



Plants and Fruits: Supporting Farmers While Expanding Access to Healthy Food

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PolicyLink Center for Health and Place

Thursday, August 9, 2012
2-3pm

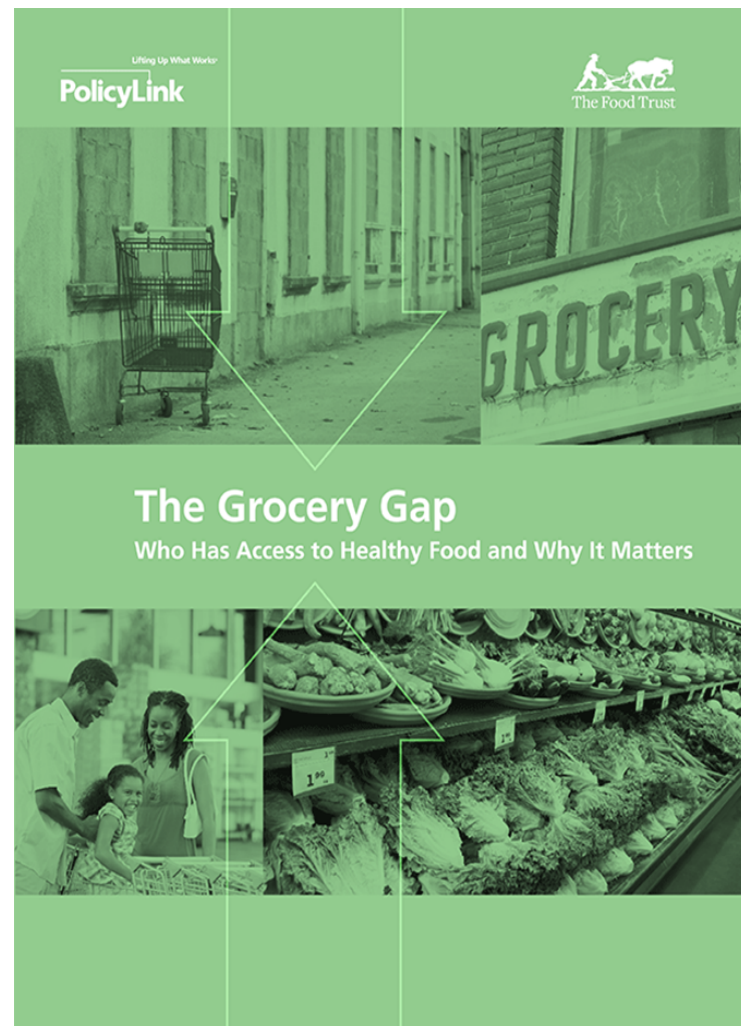


PolicyLink is a national research and action institute advancing economic and social equity by Lifting Up What Works.®

PolicyLink Center for Health & Place Works to create neighborhood conditions that encourage good health

The Grocery Gap Report

- **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 and lower risk for obesity and other diet-related chronic diseases.**
- **New and improved healthy food retail in underserved communities creates jobs and helps to revitalize low-income communities.**



The alternatives in many places



...and in many others

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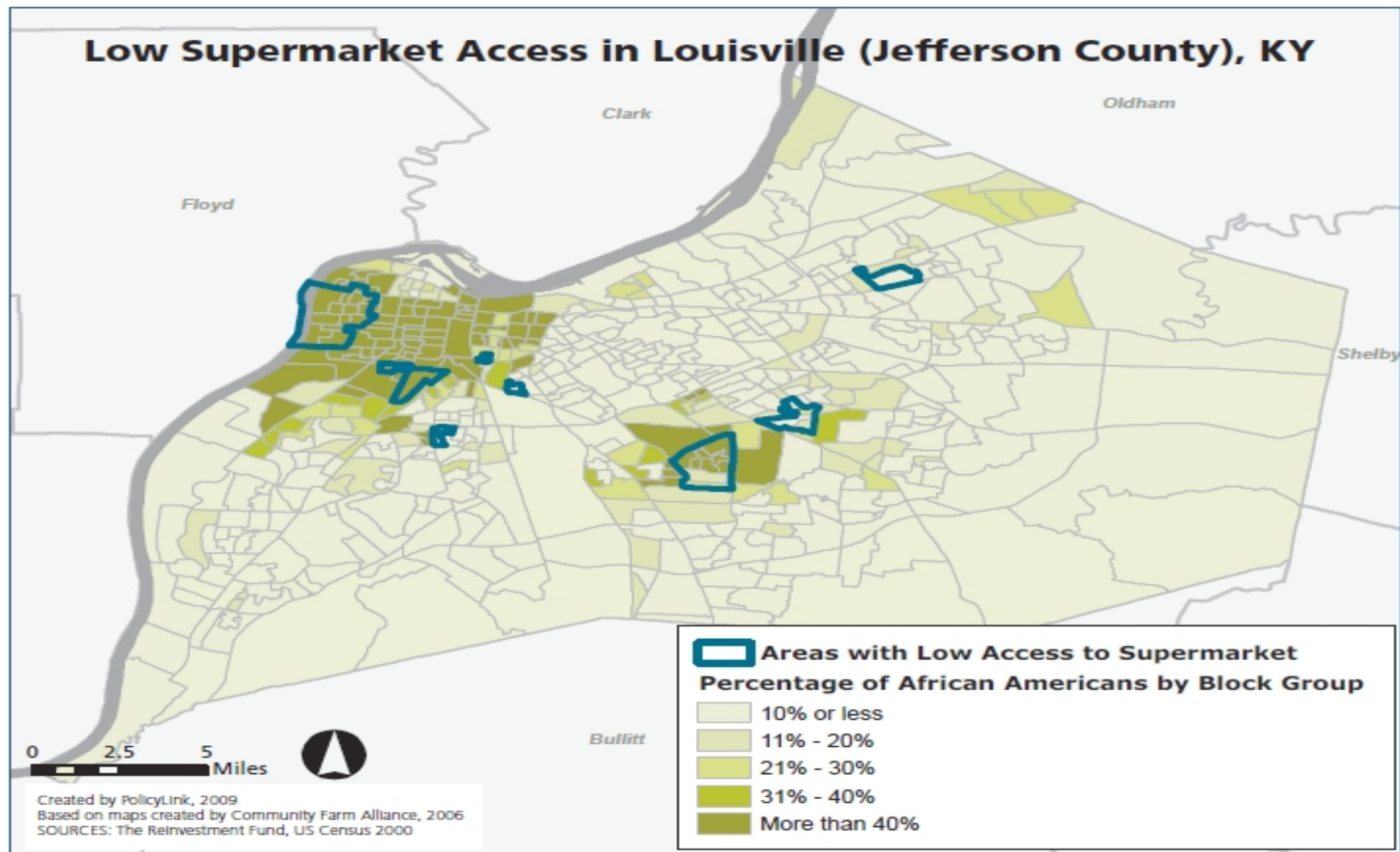


Source: David Kohrman, www.forgottendetroit.com

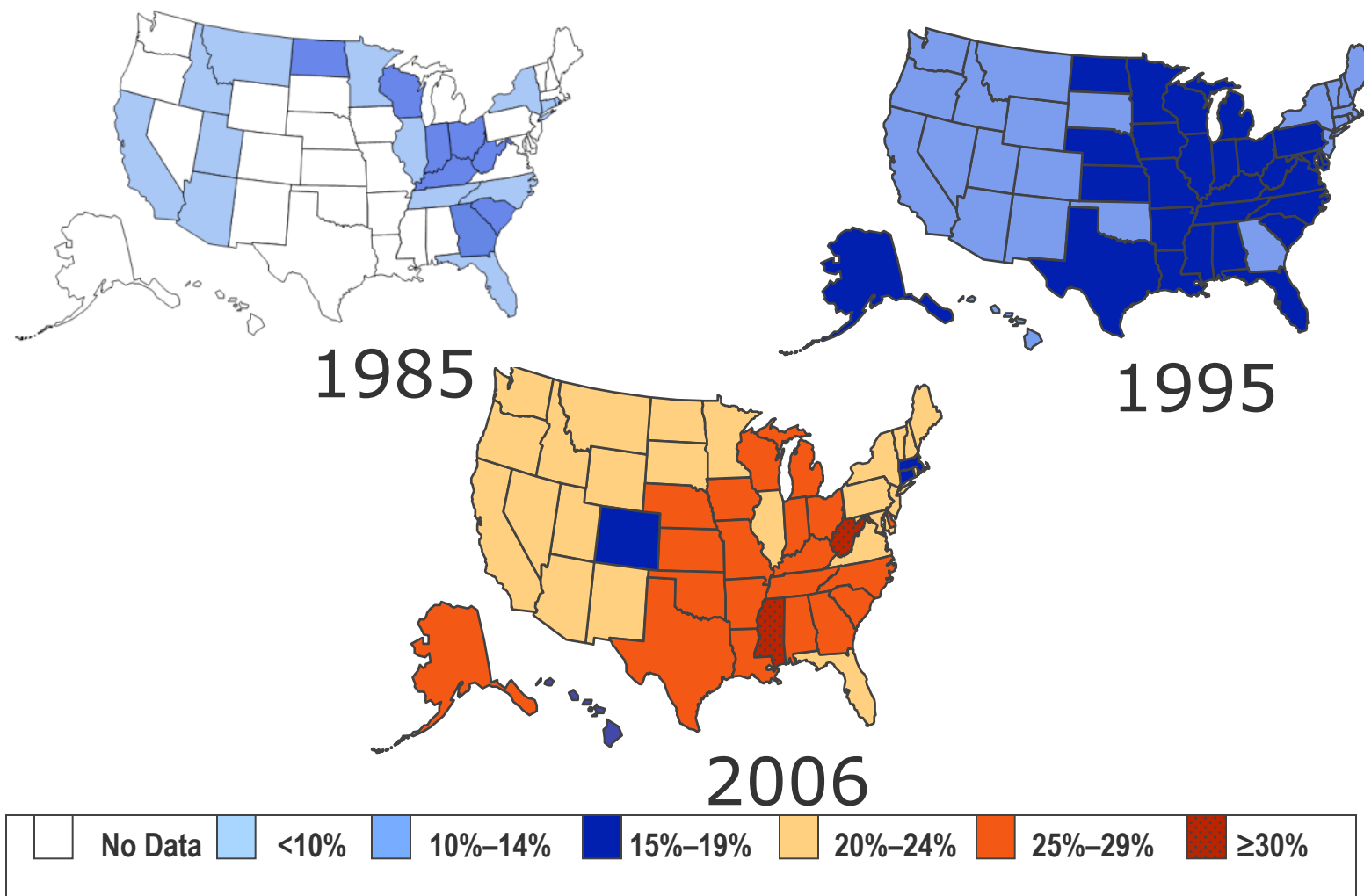
Lifting Up What Works®

Food Access and Race: Louisville

Low Supermarket Access in Louisville (Jefferson County), KY

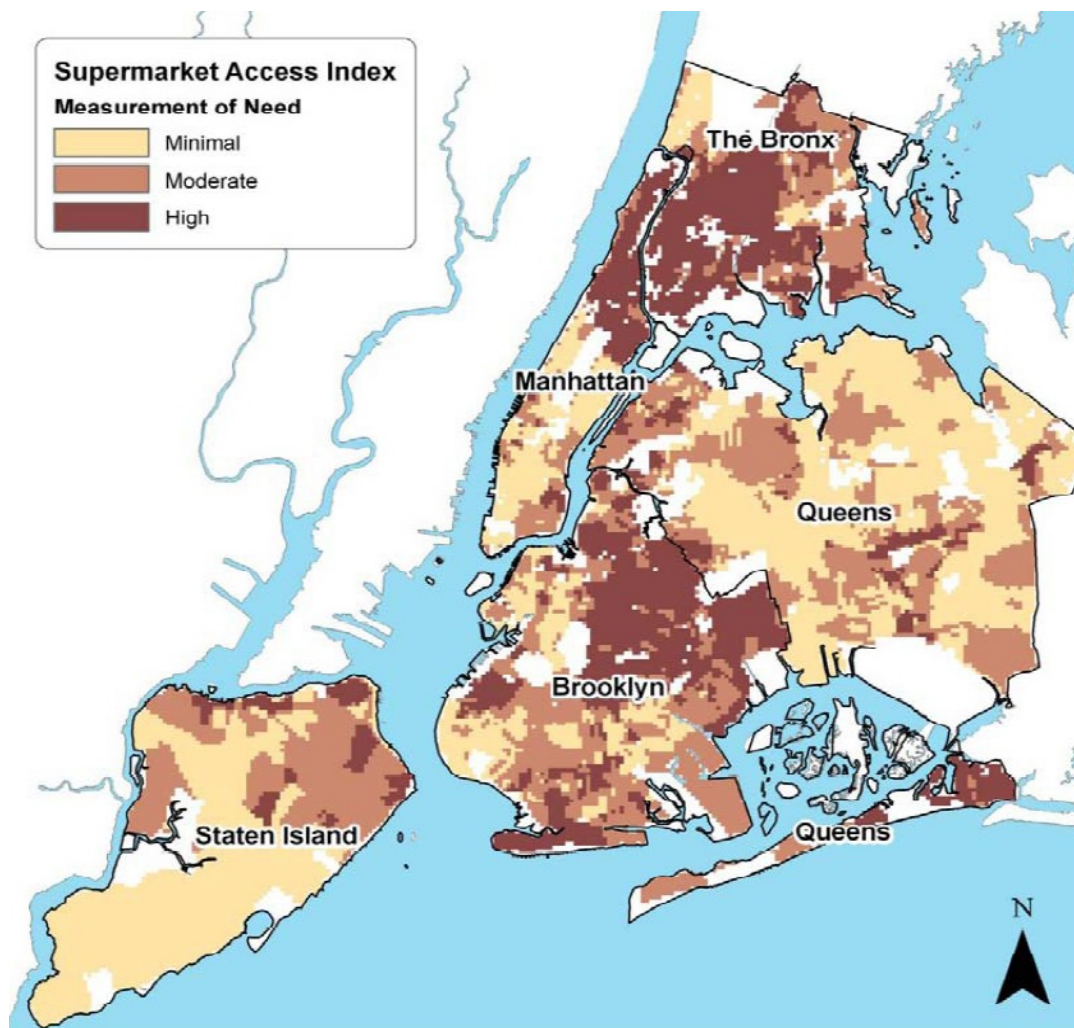


U.S. Obesity Trends



Source: Center for Disease Control (CDC)

Food Access & Health: NYC

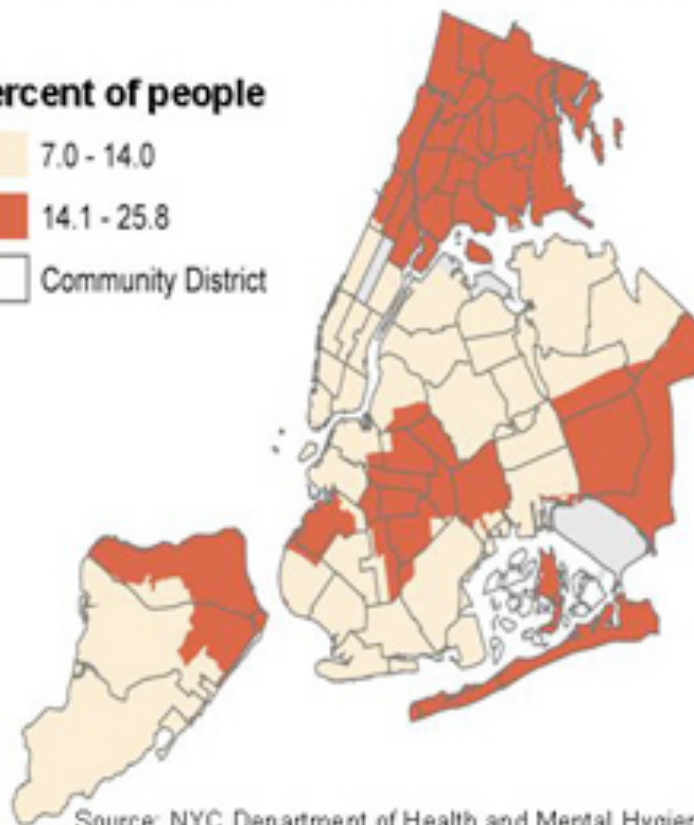


Source: New York City Department of City Planning

Food Access & Health: NYC

Percent of people reporting they consumed NO fruit or vegetables the previous day by the United Hospital Fund Neighborhoods

Percent of people

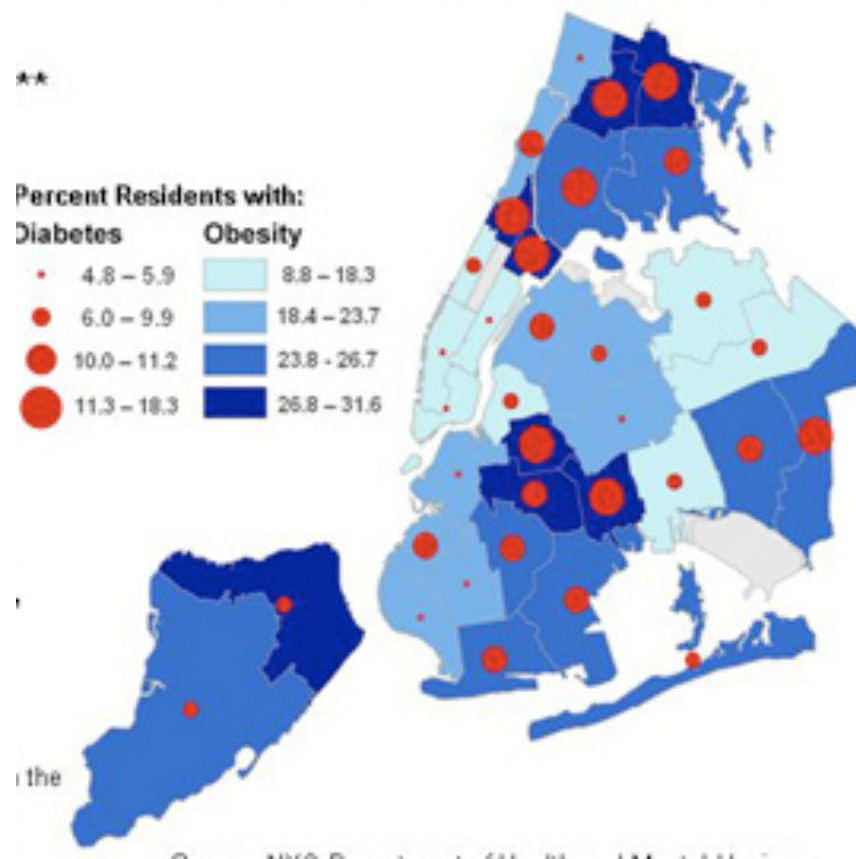


Source: NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Source: New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Food Access & Health: NYC

Prevalence of Diabetes and Obesity reported in neighborhoods defined by the United Hospital Fund (UHF)



Source: New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Community Strategies to Increase Access to Healthy Food

- Grocery store development/attraction
- Urban agriculture/ Community-supported agriculture
- Corner stores
- Farmers' markets

http://www.policylink.org/Health_and_Place_Tool_Group



Pennsylvania Fresh Food Financing Initiative



Results

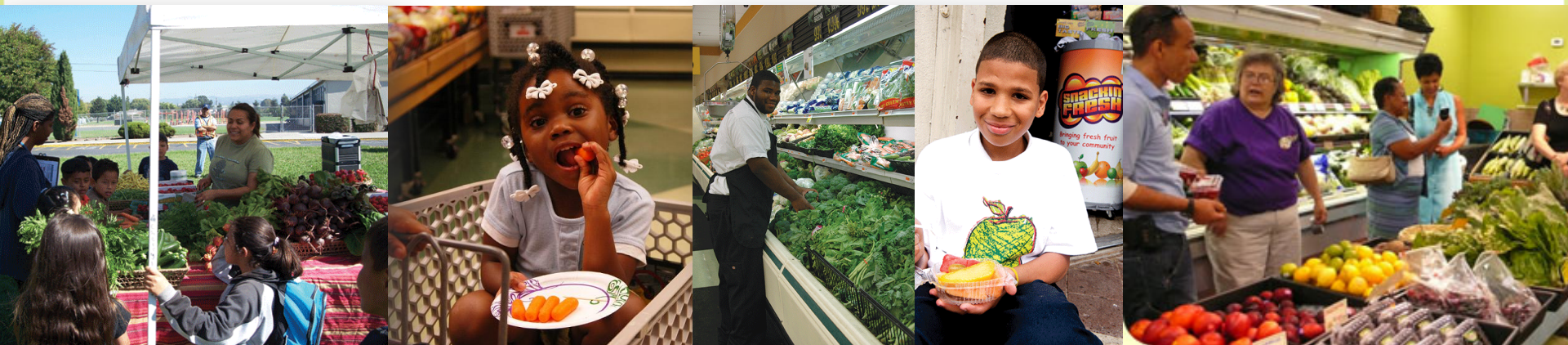
- **88** new or improved grocery stores/healthy food retail in underserved communities
- **\$194 million** in total projects resulting from \$30 million in state seed money
- **400,000** residents with increased access to healthy food
- **5,023** jobs created or retained

Healthy Food Financing Initiative

A national campaign initiated by PolicyLink,
The Food Trust, and The Reinvestment Fund

Goal:

To improve access to healthy food in low-income,
underserved rural, suburban, & urban
communities



\$77 Million in Allocated Funds

2011, \$45 million from Agencies:

- \$35 million Treasury
- \$10 million HHS
- \$10 million USDA
- See:
[http://
apps.ams.usda.gov/
fooddeserts/
foodDeserts.aspx](http://apps.ams.usda.gov/fooddeserts/foodDeserts.aspx)

2012, \$32 million from the Budget:

- \$32 million Treasury
- \$10 million HHS
- Other opportunities
USDA

Let's Move Initiative

[http://
www.letsmove.gov](http://www.letsmove.gov)



1. Healthy Choices
2. Healthy Schools
3. Physical Activity
4. Access to Healthy Foods

Efforts Underway in Other States:

Arizona
California
Colorado
Georgia
Illinois
Maryland
Michigan

Minnesota
Mississippi
New Jersey
New York
Tennessee
Texas
Washington, DC

The Farm Bill 2012



- Primary piece of agriculture and food policy legislation
- Covers many issues, ranging from hunger issues in America to price supports for large crops
- Farm Bill legislation dates back to the 1930s
- Reauthorized roughly every five years; current Farm Bill is set to expire on September 30





- Nutritious food is affordable and accessible
- System supports the production of nutritious, fresh food



- Food is produced in ways that does not harm workers or the environment
- Production systems create and sustain jobs and build wealth in rural and urban communities

Widespread support across disciplines and among diverse sectors for the following initiatives in the next Farm Bill:

- Healthy Food Financing Initiative
- SNAP
- SNAP Incentive Programs
- Sustainable Food Systems

- **Farmers: large and small**
- **Agribusiness Lobbies**
- **Anti-Hunger Advocates**
- **Nutrition/Public Health**
- **Community Food Security**
- **Conservation/Environmental Groups**
- **International Trade and Globalization**
- **Renewable Energy**
- **Government Agencies**
- **Organic Groups**
- **Sustainable Ag**

- **Healthy Food Access Updates**

<http://www.policylink.org/KeepMeInformed/HealthyFoodAccess>

- **Equitable Development Tools**

http://www.policylink.org/Health_and_Place_Tool_Group

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