



Purpose of Project

To describe opportunities to improve access to healthy foods in Washington State for the Access to Healthy Foods Coalition so that the coalition's members and other stakeholders in Washington State can prioritize initiatives and integrate resources

Report Contents

1. Definitions and Frameworks
2. Description of systems that impact access to healthy foods
3. Results from interviews with 65 Stakeholders to Identify Barriers & Initiatives
4. Summary of Best Practices
5. Opportunities/Strategies for Moving Forward

Interviews with 65 Stakeholders

What Barriers Exist and
What Initiatives Are Taking Place in
Washington State?

At the:

- Family and Individual Level
- Community Level
- Institutional Level
- Regional Level
- State and Federal Levels

Summarize Best Practice Strategies

Review of strategies and policy recommendations put forth by experts in health, agriculture, planning & economics
 ~ 100 scholarly journals & sets of recommendations from prominent governmental and non-governmental organizations



Strategies & Recommendations

Economic

Procurement Standards
 Retail Quality & proximity
 Taxes
 Redevelopment/economic devel.

Vitality of Farms/ Farming

Cooperatives
 Supporting farms & farmers
 Farmland preservation

Direct Access to Foods

Community Gardens
 Food Security
 Community Supported Agriculture
 Local kitchens/ processing units
 School food
 Farmers markets
 Farm-to-institution

Organization & Planning

Food Policy Councils
 Comprehensive Plans
 Transportation

Food Issues

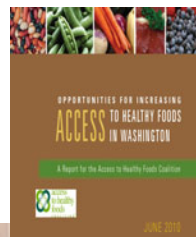
Food safety
 Emergency preparedness

Marketing



Strategy Review in Full Report

- Table of 400+ promising strategies & categories
- Sources, evidence & evaluation results to support strategies
- Cross referenced:
 - Framework & components of food system
 - Barriers, initiatives, opportunities from interviews



Opportunities

Specific strategies recommended by experts and Washington Stakeholders



Need for Information, Evidence and Resources

1. Statewide, Regional and Community Food System Information-Gap Assessments
2. Food Purchasing Patterns and Practices
3. Evaluation and Research
4. Resources and Information



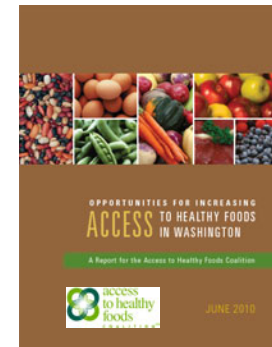
10 Processes to Improve Access to Healthy Foods

- Including food access in planning initiatives (housing, transportation, etc)
- Develop a system for coordination of data and resources
- Build knowledge of best-practice approaches
- Regional food system gap assessment
- Develop food procurement guidelines for government agencies



Summary

- Access to healthy foods impacts goals for health, the economy and the environment.
- Washington's stakeholders have identified barriers, existing initiatives and resources that will help us move forward.
- There are Promising Strategies & Opportunities for increasing access to healthy foods in Washington State



www.wapartnersinaction.org

www.accesstohealthyfoods.org

