## One Region Forward Food Access and Justice Working Team: Ideas for the Future

### Actors and Potential for Impacts

<table>
<thead>
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### Short Run (4-7 years)

- **Expand Food Access and Utilization for the Needy:**
  - Increase access to food for low-income households by expanding food assistance programs.
  - Implement Double-up Bucks programs.
  - Ensure that all farmers markets have EBT readers.
  - Develop an online food system database resource for the Buffalo region.
  - Encourage breast-feeding for the youngest members of the region's population.

- **Increase Food Access and Justice for Immigrants and Migrants:**
  - Implement policies to support equitable access to healthy foods.
  - Enable immigrant farm workers to work at multiple farms in the Niagara region that would serve to: (1) identify organizations designated for breast-feeding mothers to pump breast milk or farmers' market resource whereby consumers can shop for a local Farm Stand, CSA or Farmers' Market.

### Long Run (about 10 years)

- **Enhance the Use of Mixed-Model Buses to Drive Healthy, Locally Purchased Foods to Neighborhoods and Towns with Limited Access:**
  - Work with public officials to educate and facilitate enrollment in food assistance dollars at fresh market retail options like farmers’ markets.
  - Implement Double-up Bucks programs.
  - Ensure that all farmers markets have EBT readers.

- **Increase the Use of Healthy Food Incentives to Advance Access to Healthy Foods:**
  - Increase access to healthier foods for low-income households by expanding food assistance programs.
  - Implement Double-up Bucks programs.
  - Ensure that all farmers markets have EBT readers.

- **Encourage Breast-feeding for the Youngest Members of the Region’s Population:**
  - Increase access to food for low-income households by expanding food assistance programs.
  - Implement Double-up Bucks programs.
  - Ensure that all farmers markets have EBT readers.

### Medium Run (1 – 3 years)

- **Increase Access to Food for the Needy:**
  - Increase access to food for low-income households by expanding food assistance programs.
  - Implement Double-up Bucks programs.
  - Ensure that all farmers markets have EBT readers.

- **Increase Food Access and Justice for Immigrants and Migrants:**
  - Implement policies to support equitable access to healthy foods.
  - Enable immigrant farm workers to work at multiple farms in the Niagara region that would serve to: (1) identify organizations designated for breast-feeding mothers to pump breast milk or farmers’ market resource whereby consumers can shop for a local Farm Stand, CSA or Farmers’ Market.

### Implementation Notes

- **Federal government**
  - Implement policies to support equitable access to healthy foods.
  - Enable immigrant farm workers to work at multiple farms in the Niagara region that would serve to: (1) identify organizations designated for breast-feeding mothers to pump breast milk or farmers’ market resource whereby consumers can shop for a local Farm Stand, CSA or Farmers’ Market.

- **Erie and Niagara Counties, municipal governments, Industrial Development Agencies**
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- **Local financial services organizations, Farm Bureau, Cornell Cooperative Extension, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, USDA, United Way**
  - Implement policies to support equitable access to healthy foods.
  - Enable immigrant farm workers to work at multiple farms in the Niagara region that would serve to: (1) identify organizations designated for breast-feeding mothers to pump breast milk or farmers’ market resource whereby consumers can shop for a local Farm Stand, CSA or Farmers’ Market.

- **Erie County, Erie and Niagara County Health and Social Services Department, The John R. Oishei Foundation, NYS Office of General Services (OGS) contracted agencies, NYS governor’s office, NYS legislature**
  - Implement policies to support equitable access to healthy foods.
  - Enable immigrant farm workers to work at multiple farms in the Niagara region that would serve to: (1) identify organizations designated for breast-feeding mothers to pump breast milk or farmers’ market resource whereby consumers can shop for a local Farm Stand, CSA or Farmers’ Market.

### Additional Notes

- **One Region Forward Food Access and Justice Working Team**

- **Food Policy Council of Buffalo and Erie County**
  - Implement policies to support equitable access to healthy foods.
  - Enable immigrant farm workers to work at multiple farms in the Niagara region that would serve to: (1) identify organizations designated for breast-feeding mothers to pump breast milk or farmers’ market resource whereby consumers can shop for a local Farm Stand, CSA or Farmers’ Market.

- **University at Buffalo, School of Management, UB Department of Public Health,  representatives from Western New York Area Community Foundations, Blue Cross Blue Shield**
  - Implement policies to support equitable access to healthy foods.
  - Enable immigrant farm workers to work at multiple farms in the Niagara region that would serve to: (1) identify organizations designated for breast-feeding mothers to pump breast milk or farmers’ market resource whereby consumers can shop for a local Farm Stand, CSA or Farmers’ Market.

- **NYS Governor’s office, NYS legislature**
  - Implement policies to support equitable access to healthy foods.
  - Enable immigrant farm workers to work at multiple farms in the Niagara region that would serve to: (1) identify organizations designated for breast-feeding mothers to pump breast milk or farmers’ market resource whereby consumers can shop for a local Farm Stand, CSA or Farmers’ Market.

### Acknowledgments

This report was prepared by a team of dedicated researchers and practitioners who worked tirelessly to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information presented. Special thanks are due to the many stakeholders who provided valuable feedback and insights throughout the development process. The support and collaboration of these individuals and organizations have been instrumental in bringing this report to fruition.
1. **Create a brand for specialty products from each County**
   - Regional Economic Development Council, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
   - Short run (4-7 years)

2. **Develop database of vacant urban parcels and their soil quality**
   - Buffalo Erie Niagara Land Improvement Corporation, Erie County Department of Economic Development, Regional Economic Development Councils, USDA, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
   - Short run (4-7 years)

3. **Protect valuable farmland and establishment of purchase and sale of development rights programs**
   - Not explicitly stated in the image.

4. **Develop and implement a Healthy Corner Store program**
   - National Resources Conservation Service, Erie County Department of Economic Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Region 7
   - Short run (4-7 years)

5. **Provide subsidies for local stores locating within low-income areas in order to expand fresh food access and help local economies**
   - Not explicitly stated in the image.

6. **Facilitate communities between local farmers and local markets**
   - Not explicitly stated in the image.

7. **Support tax and transfer programs to reduce transportation costs and increase access for low-income residents**
   - Not explicitly stated in the image.

8. **Increase awareness among individuals and initiation of local farming and local foods**
   - Not explicitly stated in the image.

9. **Translate the food movement in 11-12 schools**
   - Not explicitly stated in the image.

10. **Support agriculture and ensure sharing for the region’s farmers**
    - Not explicitly stated in the image.

11. **Better understand residents, increase our understanding of the region’s food system**
    - Not explicitly stated in the image.