



# 2024 Accomplishments

## Baltimore City Food Policy and Planning (FPP) Division

### American Rescue Plan Act Funding

Continuing to invest \$11 million of ARPA funding into Baltimore’s food system through our proposal, “Improving Nutritional Security, Food Access, and Food Equity in Baltimore City During and After COVID-19”. This comprehensive food systems strategy utilizes pilot programs to address immediate needs while building a foundation for a healthier, more equitable food system.

#### Produce Box Distributions

- Distributed over 4 million pounds of fresh produce and over 23 million servings of fruits and vegetables since June 2022.
- [Awarded a \\$200,000 grant](#) from the African American Mayors Association (AAMA). Allocated funds to community distribution partners for operational support, nutrition education, and additional produce boxes.

#### Online SNAP Nutrition Incentives

- Served over 14,000 households with over \$250,000 in produce vouchers redeemed since April 2023.
- Launched radio campaign with over 2.5 million impressions.
- Published [2023 B’more Fresh Reach and Impact Report](#).

#### Farmers Market Nutrition Incentives

- Distributed over \$200,000 in nutrition incentives since March 2023.
- Partnered with the Healthy Together app to bring e-incentives to more farmers markets.

#### Food is Medicine Program

- Enrolled over 100 patients in Harbor Hospital’s Food Rx program since October 2022.
- Distributed over 50,000 medically tailored meals and over 90,000 servings of fruits and vegetables to patients.
- [Click here](#) to read several patient success stories.

#### Black Butterfly Teaching Farm

- Harvested 30,000 pounds of hyper-local produce, feeding families across Baltimore through food pantries, community organizations, and restaurants.
- Sold \$50,000 of produce to wholesale partners, including the Common Market for our produce box program.

### Resident Food Equity Advisors (RFEA)

- Concluded 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.
- Published a summary of the cohort and their [Food Access and Digital Equity Recommendations](#).

### Food Policy Action Coalition (Food PAC)

- Held quarterly Food PAC meetings, including the first in-person meeting since before the pandemic, with an average of 60 participants.
- Held a special Food PAC meeting at Lexington Market to celebrate the 2024 RFEA cohort.



### New Food Environment Maps

- Released the [2024 Baltimore City Food Environment Brief](#), the first update to the HFA map and brief since 2018. We will continue to explore this data, ask questions, and seek answers in the coming year as we work to better understand and improve Baltimore’s food environment.
- Published our new [SNAP Dashboard](#), which showcases participation, demographic, and geographic SNAP data for Baltimore.

### “Our Baltimore” Comprehensive Plan

- Published the [Food Access chapter](#) in Baltimore City’s new Comprehensive Plan, with 42 food-specific recommendations.
- Became one of the first cities in the US to have a standalone Food chapter in a comprehensive plan.

### Promotions and New Staff

- Lindsay Adams promoted from Food Resilience Planner to Deputy Director of Food Policy.
- Najahla Olumiji, Food Systems Planner, promoted to City Planner II.
- Amber Royal hired as the Baltimore Corps Food Policy Fellow.
- Christina McClean hired as an ARPA-funded online SNAP marketing consultant.

### Healthy Food Priority Area Funds

- Funding for School to Table (\$25,000) used to expand a nutrition education curriculum and build out an urban farm in Druid Heights.
- Funding for Action in Maturity (\$50,000) used to launch a grocery store shuttle pilot program for older adults living in HABC sites.
- Funding for produce box distribution sites (\$190,000), leveraged with the AAMA grant, used for operational support and nutrition education.