United Way
United Way
of Passaic County

PASSAIC COUNTY
Food Policy Council

Your monthly news & updates

The Passaic County Food Policy Council (PCFPC) is committed to expanding healthy food access in our communities in addition to supporting an overall Culture of Health. Our strategic plan, **"Building a Culture of Health: Blueprint for Action",** provides information about the kind of work we are doing. For more information or to join our next bi-monthly general body meeting, which is scheduled for March 16th at 10:00 am, please email Mary Celis. Also, check out our Facebook page for more frequent updates. Link to Strategic Plan

NEWS AND ADVOCACY UPDATES

NJEDA Report and Food Desert Relief Program

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority(NJEDA) has released a list of New Jersey's 50 designated Food Desert communities. The Food Desert Relief Program addresses the food security needs of communities across New Jersey by providing up to $40 million per year in tax credits, loans, grants, and/or technical assistance to increase access to nutritious foods and develop new approaches to alleviate food deserts.
Read more about the programs: Methodology, Community Ranking and Map.

NJ EDA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Food Security Planning Grant Program

To advance the goals of the Food Desert Relief Act (FDRA), part of the Economic Recovery Act of 2020, the EDA will use up to $1,500,000 in economic planning services funds to create a competitive planning grant program focused on leveraging distressed assets in designated Food Desert Communities (FDCs) in New Jersey to improve food access and food security.
Check out the grant opportunity here

RESOURCES AND TOOLS

Using NJ SNAP at Farmers Market
Did you know that you can use your SNAP EBT benefits at over 20 farmers markets and farm stands across New Jersey? Learn how it works and find a location.

CUMAC's Benefit Enrollment Program
Access to benefit programs is not always easy to figure out. Luckily, CUMAC is creating a Benefits Enrollment Center and is providing free help with benefits applications for adults aged 65+ and adults living with a disability. The BEC is helping with programs such as: Medicaid, Medicare Savings, Medicare Part D Extra Help, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and more. For more info contact 973-742-5518 or info@cumacecho.org

CUMAC
Feeding People • Changing Lives

Hunger Free New Jersey
There are several federal programs, operated by New Jersey state agencies, that provide food assistance to families. Families and individuals may qualify for more than one program. To find out more information on assistance programs click here.

LEARNING AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

2022 New Jersey Sustainability Summit
Time: June 24, 2022 8am-4pm
Location: Bell Works, Holmdel, NJ
The New Jersey Sustainability Summit is a momentous event in our state, annually drawing more than 600 change-makers from across the political, private, and public sectors. This exceptional one-day forum spotlights the successes and lessons learned from the people and projects that are helping New Jersey realize a more sustainable future. We invite all who are interested to be ready to deepen their understanding and expand their network. Register for the event here

New Jersey Farmers, Markets, & Growers Coalition

New Jersey's first statewide coalition of farmers, markets, and growers seeks to bring together local growers and agricultural stakeholders to leverage partnerships and resources. This coalition will support networking among producers and facilitate connections to markets and funding opportunities across the state to support local growers, and increase access to fresh, healthy food across the Garden State. Interested in joining the coalition? Check it out here .

NJ Food Democracy Collaborative

The NJ Roadmap for Food System Resilience is an ambitious attempt to present a holistic perspective and framing of food and agriculture issues in New Jersey. We draw on the state's existing environmental justice focus to build a robust social and racial justice framework for resilience.
You can check it outhere.