Mobile Market Readiness Assessment: Addressing Food Access in Tacoma, WA

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INTRODUCTION

The Tacoma Mobile Market Readiness Assessment was developed by the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department’s (TPCHD) Office of Assessment, Planning and Improvement’s SNAP-Ed Food Equity projects team as part of TPCHD’s commitment to improve the health of Tacoma residents by through increasing access to affordable healthy food. SNAP-Ed (Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Program), formally known as food stamps provides access to healthy food for individuals with limited incomes. SNAP-Ed also improves the likelihood that persons eligible for SNAP will make healthy choices within a limited budget as well as choose active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPlate.

Funded by the United States Department of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Services through the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and Washington Department of Health (DOH), TPCHD’s SNAP-Ed food equity projects move away from direct nutrition education, focusing instead on the policies, systems and environmental changes needed to create a healthy local food system.

Given that Pierce County and Tacoma lack a central hub or food policy council to share local data, map local assets and organize collaborative efforts, this document provides a cache of local data with maps collected from a variety of local community sources and includes brief overviews of the following:

- A brief history of Tacoma as a city.
- Key obesity-related health indicators within Pierce County as a whole.
- Food Assistance program usage within the greater Tacoma area.
- Household Food security within Pierce County.
- Maps of food access programs and food equity projects within the greater Tacoma area.
- Community survey results concerning community interest in a mobile market program.
- A brief summary of larger, more organized agency and collaborative efforts working to address food access needs.
- Potential policies, recommended delivery sites and locations.

Health outcomes, food insecurity and food assistance data at the city level is both more difficult to access and less dependable than county-wide data. However, local data is added wherever possible. More local data is no doubt, out there. Perhaps this document will serve as a starting place inspiring a compilation of local data into one place to remove silos and build on current efforts to both improve the local food system and increase access to healthy affordable food for low income residents.
GOALS OF THE TACOMA READINESS ASSESSMENT

The purpose of this assessment is to share data with community groups trying to answer the question: Does Tacoma need a mobile market program, and does Tacoma have the resources to implement a mobile market program? This document will not provide a simple yes or no answer as to whether or not a mobile market is needed or ready to be implemented in Tacoma. Instead, this document’s goal is to share local data, resources and maps similar to a low-level community food assessment from which community groups can identify challenges and opportunities to developing and/or supporting a local Tacoma mobile market program.

The TPCHD has also created a Mobile Market Assessment Readiness tool for agencies and collaboratives to explore their capacity to develop and implement a mobile market program in their community. The tool gives an overview of national and local models, tips on how to determine if a mobile market is a good idea to take on, as well as recommendations on making sure community is meaningfully involved throughout the program’s lifetime. The Mobile Market Assessment Readiness tool will be available in early Spring of 2017. Both tools can be used by community groups considering to start a mobile market program or want to make the case for a mobile market in the greater Tacoma area.

While this document utilizes some recommendations from the general Mobile Market Assessment Readiness tool, this document:

1. Is meant to share information, data and maps about Tacoma’s need, opportunity and key barriers to implementing a mobile market, should an agency or collaborative choose to take on such an endeavor.
2. Does not try to determine whether a mobile market is the best option for distributing affordable healthy food to Tacoma communities experiencing the highest rates of poverty with lowest access.

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

The hope is that community groups can use some of the data and list of resources to both begin to identify the gaps and opportunities to improve access while identifying potential community partners. It is also the hope that this document is merely a beginning to data sharing and cross collaboration in hopes to improve the health and wellness of the greater Tacoma residents.

Community groups may use this document for a number of ways including determining the need for a mobile market, mobile market development, internal business planning, and
preparation for recruiting investment. Most importantly, this document can serve as a platform for agencies and collaboratives to discuss the needs, assets and opportunities for improving food equity as well as identify opportunities to identify additional sources of local data to be added.

As you use this tool, please keep in mind:

- Some elements have been gleaned simply through a phone call while others took more in-depth research and analysis.
- Tacoma Pierce County Health Department does not consider the document as the authoritative source for neither determining Tacoma’s readiness for a mobile market nor does it hold all community data and resources.
- The document should be used in conjunction with community priorities.
- Please share this report with other community groups to help others do their work.
- Please share your findings as well as any additional data resources so that they may be shared with others.
BACKGROUND OF TACOMA

BACKGROUND

The city of Tacoma is located in Pierce County in Western Washington, and is the third-largest city in Washington State. It is 25 miles northeast of Olympia and 26 miles south of Seattle. Located in the Puget Sound region, it lies 58 miles northwest of Mount Rainier National Park. It is neighbored by the cities Browns Point, Federal Way, Lakewood, Parkland, University Place, Vashon, Fife, Midland, Waller, Fircrest, Fife Heights, Dash Point, and Ruston. Tacoma is 10.2 miles wide and 11.4 miles tall, and its total land and water coverage is 62.4 square miles. Nicknamed the “City of Destiny,” at the end of the 19th century because of its position as the end of the transcontinental Northern Pacific Railroad, Tacoma has always been a major player in Washington’s history. Tacoma saw a massive population boom prior to the Great Depression, and the city saw economic growth in the forties and stability in the fifties and sixties. Tacoma has struggled economically since, and became ridden with crime throughout most of the seventies, eighties, and nineties. However, since the end of the nineties, Tacoma has seen revitalization efforts, especially concerning the renovations of buildings, advances in transportation, and improvements in the economy.

DEMOGRAPHICS

As of 2010, the population of Tacoma was 208,948, with 50.6 percent being female. 64.9 percent of inhabitants are Caucasian, 11.2 percent are African-American, 8.2 percent are Asian, 1.8 percent are American Indian and Alaskan Native, and 11.3 percent are Hispanic or Latino. From 2010 to 2014 there were 78,761 households, with average household size being 2.49 persons-per-household. 87.5 percent of residents 25 years and older hold a high-school diploma, while 25.5 percent of residents 25 years and older hold a bachelor’s degree or higher. Over the next fifteen years, Tacoma is expected to grow by 65,000 people, an almost 30 percent increase. As housing and rent prices continue to rise, the cost of living in Tacoma has become too high for many locals. This pushes many people, who would otherwise have bought or rented in Hilltop or the Central Area, into South Tacoma and the Eastside. And those who cannot afford to buy or rent homes become homeless, unstably-housed, or are forced to live in overcrowded arrangements. These tend to stay in the general vicinity of many of our social service agencies and health care in downtown Tacoma and Hilltop. However, this also pushes those from the Eastside and South Tacoma into Lakewood, Spanaway, and Parkland, where there are even less resources, less grocery stores and farmers markets, and reduced transit options for getting into Tacoma.
LEGISLATIVE AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Washington State is comprised of three legislative districts, all of which encompass areas of Tacoma. The 27th District represents areas in Tacoma including Ruston, Brown’s Point, and Dash Point. The 28th District represents Fircrest, University Place, Lakewood, Steilacoom, Tillicum, Dupont, and parts of Tacoma, Graham, Spanaway, and Anderson, Ketron, and McNeil Islands. The 29th District represents South Tacoma, and parts of Lakewood and Parkland. Tacoma is divided into six different neighborhood districts, and each neighborhood district has its own Community Council. These neighborhood districts include the areas of Eastside, Tacoma Central, South Tacoma, West End, Northeast, South End, New Tacoma, and North End. Tacoma runs under a “Council-Manager form of government,” and is currently under the jurisdiction of Mayor Marilyn Strickland. Tacoma’s main public school district is Tacoma Public Schools, which contains 36 elementary schools, eleven middle schools, five high schools, one alternative school, one Science and Math Institute (SAMI), and one School of the Arts (SOTA). Tacoma is also home to several private schools and institutions of higher learning.

ECONOMY

Tacoma’s economic growth has stalled to all time lows in the past, but is steadily showing improvement. From 2010 to 2014, Tacoma’s median household income was $52,042, compared to Washington’s median household income of $60,294. However, from 2010 to 2014, 17.9 percent of Tacoma’s residents were living in poverty, compared to Washington’s 13.2 percent of residents living in poverty. The amount of wealth disparity in Tacoma appears to be quite high (FIGURE 2), as the highest median income areas appear to be Northeast Tacoma ($72,099 to $95,487) and Ruston ($63,122 to $72,098), while the lowest seems to be areas in Central and South ($53,051 to $63,121 and $39,744 to $53,050) and East Tacoma ($7,891 to $39,743). The USDA estimates that nationally a family of four spends between $146 and $289/week on food. The Economic Policy Institute estimates a family of four in Tacoma spends roughly $195/week, making it appear that food prices in Tacoma are lower than the national average. However, for the size and proximity to King County, Pierce County’s median income is almost $10,000 less than Snohomish County, and more than 7,000 more people in Pierce County collect some kind of social security disability versus Snohomish County. Even Thurston County to the south with a much smaller population has a significantly higher median income than does Pierce County.

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCORD

Joint Base Lewis-McCord (JBLM) is a United States military installation located 9.1 miles southwest of Tacoma. Joint Base Lewis–McCord is “the only Army power projection base west of the Rocky Mountains,” and is the fourth-largest military base in the United States. It has a population of 209,486, and an area of 414,000 acres. According to Tacoma’s 2011
Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the top employer in Pierce County is Joint Base Lewis McCord, with 55,603 employees. Many people report shopping for food on base because it’s cheaper.

**FIGURE 1: MAP OF FOOD DESERTS IN THE GREATER TACOMA AREA: LOW INCOME AND LOW FOOD ACCESS MEASURED AT 1 MILE AND 10 MILES: PIERCE COUNTY, 2015**

![Map of Food Deserts](image)

Source: Low income and low food access data: US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service.

**FOOD DESERTS**

Much like cities across the United States, the food landscape of Tacoma has dramatically changed over the past fifty years (FIGURE 1). People in neighborhoods that previously had multiple grocery stores, numerous corner stores that sold produce, bakeries, taverns, drug stores, and meat markets owned by long-time community residents are now dependent on one grocery store or a commute to the nearest supermarket miles away. The disappearance of local food businesses was gradual, yet steady. Many local corner stores that used to carry a wide selection of fresh food turned into places to purchase candy, cigarettes and beer. For many years, the consolidation of food sources was welcomed because it meant lower prices and the added convenience of being able to buy everything at one place. However, looking back, many
long-time residents have been left frustrated at the gaping holes in the community where many stores used to be, and the subsequent food deserts that now scatter the city. See APPENDIX A for a more detailed definition of food deserts.

**FIGURE 2: MAP OF MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY ZIP CODES: PIERCE COUNTY 2010-2014**

Source: American Community Survey 2010-2014
Across the United States, the rates of overweight and obesity have increased across the United States among people of all ethnic and racial groups, all ages and both genders, but some groups are more affected than others. However, low-income communities, communities of color, and other vulnerable populations face unique challenges. Low income communities often lack access to enough nutritious foods, and are subject to the stresses of poverty. For example, obesity in children is strongly tied to low-income status (Rogers 2015) partially because low-income communities have fewer resources, like recreational programs or parks, and full service grocery stores may be scarce. This disparity can promote eating foods with less healthier foods, fast food with little to no physical activity—especially for both pregnant mothers and their children.

Nationally, low-income communities often have the highest density of fast-food restaurants, the fewest high-quality grocery stores, the fewest safe physical activity opportunities, and the highest density of alcohol and tobacco merchants and advertising (Rogers 2015; Better Policies for a Healthier America 2015). These communities also have many individuals who work physically demanding low-wage jobs that often have long hours, limiting opportunities for healthy lifestyles afforded to more higher-wage jobs. Healthy eating and active living are the foundations of obesity prevention, but not everyone has the same opportunities for exercise and healthy food.

Rates of obesity and consumption of healthy foods often tell us about the general health status of Tacoma-Pierce County residents, and especially when compared to Washington State rate as a whole. The percentage of overweight and obese Tacoma-Pierce County adults was greater than the state percentage as a whole (APPENDIX B). From 2011-2014, 33.9 percent of adults in Pierce County were overweight compared to 35.1 percent for Washington state adults. The rates of obesity for Pierce County adults were 30.3 percent and 26.9 percent for the rest of the state (FIGURE 4).
FIGURE 3: OVERWEIGHT ADULTS: PIERCE COUNTY VS. WASHINGTON STATE 2011-2014


FIGURE 4: OBESITY AMONG ADULTS: PIERCE COUNTY VS. WASHINGTON STATE 2011-2014


In Pierce County, the overweight and obesity rates for 10th graders were 26.3 percent as compared to 25 percent for Washington State. The rates for 12th graders were 28.7 percent for Pierce County youth and 24.4 percent for Washington State youth (FIGURE 5).

Overweight and Obese children, combined: Pierce county vs Washington, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pierce County 12th grade</th>
<th>Washington State 12th...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th grade</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overweight and Obese children, combined: Pierce county vs Washington, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pierce County 10th grade</th>
<th>Washington State 10th...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th grade</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Pierce County residents are eating slightly less fruits and vegetables when compared to the rest of Washington State. Pierce County adults reported eating more vegetables in a day than fruit, (FIGURE 6 and FIGURE 7).

FIGURE 6: DAILY ADULT FRUIT CONSUMPTION: PIERCE COUNTY VS. WASHINGTON STATE 2011+2013

Fruit consumption (1 or more): Adults Pierce county vs Washington: 2011+2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PC</th>
<th>WA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>62.4%</td>
<td>64.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FIGURE 7: DAILY ADULT VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION: PIERCE COUNTY VS. WASHINGTON STATE 2011+2013

According to the 2014 Household Food Security Survey, there are 6.8 million households nationwide that have reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet, also known as “very low food security” (Coleman-Jensen, Rabbitt, Gregory, & Singh, 2015).

In 2014:

- 14 percent of U.S. households (17.4 million) were food insecure.
- 5.6 percent of U.S. households (6.9 million households) were very food insecure.
- Children were food insecure in 9.4 percent of households containing children (3.7 million households).
- Food security was highest in rural areas, moderate in large cities, and lowest in suburban areas.
- Households with incomes near or below the Federal poverty line (with children headed by single women or single men, women living alone, and Black- and Hispanic-headed households), had significantly higher rates of food insecurity than the national average.
- The typical food-secure household spent 26 percent more on food than the typical food-insecure household of the same size and make-up, including food purchased with SNAP benefits.
- 61 percent of food-insecure households had participated in one or more of the three largest Federal food/nutrition assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, and National School Lunch Program).
FIGURE 8: FOOD INSECURITY AMONG CHILDREN AS MEASURED BY THE HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY

![Bar chart showing family food insecurity percentages from 2008 to 2014.](image)


In Washington, about 1 in 7 people are food insecure at some time throughout the year, meaning that they lack access to sufficient food for a healthy and active life. Food insecurity can have detrimental and lasting effects for all of those that it impacts, making it necessary for us to pay close attention to these numbers (Gundersen, C., A. Dewey, A. Crumbaugh, M. Kato & E. Engelhard. Map the Meal Gap 2016: Food Insecurity and Child Food Insecurity Estimates at the County Level. Feeding America, 2016).

FIGURE 9 and FIGURE 10 provide a snapshot of June 2015 and June 2016 food benefits services and around the greater Tacoma area.

FIGURE 9: NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS AND INDIVIDUAL CLIENTS HAVING RECEIVED CASH, FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT SERVICES PROCESSED IN THE MONTH OF JUNE OF 2016 BY COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICE (CSO)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Community Service Office (CSO)</th>
<th># of Households</th>
<th># Unique Individuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Pierce County CSO</td>
<td>33,538</td>
<td>50,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Pierce County CSO</td>
<td>36,973</td>
<td>64,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional CSO</td>
<td>Lakewood CSO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>37,847</td>
<td>66,071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Economic Services Administration (ESA), and ESAM Management and Accountability Performance Statistics (EMAPS). August, 2016.

**FIGURE 10: NUMBER OF ALL BASIC FOOD CLIENTS JUNE 2015 SNAPSHOT BY REGIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICE (CSO)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional CSO</th>
<th>CSO of Issuance (Where service issued)</th>
<th>CSO of Residence (Where Client lives)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cases</td>
<td>% of State Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Pierce County CSO</td>
<td>12,627</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Pierce County CSO</td>
<td>15,454</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakewod CSO</td>
<td>17,532</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puyallup Valley CSO</td>
<td>16,697</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Economic Services Administration (ESA), and ESAM Management and Accountability Performance Statistics (EMAPS).
Nearly twenty percent (18.3%) of families in Tacoma’s school district reported being food insecure with nearly sixty percent (59.1%) of Tacoma students receiving free or reduced lunch Program (FIGURE 11 and FIGURE 12). For many students, these school meals are often the most nutritional meal of the day. See APPENDIX C to learn more about the distribution of free lunch program enrollment across the Greater Tacoma area.

**FIGURE 11: PERCENT OF FAMILIES REPORTING FOOD INSECURITY, GRADES 6, 8, 10, AND 12, BY PIERCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School District</th>
<th>Distr. number</th>
<th>Proportion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steilacoom Hist.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puyallup</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tacoma</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td><strong>18.3%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbonado</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumner</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orting</td>
<td>344</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clover Park</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peninsula</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Pierce</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethel</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eatonville</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White River</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**FIGURE 12: FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEAL ENROLLMENT BY PIERCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public School Districts</th>
<th>Free</th>
<th>Reduced</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%Free</th>
<th>%Reduced</th>
<th>%Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steilacoom Historical</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>3,115</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puyallup</td>
<td>5,564</td>
<td>1,457</td>
<td>22,036</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tacoma</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,981</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,041</strong></td>
<td><strong>30,472</strong></td>
<td><strong>52.4%</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.7%</strong></td>
<td><strong>59.1%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbonado</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Place</td>
<td>1,512</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>5,488</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumner</td>
<td>2,218</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>9,201</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dieringer</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>1,569</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orting</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>2,457</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clover Park</td>
<td>7,424</td>
<td>1,540</td>
<td>13,505</td>
<td>55.0%</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>66.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Surprisingly, Tacoma’s military and their families are also experiencing food insecurity especially among those with one or more deployed parents. Over 1 in 5 military families stated that they have had to cut meal size due to lack of money for food.

**FIGURE 13: WELL-BEING OF MILITARY CHILDREN IN PIERCE COUNTY**

Family reports of having had to cut meal size because of lack of money for food, at least once in the last month.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civilian</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not deployed</td>
<td>25.5%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployed</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due to the prevalence of food insecurity in Tacoma households, we must unpack and work to address the ways in which food insecurity affect our community. Multiple studies have shown that food insecurity can lead to lower health-related quality of life (HRQOL) for children, resulting in lower physical and psychosocial functioning (Casey PH, Szeto KL, Robbins JM, & et al, 2005). We also know that there are strong connections between food insufficiency, depressive disorders and suicidal symptoms in U.S. adolescents (Katherine Alaimo, Olson, & Frongillo, 2002), as well as increased health issues such as more frequent headaches and common colds (K Alaimo, Olson, Frongillo, & Briefel, 2001), and decreased academic performance in children (Katherine Alaimo, Olson, & Frongillo, 2001). However, the impacts of food insecurity do not stop at children alone—they affect entire families.

Fortunately, food benefits programs such as SNAP have been shown to decrease rates of food insecurity significantly (Mykerezi & Mills, 2010). With knowledge that we can successfully decrease rates of food insecurity, we must continue to look for ways to improve effective solutions as well as creating new, innovative solutions to answer to the need in our communities.
ADDRESSING FOOD SECURITY IN TACOMA

A number of community agencies, community groups, and coalitions are continuously working together to meet demonstrated need in the greater Tacoma area. These agencies and collaboratives are dedicated to growing the strength of Tacoma communities from the ground-up. While this is by no means an exhaustive list of the agencies and collaboratives addressing the issues of food security, it still offers a sense of the efforts at work in Tacoma.

HUNGER-FREE PIERCE COUNTY COLLABORATIVE

The Hunger-Free Pierce County Collaborative is working to bring community leaders together to identify the most promising opportunities for increasing food security and food access in Pierce County. In 2015, United Way of Pierce County organized initiatives with 10+ different community agencies to bring over $200,000 in investments in food security to the Tacoma-Pierce County community. Some of these initiatives included gifting slow cookers to food bank clients, purchasing refrigerated vans for food banks to help them pick up more perishable food donations, and supporting Tacoma Farmers Market’s Double Your Dollars EBT-matching program.

Learn More: Hunger-Free Pierce County Collaborative

PUYALLUP WATERSHED INITIATIVE’S JUST AND HEALTHY FOOD SYSTEM COI

Under the umbrella of the Puyallup Watershed Initiative, The Just & Healthy Food System Community of Interest is a broad, inclusive partnership of organizations and individuals focused on addressing issues of food justice, food sovereignty, and equity at the community level. Their current working group includes over 40 different organizations and individuals representing a diversity of interests and perspectives.

Learn More: JHFS

HARVEST PIERCE COUNTY

Harvest Pierce County is the Urban Agriculture wing of Pierce Conservation District. With a focus on justice, connection, and equity, Harvest Pierce County's vision is that our region has a thriving community engaged in a just and healthy food system. This is accomplished through reconnecting communities to each other and their food systems through gardening, gleaning, and educating Pierce County about their food and food systems.

Learn More: Harvest Pierce County
HILLTOP URBAN GARDENS

Hilltop Urban Gardens is a community-based urban agriculture, justice, and equity organization in Tacoma, WA. HUG partners with the community to grow healthy food, young people and neighbors.

Learn More: Hilltop Urban Gardens

WASHINGTON STATE EXTENSION FOOD SENSE

Food Sense nutrition education encourages youth and adults with limited incomes to share and apply skills-based learning at home and school to affect positive health behaviors associated with obesity prevention. In FY13, expanded education outreach included environmental supports and policy actions to promote access and availability of healthy foods and physical activity in communities in which SNAP-eligible families live, learn, work and play.

Learn More: Food Sense

FOOD BENEFIT PROGRAMS IN TACOMA

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP, also known in the state of Washington as Basic Food, provides monthly benefits to low-income families and individuals for the purchase of food. The amount of benefits that people are qualified to receive each month is calculated on the basis of income, living expenses, and the number of people in the household.

Around Tacoma, there are multiple other programs that work with SNAP users to increase food security and provide nutrition education. For example, Tacoma Farmers Market and Proctor Farmers Market both have a Fresh Bucks program that offers a 1:1 match up to $10 per market, per week for eligible EBT/SNAP shoppers. This doubles the spending power of those participating in SNAP. The Washington State University (WSU) Extension’s Food Sense program also encourages youth and adults with limited incomes to share and apply skills-based learning at home and school to affect positive health behaviors associated with obesity prevention.

Learn More: SNAP/Basic Food in Washington; Fresh Bucks; Food Sense

THE BASIC FOOD PROGRAM

The Basic Food Program is Washington’s name for the federally-funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Washington also has a state-funded program for legal immigrants called the Food assistance Program (FAP). FAP is for individuals who are legal immigrants and meet all the eligibility requirements for SNAP except citizenship or alien status. The Basic Food
Employment and Training provides job search assistance, employment and education and skills training and support services to individuals receiving SNAP who are not participating in the State’s Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF). Washington Combined Application Program (WASHCAP) is a simplified food benefits program for certain Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients that delivers food benefits though a liaison between DSHS and Social Security Administration. A client’s application for SSI is also an application for WASHCAP food benefits and can receive food benefits for up to 36 months.

Learn More: The Basic Food Program

**NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)**

WIC is a nutrition program that provides women, infants, and children under five with monthly checks to purchase healthy food. In Pierce County alone, there were over 18,500 WIC participants in 2015. Besides offering financial assistance, WIC clinics also provide a number of other services such as nutrition education and health services. One way for WIC participants to increase spending power is to participate in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program. In doing so, WIC participants receive additional funds which can be spent on healthy foods at local farmers markets.

Learn More: WIC in Washington

**SENIOR FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM (SFMNP)**

Similar to the Farmers Market Nutrition Program Checks that WIC participants may receive, SFMNP checks are for seniors that meet age, health, and disability qualifications. In Tacoma, this program runs through the Office of Aging Disability. These checks can also be spent on healthy foods at local farmers markets.

Learn More: SFMNP in Pierce County
Tacoma, Washington is filled with a wealth of agricultural and food assets unique to its bioregion, civic infrastructure, and rich culture. When considering how to fill the gaps in our food system, it is therefore important to look at what we already have as an integral part of defining new solutions. This practice, often referred to as Asset-Based Community Development, can help lead to an increased awareness of local resources as well as stronger community interventions when these resources are taken into account. FIGURE 14 illustrates the resources such as farmers markets, community gardens, orchards, and food banks that get local, healthy, fresh, and emergency food supplies out into the community.

**FIGURE 14: FARMERS MARKETS, COMMUNITY GARDENS, AND ORCHARDS: PIERCE COUNTY (CENTRAL) (SEE APPENDIX E)**
**Farmers Markets**

Tacoma has multiple farmers markets operating within different parts of the city. The Broadway Farmer’s Market, which opened over 25 years ago, can see as many as 10,000 shoppers pass through each Thursday. Throughout the city, farmers markets are one of the main retail spaces where local, fresh, and organic foods are available in Tacoma. Not only do these farmers markets increase food access, but they also strengthen the local economy, incubate small businesses, create outdoor community spaces, and support local agriculture. Additionally, many farmers markets in Tacoma accept SNAP/food benefits and WIC/Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Checks, which offer low-income community members additional support for buying fresh and local food. The success of farmers markets in Tacoma prove that there is demand for local, fresh, and healthy food. Additionally, they showcase the amount of local farmers and food processors that are dedicated to serving the community.

Learn More: [Washington State Farmers Market Association](#)

**Community Gardens, Orchards, & Food Forests**

The greater Tacoma area is home to over 60 community gardens, orchards, and food forests as recognized by Harvest Pierce County, a branch of the Pierce Conservation District. Harvest Pierce County helps document the activities of these community gardens, which allow Tacoma residents to be more connected with their food system, learn about food and agriculture, and engage with their communities. Many of these community gardens allow residents to care for their own garden plot or else contribute to and harvest from community plots. For residents living in food deserts or urban settings where backyard gardening is not available, community gardens are an important way for residents to access healthy and fresh food at little to no monetary cost.

Learn More: [Harvest Pierce County](#)

**Food Banks**

In 2015, over 1.4 million visits were made to food banks in Pierce County. This demonstrates not only the amount of food insecurity that exists in the greater Tacoma area, but also the strength of the network that exists to ensure that everyone has a meal to put on the table during times of need. With over 40 food bank locations present in the Tacoma area (FIGURE 15), many residents are able to access food when they need it most. Gleaning programs run by Harvest Pierce County and urban farms such as Mother Earth Farm also help supply food banks with as much local, fresh, and healthy food as possible. Beyond providing food alone, food banks tend to serve as hubs for other services that Tacoma residents can benefit from as well.
Oftentimes, food banks partner with other community agencies such as Sound Outreach that can help residents sign up for resources such as food benefits and health insurance.

Learn More: Emergency Food Network

**BACKPACK PROGRAMS**

During the 2015-2016 school year, backpack programs helped over 1400 students in around 40 schools around Pierce County have access to food over the weekends. For kids in food insecure households, free meals provided at school can sometimes be the only reliable food they have access to in a day. During the weekends, these kids can be at risk for having access to little or no food at all. Therefore, backpack programs—which provide students with a bag of food for weekends and school breaks—are crucial to helping children in Tacoma thrive. Fortunately, United Way of Pierce County partners with nearly all of the backpack programs in the greater Tacoma area to make sure that these programs have the support, infrastructure, and funding they need to continue serving more young people.

Learn More: United Way of Pierce County
FIGURE 15: FOOD BANKS IN PIERCE COUNTY (CENTRAL) (SEE APPENDIX F)
University of Washington Mobile Market Feasibility Study

In Spring 2016, University of Washington Tacoma nursing students interviewed 44 low income residents from Hotel Olympus, the Eastside Salishan community and two WIC offices to learn more about a community need and interest in a mobile market delivery program. The survey used the following questions:

1. How would a mobile market benefit you?
2. What would prevent you from using a mobile market?
3. How likely would you use a mobile market? (Very Likely to Never)

Themes were developed from the diverse responses. Because most of resident feedback had more than one comment, the percentages used below to describe those themes will not equal 100 percent.

Q1: How would a mobile market benefit you?
According to surveyed residents, access to produce (close proximity) and mobility as a convenience were the top two benefits for having a mobile market program. One resident stated, “(A mobile market) brings access to affordable fresh food, potentially within walking distance”. One Eastside resident also acknowledged living in a food desert stating, “Our nearest grocery store is about 30 blocks away”. A market’s mobility was seen as valuable considering not only limited transportation options for many residents but also based on the health and physical mobility of community residents. Resident comments included:

- “Would help transportation-challenged families have access to good, healthy foods”.
- “Help to build a healthy community”.
- “Make it easier to eat healthy”.
- “Bring access to affordable fresh food”.
- “Allows me to buy fresh fruits and vegetables instead of canned food”.
- “We don’t always have the money to get to a store”.

“If the food is organic and affordable, I would be very interested”. ~Community member when asked how interested in using a mobile market.
FIGURE 16: “Q1: HOW WOULD A MOBILE MARKET BENEFIT YOU?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access (proximity) to produce</th>
<th>Mobility-convenience</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Related Support Services</th>
<th>Promotes Healthy Lifestyle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44.19%</td>
<td>37.21%</td>
<td>20.93%</td>
<td>13.95%</td>
<td>13.95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative food sources</th>
<th>Affordability</th>
<th>EBT Accepted</th>
<th>No Benefits</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.63%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>6.98%</td>
<td>2.33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q2 “What would prevent you from using a mobile market?”
Twenty-five percent of surveyed residents reported no perceived barriers to their use of a mobile market, however, the barrier of most concern was to cost and whether the mobile market would accept EBT and/or WIC checks. Routes, scheduling, produce quality and cleanliness were also concerns, as described below:

- “If we can use EBT”.
- “Pricing (if it’s not affordable)”.
- “I need to compare prices”.
- “Coming at the end of month when money is low”.
- “Probably not really knowing if things are fresh because things are in a bus”.
- “Rotten or bad food”.
- “Sanitary concern: clean or fresh”.
- “(If) I don't know when the market comes to my neighborhood”.
- “Delays -- may not come when I need it”.

Residents expressed concern that various grocery products would be more costly than the grocery store. Residents also worried that fruits and vegetables would be of less diversity and less quality. Scheduling was also a recognized concern, in that arrival time may not be compatible with resident availability and that route scheduling would need to be heavily promoted through avenues outside of internet.
FIGURE 17: “Q2: WHAT WOULD PREVENT YOU FROM USING A MOBILE MARKET?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>No Perceived Barriers</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Physical Limitations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34.09%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>20.45%</td>
<td>15.91%</td>
<td>9.09%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proximity</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
<th>Selection /availability</th>
<th>EBT Not Accepted</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.09%</td>
<td>9.09%</td>
<td>6.82%</td>
<td>6.82%</td>
<td>4.55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q3 “How likely would you use a mobile market?”

When asked the likelihood that residents would use of a mobile market, sixty eight percent of residents reported would be “Likely” or “Very Likely” to use a mobile market, however it would be important that the mobile market could process SNAP and/or WIC benefit. Other considerations included whether foods were quality and affordable. The ability to prepare foods was also a consideration for community residents. One resident stated, “I can’t cook or prepare meals because of my medical condition” while another stated, “I don’t have teeth and it’s easier to eat canned foods”. Additional resident comments are below.

- “If we can use EBT”.
- “Selection of fresh food may be limited”.
- “If the food is organic and affordable, I would be very interested”.
- “Access to food coupon programs”.
- “During the 1st half of the month” (since SNAP/WIC dollars tend to run out half-way through the month).

FIGURE 18: “Q3: HOW LIKELY WOULD YOU USE A MOBILE MARKET?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very Likely</th>
<th>Likely</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Not Likely</th>
<th>Never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40.91%</td>
<td>27.27%</td>
<td>27.27%</td>
<td>2.27%</td>
<td>2.27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mobile markets can be neither successful nor sustainable without intentional community engagement, and meaningfully involving the community residents in the conversation at every step of the process is necessary. Some recommendations from involving community residents in developing a mobile market include the following:

a. Provide more community forums and online surveys to discuss whether a mobile market is best for community residents, or if a home/site food delivery program is more ideal.

b. Incorporate community residents to assisting with mobile market development plan, promotional efforts, and program evaluation. More specifically, make room for community residents that are less experienced with community work or community advocacy.

c. If community readiness and resources leads to the development of a mobile market, then a long-term plan for community engagement and ownership for the mobile market will be imperative to create.

**Potential Education and Outreach Partnerships**

Coordination with other community groups and service providers will likely help to increase the use of a mobile market by community residents, particularly among residents receiving supplemental food benefits. Surveyed residents where asked what kinds of wrap-around services would interest them to have associated with a mobile market.

**Wrap-around Health and Social Services Outreach**

Tacoma’s Medicaid and Medicare outreach services work to ensure that families and individuals who might be eligible for health and social service needs related basic needs such as housing, food, substance abuse and medical care information, as well as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly Food Stamps) and WIC (Women, Infants, Children) food supplementary programs.

**Supplemental Food Benefits Outreach**

Each year healthcare outreach enrollment specialists from agencies such as Mary Bridge MultiCare and Sound Outreach connect hundreds of Tacoma residents with nutrition benefit support and information through distributing enrollment information, providing presentations and attending community events in collaboration with neighborhood and community groups, faith-based organizations and schools. TPCHD’s Medicaid, as well as Qualified Health Plan Outreach will be taken over by SeaMar as of Oct 1, 2016.
Sound Outreach currently has a SNAP enrollment specialist that provides food stamp information and application assistance through financial support from United Way’s Hunger Initiative (more information found at http://www.uwpc.org/hunger-initiative). A list of WIC clinics serving WIC recipients and providing outreach services in Tacoma can be located below under local resources.

Community residents serving as community advocates and community services navigators such as the local network of Community Health Workers, Farmer’s Market Ambassadors and Community Food Advocates-253 work to connect family and friends with outreach enrollment specialists and/or provide SNAP/WIC information. These community members also educate and advocate for the use of SNAP, WIC, as well as additional supplementary funding such as the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP), the matching farmer’s market dollar Fresh Bucks program, and the Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program. Most of these advocates receive supplemental food assistance SNAP, WIC and/or are on Medicare themselves, enriching their ability to help others with these programs.

Promotion of a mobile market could take place at local WIC agencies as well as daycares, and preschools. Community partners can help increase market use by food benefit clients and help promote the market within their organizations such as Senior Centers, churches, and community health centers.

**Potential Accompanying Services**

Along with providing “instant access” to fresh fruit and vegetables, many community residents feel that a mobile market supports a community culture of healthy eating and cooking together with family. A mobile market is seen as an opportunity to bring cooking awareness and nutrition education directly into neighborhoods by having direct access to health education, food preservationists, etc. Some potential community partners are listed below:

- Master Gardeners (e.g., Washington State University Pierce County Extension’s (WSU-Extension) Master Gardner program).
- Health Educators that promote healthy eating and money saving food options such as MultiCare’s nutrition specialists, or WSU-Extension’s Expanded Food and Nutrition Education (EFNP) or Food Sense programs, etc.

- “It would educate clients about eating healthy”
- “Learning new recipes”
- “Recipe cards and food education”
- “As a family it would be great to teach the kids”

–Community member feedback the value of
• Food preservation education such as the Center for Food Preservation Arts can provide educational demonstrations and advice on food preservation and family nutrition.
• Local chefs for training such as the Tacoma Goodwill Culinary Skills training program or the Bates college and Tacoma Culinary School programs.

**Potential Set-Up Site Locations**

If any number of agencies or collaboratives decided to start a mobile market project in Tacoma, it would be important to consider where the mobile market should make stops in order to connect with as many community members as possible. Asset mapping of Tacoma, a literature review of mobile market program delivery sites and community feedback from Tacoma community residents have recommended:

a. Community centers (e.g., senior centers, youth recreation centers, etc.);

b. Public parks—especially with community centers and;

c. Social service agency sites (e.g., WIC offices, etc.) as priority locations for a mobile market route.

The list of possible sites below in FIGURE 19 is not exhaustive. A new Eastside community center, funded as a public-private partnership is in early phases of development. The City of Tacoma owns and operates two senior activity centers, Beacon Activity Center in the downtown area and Lighthouse Activity Center on the east side.

The centers provide a comprehensive array of programs designed to improve and maintain health, stimulate learning, and provide socialization, recreational, and volunteer opportunities for people age 50 and older. Challenges such as permits, access to electricity and water, as well as any additional site location policies may remain as barriers. In considering what mobile market delivery or set up sights are best, it is necessary to gain community inclusion in determining optimal sites. Churches, libraries and low-income building complexes such as Hotel Olympus were also recommended by low income Tacoma residents.
### FIGURE 19: POTENTIAL SET UP SITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Site</th>
<th>Some Possible Locations</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Community Centers    | Beacon Senior Center, People's Community Center, STAR Center, Portland Avenue Community Center, YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, South Park Community Center, Lighthouse Senior Activity Center, etc. | • Existing avenues for mobile market promotion  
• Large volume of diverse community residents  
  -families  
  -aging  
  -children/youth  
• Centrally located within neighborhoods  
• Mixed income residents  
• Easier access to residents that may be of lower income or on fixed incomes | • Often requires prior approval  
• Potential permits and/or liability  
• Limited access to electricity  
• Space & parking  
• Potential scheduling conflicts                                                                                                                            |
| Parks                | Greater Tacoma regional parks listed within identified food desert zones: Rust Park, McKinnley Park, Wright Park, Vassault Park, South Park, Wapato Park, etc. | • Mixed income residents  
• Centrally located within neighborhoods  
• Ideal within a region noted as a food desert or with high rates of low income residents  
• Large volume of diverse community residents  
  -families  
  -aging  
  -children/youth  
• Often associated with community events, recreational time, etc. | • Weather-dependant  
• Often requires prior approval  
• Potential permits and/or liability  
• Limited access to electricity  
• Space & parking  
• Potential scheduling conflicts  
• Peak traffic times are limited to weekend and seasonal  
• Competition with food vendors                                                                                                                              |
| Social Service Agencies | **[Mary Bridge WIC Program](#)**, Tacoma’s Social & Health Services Department locations, etc. | • Easier access to higher volumes of households on fixed incomes  
• One-stop-shopping for residents with limited incomes | • Profit margin may become slimmer with more low income consumers  
• Space & parking  
• Business Hours are                                                                                                                                       |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transportation Options</th>
<th>Limited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Typically centrally located within neighborhoods experiencing higher rates of lower income</td>
<td>• Service would have to be quick, as consumers may be focused on getting basic needs met</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Easy access to wraparound service champions (e.g., health educators)</td>
<td>• Because margins can be slim and SNAP/WIC/EBT processing can be cumbersome, it may be tempting to steer away from low income consumers to focus on higher income agency staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Built in marketing &amp; partnerships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Agency staff may become interested - can be taken on as a worksite wellness campaign</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MOBILE MARKET FOOD POLICY REVIEW

Due to differences in local and state-level policies and laws, the operation of mobile markets tends to vary between communities. If a mobile market to be in operation in Tacoma, these are the policies that would be necessary to consider.

POLICY OVERVIEW

The TPCHD offers several different kinds of permits concerning the selling of food to the public. The first are temporary (Vending) permits that are mostly used for farmer’s market events or events lasting only a day or two. The second are mobile (Mobile Food Unit) permits that are given to food trucks and are good for an entire year. The third are annual (Food Establishment) permits that are given to establishments such as restaurants and grocery stores that sell food all-year-long. The TPCHD performs several inspections when food establishments apply for these permits, including routine re-inspections, complaint and compliance inspections, illness inspections, inspections done before opening the establishment, and inspection with new ownership. If there is an open-flame on a food truck, the fire department must come and inspect it. If the food truck has annual permitting with a fire suppression system already in place, they will already be inspected once a year.

FOOD TRUCK REGULATIONS

When it comes to the vending of food via a mobile market or food truck, there are several requirements and stipulations that must first be met. To be approved, food trucks need a commissary outside of the working conditions of the food truck. There must be functioning sinks and washing areas inside both the food truck itself and in the commissary. The commissary’s sinks and washing areas must be large enough to handle bigger dishes and washing tasks, as most food trucks are not large enough to handle this task. Whatever food waste is produced from the food truck must be deposited back at its commissary. Most commissaries offer trash services for the food trucks to use at their disposal. The food truck itself should be stocked with everything it needs, but also must employ a commissary to handle bigger tasks. Leftovers and food waste from grocery stores and restaurants, etc. cannot be taken and sold to the public. The only exceptions to this rule are homeless and needy populations.

FOOD TRUCK APPLIANCE REGULATIONS

Mechanical refrigeration is required for all food establishments that hold annual permits and that sell food that must be kept cold. Most food trucks that use temporary permits use ice to
keep their food cold, but a permanent fridge is needed for food establishments holding annual permits. The size of the fridge depends on the amount of food that is being sold. All food trucks and trailers with annual permits must have refrigeration that is commercial-grade. This ensures that they can handle excessive use and be able to withstand wear and tear. Juice extractors and blenders are allowed on food trucks and trailers, but are not allowed on food carts. The vehicle must have enough water on board to properly rinse and clean their juice extractors and blenders. There are two different types of cooking demos that are recognized by the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. These include showing how the cooking is done without actually doing it, and actually cooking the food. **Sampling food to customers requires its own sets of permits.**

**Sanitary Measures**

If seating is provided outside of the food truck, restrooms must be made readily available. If a food truck parks outside of a privately-owned business, they must get permission from the owners to let their guest use their restrooms. Employees need access to a restroom with hot running water within 200 feet of the food truck, and **mechanical water pumps for hand wash sinks must be pressurized with hot and cold water to 15 psi.** This only applies if the food truck offers ready-to-eat foods and/or cooking demos. If food trucks park on public property, they must receive permission from the city of Tacoma. **It is considered expensive and a liability to have food that is cut-up or prepared, as well as food that is sampled out to customers. Selling only whole fruits and vegetables at mobile markets is free from most rules and regulations and is considered the easiest way to sell healthy foods to the community.**

**Licenses**

Food trucks must also acquire a **business license (UBI)** from the Washington State Department of Revenue and certification from the Department of Labor and Industries (LNI). LNI will certify the food truck, which will then be inspected by the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department who will, upon approval, issue an annual permit to the food truck. Permission to park on city property will have to be obtained from Tax and Licensing at the Department of Labor and Industries. Vendors are allowed to operate all day, but if seating is provided, bathrooms must be accessible at all times during operation.
SUMMARY

In Washington, about 1 in 7 people are food insecure at some time throughout the year, meaning that they lack access to sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. Over 1 in 5 military families stated that they have had to cut meal size due to lack of money for food. Nearly sixty percent of Tacoma students receive free or reduced lunch. For many students, these school meals are often the most nutritional meal of the day. Due to the prevalence of food insecurity in Tacoma households, we must work on creative ways address food insecurity our community. There is a need for more Tacoma specific data on food access and food security as data at the county level is more readily available. When considering how to fill the gaps in our food system, it is therefore important to look at opportunities for organized agency and cross- collaborative efforts to tackle food access needs. We need more partners at the table such as the private sector in offering grocery stores in low-income areas. An awareness of local resources as well as stronger community dialogue can help bring fresh, healthy foods into food insecure areas as well as further the food access conversation in Tacoma.

Key Findings from Community Interest in a Mobile Program Study

It appears as though most of the residents surveyed would be interested in a mobile market, especially if they could use EBT and other food benefits, and if the mobile market were easy to access and allowed them to purchase fresh and healthy food. The only negative feedback that seemed to arise included concern over prices being too high and if the mobile market did not accept EBT and other food benefits. However, for the most part residents seemed interested in having a mobile market.

Key Finding #1: “How would a mobile market benefit you?

- **44.19%** of surveyed residents said that “Access (proximity) to produce” was the biggest way that a mobile market would benefit them.
- **37.21%** of surveyed residents said that “Mobility-convenience” was the biggest way that a mobile market would benefit them.
- **20.93%** of surveyed residents said that “Transportation” was the biggest way that a mobile market would benefit them.
- The general consensus among surveyed residents was that a mobile market would benefit them if it were easy to access and if it were easy for them to attain fresh and healthy food.
Key Finding #2: “What would prevent you from using a mobile market?”

- 34.09% of surveyed residents said that “Cost” was the biggest factor that would prevent them from using a mobile market.
- 25% of surveyed residents said that there would be “No perceived barriers” that would prevent them from using a mobile market.
- 20.45% of surveyed residents said that “Quality” was the biggest factor that would prevent them from using a mobile market.
- The general consensus among surveyed residents included concerns that the mobile market might not accept EBT and might be too expensive, as well as other concerns about freshness and sanitary conditions.

Key Finding #3: “How likely would you use a mobile market?”

- 40.91% of surveyed residents said that they would “Very Likely” use a mobile market.
- 2.27% of surveyed residents said that they would “Never” use a mobile market.
- The general consensus among surveyed residents was that they were interested in mobile markets if they allowed the use of EBT and other food benefit programs, and if the food were fresh and organic and easy to access.
APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: DESCRIPTION OF LOW INCOME LOW FOOD ACCESS MAP

FIGURE 1 illustrates low income and low food access communities throughout Tacoma. Tracts with low income and low food access measured at 1 mile and 10 miles: low-income tract with at least 500 people or 33 percent of the population living more than 1 mile (urban areas) or more than 10 miles (rural areas) from the nearest supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store. The tracts with low income and low access measured at 1 mile and 10 miles are highlighted in this map with red color.
DEFINITIONS OF OBESITY AND OVERWEIGHT

Obesity is defined as an excessively high amount of body fat or adipose tissue in relation to lean body mass. Overweight refers to increased body weight in relation to height, which is then compared to a standard of acceptable weight. Body mass index is a common measure expressing the relationship (or ratio) of weight to height. The equation is:

\[
\text{BMI} = \left( \frac{\text{Weight in pounds}}{(\text{Height in inches}) \times (\text{Height in inches})} \right) \times 703
\]

Note: In the metric system, BMI is kg/height^2 (the 703 is the conversion needed when using pounds and inches.) Adults with a BMI of 25 to 29.9 are considered overweight, while individuals with a BMI of 30 or more are considered obese.

For children, overweight is defined as a BMI at or above the 85th percentile and lower than the 95th percentile for children of the same age and sex; childhood obesity is defined as a BMI at or above the 95th percentile for children of the same age and sex; and severe childhood obesity is defined as a BMI greater than 120 percent of 95th percentile for children of the same age and sex. CDC makes growth charts available to plot BMI for children and adolescents (ages 2 to 20) to determine percentile.

BMI is considered an important measure for understanding population trends. For individuals, it is one of many factors that should be considered in evaluating healthy weight, along with waist size, body fat composition, waist circumference, blood pressure, cholesterol level and blood sugar.

Notice: BRFSS data cannot be used to derive overweight and obesity measures for youth under 18 years of age.

HTTPS://APPS.HEALTH.STATE.MN.US/MNDATA/OBESITY_METADATA
APPENDIX C: PERCENT OF FAMILIES REPORTING FOOD INSECURITY: GRADES 6, 8, 10, AND 12, BY PIERCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS
APPENDIX D: POVERTY IN PIERCE COUNTY

PERCENT OF THE POPULATION WITH INCOMES BELOW 200%, OR TWICE THE POVERTY LEVEL, BY ZIP CODES: PIERCE COUNTY, 2010-2014

Percent of the population with incomes below 200%, or twice the poverty level, by ZIP codes. Pierce County, 2010-2014.

Percent low-income population (Population below 200% FPL)
Data were compiled from American Community Survey (ACS) 2010-2014 five-year estimates at the ZIP Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA) level, Table S1701.

This map displays the percentage of the total population that lives below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) (otherwise known as the 'low-income' population) in the given ZCTA.

Sources:
Geography: Pierce County GIS
Poverty: ACS S1701, 2010-2014;
Map: TPCHD OAPI, ak 092216
Contact:
Office of Assessment, Planning & Improvement
3629 S. D. St., Tacoma WA 98418-6813
Phone: 253-798-7668 email: oapi@tpchd.org
### APPENDIX E: LEGENDS OF FARMERS MARKETS, COMMUNITY GARDENS, AND ORCHARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farmers Markets</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Puyallup Farmers Market</td>
<td>330 S Meridian</td>
<td>Puyallup</td>
<td>98371</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>330 S Meridian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pioneer &amp; 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakewood Farmers Market</td>
<td>6000 Main Street SW</td>
<td>Lakewood</td>
<td>98499</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>6000 Main Street SW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proctor Farmers Market</td>
<td>2702 N Proctor St</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>98407</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>2702 N Proctor St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steilacoom Farmers Market</td>
<td>1617 Lafayette</td>
<td>Steilacoom</td>
<td>98388</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>Corner of Lafayette &amp; Wilkes Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tacoma - 6th Ave Farmers Market</td>
<td>614 N Pine St</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>98406</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>6th Ave and N Pine St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tacoma - Broadway Farmers Market</td>
<td>902 Broadway</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>98402</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>9th St &amp; Broadway, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tacoma - Eastside Farmers Market</td>
<td>1708 East 44th St</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>98404</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>1708 East 44th St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tacoma - South Tacoma Farmers Market</td>
<td>3873 S 66th St</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>98409</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>3873 S 66th St</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Garden/Orchard Name</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Garden/Orchard Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CG0</td>
<td>40th Street Community Garden</td>
<td>CG27</td>
<td>Mt View Lutheran Community Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG1</td>
<td>Abundance Garden</td>
<td>CG28</td>
<td>NE Tacoma Community Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG2</td>
<td>Abundant Life Community Garden</td>
<td>CG29</td>
<td>Neighbor's Park Community Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG3</td>
<td>Bamford Garden at McCarver</td>
<td>CG30</td>
<td>Patch on Pearl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG4</td>
<td>Barangay Tropical Park</td>
<td>CG31</td>
<td>Pilgrim Lutheran Community Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG5</td>
<td>Bethany Community Garden</td>
<td>CG32</td>
<td>PLU Student Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG6</td>
<td>Boze Community Garden</td>
<td>CG33</td>
<td>Point Defiance Ruston Senior Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG7</td>
<td>City of Edgewood Community Garden</td>
<td>CG34</td>
<td>Proctor Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG8</td>
<td>Community Garden of Peace</td>
<td>CG35</td>
<td>Puget Sound Community Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG9</td>
<td>Dometop Garden at Rogers Park</td>
<td>CG36</td>
<td>Puyallup Community Garden</td>
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<tr>
<td>CG10</td>
<td>El Punto Community Garden</td>
<td>CG37</td>
<td>Salishan Community Garden</td>
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<tr>
<td>CG11</td>
<td>Families Unlimited Community Garden</td>
<td>CG38</td>
<td>Salvation Army Neighborhood Garden</td>
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<td>CG12</td>
<td>Franklin Park Community Garden</td>
<td>CG39</td>
<td>Shephard's Field Garden</td>
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<td>ID</td>
<td>Orchard</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG13</td>
<td>Gallucci Learning Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG14</td>
<td>God's Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG15</td>
<td>Grace Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG16</td>
<td>Green Thumb Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>CG17</td>
<td>Hilltop Urban Garden (HUG)</td>
<td>CA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG18</td>
<td>Intel DuPont Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG19</td>
<td>Junett Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG20</td>
<td>Kandle Park Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>CG21</td>
<td>Lakeview Church of Christ</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG22</td>
<td>Lakewood Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG23</td>
<td>Manitou Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG24</td>
<td>Melrose Space</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG25</td>
<td>Mentor House Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG26</td>
<td>Mountain View Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG27</td>
<td>Mt View Lutheran Community Garden</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Orchard</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orch1</td>
<td>Hilltop House Garden &amp; Orchard</td>
<td>S 19th St &amp; Yakima Ave, Tacoma</td>
<td>Orchard/Food Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orch2</td>
<td>Food Forest at Swan Creek Park</td>
<td>E 42nd St &amp; E Roosevelt, Tacoma</td>
<td>Orchard/Food Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orch3</td>
<td>Curran Apple Orchard</td>
<td>39th St W &amp; Grandview Dr, University Place</td>
<td>Orchard/Food Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orch4</td>
<td>Charlotte's Blueberry Park</td>
<td>E 74th St &amp; East D St, Tacoma</td>
<td>Orchard/Food Forest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### APPENDIX F: LEGENDS OF FOOD BANKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FB ID</th>
<th>Food Bank</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>All Saints Community Services</td>
<td>204 6th Ave SW, Puyallup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Allen AME Food Pantry</td>
<td>1223 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>B.A.S.H.</td>
<td>103 140th St S #B, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Blessings Community Food Bank</td>
<td>2401 S Orchard St, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bonney Lake Food Bank</td>
<td>18409 Old Buckley Hwy, Bonney Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bounty Food Bank</td>
<td>5634 South Park, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bread of Life Ministries Food Bank- Lakewood</td>
<td>8810 Lawndale Ave SW, Lakewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Brown's Point Food Bank</td>
<td>5339 Browns Point Blvd, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Buckley Kiwanis Food Bank</td>
<td>127 North River, Buckley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Calvary Baptist Church Food Bank</td>
<td>6511 South C St, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Eatonville Family Agency Food Bank</td>
<td>305 Center St, Eatonville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Edgewood Community FISH Food Bank</td>
<td>3607 122nd Ave E, Ste A, Edgewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Eloise Cooking Pot</td>
<td>3543 East McKinley Ave, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Fife/Milton/Edgewood FISH</td>
<td>2303 54th Ave E, Fife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Food Connection - Springbrook Mobile Food Bank</td>
<td>12601 Addison St, Lakewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Food Connection, St. Leo's</td>
<td>1323 South Yakima, Tacoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gateway Church</td>
<td>7310 12th Ave E, Tacoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Graham/ South Hill FISH</td>
<td>10425 187th St E, Puyallup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Harvest House</td>
<td>13314 224th St E, Graham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Hope Center</td>
<td>10402 Kline St SW, Lakewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Jackson Street FISH</td>
<td>7410 S 12th St., Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Key Peninsula Bischoff Food Bank</td>
<td>1916 Peninsula Hwy N, Lakebay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Key Peninsula Services Food Bank</td>
<td>17015 9th St Ct KPN, Lakebay</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Lakes FISH</td>
<td>6900 Steilacoom Blvd, Lakewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Living Word Joseph's Storehouse</td>
<td>570 Eatonville HWY West, Eatonville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Mobile FISH Food Bank - Tillicum (King's Barber)</td>
<td>8202 Maple St SW, Eatonville</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Mobile FISH Food Bank - Woodbrook Community Center</td>
<td>14721 Murray St, Lakewood</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Mobile FISH Food Bank- Bethlehem Lutheran Church</td>
<td>101 E 38th St, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Mobile FISH Food Bank- Giaudrone Middle School</td>
<td>49020 S. Alaska, Tacoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Mobile FISH Food Bank- Key Peninsula</td>
<td>12521 134th Ave KPN, Gig Harbor</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Mobile FISH Food Bank- Purdy Cost Less Pharmacy</td>
<td>14218 92nd Ave NW, Gig Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Address</td>
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<tr>
<td>----</td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Mobile FISH Food Bank- Roy Community Center</td>
<td>122 3rd St. E, Roy</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Mobile FISH Food Bank- Spanaway Elementary School</td>
<td>166th St and Pac Ave, Spanaway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Mobile FISH Food Bank- Star Center</td>
<td>3873 S 66th St, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>My Sister's Pantry</td>
<td>621 Tacoma Ave, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Network Tacoma</td>
<td>5435 S M St., Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>New Jerusalem Food Bank</td>
<td>1623 South 11th St, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Northwest FISH</td>
<td>2710 N Madison, Tacoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Orting Food Bank</td>
<td>224 Washington Ave S, Orting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Parkland First Baptist Food Bank</td>
<td>11222 10th Ave S, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Peninsula FISH</td>
<td>4425 Burnham Drive, Gig Harbor</td>
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<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Pregnancy Aid</td>
<td>902 Market St, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Prince of Peace Food Bank</td>
<td>10333 Bridgeport Way SW, Lakewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Puyallup Valley Food Bank</td>
<td>110 23rd Street SE, Puyallup</td>
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<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Salvation Army Food Bank - Puyallup</td>
<td>4009 9th St SW, Puyallup</td>
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<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Salvation Army Food Bank- Tacoma</td>
<td>1501 6th Ave, Tacoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Samoan Family Services</td>
<td>230 S 94th St, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Source:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.efoodnet.org/resources/food-banks/">http://www.efoodnet.org/resources/food-banks/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Southeast Tacoma FISH</td>
<td>1704 E 85th St, Tacoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Spanaway FISH Food Bank</td>
<td>16001 A St, Spanaway</td>
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<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>St. Andrews Emanuel Food Pantry</td>
<td>1401 Valley Ave E, Sumner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Sumner FISH Food Bank</td>
<td>15625 E Main St, Sumner</td>
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<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>TACS Special Diet</td>
<td>3108 Portland Ave, Tacoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Tillicum/American Lake Gardens Community Center</td>
<td>14916 Washington Ave SW, Lakewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Trinity Lutheran Church Food Pantry</td>
<td>12115 Park Avenue S, Tacoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>University Place Food Bank</td>
<td>2610 Sunset Dr W, University Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>WLSA Food Pantry</td>
<td>1603 Rainier St, Steilacoom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Report prepared by Linda M. Choi, Program Analyst, Office of Assessment, Planning & Improvement and the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department SNAP-Ed team.

This report would not have been possible without the efforts and support of:

Alex Klementiev, GIS Specialist
Brogan Shell, Health Promotion Coordinator
Stephanie Wood, Program Analyst
Shannon Saulsbury, SNAP-Ed Consultant
Haley Owens, SNAP-Ed Project Support
Brandon Wirth, Administrative Assistant III

Dr. David Reyes, University of Washington Tacoma Nursing Program
University of Washington Tacoma’s Nursing Students
United Way of Pierce County
Stacy Carkonen, Tacoma Farmer’s Market
Jamie Teuteburg and Washington Department of Health

Special thanks to the many community members who provided input for this report.
RESOURCES

Tacoma Goodwill Culinary Skills Training Program
http://www.goodwillwa.org/training/programs/kitchen

The Center for Food Preservation Arts
http://preservefoods.blogspot.com/

Washington State University Pierce County Extension Master Gardener Program
http://extension.wsu.edu/pierce/mg/

Washington State University Pierce County Extension Expanded Food and Nutrition Education
http://extension.wsu.edu/pierce/health/

Washington State University Pierce County Extension Food Sense program
http://extension.wsu.edu/pierce/health/food-sense/

MultiCare Nutrition Specialists
https://www.multicare.org/cfhl-nutrition/

Tacoma Community Health Workers
http://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/PublicHealthSystemResourcesandServices/LocalHealthResourcesandTools/CommunityHealthWorkerTrainingSystem

Tacoma Farmers Market Association/SNAP-Ed Farmers Market Ambassadors

Tacoma Pierce County Health Department SNAP-Ed Community Food Advocates 253
Stephanie Wood at swood@tpchd.org

Tacoma Parks and Community Centers
http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/home

The City of Tacoma Beacon Activity Center and Lighthouse Activity Senior Centers
https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/neighborhood_and_community_services/human_services_division/senior_centers

Tacoma WIC clinics
http://www.wicprograms.org/ci/wa-tacoma

Sound Outreach Community Services
http://www.soundoutreach.org/services/basic-needs/#snap

United Way Hunger Initiative
http://www.uwpc.org/hunger-initiative

Tacoma Culinary School
http://tacomaculinary.com
WORKS CITED


Median Household Income, by Zip Codes: Pierce County, 2010 to 2014 Map.

Minkler, Meredith, and Nina Wallerstein. *Community Based Participation Research for Health from Process to Outcomes.* October, 2008.


