

PANTRY: DETAILED COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE ACTION LEVERAGE POINTS LIST

Upstream leverage points: Policies, laws, or regulations that improve community conditions, creating system-wide change

1. Change current funding standards to be more equitable, lower barriers to get funding, and distribute funding more equitably
2. Leverage political change and advocacy to reach food system goals, like the child tax credit that would increase household income and have cascading impacts on childhood nutrition, improved health, educational performance, and well-being (consider Flint level examples)
3. Create accountability for retailers to help bring the community to a high quality of life by offering affordable, convenient, nutritious choices

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Midstream leverage points: Barriers that need to be addressed in order for the system to evolve; and/or support individual needs

1. Create an incentive for schools to bring in local farmers to increase food system education and nutritious food and overcome the challenges of maintaining partnerships
2. Develop networks of partnerships to collaborate on getting grants and funding to create a sustainable local production system
3. Grow relationships between local restaurants/institutions and local producers so retailers would buy directly from growers, to increase demand and supply of local produce, improve nutrition, and support the local economy
4. Have collaboration between or aggregation of smaller farms to reach certain markets
5. Increase partnerships to build sustainable businesses instead of needing to rely on grants
6. Retailers and restaurants could source local produce to support local production, and donate excess to the emergency sector, which would support local producers as well as increase access to nutritious options in the emergency sector and healthier diets
7. Deepen community and social connections to enable mutual aid such as distributing and sharing food
8. Establish a network or organization that connects food system actors, represents the community, and conducts equitable decision-making
9. Begin cooperative production and processing to save local producers money and cut the cost of local food
10. Create a city-wide composting program or industrial composting from restaurants or institutions to reduce food waste and provide compost for local gardeners
11. Create partnerships between local growers/gardeners and Flint schools to teach children about food production and expose them to fresh produce and nutritious foods
12. Develop partnerships between organizations and the community that build trust through equitable community engagement and lead to better education and knowledge sharing because people trust what is told to them
13. Develop partnerships to avoid silos, improve engagement, and move the food system forward
14. Partnerships could have transparency and accountability to build trust within the community and collaborate to secure funding
15. Provide schools assistance with regulations and certifications to serve local produce during school meals and a facilitator to make and maintain connections between schools and local producers
16. Strengthen community networks to enable mutual aid, built trust, cohesion, and resilience
17. Promote growing food in vacant land by partnering communities with community groups who can supply skills, information, equipment, etc.

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Downstream leverage points: Addresses individual needs and crisis management

1. Create a platform of communication and collaboration between Flint community gardens to introduce community members to the produce available, distribute produce, and educate people on recipes and cooking
2. Create networks where people and organizations can collaborate and communicate to avoid or reduce food waste and loss
3. Make or strengthen partnerships to share expertise, money, and labor
4. Increase the use of established hoop houses and collaborate to distribute more local produce