

2018 FOOD COUNCIL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NORTHEAST REGION



This selection of updates are from food councils and networks in North Carolina attending the 2018 Northeast Region Food Council Gathering. See back for more details.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Youth Food Council
- Celebrate local food and farmers
- Sweet & sugary beverage policy
- Pitt County Food Finder app
- Online map of local farms
- Interactive food system map
- Food Access Forum

Better Chance, A Better Community started the Roanoke Valley Youth Food Council of high school and college students.

The members of the Just Foods Collaborative voted to officially call their organization a food council, becoming part of the NC network of food councils.

Beaufort HEAL worked to assess and identify stakeholders (growers, etc.) to create an **interactive food system map** in the coming year.

Warren County LFPC hosted a **Food Access Forum** to hear and share community ideas with key leaders after the closing a grocery store.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & ASSESSMENT

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Warren County LFPC hosted two public forums to **celebrate local food and farmers** and build awareness of their food council.

The Just Foods Collaborative hosted their inaugural Networking Event for the community.

Beaufort HEAL held community education events and activities throughout the year.

Pitt County Farm & Food Council co-hosted the Northeast Regional Gathering for Food Councils.

BUILDING CONNECTIONS



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Pitt County Farm & Food Council launched the **Pitt County Food Finder phone app** which connects people with local healthy food resources, farms and volunteer opportunities with the food council.

Warren County Local Foods Promotion Council (LFPC) created and distributed an **online map of local farms**.

The Just Foods Collaborative worked with partners on creating a **Local Food Vitality Index**.

RACIAL EQUITY

Pitt County Farm & Food Council hosted a **Racial Equity event**.

ADVOCACY & POLICY

Eleven food councils advocated to maintain SNAP program structure and funding in the 2018 farm bill.

Beaufort HEAL and Just Foods signed letters of support to explore **sweet & sugary beverage policy** implications with other councils.

Pitt County Farm & Food Council worked with East Carolina University to develop a **composting policy** to reduce food waste.

Warren County LFPC engaged their Board of Commissioners in multiple events and with a report.

FOOD COUNCIL UPDATES



Beaufort Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Collaborative:

- Re-engaged a collaboration of stakeholders to start a food council
- Participated in several education and awareness activities throughout the year
- Worked to assess and identify stakeholders (growers, etc.) in a baseline food assessment and to create an interactive food system map in the coming year

A Better Chance, A Better Community (ABC2)

- Started a Roanoke Valley Youth Food Council of high school and college students
- Continued to establish opportunities for youth to connect with food systems work across the Southeast

Just Foods Collaborative

- Voted to officially call Just Foods a food council, joining in the statewide network of food councils in 2018

- Worked with partners on creating a Local Food Vitality Index
- Planned and hosted an inaugural Just Foods Networking Event for community members

Pitt County Farm & Food Council

- Co-hosted the Northeast Regional Gathering of local food councils
- Co-hosted a Racial Equity event
- Launched the Pitt County Food Finder, a phone app connecting people with food resources, farms and volunteer opportunities locally
- Worked with East Carolina University to develop a composting policy to reduce food waste. Working with the college to contract a 3rd party company to compost school food waste
- Educated people through tables at festivals and other events
- Collaborated with health groups in the county on several activities

Warren County Local Foods Promotion Council (LFPC)

- Hosted two public forums to celebrate local farmers and businesses and build awareness of their food council
- Engaged the Warren County Board of County Commissioners by attending meetings, inviting them to events, and sharing an annual report
- Hosted a Food Access Forum after the closing a local grocery store, which attended by more than 60 people, to share community ideas with key leaders
- Created and distributed an online map of local farms

Other partners attending the 2018 Northeast Regional Gathering of Food Councils:

- Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC
- Harnett County
- NC Council of Churches
- NC Local Food Council
- NC Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH)
- NC Rural Forward