

# Wake County Food Security Update

Wake County Board Of Commissioners  
Human Services Board Committee

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# Overview

- **Food Security Program Manager**
- **SEV 3.1 – Implement a comprehensive plan to identify and address issues related to hunger, food insecurity and food deserts.**
- **ED 1.2 - Partner with WCPSS and community agencies to address childhood hunger.**
- **Questions and Comments**

# Food Security Program Manager

- Partners/Collaborative Work
  - The Capital Area Food Network
  - Wake County Food Security Work Group
  - Regional Planning Groups (includes HS CAC's & Directors)
  - WCPSS
- Goals/Work Plan:
  - Aligning partners & agencies to address priorities within Food Security Plan
  - Tracking & progressing work on the comprehensive food security plan
  - Address childhood hunger in partnership with WCPSS

## **SEV 3.1**

**Implement a comprehensive plan to identify and address issues related to hunger, food insecurity and food deserts.**

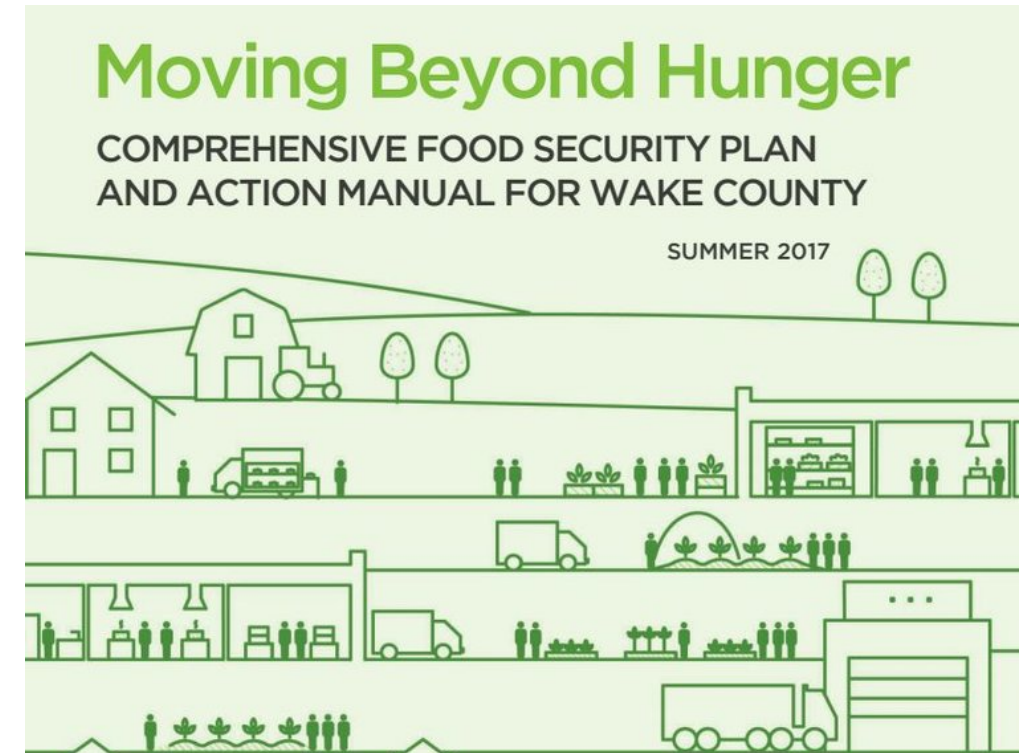
- **Progress of Moving Beyond Hunger Comprehensive Food Security Plan**
- **Challenges/Partners Needed**
- **Emerging Topics**
- **Regional Strategy**
- **Wake Food Security AmeriCorps VISTA Program**

# Moving Beyond Hunger: Comprehensive Food Security Plan and Action Manual for Wake County

Adopted in Feb 2018

## 5 Key Strategies

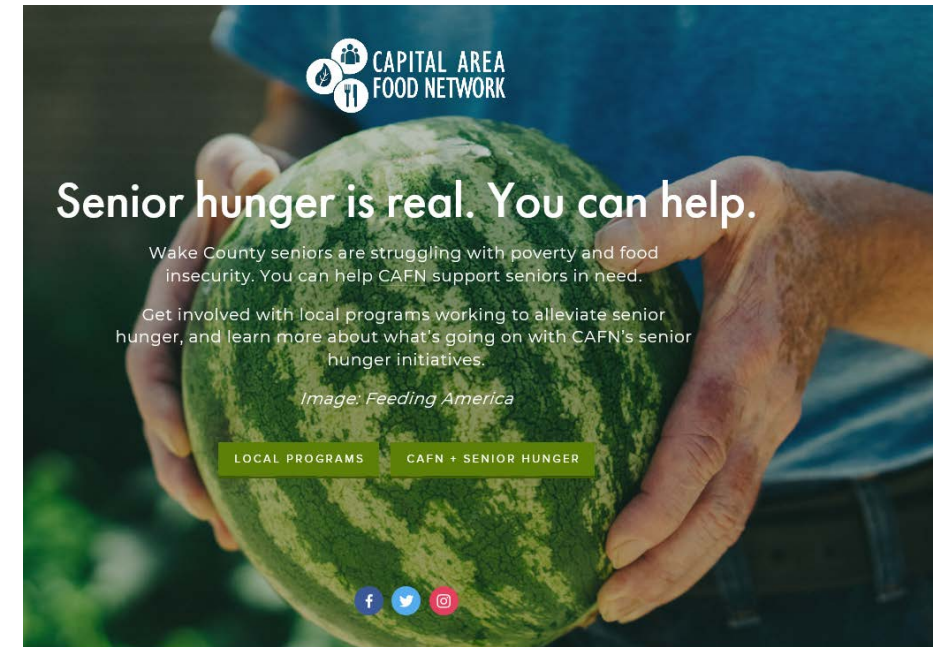
1. Ensure Food Access
2. Communicate & Educate
3. Develop Sustainable Food Supply
4. Build Economic Opportunity
5. Leading Through Networks



<https://www.capitalareafoodnetwork.org/foodplan/>

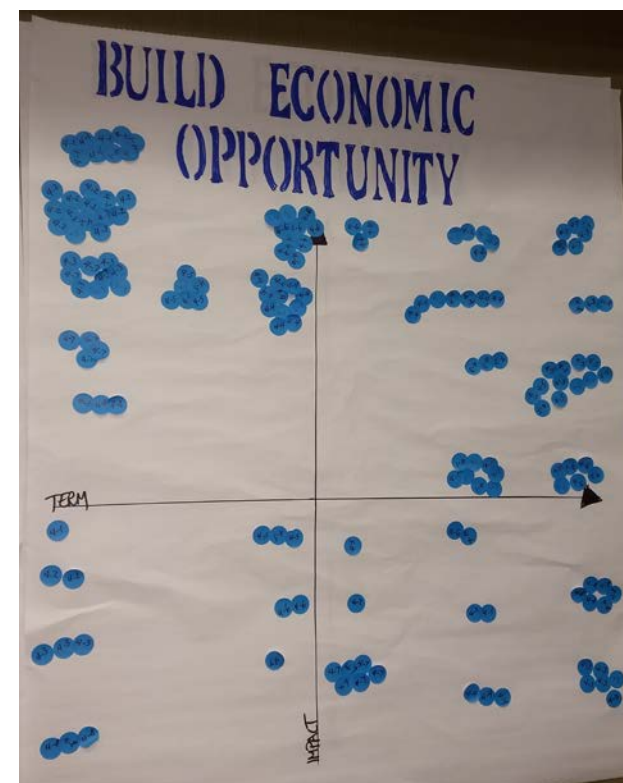
# Progress on the Plan

- 83% Projects underway
- Over 50 partner organizations intentionally engaged
- Sample of Projects Underway or Complete:
  - Action 1.9 & 2.3 County-wide database of Food Pantries, Wake Network of Care: Food Resources & Community Gardens
  - Action 2.4 Intergenerational Garden
  - Action 2.8 [Senior Voices Videos](#) & [Mixed Media Campaign](#) to highlight senior hunger
  - Action 3.6 Client Choice Manual



# Challenges

- Economic Development Strategies
- Sustainable Food Supply Strategies
- Need for greater engagement from economic development & private sector partners
- Some forward movement occurring now



# Emerging Topics

## Regional Food System & Food Security Collaboration

- Project 40
- Emerging Economic Development Circle & COR Synergy
- Will engage less active strategies within the food security plan

## Environmental Services

- Food Recovery Pilot





# Regional Food Security Strategy

## Adoption of the Plan & Collaboration:

- Wake Forest (February 2018)
- Wendell (January 2019)
- Knightdale (March 2019)
- Rolesville (March 2019)
- Raleigh (Included in strategic plan)

## Support from:

- HS Regional CAC's & HS Directors
- Town Staff
- Community Champions



Raleigh



# Wake Forest – Regional Pilot

## Areas of Prioritization:

- Volunteerism
- Supply Chain
- Policy & Administration
- Connectors
- Client Facing Groups



## Successes:

- 5 meetings; 41 individuals from 27 different groups
- [Development of town website](#)
- Increased volunteerism & Resource Development
- Increased access/knowledge of services
- EFNEP – Over 25 participants at first class



# Wake Food Security AmeriCorps VISTA Program



- Partnership with the Corporation for National Community Service
- To build and increase capacity of systems and establish best practices for SEV & Food Security Priorities
- Program is expanding to address emerging strategies



# VISTA Impact



## April 2019 – Education Awards & Living Allowance:

- **\$109,782** pre-tax living stipend dollars & **\$43,726.56** of education awards distributed

## Financial & Volunteer Support:

- \$8,836 cash resources & \$1,593 dollars leveraged
- Recruited 84 community volunteers who contributed 165 hours of service

## Partnership Development

- Enhanced awareness of and engagement with our Food security initiatives

## Summer Associates

- Provided education to 1,325 youth
- Served 2,048 summer meals at 79 sessions with average of 26 youth per session
- Distributed 126 substance use prevention materials to tobacco merchants in Wake County

## Resource Development – Full Time VISTA members





# VISTA Capacity Building



[Food Locator App](#)

[Summer Food Media Kits](#)

[Food Pantry Study](#) (Action Item 1.9)

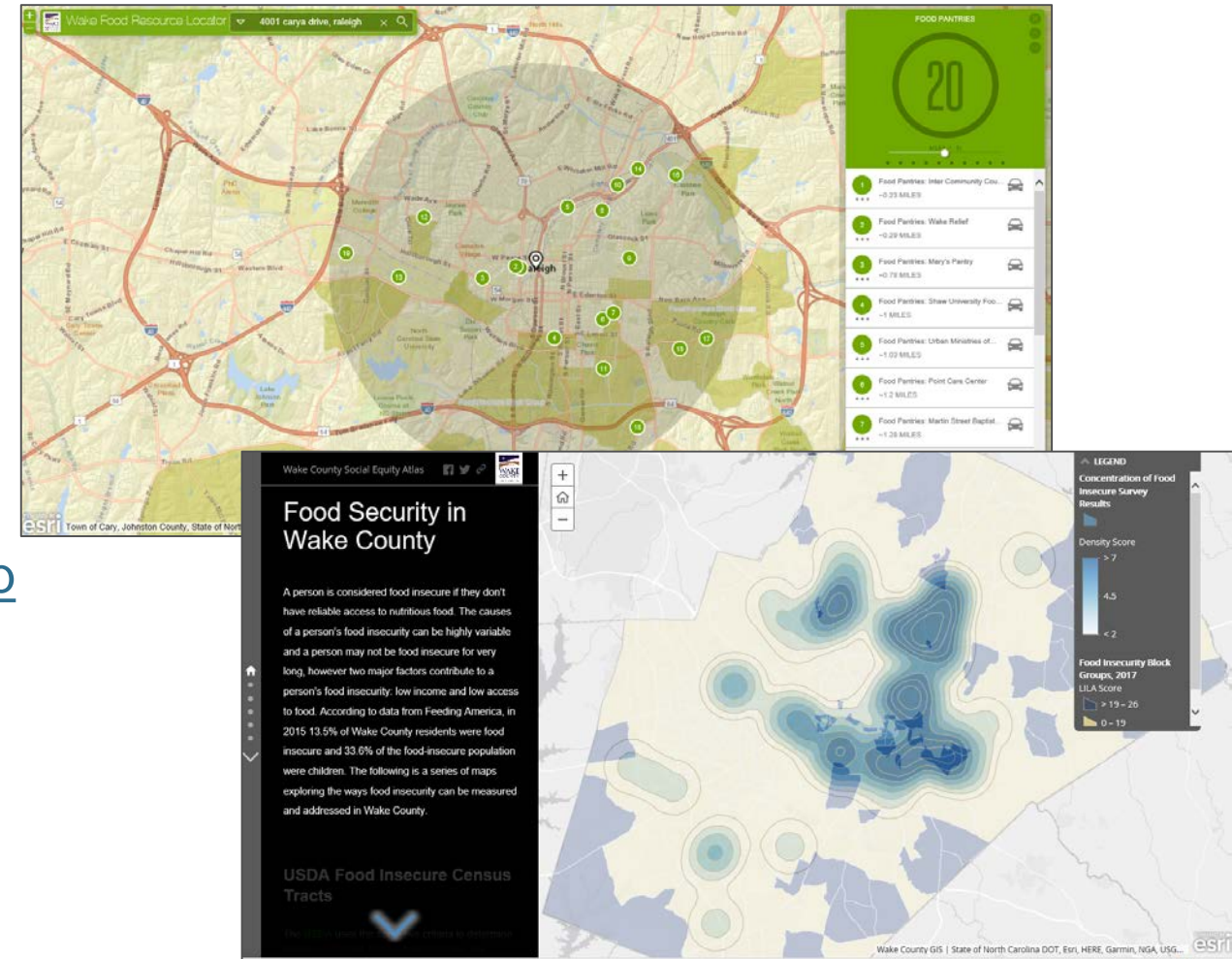
[Wake Network of Care List](#) of pantries and gardens (Action Item 2.3)

[Food Security Story Map](#)

[Summer Food Program Eligibility Story Map](#)

Summer Food Program Activity and 101 Guides

Capital Area Food Network Processes & Procedures



## ED 1.2

**Partner with WCPSS and community agencies to address childhood hunger.**

- **Updates on School Based Strategies**
- **Emerging Issues: School based strategies**
- **Updates on the Summer Food Service Program**

# WCPSS Pantries

## Collaboration with WCPSS, IFFS, FBCENC, & Wake County

- Leadership Team
- Implementation Guide

### Wake County Funded WCPSS Pantries Pounds Distributed and Equivalent Meals FY17-Q2 FY19

Metric	FY17	FY18	FY19 - Q1&2
Pounds Food Distributed	1,232	2,720	1,359
Equivalent Meals	15,147	28,781	15,568
Schools with Wake Funded Pantries	4	10	14

## Lessons Learned:

- Important to have consistent staff & leadership
- Need for greater communication between school leadership, pantry operator, and partners

# School Based Strategies

## (Universal Breakfast in the Classroom 1.2, 1.4)

25 Schools currently with USB

- 13 funded by Wake County

Partners for Breakfast in the Classroom Grant

- Funding for 4 school pilots awarded
- Breakfast in the Classroom may have promise



# School Based Strategies (Dedicated Food Resources)

- **FY2017:** 116 schools with dedicated food resource
- **FY2018:** 153 schools with dedicated food resource
- **FY2019:** Seeking to have dedicated food resource in all schools with greater than 30% FRPL for Working with WCPSS to gather data
- Plans to share resources with WCPSS Social Workers at PLT Meetings in Fall

# Emerging Issues: School Based Strategies

- Emergence of high needs schools without resources (e.g. Universal Breakfast) as school populations change
- Discussion of additional funding be prioritized and submitted by WCPSS through their annual budget request

# Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)



- **Role of Food Security Program Manager with SFSP**
- **Overarching Goals for 2019**
  - Support strong communication through SFSP Work Groups
  - Enhance marketing/outreach county-wide
  - Support stronger activities at sites
  - Build regional sponsors to provide freshly prepared meals and enhance regional partnerships
  - Develop and implement evaluation tools for informed decisions

# Questions & Comments