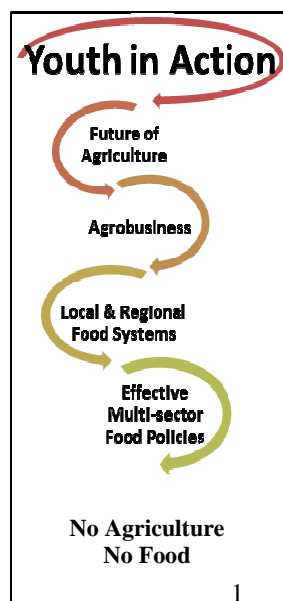


Louisiana FOOD ACCESS Summit

Wednesday, November 7, 2012
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Pennington Biomedical
Research Center
6400 Perkins Road
Baton Rouge, La.

Parallel Youth Summit



Welcome to the **First Louisiana Food Access Summit**. Louisiana is a state with rich agriculture and leadership that supports improving our food systems. Our goal today is to establish a knowledge base for communities to use to develop local food policy councils. Involvement in the food system allows a community to work collectively to improve the quantity and quality of local food in schools and markets. We can increase access to healthful food options, decrease food waste and support local farm economies. Thank you for participating in an endeavor to improve food systems in Louisiana.

Louisiana Food Summit Planning Committee

Co-Chair Cindy Greenstein, M.P.H., Executive Director, Louisiana Food Bank Association

Youth Program Alice DuBois, Agriscience Teacher, FFA Adviser, National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT), Ponchatoula High School

Resources Michael Kantor, Food Security Advocate, Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana

Outreach Adrienne R. Rathert, M.P.H., Research Program Manager, Prevention Research Center, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

Speakers Annrose Guarino, Ph.D., R.D., L.D.N., State Specialist (Urban Health) / Associate Professor, LSU AgCenter

Food and Facility Copper Alvarez, Executive Director, Big River Economic and Agricultural Development Alliance (BREDA)

Quo Vadis Breaux, Executive Director, Center for Ethical Living and Social Justice Renewal / New Orleans Rebirth Volunteer Program

Carrie L. Castille, Ph.D., Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry

Catherine Champagne, Ph.D., R.D., Professor, Pennington Biomedical Research Center

Sunanna Chand, Community Outreach Coordinator, Office of the Mayor-President, Baton Rouge

Jeanne Firth, Program Specialist, The Grow Dat Youth Farm

Rhonda M. Jackson, No Kid Hungry Campaign, Share Our Strength

Natalie Jayroe, President and CEO, Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana

Leslie Lankster, Public Affairs Director, Southwest Region, USDA Food and Nutrition Service

Flint D. Mitchell, Ph.D., Program Officer, Greater New Orleans Foundation

Carl E. Motsenbocker, Ph.D., Professor of Horticulture, LSU AgCenter

Emery Van Hook, Director of Markets, Market Umbrella



Background

The Louisiana Sustainable Local Food Policy Council legislation was sponsored by Rep. Scott M. Simon during the 2010 legislative session and was housed within the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry. It was created for the purpose of building a local food economy, [therefore] benefiting Louisiana by creating jobs, stimulating statewide economic development, preserving farmlands and water resources, increasing consumer access to fresh and nutritious foods and providing greater food security.

A recommendation was made to continue the goals of the council through local or regional food policy task forces to address issues at the local level after the statewide council was terminated in June 2012. We have provided a copy of the report to you today for further background.

The mission of the Louisiana Food Access Summit is to stimulate engagement of farmers, community members, organizations and policymakers by resetting the table to combat hunger and strengthen Louisiana's regional and local food systems.

PROGRAM

8:30 a.m. Registration and Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Welcome from Honorary Summit Chair

Auditorium The Many Faces of Louisiana Local Food Systems

Mike Strain, *D.V.M., Louisiana Commissioner of Agriculture*

9:55 a.m. Serving You: LSU Agricultural Center

Auditorium Paul Coreil, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor and Director, LSU AgCenter/Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service

10:10 a.m. Importance of Regional and Local Food Policy

Auditorium Councils

Rep. Scott M. Simon
Louisiana House of Representatives, District 74

10:25 a.m. Establishing Cross-Sector Collaborations for a

Auditorium Hunger Free Louisiana

William "Bill" Ludwig
Southwest Regional Administrator, USDA Food and Nutrition Service

10:50 a.m. Panel: Louisiana Food Policy News You Can Use

Auditorium Paul Coreil
William "Bill" Ludwig
Scott M. Simon

11:10 a.m. Break and Move to Concurrent Sessions

11:25 a.m. Concurrent Sessions on Food Access

Breakout Learn current status, goals and barriers for
Rooms the following topics from experts. (Select One)

Linking Farms With Schools

Farm to school programs (farm food to the cafeteria table) support local and regional farm families. Louisiana is working to identify the barriers to using local foods in schools and the capacity of farmers

and fishermen to supply schools with agricultural and fishery products. Healthful options in school cafeterias can instill lifelong, healthful eating habits. As children learn by doing, introducing them to the process of growing food, meet-the-farmer days and other educational programs inspire interest in fresh fruits and vegetables.

- **Georganna Brogdon, R.D., L.D.N.,** *Education Program Consultant 3, Division of Nutrition Support; Louisiana Department of Education*
- **Trandra Scott, R.D., L.D.N.,** *Education Program Consultant 2, Division of Nutrition Support; Louisiana Department of Education*
- **Pamela Hodson, Ph.D.,** *Professor, Public Relations and Information Specialist, Burden Center, LSU AgCenter*

Planning for Urban Agriculture

Urban agriculture plays an important role in robust local and regional food systems. Community gardens to full-scale commercial farms integrate food production into the urban environment in cities and towns. The benefits of urban agriculture include shortened supply chains, increased awareness of food production infrastructure, increased urban access to fresh produce, sustainable green waste disposal and creative strategies for combating urban blight. Cities actively promote food production by amending zoning ordinances and city plans to allow a full range of agricultural activities within city limits. This session discusses the urban planning process and how city governments, citizen groups and agricultural advocates can guide communities to become food-producing environments.

- **Kim Mitchell,** *Sutton Mitchell Beebe Babin Architects*
- **Jenga Mwendo,** *Center for Sustainable Engagement and Development*
- **Sanjay Kharod,** *New Orleans Food and Farm Network*

Hunger Free Louisiana

The Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 is a strategic statewide coalition framework with real potential to make Louisiana hunger free. A capacity-building project, the Hunger Free initiative establishes multidisciplinary and cross-sector collaborations to improve outreach, community organizing, advocacy and coordination in communities to more effectively serve children at risk of hunger. Food banks partner to establish grassroots efforts to increase participation in public and private resources in the regions. A Hunger Free Louisiana effort looks for ways to work together to address gaps in service, reduce duplication and conduct creative outreach efforts with programs across the

boundaries of state agencies that work with families on the local level.

- **Natalie Jayroe**, *President and CEO, Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana*
- **William “Bill” Ludwig**, *Southwest Regional Administrator, USDA Food and Nutrition Service*
- **Rhonda M. Jackson**, *No Kid Hungry Campaign, Share Our Strength*

Food Access via Farmers Markets

Farmers markets are an essential component of local and regional food systems. They are a space for farmers to sell directly to consumers, shortening the food supply chain and enabling farmers to realize a greater share of the value. Consumers also learn about food sources and gather in public spaces, fostering community building and rural-urban connections. Farmers markets play an important role in widespread food access. They provide farm-fresh produce in urban areas that wouldn’t otherwise have access to it. By accepting SNAP (food stamps), WIC benefits and senior benefits, they put healthful local produce within reach of individuals and families at all income levels.

- **Richard McCarthy**, *Executive Director, Market Umbrella*
- **Copper Alvarez**, *Executive Director, BREADA*
- **Carl E. Motsenbocker**, *Ph.D., Professor (Commercial Vegetable Crops / Sustainable Agriculture), LSU AgCenter*

Introduction to Food Policy Councils

Food Policy Councils bring together stakeholders from food-related sectors to examine the food system and develop recommendations to improve it. These councils can be started by government or grassroots efforts. They are successful at educating officials and the public, encouraging public policy and laws to decrease barriers to food access for schools and the hungry, and allowing local foods broader and easier distribution without financial barriers. Examples: Bringing full-service grocery stores to underserved areas; encouraging government to purchase from local farmers; and organizing community gardens and farmers markets. Join us for a discussion on starting a food policy council.

- **Mike Kantor**, *New Orleans Food Policy Advisory Committee*
- **Larry Androes**, *Food Policy Advocate, EatWell-LiveLocal Food Taskforce*
- **Elisa Munoz**, *Market Umbrella*

Connecting Farmers with Markets

For those who grow, process, sell, and eat food, market sectors must be linked for the food system to be efficient, effective and profitable.

Agricultural markets help farmers and food entrepreneurs identify potential markets, consumers find fresh local food and farmers and food enterprises connect with others in the food supply chain. MarketMaker is a free searchable database of markets and growers that maps potential markets by demographics and provides census profiles of markets and maps and profiles of farmers and food businesses.

- **Eric Morrow**, *Ponchatoula Strawberry Farmer*
- **John Westra**, *Ph.D., Associate Professor (Ag Economics / MarketMaker), LSU AgCenter*
- **Kathryn Fontenot**, *Ph.D., Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist (Home, Community and School Gardens and Farmers Markets), LSU AgCenter*

12:25 p.m. Lunch Break

12:45 p.m. Lunch Keynote: Give Me a Dazzling Food Policy

Auditorium **Council and Dare It to Sizzle**

Shelly Johnstone, *Director, Community Development, Hernando, Miss.* How Food Policy Councils Make a Difference: They generate markets for producers and businesses, strengthen communities and increase access to healthful, nutritious food.

1:45 p.m. Break and Move to Regional Sessions

2:00 p.m. Taking What You Have Learned and Applying It To Breakout Create the Future of Louisiana's Food Systems

<i>Rooms</i>	New Orleans	Central-Alexandria	Southwest-Lafayette
	Baton Rouge	Northwest-Shreveport	Northeast-Monroe

3:15 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. Reports: Food Policy Action Plans

Auditorium Youth Report
Regional Reports

4:15 p.m. Summary and Next Steps for Developing Local and Regional Louisiana Food Policy Councils

4:30 p.m. Evaluation and Summit Ends

The Louisiana Food Access Summit was made possible by the generous support of our collaborators.



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