

Plymouth County Food System Action Plan: Community Advisory Board (CAB)

Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Zoom link: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/BdAzBO8eTQ6KMgnBZUx6cQ

Dial-in: 1-646-876-9923 (Meeting ID: 830 0964 3773; Passcode 241827)

Open to board members and the public

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions (Rita Higgins, Marion Institute)

- 2. Update from last Steering Committee meeting (Joanne Zygmunt, OCPC)
- 3. Check in about how this CAB process is going (Rita)
- 4. Discuss Theme 2, "Community health and well-being" (Rita and Joanne)
 - ★ Before meeting, please review Paper 1, which follows this agenda
- 5. Next steps and meeting survey (Higgins)
- 6. Next meeting: Virtual, Wednesday, October 29, 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Notices

- For further information about this project, including agenda, recordings, and minutes, please visit https://oldcolonyplanning.org/foodresiliency/.
- This public meeting will be recorded and made available on OCPC's website.
- Accessibility accommodations and language services will be provided free of charge, upon request, as available. Please contact Mary Waldron at mwaldron@ocpcrpa.org or 508-583-1833.
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Paper 1 Community Health and Well-being (Theme 2)

Instructions

We're using the Community and Agriculture Resilience Audit Tool (CARAT) (https://carattool.org/) as a collaborative platform to bring together community stakeholders for a self-assessment of our local food system. The results will inform the development of a Plymouth County Food System Action Plan.

The theme of this meeting will be Community Health and Well-being. We will discuss each of the 'indicators' numbered below to assess our region's performance.

Terms in **orange bold** are defined after the list of indicators.

If you would like to explore what other places are doing, please see the "Resource Archive" at https://carattool.org/guide/introduction (located in the left menu).

Indicators we'll cover at this meeting

To what extent, if at all, do we do or have the following? Please consider related policies, practices, programs, and projects, as well as the individuals and organizations involved.

Part A: Improving citizen wellness through enhanced access to nutritious, affordable, and culturally appropriate foods

- 22. We provide opportunities for leadership, collaboration, and connections with **socially disadvantaged groups** to foster equity and inclusion in community, professional, and grassroots contexts.
- 23. We regularly monitor **public health indicators** to assess food system-related community health.
- 24. We enable **farm-to-institution procurement programs** for schools, daycare facilities, hospitals, or correctional facilities.
- 25. We promote retailing healthful local foods through demonstration or pilot projects, marketing campaigns, point-of-sale signage, social media, or other ways of distinguishing such foods and encouraging their consumption.
- 26. We provide fresh food access for **limited-resource and limited-mobility** residents through farmers' markets, fresh produce delivery services, **SNAP** and **WIC-**enabled purchasing, and cost-share incentive programs (e.g., policies or programs that enhance transportation and/or access to local food market sites).
- 27. We subsidize **sliding-scale CSA subscriptions** to increase accessibility.
- 28. We make community-based nutrition education, cooking instruction, and youth

- education programming widely available.
- 29. We assist and promote emergency and supplemental food providers, like food banks and food pantries, to source fresh food from local farmers.

Part B. Encouraging attention to food production and accessibility in disaster and emergency management and planning

- 30. We have policies, practices, or programs in place that specifically address food availability and accessibility in the event of a disaster or other emergency.
- 31. We have emergency and/or disaster plans that are integrated and coordinated with other types of local or regional emergency relief and food access activities.
- 32. We have emergency plans that include specific acquisition and storage recommendations for household members, food retailers, public agencies, and relevant nonprofit organizations.
- 33. We have emergency plans that include networks of grassroots and community-led organizations that are able to quickly communicate with underserved and/or isolated communities to distribute emergency food resources as needed, especially in rural communities and in other low-access areas, including those with immigrant and migrant populations.
- 34. In our community, information about disaster and/or emergency plans, the conditions that would trigger their execution, and their expected impact is regularly and widely shared with local government officials, non-governmental stakeholders, and members of the public.
- 35. In our community, a full range of diverse, local stakeholders, including those involved in food production, distribution, and grassroots organizing, have been engaged in disaster and/or emergency management planning, and their feedback is regularly solicited to reduce the chances of overlooking critical information.
- 36. In our community, stakeholder engagement in disaster and/or emergency management planning involves meeting people where they are, through public meetings, interviews, social media, postal mail, and outreach activities conducted at times convenient for them.

Terms

Community supported agriculture (CSA)

A type of direct agricultural marketing, consists of a community of individuals who pledge support to a farm operation so that the farmland becomes, either legally or in spirit, the community's farm; with the growers and consumers providing mutual support and sharing the risks and benefits of food production. (Source: <u>USDA</u>)

Farm-to-institution procurement programs

Local Food Purchasing Incentives (LFPIs) are programs that provide additional funding to child nutrition program (CNP) operators to directly offset or incentivize local food purchases. Typically funded and operated at the state level, these programs intend to increase the purchasing of local foods in school and early care and education (ECE) settings. The first state-level LFPI was established in 2001, and as of August 2023, at least 16 states and Washington, D.C. have established LFPIs. (National Farm to School Network)

Public Health Indicators

A measurable characteristic that describes the health of a population (e.g., life expectancy, mortality, disease incidence or prevalence, or other health states); determinants of health (e.g., health behaviors, health risk factors, physical environments, and socioeconomic environments); and health care access, cost, quality, and use. (CDC)

Socially disadvantaged

Those who have faced prejudice or cultural bias in American society due to their group identity (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender) rather than individual qualities. Some persons are presumed to be socially disadvantaged. For certification purposes, those persons are women and members of the following groups: Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Native Alaskan, Asian, Pacific Islander, or Native Hawaiian. (Source: WA State MWBE)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

A federal program that provides food benefits to low-income families to supplement their grocery budget so they can afford the nutritious food essential to health and well-being. (Source: FNS)

Women Infant & Child (WIC)

A federal program that provides free, healthy foods and personalized nutrition education, breastfeeding support and referrals to other services for eligible pregnant, recently pregnant, and breastfeeding women, infants and children under 5 years old. (Source: FNS)