











LHIC SDOH (Social Determinants of Health) Meeting with Baltimore DOP and BCHD

Meeting Date: 10/13/2022 3:00 PM

Participants

-  [Bowman, Elise \(BCHD\)](#) (Meeting Organizer)
-  [LaFave, Taylor \(DOP\)](#) (Accepted in Outlook)
-  [Adams, Lindsay \(DOP\)](#) (Accepted in Outlook)
-  [Cocke, Abby \(DOP\)](#) (Accepted in Outlook)
-  [Akinkuowo, Yewande \(DOP\)](#)
-  [Bertrand, Stephane \(BCHD\)](#)
-  [Morgan, Matt \(BCHD\)](#) (Accepted in Outlook)
-  [White, Mary C. \(BCHD\)](#) (Accepted in Outlook)
-  [Olumiji, Najahla \(DOP\)](#) (Accepted in Outlook)
-  [Richardson, Ava \(DOP\)](#)

Notes

Current Urban Agriculture Landscape

Department of Planning Role

Urban Planning

Food policy (leasing, tax credits, water lines)

Hosting agriculture stakeholder meetings

Vision:

Build an equitable and resilient food system to mitigate the negative impacts associated with food insecurity during and after the COVID-19 pandemic by: improving access to healthy affordable food, increasing produce distribution and incentivization, and addressing the food supply chain failure by building the BIPOC local food production supply chain.

Funding for urban farms:

Black Yield Institute

Park Heights _____

Department of Planning - Current Work

Priority: Food Access

- Urban agriculture is connected to food insecurity
- Work into every aspect of plan

Goals:

Urban agriculture will never meet all food needs within the city limits.

We need a resilient regional food system to:

- Make an impact on the lives of individual children, families, and neighborhoods
- Teach kids about growing food/transform relationship to food

Farm Incubator Program:

Part of the DOP's ARPA proposal

\$11 million in funding; \$1 million -> farm alliance for FIP

Provides funds to farmers of color in urban agriculture

- Stipend for training time
- 15-year lease-to-purchase
- Other forms of land tenure for farmers (leases, sales, land trusts)

Money from state:

Goes to water and power infrastructure.

State isn't interested in land acquisition

MAJOR PLAYERS:

Baltimore City Department of Planning

Farm Alliance of Baltimore (made up of by ~1/2 of farms in city)

- Share EBT
- Work on policies
- Seedling share

Black Yield Institute

- Thinking about grocery stores differently

Black Church Food Security Network

Maryland Department of Agriculture

University of Maryland School of Agriculture

- Extension Service
- Master Gardener Program
- Contact: Nieth Little - marketing analysis, certification, meeting state requirements

Baltimore City Health Department

Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) - Reconvened in 2021.

LHIC's Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) workgroup identified food insecurity as it relates to urban agriculture.

Goal: Support collaborations around existing work in Baltimore.

What work is happening in the city?

What partners are already doing the work?

Where do we fit?

Current Key Players: Healthcare, government, community members, youth, academia, community-based organizations.

SDoH: Academia (Johns Hopkins, Morgan), urban agriculture, pastors, youth (CLIA - Youth Voices for Community Change)

Where does the DOP need funds?

Water line, land tenure

Where does BCHD fit?

Public education and engagement campaign - Provide communications and marketing:

- Basic training
- Locations of farms
- How to get involved in composting, pollinators
- Tree/mulch giveaways

Volunteer Corps - Organize and delegate

Fresh Food Connect - exists in other communities; bring to Baltimore?

- Support community gardens and urban farms
- Transport produce to food banks and shelters
- Related program: Meal Connect

- No longer operating in Baltimore
- Did the same work with leftover food from restaurants

More Nutrition Education

Already exists

There is an untapped desire and need to expand

Focus:

- What to do with fresh produce
- School education (farm to school, where food comes from)
- Possible education series about history of where food comes from (not really our wheelhouse, but could work for a partner?)

Key players already doing the work:

- Am Heart Assoc
- UMD Ext
- Grow Centers
- *Cooking classes - pair with food dist.*

Resident Food Equity Advisory Board - no existing cohort, forming next cohort now

Next Steps

- Obtain list of urban agriculture contacts