



## 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 January 12th at 9:30am, please email Mary Celis.

---

## NEWS AND ADVOCACY UPDATES

### NJEDA Report

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) has released a draft list of New Jersey's 50 designated Food Desert communities. Read more about

[Methodology](#), [Ranking](#), [Map](#)



---

## RESOURCES AND TOOLS

### In-Person and Virtual SNAP Assistance

The Community Food Bank of New Jersey (CFBNJ) is now offering free, onsite benefit screening and application assistance for prospective SNAP and LIHEAP applicants at socially distanced, in-person events. If you would like to offer these services to your clients, please email [snapoutreach@cfbnj.org](mailto:snapoutreach@cfbnj.org).



### 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 [here](#)



### 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](mailto:info@cumacecho.org)



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 please visit:

<https://hungerfreenj.org/help/>



## LEARNING AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

### National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference

Join fellow anti-hunger advocates for a three day conference of content-rich sessions, interactive training, and networking opportunities. Registration will open the week of January 10th. Learn more about registration [here](#)

**NATIONAL  
ANTI-HUNGER  
POLICY  
CONFERENCE**

**March 15-17, 2022  
Washington, DC  
Virtually**

### NJEDA Webinar

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) has released a draft list of New Jersey's designated food desert communities for public feedback. NJEDA is offering a public listening to learn more about the methodology, data, and process to create a food desert designation that reflects the unique context of New Jersey. Additionally, NJEDA is looking for comments and public feedback. Register for the webinar [here](#)



### Envisioning Hunger-Free College in New Jersey

Free virtual conference focused on addressing student food insecurity at New Jersey colleges and Universities. There will be discussions about how to move our campuses toward becoming hunger free and highlighting innovative programming at institutions across the state. Register [here](#)



## True Cost of Food

The Rockefeller Foundation has completed a report that outlines the true cost of food. The report takes into consideration the environment, livelihood and biodiversity. This new information allows governments and policy makers to push food systems to become more equitable and sustainable.

You can check out the report [here](#):

