



2023 Accomplishments

Baltimore City Food Policy and Planning Division

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING

Investing \$11.07 million of ARPA funding into Baltimore City’s food system through our proposal, “Improving Nutritional Security, Food Access, and Food Equity in Baltimore City During and After COVID-19”

Produce Box Distributions

- Conducted site visits and obtained feedback from all 32 community sites.

Online SNAP Nutrition Incentives

- Executed contracts with retail partners Amazon, Giant, and Safeway totaling \$2.2 million.
- Launched the [B’More Fresh](#) nutrition incentive program.

Farmers Market Nutrition Incentives

- Executed a \$450,000 grant agreement with Maryland Market Money to expand the use of electronic nutrition incentives at Baltimore City.

Food is Medicine Program

- Executed a \$450,000 grant agreement with MedStar Harbor Hospital to implement their Food Rx program, which provides patients with produce to improve diet-related health outcomes.

Black Butterfly Teaching Farm

- Executed a \$1.5 million grant agreement with the Farm Alliance of Baltimore (FAB) to build out the infrastructure of the Black Butterfly Teaching Farm in Farring-Baybrook Park.
- Facilitated a contract growing partnership between FAB and The Common Market, our produce box vendor.

OPEN ACCESS

- Partnered with Morgan State University and the Aspen Institute to launch [Open Access Baltimore](#), a free online portal for food entrepreneurs to utilize resources for capital, permitting, licensing, and training.



NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- Elected to the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Steering Committee for 2023-2025.
- Signed the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration, a commitment to tackle the climate emergency through integrated food policies.
- Led, with Mayor Scott, the United States Conference of Mayors annual Food Policy Task Force meeting, where the Mayor highlighted our leadership in implementing the Biden Administration’s National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health.

FOOD POLICY ACTION COALITION (FOOD PAC)

- Held quarterly Food PAC Meetings, with an average of 60 participants, and hosted Food PAC’s first happy hour.
- Joined the Maryland Food Council Collaborative to support a community of practice for food policy councils across the state. Awarded \$20,000 from the Collaborative and USDA to advance Food PAC’s work.

RESIDENT FOOD EQUITY ADVISORS

- Launched our 4th cohort of RFEAs, comprised of 14 HABC residents enrolled in SNAP, with a focus on improving online SNAP and digital equity. Residents were compensated for their time.

“OUR BALTIMORE” COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

- Drafted the Food Access chapter with 45+ community-generated recommendations. Food Access was the 2nd most engaged topic out of 21 topic areas.
- Hosted an urban agriculture convening to get feedback on the plan and land tenure.
- Hired Courtney Wheeler, as a JHU SOURCE fellow to assist with the Food Access chapter.