Hub and Spoke
Food, Farms and Healthy Communities

New Partners 2015 Session: Mobile Markets, Hub & Spokes

Dr. Christine L. Bergmark, Executive Director
Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission

January 2014
Maryland: State-wide and Five Counties

2012 Census of Agriculture
USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
1) Thriving, market-driven farms have the resources to be **profitable**

2) A Maryland where farmland **preservation** and environmental **stewardship** positively impact the quality of our air and water and protect one of our greatest assets, the Chesapeake Bay

3) A future where profitable farms play an **integral role in the health and quality of life of our community.**
OVERVIEW OF MAJOR PROGRAMS and promotions

- SMADC
- Southern Maryland Trails
- Farm Grant Programs
- Branding
- Buy Local Challenge
- Land, Mentors, Resources
- Industry Development
- Streamline Regulations
- Ag Land Preservation
- Education and Outreach
- Cornelia and the Farm Band
Increasing access to fresh, local food, while maintaining the stability and profitability of farms
How Spending Has Changed
This chart shows total consumer spending in 2007 relative to 1947 levels. Hover to see more.

SOURCES: BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, CENSUS BUREAU
So. MD Food Map
Redefine Food Desert
Assess need
Identify obstacles, opportunities
Spur improvements

Overlay data for comparison:
• Agriculture
• Food distribution
• Income
• Health
• Public transportation

www.smadc.com
Food Hub

- Industry Development
- Community Education Outreach
- New Farmers
- Food Aggregation
- Food Distribution
- Land Preservation
- Farm Services: Grants, Education, Marketing, Regulations
- So. Maryland So Good...
- SMADC
- Hub & Spoke of Southern Maryland
- Farming 4 Hunger
Hub and Spoke Model

Locally grown food -- Local need

- Keep food “miles” within community
- Keep food fresher
  - 24 hour turn-around for fresh produce
Hub and Spoke Model

- **Partnerships:**
  - Farming 4 Hunger: Feeding the Hungry
    - Maryland Food Bank
  - SMADC: Benefit to Farmers
    - Farmers
    - Truck, Administration, Warehouse
  - Community
**Farming 4 Hunger**

**2014 Accomplishments**

- Fresh, local farm food distributed to over 14,000 So. Md. families
- Produce moved within 48 hours from field to distribution site
- 1.2 million pounds of aggregated food from 29 So. Md. farmers
- 70+ food deliveries in 4 months
- 8 pre-release inmates provided training and life coaching
- Farmers received $191,000

Since 2012, F4H partnered with Food Banks to grow/distribute over 3 million pounds of produce to DC/Baltimore region

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**WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?**

**Government**
- Job creation
- Economic benefit
- Healthy Communities

**Farmers**
- Jobs
- Profitability

**Hospitals**
- Nutrition
- Proactive healthcare
- Advocates for local food in cafeterias

**Schools**
- Academic achievement
- Behavior
- Life sharing

**Churches**
- Feed your community

**Department Of Corrections**
- Job training
- Life skills
F4H Community Engagement

Aggregated Produce from St. Mary’s and Prince George’s County farm

Volunteers at a food drop in Charles County
Inmate Outreach & Mentoring

Farming 4 Hunger Inc.
Posted by Bernie Fowler Jr. | August 15

One of last year’s inmates returned today a free man and said standing on the farm it’s good to be home!
Welcome home Dennis!!
All are fed at the Farm

Farming 4 Hunger Inc.
Posted by Bernie Fowler Jr. | August 18

Today Jeremy and Derrick got to see where all that hard work at the farm goes too. They participated in boxing the food, loading the truck and delivering food to Greater Mt Zion church for another fresh produce drop. As these men get close... See More
What’s the Future??
Policy

- Replicable Model: Hub and Spoke Task Force
- Tax Credit Maryland
  - 2014: SB 670/HB 1083
  - 2015: Bill numbers?
Assessments / Measuring Impact

- Food delivered, families served
- Farmers engaged, economic benefit to farmers

- Health Assessment: JHU
  - Physical/nutritional health
  - Access to fresh and affordable food
  - Social Health and Emotional Well-being
    - Community Health
So. MD Ag Center / Business Park

Centrally Located, Possible Uses:

- Food Hub / Distribution Center
- New Farmer Incubation
- Farmers / Market (Outdoor, Expansion for Indoor)
- Equipment Storage
- Regional Meat Processing
- Aquaculture Processing
Hunger comes in many forms...

All are fed at the Farm
Our choice matters... Beautiful

Scenic views included free with every farm purchase.
Thank You!

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