Access to Healthy Food: Leveraging Data for Community Results

Community Indicators Consortium
2015 Impact Summit
Austin, Texas
November 9, 2015

Julia Koprak, The Food Trust
Bill Schrecker, TRF
Morgan Robinson, TRF
Video: Everyone Deserves Access
The Food Trust: Working to ensure that everyone has access to affordable, nutritious foods
I’m in a food desert!!

Wait, what’s a food desert?
Healthy Food Access DATA

1. **Policy:** Mapping the problem for policymakers

2. **Eligibility:** Qualifying a site for funding

3. **Evaluation:** Metrics to assess the impact of grocery stores
Data Sources and Definitions

• Supermarket Locations and Sales
  Nielsen TDLinx Custom Store Analysis
  Retail Database
  Supermarket: >$2 million annual sales

• Household Income
  US Census, ACS

• Diet-related Deaths
  Mortality data, selected ICD-10 codes
MAP 6 Areas with Greatest Need
State of Virginia

Areas with Greatest Need
- Low Sales, Low Income, High Deaths
- Other

Highways
- Park, Water or Non-Residential

Data: Nielsen TDLinx Custom Store Analysis, 2015
Virginia Department of Health, 2013
Over 400 studies conducted over more than twenty years find that....

- Accessing healthy food is a challenge for many Americans – particularly those living in low-income neighborhoods, communities of color, and rural areas

- Better access corresponds with healthier eating

- Access to healthy food is associated with lower risk of diet-related chronic diseases.

- New and improved healthy food retail in underserved communities created jobs and helps to revitalize low-income neighborhoods

Available at: http://www.healthyfoodaccess.org
Healthy Food Financing: The Basics

• Business financing programs that provide grants and loans for new and expanded grocery retailers in underserved communities

• Administered by a variety of community development entities, especially CDFIs

• Funded with federal, state, local, and philanthropic dollars
Determining Eligibility

FRESH FOOD FINANCING INITIATIVE

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

*Income*: In a Low to Moderate Income (LMI) census tract or serving residents of an LMI area

*Underserved*: In a community with limited or no fresh food retail

*Community Fit*: Meets community needs and expectations

Published Article: *Moving From Policy to Implementation: A Methodology and Lessons Learned to Determine Eligibility for Healthy Food Financing Projects*
Local verification

• Is there existing food retail within the trade area? What kind?
• Are stores correctly labeled and represented in databases?
• How far are residents traveling to the nearest grocery store?
• Is there an undocumented low-income population?
• Is there significant grocery retail leakage in the trade area?
Community Fit

• Quality of Existing Stores
• Operator Experience
• Commitment to sale of produce/fresh foods
• Community Support
• Job creation
• Access to transport
Evaluating the Impacts of Healthy Food Financing

Pennsylvania Success Story

- 88 projects statewide
- 5,000 Jobs
- 400,000 people with improved food access
- $190 million in total project investment

Fresh Grocer opens at Progress Plaza in North Philadelphia, December 2009
Obesity Rates Decline in Philadelphia School Children

• **From 2006-07 to 2012-13, the rates of obesity and severe obesity decreased by 6.3% and 13.9%, respectively**  
  *Source: Robbins et al., 2015*

• Based on Philadelphia Health Department study of height and weight data from over 88,000 K-12 students, collected by the School District

• Largest reductions among African American and Asian children

• Less progress among girls and Hispanic children

• Continuing signs of a reversal in the obesity epidemic that has been increasing at local and national levels since the late 1970s

• During this time period, multi-pronged approach to improve nutrition education and food environment, including 20 PA FFFI projects
Using Spatial Data and Analysis to Inform TRF’s Supermarket Financing Initiatives

November 9, 2015
• The Reinvestment Fund builds wealth and opportunity for low-wealth people and places through the promotion of socially and environmentally responsible development.

• $1.4 billion in cumulative investments and loans throughout the mid-Atlantic.

• Currently manage $801 million in capital, with more than 850 investors.

• Top AERIS score of AAA+1 (most recent 2014). TRF is 1 of only 5 CDFIs in the country with the top rating.

@trfund
www.trfund.com
www.policymap.com
TRF and Supermarkets

TRF works to reduce inequitable access to healthy foods by:

• **Financing** viable, mission-fit food retail options
• **Advocating** to increase public awareness of food access
• **Conducting policy research** related to supermarket development, food systems, and free and reduced price lunch programs
• **Providing technical assistance** to CDFIs, foundations, and other organizations to close the gap in access/knowledge
TRF studies topics related to improving access to healthier foods in low-income communities.

- Identify areas with inadequate access to supermarkets and quantify potential market viability: LSA Analysis
- Analyze market competition: Market Structure Analysis
- Examine the economic barriers to opening and operating supermarkets in distressed communities.
- Measure economic impact of new supermarket development on surrounding communities.
- Review existing programs designs that encourage people to eat and shop for healthier foods.
Timeline

Note: Right click on hyperlinks and select Open Hyperlink to access documents.

- **FFFI** launched in December 2004
- Early version of LSA created in 2007 (collaboration with The Food Trust)
- **Impact assessment** for CDFI Fund completed in 2008
- First LSA analysis released; FFFI winds down in 2010
- HFFI, NJFAI, and other initiatives launched in 2011
- Second LSA analysis and report released in October 2011
- **TRF ReFresh** initiative formed in 2014
- **Most recent LSA analysis** released in December 2014
- **LSA Summary Brief** published in April 2015
What are LSA areas?

- Areas where residents must travel significantly farther to reach a supermarket than the “comparative acceptable” distance that residents in well-served areas travel to stores.

- 1,807 clusters around the US including 12,959 block groups – average size of 11,100 people.

- Areas can be prioritized based on access, demand, and leakage data.
Why identify LSA areas?

- Establish a consistent and reliable method for measuring supermarket access nationwide
- Locate areas with the most limited access, yet adequate demand for food retail development
- Identify priority areas for CDFIs and policymakers operating at the city, state, regional or national level
- Deliver data in an easy to use tool that includes other relevant social, demographic, and economic data
What do the results tell me?

Example:
Block Group #: 080310035003
Value:.64
This block group’s travel distance would have to be decreased by 64% to equal the distance traveled by its non-LMI counterparts.
What do the results tell me?

Grocery Leakage equals Demand minus Sales

LSA Grocery Assessment
Retail Demand: $70,734,000
# of Limited Service Stores: 3
Existing Store Sales: $354,900
Retail Leakage:$70,379,100
Leakage Rate: 99%
# of Retail Sq Ft
Leaked:103,601
All numbers are estimated.
### LSA Figures for Top 5 and Bottom 5 Major Metro Areas, Based on Income Disparity

*Sorted in Descending Order by Low-Income Area Disparity Ratios*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place Name</th>
<th>Total Population (2010)</th>
<th>Population in LSA</th>
<th>% of Pop in LSA</th>
<th>% of LSA Pop in Low Income Area</th>
<th>Low-Income Area Ratio*</th>
<th>Minority Race/Ethnicity Ratio*</th>
<th>US Rank (51)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major CBSA Average</td>
<td>3,276,224</td>
<td>234,397</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nation (Lower 48)</td>
<td>306,675,006</td>
<td>20,102,395</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo, NY</td>
<td>1,135,509</td>
<td>82,385</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland, OH</td>
<td>2,077,240</td>
<td>128,266</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>2,356,285</td>
<td>208,968</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisville, KY-IN</td>
<td>1,283,566</td>
<td>53,623</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rochester, NY</td>
<td>1,054,323</td>
<td>80,744</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
<td>1,951,269</td>
<td>142,680</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
<td>3,439,809</td>
<td>173,232</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento, CA</td>
<td>2,149,127</td>
<td>181,925</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>3,095,313</td>
<td>138,186</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma City, OK</td>
<td>1,252,987</td>
<td>90,241</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Trade Dimensions, 2013; TRF, 2014.

*Low-Income Area Ratios are calculated by dividing the % of LSA residents living in low-income communities by the metro area’s % of all residents living in such communities. For Minority Race/Ethnicity Ratios, substitute % of population of minority race/ethnicity.*
Industry and Current Trends

- Low-margin industry (averages 3%)
- Average supermarket has $14 million in annual sales
- Highly competitive and competes with other retail categories
- Market share concentration can affect a new operator’s ability to enter a market or expand
- Costs are higher in distressed communities – both start up and operating (e.g. land assembly, staffing, security).
How to evaluate an LSA area?

What is the level of leakage in the Limited Supermarket Access area?

< $7 million

Is a small store present?

No

Cannot support a new store; consider alternative sources of fresh food such as farmers' markets

Yes

Cannot support a new store, work with existing stores on product availability

$7 - 14 million

Is a small store present?

No

Area can potentially support small new store*

Yes

Can potentially support small new store or expand size, products in existing stores; if new store consider the economic impact on small stores*

$14-28 million

Is a small store present?

No

Area can potentially support full service stores*

Yes

Area can potentially support full service supermarkets; consider the economic impact of a new store on existing small stores*

>$28 million

Is a small store present?

No

Area can potentially support multiple full service supermarkets; consider the economic impact of a new store on existing small stores*

Yes

Area can potentially support multiple full service stores*

* TRF’s analysis does not look at quality, local in-store assessments will complement this study. Practitioner may find stores that are included in the study but not providers of fresh, healthy foods.
## Market Structure Analysis - Major Metropolitan Areas

**Florida Major Metropolitan Areas vs. Top/Middle/Bottom 10 Peer Areas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metro Area Name</th>
<th>2010 Pop</th>
<th>CR-1 Rank (51)</th>
<th>Owner w/ Highest Market Share</th>
<th>CR-2</th>
<th>Owner w/ 2nd Highest Market Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>2,134,411</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>29% Publix/Jax</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>Wal Mart Sprctr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacksonville</td>
<td>1,345,596</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>33% Publix/Jax</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>Winn Dixie/Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampa-St. Petersburg</td>
<td>2,783,243</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40% Publix/Lakeland</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>Sweetbay Smks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Fort Lauderdale</td>
<td>5,564,635</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>47% Publix/Miami</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>Winn Dixie/Miami</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Nationwide Average**, 3,276,224, 31%, 46%

New York, NY 18,897,109 1 12% Stop & Shop/Metro 19% Costco/NE Reg
Kansas City, MO-KS 2,035,334 2 15% Hy Vee Food Stores 29% Ball's Food Stores
Los Angeles, CA 12,828,837 3 15% Ralphs Grocery Co 26% Safeway/Vons Div
Philadelphia, PA 5,965,343 4 15% SuperValu/Acme 26% Giant Food Stores/PA
Dallas, TX 6,371,773 5 17% Wal Mart Sprctr 35% Kroger Co/Southwest
Las Vegas, NV 1,951,269 6 21% Smiths Food & Drug 38% SuperValu/Albertsons
Sacramento, CA 2,149,127 7 21% Safeway/NoCal 36% Raley's Smks
Minneapolis MN 3,279,833 8 21% SuperValu/Cub Food 33% Rainbow Foods
San Diego, CA 3,095,313 9 21% Safeway/Vons Div 35% SuperValu/Albertsons
New Orleans, LA 1,167,764 10 22% Winn Dixie/NOLA 39% Rouse Enterprises
Detroit, MI 4,296,250 21 27% Kroger Co/MI 41% Meijer
Seattle, WA 3,439,809 22 27% Safeway/Seattle 38% Quality Food Centers
Riverside, CA 4,224,851 23 27% Stater Bros Markets 35% SuperValu/Albertsons
Charlotte, NC 1,758,038 24 27% Harris Teeter 47% Food Lion/Southwest
Salt Lake City, UT 1,124,197 25 27% Smiths Food & Drug 39% Wal Mart Sprctr
St. Louis, MO-IL 2,812,896 26 29% Schnuck Markets 44% Shop N Save
San Jose, CA 1,836,911 28 29% Safeway/NoCal 45% Costco/N CA
Washington, DC 5,582,170 30 30% Giant Food/MD 45% Safeway/Eastern
Indianapolis, IN 1,756,241 31 31% Kroger Co/Central 48% Marsh Smks/C&S
San Francisco, CA 4,335,391 32 31% Safeway/NoCal 44% Costco/N CA
Columbus, OH 1,836,536 42 40% Kroger Co/Columbus 60% Giant Eagle
Memphis, TN 1,316,100 43 40% Kroger Co/Delta Area 54% Wal Mart Sprctr
Providence, RI 1,600,852 44 41% Stop & Shop/NE 56% SuperValu/Shaws
Rochester, NY 1,054,323 46 48% Wegmans 64% Tops Markets
Milwaukee, WI 1,555,908 47 49% Roundy's Smks 56% Wal Mart Sprctr
Louisville, KY 1,283,566 48 53% Kroger Co/MidSouth 64% Wal Mart Sprctr
Cincinnati, OH 2,130,151 49 58% Kroger Co/Cincinnati 67% Wal Mart Sprctr
Austin, TX 1,716,289 50 61% H E Butt Grocery Co 70% Wal Mart Sprctr
San Antonio, TX 2,142,508 51 63% H E Butt Grocery Co 76% Wal Mart Sprctr
FFFI Logic Model

**Resources & Inputs**
- Staff: TRF, TFT, GPUAC
- Funding: FFFI, TRF Core Fund, NMTC
- Applicants

**Activities**
- Underwrite loans & grants for applicants
- Provide technical assistance to applicants
- Advocacy & public awareness of food accessibility
- Conduct policy research related to supermarket development

**Outputs**
- Loans & grants
- Financing strategies
- Policy studies
- Assessment of underserved areas

**Outcomes**
- New, renovated, or expanded stores in underserved areas
- Economically viable & adequately capitalized stores
- Employment opportunities in economically distressed areas
- Identify policies that promote availability of fresh foods
- List of areas that are relatively underserved by supermarkets

**Impacts**
- Supermarkets are more accessible to underserved communities
- Employment of residents of low-income communities
- Stronger and more stable property values in surrounding neighborhoods
- Less retail leakage to surrounding community
- Viable supermarkets will attract additional residential & commercial development (community anchors)
- Residents are proud of their community because they have their own store
- Lower food prices via increased competition
- Larger & healthier food selection
Measure Outcomes & Assess Impacts

- Establishing clear expectations for borrowers, funders, public and lending staff on each organization’s priorities

- Measure and document your results to attract additional funders and share your success

- Establish realistic goals and assess progress on regular intervals:
  - How many loans? What type of projects? Who are your borrowers? Who is benefiting? LSA population effected?
### LSA Population Trends

**Top 10 and Bottom 10 States, Based on Percentage Decrease in LSA Population from 2005 to 2013**

Sorted in Descending Order by the % Chg 2005-2013 column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NORTH DAKOTA</td>
<td>155,145</td>
<td>115,722</td>
<td>83,178</td>
<td>42,155</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>-28%</td>
<td>-49%</td>
<td>-73%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAINE</td>
<td>147,991</td>
<td>104,101</td>
<td>47,638</td>
<td>46,037</td>
<td>-30%</td>
<td>-54%</td>
<td>-3%</td>
<td>-69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW YORK</td>
<td>2,376,253</td>
<td>1,796,972</td>
<td>1,362,938</td>
<td>806,701</td>
<td>-24%</td>
<td>-24%</td>
<td>-41%</td>
<td>-66%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WYOMING</td>
<td>35,989</td>
<td>26,721</td>
<td>16,474</td>
<td>12,940</td>
<td>-26%</td>
<td>-38%</td>
<td>-21%</td>
<td>-64%</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>IOWA</td>
<td>180,757</td>
<td>155,321</td>
<td>102,706</td>
<td>65,886</td>
<td>-14%</td>
<td>-34%</td>
<td>-36%</td>
<td>-64%</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>INDIANA</td>
<td>817,198</td>
<td>686,586</td>
<td>474,690</td>
<td>334,330</td>
<td>-16%</td>
<td>-31%</td>
<td>-30%</td>
<td>-59%</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARKANSAS</td>
<td>278,356</td>
<td>218,656</td>
<td>157,418</td>
<td>115,958</td>
<td>-21%</td>
<td>-28%</td>
<td>-26%</td>
<td>-58%</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>MISSISSIPPI</td>
<td>330,752</td>
<td>224,317</td>
<td>167,476</td>
<td>144,697</td>
<td>-32%</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>-14%</td>
<td>-56%</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
<td>1,798,185</td>
<td>1,472,406</td>
<td>1,004,854</td>
<td>792,571</td>
<td>-18%</td>
<td>-32%</td>
<td>-21%</td>
<td>-56%</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>WISCONSIN</td>
<td>600,020</td>
<td>439,834</td>
<td>347,160</td>
<td>266,050</td>
<td>-27%</td>
<td>-21%</td>
<td>-23%</td>
<td>-56%</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>WASHINGTON</td>
<td>562,750</td>
<td>495,459</td>
<td>417,774</td>
<td>375,821</td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>-16%</td>
<td>-10%</td>
<td>-33%</td>
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<tr>
<td>MISSOURI</td>
<td>522,298</td>
<td>443,256</td>
<td>381,403</td>
<td>358,758</td>
<td>-15%</td>
<td>-14%</td>
<td>-6%</td>
<td>-31%</td>
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<td>LOUISIANA</td>
<td>652,798</td>
<td>589,496</td>
<td>489,279</td>
<td>455,434</td>
<td>-10%</td>
<td>-17%</td>
<td>-7%</td>
<td>-30%</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARYLAND</td>
<td>744,010</td>
<td>657,507</td>
<td>533,163</td>
<td>524,524</td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>-19%</td>
<td>-2%</td>
<td>-30%</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLORADO</td>
<td>481,586</td>
<td>453,784</td>
<td>392,874</td>
<td>360,848</td>
<td>-6%</td>
<td>-13%</td>
<td>-8%</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>KANSAS</td>
<td>194,018</td>
<td>157,046</td>
<td>166,975</td>
<td>146,134</td>
<td>-19%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARIZONA</td>
<td>987,570</td>
<td>775,004</td>
<td>771,367</td>
<td>750,978</td>
<td>-22%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>-3%</td>
<td>-24%</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEBRASKA</td>
<td>164,053</td>
<td>150,489</td>
<td>139,568</td>
<td>132,722</td>
<td>-8%</td>
<td>-7%</td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>-19%</td>
<td>46</td>
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<tr>
<td>RHODE ISLAND</td>
<td>130,719</td>
<td>126,989</td>
<td>113,826</td>
<td>107,573</td>
<td>-3%</td>
<td>-10%</td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>-18%</td>
<td>47</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASHINGTON, DC</td>
<td>107,723</td>
<td>106,934</td>
<td>94,657</td>
<td>94,423</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Philadelphia LSA Areas and Retail Grocers Financed by TRF - 2013

Grocery Store Locations
- TRF, Full-Service
- TRF, Limited-Service
- Other, Full-Service

LSA Scores
- 0 or Negative
- 0.1 - 14.9
- 15.0 - 44.9
- 45.0 - 55.0
- 55.1 or More

Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo and the GIS User Community.
Additional Market Analysis

Huff Trade Area Model

- Identifies a supermarket’s primary trade area (PTA)
  Accounts for nearby, competing stores
  Uses square feet and distance as gravitational coefficients

- Can be analyzed for new or existing supermarkets

- Areas where PTA and LSA area boundaries intersect
  Intersections represent populations that are both underserved and likely to shop at proposed/renovated store
Bill Schrecker
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Healthy Food Access Portal: Connecting Practitioners to Neighborhood Data

CIC Impact Summit
November 9, 2015

Morgan Robinson
Data Analyst, PolicyMap
Agenda

Intro
PolicyMap
What is the Healthy Food Access Portal?
Curating data resources
Research your Community
Q & A
Food-focused mapping tools

- USDA Food Environment Atlas
- USDA Food Access Research Atlas
- LSA Analysis
- Farmers’ Market Directory
Healthy Food Access Portal

- Data and information hub for communities seeking improved access to healthy food
- Launched in 2013
- Collaboration of The Food Trust, Reinvestment Fund, and PolicyLink
- Supported by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Healthy Food Access Portal Audience

- Community leaders
- Entrepreneurs
- Government Officials
- Public health advocates
- Economic development practitioners
Portal Contents

- Written reports
- Funding opportunities
- Webinars
- Practitioner perspectives
- Links to external resources
- Making the Case
  - Available Funding lists open federal RFPs, corporate and private foundation and CDFI funding opportunities
  - Need: provide data resources to help practitioners make their applications more competitive

Healthy Food Access Portal

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Research Your Community

• Added to Portal in 2015
• Diverse audience with wide range of experience with data
• Data to validate on-the-ground knowledge and expertise
• Support grant applications and appeals to program funders
• Useful for neighborhood, local, and regional efforts.
• **Demographics** – includes data on race and ethnicity, income, poverty, recipients of SNAP (formerly known as food stamps), and rates of unemployment.

• **Food Environment** – includes data on supermarkets, farmers markets, and the degree of access to healthy food retail outlets such as USDA’s Low Income, Low Access designated census tracts and TRF’s Limited Supermarket Access areas.

• **Health** – includes data on fruit and vegetable consumption, obesity, physical inactivity, and diabetes.

• **Federal Programs & Investments** – includes eligibility data for various federal funding programs such as New Markets Tax Credits and Community Development Block Grants.
Food Environment

Determining if a community is underserved by healthy food retailers can be a complicated process that includes a variety of factors including population density, car ownership rates, and the quality and location of supermarkets, grocery stores and farmers markets. Researchers have produced many studies and online tools to help communities to identify areas with limited access to supermarkets and sources of healthy food. Methods and measures vary but two studies and national online data tools are The Reinvestment Fund (TRF) Limited Supermarket Access (LSA) Study and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Access Research Atlas. These studies seek to provide guidance on how to understand whether a new supermarket, an expansion of an existing store, or a farmer’s market is the appropriate strategy to pursue.

In 2013, there were 2 full service supermarkets located in 44106. There are 3 Limited Service stores located within the study area, and 5 farmers’ markets. SNAP benefits are accepted at 21 participating stores, farmer’s markets, social service agencies or other non retail providers in this community.

According to the USDA, 14 of 22 census tracts in 44106 are Low-Income, Low-Access tracts. (Show/hide list of USDA Low-Income, Low-Access Tracts)
Thank you!

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