFS concepts. Program activities also enhanced their comprehension. For example, they traveled to the Coalition for Immokalee Workers slave museum and discussed the importance of Justice and Fairness in food production. While working at La Finca farm and helping farmers to sell their food locally, they learned about the value of Vibrant Farms and Thriving Local Economies. The youth also developed a better understanding of providing healthy food for all people by preparing meals for other Holyoke youth.

The University of Massachusetts Department of Anthropology and Center for Public Policy was an important partner in the process. They facilitated a Photovoice project, which allowed the youth to document and track the path of food from La Finca farm to their school’s lunch table.

The photos were formally presented to the school committee and the youth engaged them in a dialogue to discuss the importance of involving students in school food decision-making. The dialogue also emphasized the importance of sourcing locally, and culturally appropriate menus that could lead to Justice and Fairness.

Following the school meeting, staff from Nuestras Raíces and HFFPC conducted one-on-one interviews with parents, teachers, local politicians, and school committee members, seeking more community investment in the Farm to School initiative. In addition, the youth made a presentation to the City Council and community members at the Holyoke Health Center.

Once the Whole Measures CFS fields were explored, practiced, and enacted through presentation and Photovoice, the youth engaged in discussions to determine what was most relevant to their work. They selected Justice and Fairness and Strong Communities. In an effort to further engage the youth, they framed their outcomes as questions in relation to the field practices:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUESTRAS RAÍCES JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS PRACTICES:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How can students work with school food staff to have better communication?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creates just food system structures and cares for food systems workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How well does the school serve healthy and delicious meals to students and track preference in purchasing food from local farms?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensures that public institutions and local businesses support a just community food system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Whole Measures CFS provided the framework for how The Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council Farm to School Strategy Team shaped their food system discussions. The Strategy Team included La Finca staff, Massachusetts Farm to School Project representatives, school food service chefs and management personnel, the HFFPC director, parents, the evaluator, and Nuestras Raíces youth leaders. They used WM CFS to inspire their group to “think together” and to engage everyone in group discussions at meetings.

The Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council used WM CFS to design outcome statements and rubrics that could be used for three food and fitness initiatives to engage community members and other stakeholders in the evaluation process. The initiatives included: School Wellness, Food Access and the Built Environment. To align the

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6 Photovoice is an action based research and evaluation tool that allows individuals to take pictures that give insight into how they conceptualize their lives and their hopes for the future.

7 Like a school board, a school committee in MA is the elected body that makes education policy decisions for the school district.
focus of these initiatives with the focus of Whole Measures, they created a hybrid of fields from both Whole Measure publications: WM Community Food Systems and WM Transforming Our Vision of Success. Their fields included:

- Justice and fairness
- Building strong communities and self determination
- Healthy people and healthy places
- Thriving local economies
- Power of story
- Being in service

**CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES**

During the time that Nuestras Raíces implemented and introduced Whole Measures CFS, the organization cycled through five different executive directors, including one that had been there for ten years. This structural upheaval was challenging for the organization and made it difficult to try new initiatives. Nonetheless, the youth programming leader and Fertile Ground director were committed to implementing WM CFS. In order to create more awareness and promote organizational buy-in, they introduced WM CFS at a staff meeting through a modified Gallery Walk.

Another challenge occurred with a change in stakeholder leadership. The Farm to School group had developed strategies to improve school meals with the current food service management company. During the Whole Measures CFS implementation process, this company lost their contract with the city. Nuestras Raíces held discussions with the new company, about WM CFS and the Farm to School initiative and they were receptive.

When Nuestras Raíces piloted Whole Measures CFS with their youth group, they realized the document needed to be broken down, translated into Spanish, and made more interactive and concrete. The youth required extensive education on the concepts prior to their involvement in the evaluation process. They found the rubric model to be cumbersome in scope, and that rating outcomes with descriptive language was more productive than using numbers.

They also found that the youth were often bored while discussing the WM CFS fields and concepts. Through problem solving, Diego Angarita, the Youth Director, and the youth decided that the adults needed to include them in the preparation and presentation of Photovoice and the Whole Measures CFS process. The adult facilitators were responsive and worked with one youth as a peer trainer to engage the interest of other youth. For manageability and meaning, Nuestras Raíces focused on two fields for their outcomes because they felt the implementation of all six fields could be significant to complete. They did feel, however, that if an organization and its entire staff commit to WM CFS conceptually, then it can be used daily and will become a part of their organizational culture.

**IMPACT ON PARTICIPANTS**

The youth members of Nuestras Raíces and the Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council Farm to School Group were the most consistent and active participants throughout the usage of Whole Measures CFS. In fact, WM CFS became an important factor in the elevated role of youth in Nuestras Raíces. Youth contributions during the dialogue sessions illustrated their ability to communicate about food, the farm, their health, and community issues. Youth participants held a meaningful conversation with school lunch administrators, enabling them to articulate their desires and personal experiences with clarity and strength.

Some of the statements provided by the youth included “the school lunch administrator has to want student feedback.” Another youth reflected on a past action: “I made a petition to say what I wanted...oranges and stuff like that...I had a lot of people that signed...the first year in 2nd grade I gave it to the academic quality coordinator, then in 4th grade, I gave it to the principal and they just said, ‘oh, very nice.’” In response, another youth member advised, “You have to go to the highest...go to the super-
intendent.” Other youth advocated for their lunch food preferences, which included rice, beans, and vegetables on the side.

By exploring the six fields of Whole Measures CFS using creative and interactive techniques, the youth were empowered to speak with confidence about the tool and how they used it. For example, Jazmin Colon, a high school student, who was an active participant in the HFFPC Farm to School group and the Photovoice project, participated in inter-generational community meetings and discussed the youth group work in a presentation to the school committee. Additionally, she co-presented at the 2011 Whole Measures for Community Food Systems short course at the 15th Annual Community Food Security Coalition Conference in Oakland, California.

Catherine Sands, evaluation consultant and strategy team member, said that the power of WM CFS “is the way in which it ties people together through shared values.” Catherine also stated that Whole Measures CFS “allows us to see the strength and meaning of individual projects, and how they contribute to a larger programmatic system to create change for the Holyoke community.”

LESSONS LEARNED, INSIGHTS GAINED

Even though Whole Measures CFS was not designed as a tool for youth, its flexibility helped Nuestras Raíces youth leaders and mentors adapt it accordingly. Through the insight of Nuestras Raíces, the tool was modified, making it more accessible to stakeholders of all ages. In doing so, the rubric was redesigned and the language was deconstructed and changed. By including activities from multiple mediums, WM CFS was made more accessible to all participants to explore the fields as it related to their life and community.

Whole Measures CFS is a promising tool for creating dialogue and forging strategy and action plans. The Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council used the tool to develop community evaluation strategies based on their focus areas: School Wellness, Food Access, and the Built Environment.

WM CFS does not need to be adopted within the whole organization, as it can be used within specific departments or programs. However, it does require passionate staff involvement and a long-term commitment to build relationships within the organization and community. Nuestras Raíces was faced with leadership changes, some deeply painful to staff and their community; shifts in resources for their program; and even farmland flooding. With the odds against them, Nuestras Raíces weathered the storm and stayed committed to implementing WM CFS with the youth leadership programming and the Farm to School Initiative.
THE ORGANIZATION – CENTRAL CALIFORNIA REGIONAL OBESITY PREVENTION PROGRAM

In order to increase access to healthy food and physical activity in the Central Valley, the Central California Public Health Partnership established a regional initiative called the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program (CCROPP). CCROPP’s approach has been to address childhood and adult obesity through place-based policy change that supports healthy eating and active living throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

Since each community has distinct needs, CCROPP operates a regional coordinating program office. The regional office offers a variety of support and technical assistance to ensure that each counties’ needs are met. CCROPP formed community councils in each county which include representatives from the county public health department, schools, community groups, non-profit organizations, government agencies, houses of worship, parents, youth and farmers. The councils meet regularly to evaluate strategies and work on policy planning. There is a CCROPP lead in each county, which is located at a community-based organization.

In 2010, the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program piloted Whole Measures for Community Food Systems in two ways: within Merced County, using WM CFS for the Merced County F.A.R.M.S. Project; and in 14 Central Valley cities, through a project called Smart Valley Places, which fosters community engagement in city planning. The project was introduced by Edie Jessup, Program Development Specialist, and Claudia Corchado, Merced County lead.

ADAPTING AND USING WM CFS – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN CITY PLANNING

The Sustainable Community Initiative is an ongoing effort to promote the adoption of smart growth principles in California cities. Under this initiative in the San Joaquin Valley, the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program developed a Smart Valley Places Institute and curriculum to engage community members in 14 regional cities to be involved in their city planning.

CCROPP adapted the Whole Measures CFS fields to create a common frame of reference, correlating to the Smart Valley Places measures. Using the six fields of

- **Funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

Claudia Corchado, CCROPP, Merced County F.A.R.M.S. project

THE COMMUNITY – SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

The San Joaquin Valley or Central Valley in California is a culturally diverse bioregion that spans 300 miles and is home to 3.8 million residents from 70 ethnicities that speak more than 105 languages. The eight counties include Kings, Fresno, Kern, Merced, Stanislaus, Madera, San Joaquin, and Tulare.

It’s ironic that those who till the soil, cultivate and harvest the fruits, vegetables, and other foods that fill your tables with abundance have nothing left for themselves.

- Cesar Chavez

The Central Valley is the seventh largest agricultural community in the world. Five of its counties— Fresno, Kern, Tulare, Merced, and Stanislaus—are in California’s top 10 for agricultural production, making it California’s leading agricultural bioregion. It is known as the “nation’s salad bowl” because most of the fruits and vegetables eaten in the United States are grown there. However, 45% of the farm workers that sow, tend, and harvest the food do not have access to local, healthy, fresh food.

The paradox does not end there, as these counties are home to some of California’s poorest cities with 23.7% of residents living 100% below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and more than 25% of children living in households where the income is below 100% of the FPL. In addition, the Central (continued on p.10)
Valley’s unemployment rate is almost double the rate for California, and six of their metropolitan areas have the worst unemployment rates in the nation. The bulk of the food grown in the “nation’s salad bowl” is exported and on average, there are twice as many fast food restaurants as grocery stores. The poor neighborhoods and rural communities lack access to fresh food stores but have an abundance of liquor and convenience stores, which rarely carry fresh produce. In 2007, an average of 63.6% adults were overweight and/or obese. In 2008, about 7.5% of adults in the San Joaquin Valley had developed diabetes.

WM CFS as a guide, CCROPP developed the criteria for sustainable communities, shown below.

CCROPP wanted to engage under-represented community members in healthy city planning to increase access to healthy food, create walkable neighborhoods, and stimulate economic development. The community goal was to empower citizens to take on leadership roles and stay actively involved in the city planning process. They also wanted to augment the planning curriculum to include an evaluation of each county’s obesity prevention work.

Since very few community members had previously been involved with their city planning processes, CCROPP met with them regularly over four months to discuss their values using Gallery Walks. The Gallery Walks helped residents in attendance to look holistically at their community to determine what needed to change. After community members finished their evaluation, the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program bridged the value differences between residents and city planners. This bridge led to finding common ground from which they could jointly build toward creating a healthier community.

### ADAPTING AND USING WM CFS – MERced COUNTY F.A.R.M.S. PROJECT

Using Whole Measures CFS, CCROPP helped the Task Force refine their goals. Farmers, community food bank representatives, the CalFresh manager, and community residents attended a planned Gallery Walk, where participants split into groups to assess the six objectives previously chosen by the Merced County Hunger Task Force. Using the WM CFS rubrics to rate the six objectives, they removed the redundancy and reduced their objectives by half. The fields most valued by the community and relevant to their work were: Vibrant Farms, Healthy People and Justice and Fairness.

These fields were then related to the desired outcome, which was to connect land, food, and people.

In their group dialogue, they responded to three questions:

1. How do we support local farmers, particularly small to medium farmers?

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9 2008, USDA Food Environment Atlas
10 2009, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research
11 2008, USDA Food Environment Atlas
12 California program formerly known as Food Stamps and federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
2. How do we link locally grown food to low-income families struggling to feed healthy food to their children?

3. How do we maximize the 33,000 square foot facility at the Merced County Food Bank and help them to offer locally grown healthy foods to their pantry customers?

CCROPP also faced the daunting task of translating the publication. Because the publication is written in a more academic language, it was difficult to translate to Spanish (and other languages). In future revisions, they hope that the language used in Whole Measures CFS will be deconstructed so that it can be easily translated.

CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES

One of the initial challenges that the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program faced was the ambition of their plans. They sent the Whole Measures CFS publication to each county’s community lead and public health lead—sixteen people total. While the goal was to comprehensively implement their plan in the Central Valley bioregion, the reality was that each community is unique and has different needs, requiring individualized focus. However, CCROPP feels there was a regional impact in that each county contemplated how to best apply the concepts locally and a shared language was created in the process of framing their work.

Another challenge was conveying the potential impact of WM CFS without having to offer the full training to everyone involved. In addition to logistical challenges, CCROPP also faced the daunting task of translating the publication. Because the publication is written in a more academic language, it was difficult to translate to Spanish (and other languages). In future revisions, they hope that the language used in Whole Measures CFS will be deconstructed so that it can be easily translated.

IMPACT ON PARTICIPANTS

When Claudia Corchado first read Whole Measures for Community Food Systems she was not convinced of its usefulness as a tool. After working with the tool in her community of Merced county, however, she realized that it could have saved their organization about eight months of work if they had used it at the beginning of their process. Additionally, CCROPP at first tried to complete one project for the whole region but with Whole Measures CFS, they realized that each county needed to have a separate project based upon the distinct needs of each community.

For Merced County F.A.R.M.S Project, the Gallery Walk exercise helped the diverse participants to realize they shared the same values. This recognition eliminated disagreements and the focus shifted to creating actions with the greatest community impact, rather than on personal interests.

CCROPP used Whole Measures CFS as a framework to define and clarify their own outcomes by asking the questions that mattered. Overall, the process of exploring WM CFS locally brought the community together and gave people from diverse backgrounds a common language to discuss their values.
LESSONS LEARNED, INSIGHTS GAINED

Because change does not happen quickly, CCROPP found that in using Whole Measures CFS as a tool for transformation, a long-term commitment had to be made. In making this commitment, the completed work became a community asset. Additionally, since WM CFS is based on community values, it helped participants find common ground even when faced with diverging perceptions of food and community issues. This value connection empowered community members and engaged them in open and honest dialogue. Their process reaffirmed that change cannot happen until people speak honestly about their problems and current situation.

CCROPP found Whole Measures CFS to be a flexible tool that is easily adaptable to a community and its values. It can also be used for more than food. They plan to apply the WM CFS rubric to local city planning, physical activity environments, school wellness policy evaluation, and neighborhood and school safety.

LESSONS LEARNED – CCROPP:

Using WM CFS is a comprehensive process – not a quick short-term evaluation.

WM CFS can provide a frame for diverse participants to find common values.

Change is more likely to happen when participants engage in open and honest dialogue.

WM CFS can be used in diverse fields, such as public health, nutrition, and economic development.
EVALUATION TOOL

THE ORGANIZATION – THE FOOD PROJECT

Ward Cheney, an educator, organizer, farmer and activist, started The Food Project (TFP) in 1991. In his home city, there were more than 3,000 acres protected as open space. However, he identified that local youth were disconnected from the land and each other. He observed the disconnect came from limited local opportunities for youth to engage in meaningful work. Ward sought to transform the city by connecting urban and rural youth, giving them opportunities to learn together and from each other. These youth worked together on urban farms and in rural areas to grow food for the hungry, connecting them to the land and their community.

By growing food and working with others, we act on our desire to learn, to serve and to be productive.

Ward Cheney, Founder of The Food Project

While Ward left The Food Project in 1993, his dream continues in The Food Project’s work, which includes youth development, farming and community programs in Boston and on the North Shore. TFP integrates youth development and sustainable agriculture, while supplying food locally.

Focusing on sustainable food systems and food justice, TFP employs over 140 local teens annually to plant, harvest, and distribute produce growing on more than forty acres. The youth develop leadership skills and become empowered to transform themselves and their communities. The food grown by the youth is distributed through Community Supported Agriculture farm shares, farmers’ markets and hunger relief organizations. The Food Project utilized Whole Measures CFS for two of their programs: the Dudley Greenhouse, led by Danielle Andrews, and Build-A-Garden, led by Kathleen Banfield. Both projects had an element of project planning and evaluation.

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Whole Measures for Community Food Systems: Stories from the Field

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ADAPTING AND USING WM CFS – DUDLEY GREENHOUSE

For project planning, TFP used WM CFS to determine the general operating principles of the Dudley Greenhouse, a 10,000 square foot greenhouse in the Dudley neighborhood. The greenhouse, owned by the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI), is leased by The Food Project and operated year-round. The two primary purposes of the greenhouse are: to grow food that will benefit local residents; and to provide an educational space, offering gardening and other healthy activities directly benefitting the community.

The Greenhouse Advisory Committee is comprised of neighborhood residents that have volunteered and residents chosen by The Food Project and DSNI for their gardening knowledge, their connections to the community, or their connection to organizational programming.

The Food Project sought to achieve the following goals for the Dudley Greenhouse: to engage community involvement in greenhouse decision-making; to expand the vision for its use; and to think more holistically about its use. TFP wanted to use a dynamic process that offered guidance and flexibility and with the help of the Greenhouse Advisory Committee, they incorporated Whole Measures CFS into their project planning. Through open houses, the Greenhouse Advisory Committee and TFP assessed the needs of the community through Gallery Walks. In this process, they determined that the most valued Whole Measures CFS fields were: Justice and Fairness, Strong Communities, Vibrant Farms, Healthy Communities, and Sustainable Ecosystems.

Using the chosen fields, local residents and TFP staff developed a Request for Proposals (RFP). (Please see Appendix A for The Food Project Request for Proposals.) The RFP solicited proposals on how to best use greenhouse space, and neighbors applied to use the greenhouses for a variety of projects. The RFP included a matrix of five fields and desired outcomes and each applicant described how their proposed project would meet these outcomes and benefit the whole community food system. (Please see Appendix B for The Food Project Outcome Matrix.) To rate the proposals, a matrix designed from WM CFS was used to measure the potential community impact. Nine community groups were selected and after three months, the Greenhouse Advisory Committee and TFP used Whole Measures CFS to evaluate the ongoing projects and assess the best community usage of the Dudley Greenhouse.

ADAPTING AND USING WM CFS – BUILD-A-GARDEN

In 2007, The Food Project started the Build-a-Garden program, which provided low-cost raised bed gardens and technical support to Boston families. Even though community need and interest in these resources was evident, the program initially operated with little community input. In 2011, TFP staff recognized the value and authenticity of sharing stories to convey program impact, successes, and challenges. Thus, they decided to evaluate their program using Whole Measures CFS.

The Food Project selected 8-10 residents to participate in two focus group sessions. In these sessions, they determined values by using the WM CFS fields. They combined Vibrant Farms and Sustainable Ecosystems and created “Vibrant, Sustainable Gardens.” Justice and Fairness was also identified as a value. Using their chosen values, the participants selected their desired WM CFS outcomes based on the question “How does (or can) a Build-a-Garden program contribute to whole communities?”

During the first session, the participants divided into small groups and

“My biggest take away is that WM CFS requires some patience and trust and that a year out, I can see much more clearly what it has helped us achieve.”

Danielle Andrews,
The Food Project greenhouses
selected a value to discuss. In these groups, they discussed their personal connection to the value and the ways in which the Build-a-Garden program did or could contribute to that value. Participants then went on a Gallery Walk to see how all values were represented.

After the first session, The Food Project analyzed the desired outcomes and filtered the responses into four focus areas: land access; connecting people; resources (material); and education and learning (knowledge). In the second focus group session, TFP facilitated brainstorming activities for each focus area. Compiling the results of these activities, The Food Project drafted a document that was shared with the group.

One year later, The Food Project hosted another focus group session where former participants were invited back to use Whole Measures CFS to evaluate the Build-a-Garden program. TFP staff created rubrics of the values and WM CFS outcomes. Each participant then rated the rubrics. Following this exercise, participants were asked to share a story describing the impact of the focus group sessions and any challenges or frustrations they had experienced. In doing so, participants felt empowered knowing that their shared personal experience would lead to future changes and program improvements.

CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES

In the beginning, The Food Project staff felt that the flexibility of Whole Measures CFS was daunting, as they were not sure where to begin. The community process was also challenging because they did not know how much of the WM CFS tool they should reveal to the community before they developed their own frame. They wanted the process to be transparent but at the same time they did not want to create overwhelm. They felt WM CMS would have been easier to use if there were more concrete examples and reading the entire document was not required to understand how to implement the tool.

They thought that some of the language used, like “fields,” “outcomes,” and “values,” made it difficult to understand how the tool could be applied. However, when they created the agenda and used visuals for the gallery walk, the model became easier to understand. Once the underlying concepts were understood, it was then possible to use them without needing the publication.

For the first Build-a-Garden program meeting, TFP staff planned a packed agenda. Participants, however, took a lot of time with their introductions and sharing. In an effort to ‘stick to the agenda,’ staff limited the storytelling. They later realized that this was the richest part of the meeting and could have been an excellent opportunity to connect around common values. For future meetings, they used a less structured model and were able to respond more readily to the interests and needs of those present.

IMPACT ON PARTICIPANTS

Whole Measures CFS gave The Food Project an opportunity to think more holistically about how to use the Dudley Greenhouse. Using WM CFS, their plan directly benefited the community. In the evaluation of the Build-a-Garden program, WM CFS gave residents a voice and empowered them to become involved in the decision-making. It also gave the community the opportunity to share their stories. Participants seemed to enjoy the rubric exercise and when completed, they said it “challenged them to think hard.” They also stated that the exercise helped them to figure out “where they needed to grow; it [WM CFS] is helpful.” The framework that TFP developed based on Whole Measures CFS will continue to be used to design and evaluate these projects.

LESSONS LEARNED, INSIGHTS GAINED

The Food Project staff reflected that Whole Measures CFS is useful to organizations involved in community work or looking to get more involved in their community. The process creates the opportunity to hear the stories from the people that will be impacted. WM CFS also facilitates dialogue, engaging staff and management, and helping them see the big picture.
They thought that as a planning tool, Whole Measures CFS provides a useful structure to systematically envision the various ways programs can affect a community. It can also be used at project completion to evaluate the impact. If given the time and resources, Whole Measures CFS may be adapted for youth to use in project planning.

While using Whole Measures CFS, TFP staff learned that at least two people should take notes, make observations, and record stories during community dialogue sessions. To facilitate story telling during the Gallery Walk, note takers can remind participants to write their thoughts or draw pictures on the flip charts. After participants have time to add to the flip charts, participants can then be invited to select a field they feel the most connected to and meet in a small group to discuss that field. The small groups can reflect on how they see that field expressed in their community (either positively or negatively) and explore what has been written or drawn on the flip chart. This kind of discussion has the potential to gain input from participants who have not yet shared their story.

The Food Project expressed that flexibility and willingness are necessary in adapting Whole Measures CFS to best suit organizational and community needs. They also learned that a group of 6-8 people was the most productive size for an in-depth discussion lasting two hours. They paid focus groups participants, believing this helped bring residents to the table that otherwise may not have made it a priority.

LESSONS LEARNED – THE FOOD PROJECT:

Storytelling and dialogue are important capacities used with WM CFS.

The six fields of WM CFS provide a useful structure to understand how a project contributes to a whole community food system.

WM CFS is flexible enough to be used for planning and evaluation, youth and adults.

During community dialogue you may want to have two note takers.

Flexibility and innovation are important skills to engage WM CFS in a community.

A productive small group size to work with WM CFS is 6-8 individuals.

Show appreciation of participant with remuneration.
THE ORGANIZATION – COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM

The USDA-funded National Institute for 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, over 300 programs have been funded through CFPCGP. (CFPCGP was formerly administered through CSREES).  

Each year, approximately 50-70 grantees are awarded funds to implement a community food project in their area. As part of their program evaluation, grantees are asked to complete an online survey that captures data across their diverse activities. This survey, The Community Food Project Indicators of Success (CFP IOS), is administered by CFSC as part of a Training and Capacity Building CFP grant.

The CFP IOS was developed using the WM CFS framework and with input from over 100 grantee organizations. Using the six fields of WM CFS, grantees, over the course of a year and several different venues, identified program outputs and outcomes relevant to each field. Working with the National Research Center, Inc., the most relevant and common outputs and outcomes have been put into the CFP IOS evaluation framework. (Please see Appendix C for CFP IOS Logic Model.) The result is a powerful annual report that categorizes the collective impacts of all active CFP grantees according to the WM CFS fields. (Please see Appendix D for the CFP Overview of WM CFS Results.)

LESSONS LEARNED, INSIGHTS GAINED

Community Food Project grantees are active in multi-faceted projects that range over more than 23 core activities. (Please see Appendix C for Community Food Project Logic Model used for evaluation.) When their impacts, however, are viewed through WM CFS as part of a larger process of community food system development, a strong and meaningful picture of their effect can be communicated.

16 Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service
17 http://www.n-r-c.com
COMMUNITY FOOD SUMMITS

THE ORGANIZATION – SUSTAINABLE SOUTH SOUND

Sustainable South Sound (SSS) is an organization in Olympia, Washington committed to improving the quality of life in the South Puget Sound community. All organizational members are volunteers and include business men and women, scientists, teachers, physicians, farmers, artists, students, and parents that share a common goal of creating a better life for families and future generations. SSS members are interested in addressing community questions such as:

- How can we protect and support our local farmers?
- How can we promote social justice?
- How can we address global warming at the community level?
- How can we measure sustainability?
- How can we educate the community on systems thinking?
- How can we create safe living and learning environments for our children?

Sustainable South Sound developed a local initiative called “Local Food Systems.” It is designed to “increase the amount of food grown on private property and public space by advocating for changes to public policy, providing information and resources, and building a vibrant network of urban farmers.” Sustainable South Sound sought to create a community-based and holistic process to generate ideas for their local food systems work. In January 2011, they convened a community dialogue between community organizations, farmers and community members. During the presentation, the six fields of Whole Measures CFS were used as a guide to help attendees think holistically about the food system.

The dialogue resulted in participants deciding they would plan a food summit using Whole Measures CFS as the organizing tool. Sustainable South Sound participated in the WM CFS “Learning Community”18 to network and glean ideas. They designed a brochure featuring a flower with six petals, each petal representing a WM CFS field. In order to inspire thought around the local food system and the food summit, the brochure was sent to potential financial sponsors. Diverse groups were convened, including non-profits working on food and health issues, parents advocating for economic empowerment of low-income women, and business and tourism officials.

Prior to the food summit, Sustainable South Sound hosted “Focus on Food” activities that included a bicycle tour of urban farms and gardens, as well as library events to generate interest, educate community members, and inspire the community-at-large to “come to the table.” Additionally, TJ Johnson, a SSS representative was asked to teach a course at Evergreen College19 called “Ecological Agriculture: Creating a Sustainable Local Food System.” He used Whole Measures CFS to teach his students about the community food system. Each student selected one field to study and they were asked to participate in the food summit.

18 The CFSC Whole Measures CFS “Learning Community” was a network of nearly two-dozen individuals using WM CFS as a tool in their communities. By creating the “Learning Community”, the goal was to extend the impact of the intensive mentoring project to a wider group. The WM CFS learning community met every other month over 18 months, shared experiences and explored core capacities needed to implement the tool.
19 Located in Olympia, Washington
In October 2011, Sustainable South Sound and others hosted the “South Puget Sound Food Summit.” On the first of two days, students began the dialogue by discussing their selected WM CFS field as part of a panel of six speakers, each representing one of the WM CFS fields. The panel responded to questions like:

- What does it mean to have a just and equitable food system?
- Why should we care?
- What is already happening in our community?

During the food summit, participants attended break-out sessions and held community conversations based on the six fields, with the goal of developing action plans to reach their chosen community outcomes.

For future food summits, Sustainable South Sound hopes to convene a better cultural representation of the community, encourage more diversity in the voices heard, and increase the feeling of empowerment in the youth attendees.
THE ORGANIZATION – EARTH LEARNING

About 2,500 miles from Sustainable South Sound is Earth Learning in South Florida. It is a collaborative learning community that inspires people, entrepreneurs, community-based social ventures, and events through ecological learning experiences. The learning experiences are guided by the belief that food culture is at the heart of the relationship that humans have with the earth. Earth Learning believes it is imperative for individuals and communities to cultivate programs that inspire the birth of a local, just and sustainable foodshed in their bioregion, the Greater Everglades. They work with diverse partners, including non-profits, municipal governments, social entrepreneurs, and other community-based groups. A goal of Earth Learning is to develop a system that will provide fresh, local, healthy, and affordable food to all residents, especially those that live in areas with limited access to fresh foods.

At the inaugural “Greater Everglades Community Food Summit” in July 2010, Earth Learning started to use Whole Measures CFS. On the first day, the attendees included the following:

- Farmers and urban growers,
- Community groups
- Activists
- Chefs and restaurant owners
- Institutional buyers and food service providers
- Representatives from local government
- Entrepreneurs
- Educators and researchers
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farmers
- Farmers market managers
- Value-added processors
- Foodies

These individuals and groups assembled to evaluate the needs of their community. The participants used a modified World Café Process\(^\text{20}\) to frame questions using the six WM CFS fields. Using these fields, they spoke honestly and used questions such as, “Where are we within this field?” and “Where are we going?” to initiate dialogue.

At the food summit, working groups formed using the most valued fields. After the food summit, the working groups continued to meet and some still meet today. In addition to the working groups, more farmers markets were started, a sense of community was formed, and the community-at-large began to think holistically.

The success of the first summit inspired Earth Learning to make it an annual event. The “2nd Annual Greater Everglades Community Food Summit” was held in Fall 2011. For this summit, they created a set of pre-summit workshops, dialogues, and events for organizations and individuals whose work or interests do not focus directly on local food. The summit workshops were rooted in the six fields of Whole Measures CFS and are shown in the table on the following page.

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\(^{20}\) World Café Conversations are an intentional way to create conversation around questions that matter. A Café Conversation is a creative process for leading collaborative dialogue, sharing knowledge and creating possibilities for action in groups of all sizes, held in a café-like setting.
SUMMIT WORKSHOPS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summit Workshop</th>
<th>Whole Measures CFS Field</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Local Plus” Food Access for All</td>
<td>Healthy People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enabling Local Food</td>
<td>Strong Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-Setting the Table, Toward Food Justice</td>
<td>Justice and Fairness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Agriculture for All</td>
<td>Justice and Fairness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Farming: An Appetizing Strategy for Ecosystem</td>
<td>Sustainable Ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration and Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>The New Agrarians: Growing Food Everywhere</td>
<td>Vibrant Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating Local Living Economies &amp; Right Livelihoods</td>
<td>Thriving Local Economies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By providing a framework for community food systems, the second food summit helped those previously uninterested in food security to see the big picture and to participate in meaningful conversations.

*Earth Learning* hopes that the community will create an action plan; develop community alliances and joint business ventures; and raise funds to promote the production, processing, marketing, distribution, storage, and consumption of food sustainably grown in the greater Everglades bioregion.

**LESSONS LEARNED, INSIGHTS GAINED**

*Sustainable South Sound* and *Earth Learning* were drawn to *Whole Measures CFS* because it resonated with their organizational values and emerging initiatives. Each organization used the six fields to envision and structure their event and to unite community members that had not previously seen the interconnectedness of their work and values.

While discussing the food summit with the WM CFS Learning Community, Mario Yanez of *Earth Learning* inspired TJ Johnson of *Sustainable South Sound*. This inspiration helped *Sustainable South Sound* to develop a systems approach to the organizing, planning, and hosting of their food summit.

Both organizations feel that *Whole Measures CFS* is an accessible planning tool and can be used by many different organizations. They expressed that after the process becomes familiar, *WM CFS* can be internally integrated into an organization’s work, including program and organizational evaluation.
STRATEGIC PLANNING

With Whole Measures for Community Food Systems, organizations can evaluate their strengths and weaknesses, think holistically about their work and impact, and identify external opportunities. Healthy Solutions, the Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC), and WhyHunger used Whole Measures CFS for strategic planning in these ways. CFSC built on the framework developed with WM CFS and structures their annual evaluation accordingly.

THE ORGANIZATION – HEALTHY SOLUTIONS

Healthy Solutions is a dynamic organization working at the national level to promote and support the work of black farmers and at the local level to build community food systems in three communities around the country (D.C., North Carolina & Alabama) by creating local distribution systems. They used Whole Measures CFS to focus at the strategic level.

Healthy Solutions is a 501 (c)(3), NGO (Non-governmental organization) whose mission is to increase the capacity of communities of color, particularly African Americans, to achieve self-reliance through distribution, agriculture, entrepreneurship, and cooperative healthy food enterprises.

Our vision is to use this model to create sustainable, equitable communities that realize both the health and economic benefits of their community food systems and their community food security.

“WM CFS really hit home. It was very helpful in addressing obstacles we faced and it gave us a framework and understanding of what makes our goals and mission successful.”

Erica Hall, Healthy Solutions

Because race is an important factor often overlooked, the WM CFS field Justice and Fairness was the most valued. This process cultivated a greater appreciation for the work Healthy Solutions was already doing around racial equity and social justice. As a result, Healthy Solutions rewrote its mission statement in a way that highlights racial equity and social justice, which has been at the foundation of their work since its inception.

THE ORGANIZATION – COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY COALITION

The Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC) works with organizations to effect change and transform communities. CFSC is a diverse alliance of individuals and organizations that work to develop self-reliance in communities by creating a food system that is regional and rooted in the principles of sustainability, justice, and democracy.

The Community Food Security Coalition used Whole Measures CFS to design an evaluation
framework for their strategic road map, which includes their vision and mission statements, and strategic goals. CFSC spent a year and a half hosting discussions and listening sessions with its members to identify the core goals for the next five years. The resulting strategic road map was lengthy and included a wide range of objectives. They wanted to put their goals and objectives into a format that would succinctly create a picture of how their work contributed to community food security.

With facilitation from Gita Gulati-Partee of Open-Source Leadership, a team of Board members, staff and organizational members used WM CFS to consider how each of the Road Map objectives fit into the WM CFS fields. Given that CFSC works at regional and national levels, the language of the fields were interpreted through a broader level impact to the food security movement. Healthy People, for example, became Building Organizational Capacity. Strong Communities became Networking the Field, etc. The resulting alignment of CFSC’s core objectives with the WM CFS fields resulted in CFSC identifying six core strategies for their national movement building work.

The core strategies include:
- Educate the public
- Advocate for policy change
- Build capacity
- Network the field
- Promote social justice and anti-racism
- Strengthen the organization

CFSC also used WM CFS practices to create cross-organizational indicators to measure their impact. The indicators are:
- Strong organizational development
- Broad and diverse base
- Healthy organizations and community groups
- Supportive policies and structure
- Transformational leadership
- Favorable public will and discourse
- Active social justice practices
- Political power
CFSC now uses this format to structure their annual outcome reporting. Each year, through a collection of numerous evaluation sources, CFSC collects data reflecting their impact in all program and administrative areas.

**THE ORGANIZATION – WHYHUNGER**

Similar to CFSC, WhyHunger is a grassroots support organization helping to build a social movement to end hunger. The organization encourages self-reliance and community empowerment through technical support; access to a knowledge base; and helping to create grassroots networks of organizations that are transforming their communities to become healthy, sustainable, and self-reliant. WhyHunger uses a variety of techniques to build capacity in communities to help end hunger and poverty by connecting people to nutritious and affordable food by supporting community-based solutions.

WhyHunger used Whole Measures CFS for strategic planning at a programmatic staff meeting. Staff used a Gallery Walk to consider how their work contributes to the various WM CFS fields. In the process, they found that employees became more engaged in evaluation because they could more clearly see the connection between their national level work and its impact in relation to their community food justice values. Employees also gained organizational insight by looking holistically at all staff work and understanding how their different roles fit together.

**LESSONS LEARNED, INSIGHTS GAINED**

For each organization, Whole Measures CFS provided a starting point, providing a broad spectrum of how to view community food justice. The importance of building racial equity and utilizing social justice practices was recognized as crucial to creating a whole community food system where all citizens are represented.

For organizations like CFSC and WhyHunger, who are one step removed from community-based food system building, utilizing the six WM CFS concepts to define their work was creative and fulfilling. Both organizations used WM CFS as a strategic planning tool and CFSC proceeded to use this frame for its ongoing annual evaluation.

Whole Measures CFS presented WhyHunger the chance to view their work as a whole system and to plan in ways that consider all aspects of that system. It also provided an opportunity to discuss deeper issues around transformational change in their organizations and communities. However in order for WM CFS to be effective, they found proper planning, preparation, funding, engagement, and a strong facilitation process to be imperative.

The work of these organizations also highlights the importance of modifying the tool to fit the circumstances of each community.

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**LESIONS LEARNED – HEALTHY SOLUTIONS, CFSC AND WHYHUNGER:**

Racial equity is a critical element of community food justice. When using WM CFS, it is helpful to begin with all six fields of practice. WM CFS can be used to develop a theory of change and organizational mission.
SUMMARY OF LESSONS LEARNED

What we learned about Whole Measures CFS as a framework for practice:

* Using WM CFS is a comprehensive process not a quick short-term evaluation strategy.
* The six fields of WM CFS can be used to provide a framework for learning and planning a community food justice summit or initiative.
* WM CFS provides a way for diverse projects and activities to be measured under one frame and in relation to each other.
* WM CFS can provide a frame for diverse participants to find common values.
* The six fields of WM CFS provide a useful structure to understand how a project contributes to a whole community food system.

What we learned about how to use WM CFS:

* WM CFS can be used to develop a theory of change and organizational mission.
* WM CFS can be used in diverse fields, such as public health, nutrition, and economic development.
* WM CFS is flexible enough to be used for planning and evaluation, youth and adults.
* Racial equity is a critical element of community food justice. When using WM CFS, it is helpful to begin with all six fields of practice.

What we learned about capacities of WM CFS:

* Storytelling and dialogue are important capacities used with WM CFS.
* WM CFS can be used to facilitate deep dialogue as well as forging strategies and action plans.
* Change is more likely to happen when participants engage in open and honest dialogue.
* Flexibility and innovation are important skills to engage WM CFS in a community.
* Sharing practices for implementing WM CFS can provide innovation and partnerships.

Tips for Implementation:

* A productive small group size to work with WM CFS is 6-8 individuals.
* It is important to show appreciation for participants including remuneration when possible.
* During community dialogue it is helpful to have two note takers.
* Including activities from multiple medias, such as Photovoice, can make WM CFS more accessible.
PUTTING THE CAPACITIES INTO PRACTICE

Each story in the previous pages gives an example of how WM CFS was modified to address a particular community’s situation. In addition to the lessons learned that are highlighted throughout Stories from the Field, the community partners also reinforced the importance of implementing the capacities described on pages 3-4. This section highlights a few examples of how communities put those capacities into practice.

In a new or established organization, it is a good idea to initialize the Whole Measures CFS process by identifying organizational and community values that reflect the six fields of practice. In doing so, all stakeholders have the opportunity to share their values and begin to envision a whole community. The Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program and others used a Gallery Walk, a commonly used exercise within the framework of WM CFS, to discuss community values. Each Whole Measures CFS field was displayed and participants wrote a value under each field. This process allowed each individual to express their values and the whole group to develop a holistic understanding of their community’s values. At the end of the Gallery Walk, CCROPP narrowed their focus based on the needs expressed, eliminating months of work.

There are times that an organization/community will hit an obstacle that appears to stand in the way of progress. The obstacle can be the leader of an organization, a local or federal government agency, school boards, or external organizations/companies. To facilitate change, the community has to be bold and convene conversations that matter with the decision-making group(s). Each participant involved can embody transformational leadership, meaning that each individual can develop the capacity to be an agent of change, capable of engaging others to take action.

For example, Nuestras Raíces engaged their youth leaders with the Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council’s existing inter-generational school food stakeholder group to grapple with WM CFS. The youth were empowered and took ownership of the six Whole Measures CFS fields and facilitated a values-based dialogue in a familiar environment, where trust and respect were already present. After finding their voice, the youth convened a conversation with the Mayor to raise awareness and to provide input in the selection of their school system’s food service company.

In addition, the youth cultivated storytelling through their work with Photovoice. They took pictures that documented the Farm to Plate process of their food and were able to communicate its significance. The youth expressed a shared value—students having access to healthy and local food—and were able to convey why they cared which food service company won the bid. In using Photovoice, the youth were able to visualize their values locally using the WM CFS practices.

After defining the values of the community, the organization should convene a conversation that matters with external stakeholders. This forum allows all stakeholders...
to engage in an open dialogue to discuss values and address the obstacle(s) in the way. As with the experience of Healthy Solutions, the most powerful conversations are based on the principles of Justice and Fairness. A space can be created where all stakeholders feel respected, and have the opportunity to speak and be heard, be honest, and ask questions. This allows the community to raise awareness, and develop an ally and potential collaboration that can lead to movement toward racial equity and social justice.

Activities for Engaging the Community with WM CFS

The following list summarizes some of the Whole Measures CFS activities that were used during the mentoring project and are described in more detail in the various community stories.

- Forming an Evaluation Team [All organizations formed an Evaluation Team]
- Convening a Gallery Walk to identify values related to each WM CFS field [All organizations used Gallery Walks - Nuestras Raíces beginning on page 5]
- Employing visuals from the Photovoice exercise [Nuestras Raíces beginning on page 5]
- Taking field trips that correspond with each of the fields [Nuestras Raíces beginning on page 5]
- Utilizing Community Evaluation Strategies [CCROPP beginning on page 9]
- Creating focus groups to explore the WM CFS fields [The Food Project beginning on page 13]
- Developing an RFP for a community project using the WM CFS Fields [The Food Project beginning on page 13]
- Hosting a Food Summit utilizing the WM CFS fields [Earth Learning and Sustainable South Sound beginning on page 19]
- Designing a university course on Ecological Agriculture to create a better understanding of a local food system [Sustainable South Sound beginning on page 19]
- Using the World Café Process to explore the WM CFS Fields [Earth Learning beginning on page 21]
- Designing a strategic plan evaluation framework [CFSC & WhyHunger beginning on page 23]
CONCLUSION

As work continues with Whole Measures CFS, each of these organizations will further define the outcome(s) for their selected fields. In doing so, community values will evolve into action plans. The organization will know when the actions are completed because they will have measureable outcomes. Through this process, WM CFS can be used to design, plan and evaluate the impact on individuals, organizations and communities.

Whole Measures for Community Food Systems is a flexible tool designed for community engagement around common values. From 2010-2011, nine organizations piloted the tool, and their stories and uses of the tool are shared here. We hope these stories inspire you to adapt WM CFS to fit your organization and/or community. Whole Measures CFS can be used to support the transformation of urban and rural communities into healthy and whole communities – with sustainable ecosystems, vibrant farms and a thriving economy; practicing social justice, fairness, and civic participation; where people are healthy, tied to the community, and strive for self-determination.
PROJECT HISTORY AND FUNDING

COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY COALITION

The Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC) is a North American non-profit that provides leadership to communities, empowering them to become self-reliant and develop community food security. CFSC’s mission is to catalyze “food systems that are healthy, sustainable, just, and democratic by building community voice and capacity for change.” The Community Food Security Coalition sparks transformations through a comprehensive blend of networking, education, political advocacy, and technical assistance.

For over 10 years, CFSC has provided training and capacity building support as a grantee of the Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program (CFPCGP). The CFPCGP program is a part of the USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Through this program, dozens of community food projects are funded annually.

COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS – ACTIVITIES AND EVALUATION

The community food projects that are funded via CFPCGP are intended to increase food security in low-income communities; increase community self-reliance; and promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues. There are many ways that grantees approach these goals. Successful projects often include building relationships between multiple sectors of the food system, supporting the development of entrepreneurial activities, and promoting systematic approaches to building the long-term capacity of communities to address their food and agricultural needs.22

Evaluating these complex and diverse projects can be difficult. The Community Food Security Coalition provides evaluation training and capacity building to CFPCGP grantees that helps them to evaluate their work. Additionally, CFSC works with CFPCGP grantees to collect data that measures their common outputs and outcomes. The grantees’ data is reported each year through the Community Food Projects Indicators of Success (CFP IOS).

About 5 years ago, the Community Food Security Coalition and CFPCGP grantees became interested in finding new ways to communicate their complex stories and success. In addition to reporting on outputs and outcomes, grantees wanted to share, for example, the importance of their new connections, the impact of their forged relationships, and how leadership was built and respect was communicated in their respective communities.

WHOLE MEASURES FOR COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS MENTORING PROGRAM

In measuring the success of community food projects, a ten-person working group formed in 2007 to create a systems-based tool for community food systems. Some of the working group members included Jeanette Abi-Nader, Hank Herrera, Deb Habib, and Chris Paterson. The working group modeled their work on the Center for Whole Communities’ Whole Measures publication. They realized that the creation of a healthy and whole community food system involves holistic thinking. In 2009, the Community Food Security Coalition released their publication entitled, Whole Measures for Community Food Systems: Values-based Planning and Evaluation.23

22 For more information, visit http://www.foodsecurity.org/funding.html
(referred to as Whole Measures for Community Food Systems, Whole Measures CFS, or WM CFS in this report).

The Community Food Security Coalition received funding in 2010 from the USDA that allowed Whole Measures CFS to be piloted as a mentoring program. One of the underlying goals of WM CFS was to address the complex issues leading to unhealthy communities in the United States. CFSC issued a Request for Proposals and began the mentoring program at their Fall 2010 Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In testing the usefulness and effectiveness of Whole Measures CFS, four organizations were selected by CFSC that have led the way in addressing their local food security issues and in evaluating their success. These organizations were the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program (CCROPP), Healthy Solutions, Nuestras Raíces, and The Food Project. Each community worked with a mentor over the course of 18 months, with The Food Project joining the mentoring team mid-way into the process.

Other organizations used Whole Measures CFS and shared their experiences and strategies via a “learning community.” Four of these organizations are included in this report: Sustainable South Sound, Earth Learning, WhyHunger, and the Community Food Security Coalition.

During the mentoring program, the Whole Measures Community Food Systems Learning Community was established. It allowed all stakeholders to communicate via a conference call every other month and mentors from the working group were matched with an organization. Chris Paterson and Hank Herrera were paired with CCROPP. Deb Habib mentored for Nuestras Raíces, Sustainable Sound, and Earth Learning. And Jeanette Abi-Nader was the mentor for Healthy Solutions and The Food Project. The goals of the mentoring program were to: strengthen capacity for effective community food project; increase support through peer-to-peer education and information sharing; increase capacity for outcome and dialogue based program evaluation; and increase knowledge of common CFP outputs and outcomes.

At the end of the mentoring program in 2011, each organization was interviewed to solicit honest feedback about the tool: its strengths, weaknesses, and how it was used. This report is a culmination of the interviews, work done during the mentoring program, and the compiled impact of Whole Measures for Community Food Systems.
Bioregion – An ecological area with plants, animals, and environmental conditions that are bounded by natural borders.

CalFresh – A program in California formerly known as Food Stamps and federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Core Capacities – The unique set of skills and knowledge, principles and practices necessary to implement WM CFS. These capacities ensure that the underlying values, reflected in the six core WM CFS fields, are integrated into program development as well as the processes by which the people and communities interact.

Community Food Security – 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.

Community Food Systems – The interdependent parts of a system that provide food to a community in a way that is sustainable and nourishes all people within that community. This system includes the growing, harvesting, storing, transporting, processing, distribution, and consumption of food.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) – An alternative locally based model of agriculture and food distribution where individuals pledge support to a farm operation by subscribing as members and receiving a regular share of the farm’s harvest. The growers and consumers provide mutual support and share the risks and benefits of food production.

Diabetes – A group of three metabolic diseases in which a person has high blood sugar because their body does not produce enough insulin or does not respond to the insulin produced. Type 2 diabetes makes up 90% of diabetes cases, with obesity and poor diet thought to be the primary cause. This type of diabetes can be managed through exercise and healthy eating.

Farm to School – Farm to cafeteria programs create a partnership between local farmers and community institutions – to everyone’s benefit. Farmers benefit from increased business; the community benefits from the dollars kept in the region; and the young consumers benefit from the taste, freshness and nutrients of local produce.

Federal Poverty Level (FPL) – The federal poverty level is based on the poverty guidelines issued yearly in the Federal Register by the Department of Health and Human Service (HHS). For example, the 2011 poverty guideline was set at $22,350 for a family of four.

Fields – In Whole Measures for Community Food Systems, “fields” are the sets of value-based practices that contribute to whole communities through community food system development. The six fields comprise Justice and Fairness; Strong Communities; Vibrant Farms; Healthy People; Sustainable Ecosystems; and, Thriving Local Economies.

Food Sovereignty - Food sovereignty is the right of peoples, communities, and countries to define their own seed, agricultural, pastoral, labor, fishing, food and land policies which are ecologically, socially, economically, and culturally appropriate to their unique circumstances.

Foodie – An informal term referring to a person with a refined interest in and desire to learn about food.

Foodshed – A term referring to the flow of food from its source to the end consumer. A foodshed includes the land where the food grows, the route it travels to market, the markets where it’s sold and the people it feeds.

Gallery Walk – A community engagement activity where each field of Whole Measures CFS is displayed. Participants express what the full achievement of that field would look like in their community. For example, under ‘Healthy People’ participants might write, “access to fresh, affordable, culturally appropriate food, reduction in health disparities among people based on race, understanding of and connection to food sources.” The process allows individuals to express their values, and the group to develop a holistic understanding of the community’s values.

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23 Defined in Whole Measures for Community Food Systems, a Community Food Security Coalition publication, based on a definition by Mike Hamm and Anne Bellows.

24 Defined in Whole Measures for Community Food Systems, by the Community Food Security Coalition.


26 Whole Measures for Community Food Systems by the Community Food Security Coalition. Full field description found on pages 16-17.

27 WhyHunger Food Security Learning Center – http://www.whyhunger.org/getinfo#
Healthy (food) – Indicates characteristics that contribute to quality of life from a holistic perspective. Healthy food makes a significant contribution to a nourishing diet and does not cause diet-related disease under normal circumstances. Dimensions of healthy foods are their intrinsic properties (such as being whole and minimally processed) and safety, which is affected by the journey through the food system and handling at each stage. Used generally, health indicates characteristics that contribute to the quality of life.28

Obesity – A medical condition in which excess body fat has accumulated to the extent that it may lead to increased health problems and/or reduced life expectancy. Obesity is determined by measuring weight and height to calculate body mass index.

Outcomes – The changes in the wellbeing of individuals that can be attributed to a particular project, program, or policy. They indicate a measurable change in participant knowledge, attitudes, or behaviors. For each practice in each field of Whole Measures CFS, a set of sample desired outcomes are included as bulleted items. These sample outcomes represent the highest impact toward which a project might work. Projects are encouraged to modify the language of these outcomes to fit the unique circumstances in their projects and community. For the purposes of this document, “impact” and “outcome” are used interchangeably.29

Overweight – Having more body fat than is optimally healthy.

Photovoice – A method mostly used in the field of community development, public health, and education, which combines photography with grassroots social action. Participants are asked to represent their community or point of view by taking photographs, discussing them together, developing narratives to go with their photos, and conducting outreach or other action. It is often used among marginalized people, and is intended to give insight into how they conceptualize their circumstances and their hopes for the future.30

Practices – The core expressions of what it means to create a whole community through community food system development. Practices in Whole Measures for Community Food Systems are grouped according to fields of similar ideas. There are three or four practices for each field and these practices are listed in the gray highlighted areas of each rubric.31

Rubric – a scoring tool that lists the criteria for a piece of work or “what counts.”32 For the purposes of this document, the rubrics are tables that include each field of practices and their related outcomes and ratings.33

Smart Growth – An urban planning and transportation theory that concentrates growth in walkable centers to avoid sprawl, locating housing and transportation choices near jobs, shops and schools. It advocates compact, transit-oriented, walkable, bicycle-friendly land use, including neighborhood schools and mixed-use development with a range of housing choices. Smart Growth supports local economies and protects the environment.

Sustainable/Sustainability - The capacity to endure. For humans, sustainability is the long-term maintenance of responsibility, which has environmental, economic, and social dimensions, and encompasses the concept of stewardship, the responsible management of resource use.34

Sustainable Communities – Communities that are planned, built or modified to promote sustainable living, enjoying a balanced resource consumption with the natural environment; a prosperous, socially just economy; and culturally vibrant civic life.

Value Added Processors – A processor who increases the “value” of a product/good, process or service by manipulating the product in some way. Examples of value-added processing include preparing, preserving or freezing.

World Café Process – World Café Conversations are an intentional way to create conversation around questions that matter. A café conversation is a creative process for leading collaborative dialogue, sharing knowledge and creating possibilities for action in groups of all sizes, held in a café-like setting.
APPENDIX A

The Food Project Request for Proposal

Request for Proposals
June 17, 2011

The Food Project invites proposals from organizations and individuals who want to work in partnership to create greenhouse project(s) that celebrate the relationship between food and the health of our communities.

About the Project:
The Dudley Greenhouse is a 10,000-square-foot facility in the Dudley Neighborhood of Roxbury. Owned by the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI) and leased by The Food Project (TFP), the Greenhouse operates year round as a food production and educational space. Over the course of this past winter, TFP, with support from DSNI, led a series of open houses to gather input from community members about the Greenhouse. A Community Advisory Committee was also created to work with TFP and DSNI to help manage the process going forward. Based on input from these sessions, we are seeking out community partners to run greenhouse/gardening programs that benefit residents of Dorchester, Roxbury and Mattapan. Programs that benefit residents of the Dudley neighborhood are of particular interest.

What We Offer:
For agencies or individuals wanting to operate their own programming, we offer:

- Shared use of Greenhouse space, which will be minimally heated (kept above 36 degrees) in the winter months, and kept cool enough to operate throughout the summer.
- Possibility of using raised beds filled with a mix of compost and organic potting soil. Access to open educational space, bench space for seedling production or options to build out space to your specifications are also possibilities.
- Technical advice and support from TFP’s Greenhouse Manager.
- Access to water, tools and facilities (bathroom, tables, chairs, sink area for washing produce etc.).
- Projects are limited to a 1-year timeframe. Shorter projects will be considered. Start date is no earlier than Oct.15th, and will be subject to a review by TFP and the Advisory Committee at the 3-month mark.

Restrictions:
- Individuals wanting to have a project in the greenhouse must demonstrate how it will provide a benefit to the community. Growing food for personal consumption without having an educational purpose is not considered a community benefit.
APPENDIX A CONTINUED

The Food Project Request for Proposal

- Intention to sell produce or products must be specified in application. Applicants are responsible for ensuring they meet any City or State regulations in regards to the selling of products.
- You must be willing to administer pre- and post-program surveys, as designed by The Food Project, as close to the start and end of the program as possible.

The Review Process:

Please submit an application containing all of the items below by July 20th, 2011. We will contact you if we have questions or require additional information. We will acknowledge your application within a week of its receipt and The Food Project, in partnership with the Greenhouse Advisory Committee, will make decisions by August 15th, 2011. We encourage you to contact The Greenhouse Manager in advance of creating your proposal to visit the Greenhouse and discuss your application. Please contact Danielle Andrews at 617-442-1322 x 13, dandrews@thefoodproject.org

Application Contents:

1) Cover Letter
2) Narrative (no more than 3 pages double-spaced) that includes:
   - Project description (including how you will use the space in different seasons, description of target participants and # of participants served)
   - Key staff/volunteers (including your experience in carrying out food production work)
   - Physical requirements (amount of overall space, raised beds or open space)
   - Description of additional assistance requested from The Food Project (technical advice, educational workshops etc.)
3) Using the following chart (separate document titled “Outcome Matrix”; please explain how your activities will meet the outcome goals determined by neighborhood residents. Your project activities do not need to address all outcomes outlined on the chart.)
APPENDIX B

The Food Project Outcome Matrix

During the winter of 2010-11, The Food Project conducted a series of open houses which included visioning sessions in which community members gave input on what values they thought would be important to be reflected in the community bays. From these brainstorm sessions, in partnership with the advisory committee, we created the following outcomes that we hope the community bays will achieve.

Describe how your project will contribute to the following outcomes. Note that you are not expected to meet all outcomes, but that proposals will be scored according to how many outcomes they are able to achieve.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUTCOME</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases access to fresh, healthy produce for underserved population(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributes to the creation of a fair food system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides food production resources to underserved population(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) STRONG COMMUNITIES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming is intentional about using space and programming to build community amongst participants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dudley neighborhood has a rich culture of food production. The program will build on this and seek out and/or strengthen relationships with our skilled neighborhood home chefs and gardeners.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) VIBRANT FARMS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growing space is used productively</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) HEALTHY PEOPLE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connects people to the Food System- from “field” to fork (opportunities to grow, taste, cook)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming reflects the cultural and spiritual relevance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX B CONTINUED

*The Food Project Outcome Matrix*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>of food to health and well-being</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unites and inspires participants to grow food and to share food and food cultures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**5) SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS**

| Production systems are sustainable and based on organic growing guidelines |  |
| Wherever possible, systems will incorporate and teach methods that enhance biodiversity, and promote an ecological ethic |  |
APPENDIX C

Community Food Project Indicators of Success Logic Model

Resources
- USDA funds
- Matching funds
- Communities
- Residents
- Community Food Projects
- Training and Capacity Building Providers
- Private and public sector organizations, business and schools
- Volunteers

Strategies
- Create community food systems
- Build collaboratives/networks/partnerships
- Build organizational and individual capacity
- Promote public education and outreach
- Advocate for policies to change local food infrastructure
- Promote social justice and racial equity

Outcomes
- **Healthy People**: Provides healthy food for all; Ensures the health and well-being of all people inclusive of race and class; Connects people and the food system, from field to fork, in understanding and in practice; Connects people and the land in ways that promote health and wellness
- **Strong Communities**: Improves equity and responds to community food needs; Contributes to healthy neighborhoods; Builds diverse, collaborative relationships, trust and reciprocity; Supports civic participation, political empowerment and local leadership
- **Thriving Local Economies**: Creates local jobs and builds long-term economic vitality within the food system; Builds local wealth and economic prosperity; Promotes sustainable development in strengthening local food systems; Includes infrastructure which supports community and environmental health
- **Vibrant Farms & Gardens**: Supports local, sustainable family farms to be thriving and economically viable; Cares for farmers and farm-workers; Cares for farm animals; Honors stories of food and farm legacy through community voices
- **Sustainable Ecosystems**: Sustains and grows a healthy environment; Promotes an ecological ethic; Enhances biodiversity; Promotes agricultural and food distribution practices that mitigate climate change
- **Justice & Fairness**: Creates opportunities for low-income and communities of color to move toward food health and self-sufficiency; Reveals, challenges and dismantles injustice in the food system; Creates just food system structures; Ensures public institutions and local businesses support a just community food system

Activities
- Youth/school gardening or agriculture project
- Entrepreneurial food and agricultural activity
- Farmers’ market
- Community garden
- Training and capacity building
- Community food assessment
- Food policy council/network
- Farm to cafeteria project
- Food access and outreach
- Micro-enterprise/entrepreneur skill training
- Job skills training
- Urban agriculture
# APPENDIX D

## Community Food Project Indicators of Success

### Community Food Project Indicators of Success - Overview of Results by Whole Measures for Community Food Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whole Measures (WM) Field</th>
<th>Indicator of Success</th>
<th>FY2011</th>
<th>FY2005-FY2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthy People</td>
<td>Pounds of food generated and handled</td>
<td>1.5 million</td>
<td>21.6 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- pounds produced</td>
<td>847,000</td>
<td>6.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- pounds donated</td>
<td>76,000</td>
<td>883,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- pounds sold</td>
<td>573,000</td>
<td>6.7 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Customers and food recipients</td>
<td>181,000</td>
<td>2.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- FMNP participants</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>112,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- SNAP recipients</td>
<td>9,600</td>
<td>110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- SFMNP meal recipients</td>
<td>3,300</td>
<td>61,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- WIC Program recipients</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>58,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- school or summer youth meal recipients</td>
<td>54,000</td>
<td>1.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong Communities</td>
<td>Food policy councils/networks formed</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Organizations represented on the councils or networks</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individuals on the council(s) or network(s) and participants</td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td>6,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>assuming new or enhanced leadership roles in the community*</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>2,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- those who are people of color*</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>2,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Approved policies</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- people affected by policies</td>
<td>3.3 million</td>
<td>42.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community food assessments completed</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- people affected by assessments</td>
<td>28.7 million</td>
<td>51.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thriving Local Economies</td>
<td>PTE jobs created</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>supported</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Farmers’ markets started*</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- sales of farmers’ markets*</td>
<td>$1.3 million</td>
<td>$3.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New and/or value-added products developed</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- sales of products*</td>
<td>$53,000</td>
<td>$61,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vibrant Farms and Gardens</td>
<td>Farmers participating</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>14,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- those participating in farmers’ markets*</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>2,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gardeners participating</td>
<td>8,500</td>
<td>36,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Community Food Project Indicators of Success

### Whole Measures for Community Food Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Food Project Indicators of Success - Overview of Results by Whole Measures for Community Food Systems</th>
<th>FY2011</th>
<th>FY2005-FY2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acres of land farmed or gardened</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>58,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardens operated</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>3,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of policies approved that support small- and mid-scale farmers</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Ecosystems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of land preserved</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurants/distributors/stores buying local</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools buying local produce</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>2,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy food*</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structures built*</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community kitchens built</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Tracking of this indicator began in 2010.

### Whole Measures (WM) Field

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whole Measures (WM) Field</th>
<th>Indicator of Success</th>
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<th>FY2005-FY2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Fairness</td>
<td>Pounds of food generated and handled</td>
<td>1.5 million</td>
<td>21.6 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(These indicators are represented in a WM CFS field above and repeated here.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customers and food recipients</td>
<td>181,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTE jobs created</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro-enterprise opportunities/micro-businesses started or supported</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools buying local produce</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>2,900</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Businesses renovated/modified to include local, healthy food*</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>440</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Tracking of this indicator began in 2010.
WHOLE MEASURES CFS
FIELDS AND PRACTICES

Justice and Fairness
- Provides food for all
- Reveals, challenges, and dismantles injustice in the food system
- Creates just food system structures and cares for food system workers
- Ensures that public institutions and local businesses support a just community food system

Strong Communities
- Improves equity and responds to community food needs
- Contributes to healthy neighborhoods
- Builds diverse and collaborative relationships, trust, and reciprocity
- Supports civic participation, political empowerment, and local leadership

Vibrant Farms & Gardens
- Supports local, sustainable family farms to thrive and be economically viable
- Protects and cares for farmers and farm-workers
- Honors stories of food and farm legacy through community voices
- Cares for farm animals

Healthy People
- Provides healthy food for all
- Ensures the health and well-being of all people, inclusive of race and class
- Connects people and the food system, from field to fork
- Connects people and land to promote health and wellness

Sustainable Ecosystems
- Sustains and grows a healthy environment
- Promotes an ecological ethic
- Enhances biodiversity
- Promotes agricultural and food distribution practices that mitigate climate change

Thriving Local Economies
- Creates local jobs and builds long-term economic vitality within the food system
- Builds local wealth
- Promotes sustainable development while strengthening local food systems
- Includes infrastructure that supports community and environmental health