

*Food Systems
Assessment*

2019-2020

Authors & Acknowledgements

Katherine Seals, MPH
Jamila Freightman
Makenzie Miller, MS
Denise Holston, PhD
Designed by Ruthie Losavio

Summary

This assessment identifies the needs and assets of the food systems in six rural Louisiana parishes: Assumption, East Carroll, Madison, Morehouse, St. Helena, and Tensas.

*This material was made possible with funding
from the Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention.*

Highlights

Focus of Assessment

The HOP Team conducted several food system assessments throughout the first two years of the CDC High Obesity Program to understand food system needs of HOP communities in Louisiana. Areas of focus were SNAP and WIC retailers, food pantries, early care and education providers, transportation services, and community input.

Lessons Learned

Identification of community assets revealed that HOP parishes had an abundance of community assets related to the food system, in addition to a strong network of community growers and producers in all six parishes. Food distribution sites (pantries, commodity distribution sites, and meal sites) were found to have a high need for equipment and supplies to facilitate procurement and stocking of healthier foods, in addition to a need for procuring more healthy foods. A food environment assessment of local food retailers revealed that grocery stores scored the highest in terms of available healthy foods, dollar stores scored moderately, and convenience stores scored the lowest. Although convenience stores have the most room for improvement, focus groups with community members revealed that convenience stores were not seen as viable options for purchasing food. Furthermore, while dollar stores were found to be an important food access point in all HOP communities, store owner interviews revealed that they had little room to improve their offerings of healthy foods due to corporate constraints. An assessment of public transportation options revealed that three of the six parishes were found to have on-demand public transit vans provided by their local Councils on Aging. Vans provided ride services to various community locations, such as healthcare centers, businesses, and local food retailers. One parish, St. Helena, was found to have two transit vans dedicated specifically to nutritional services, such as meal delivery.

Recommendations for Improvement

Retail interventions focused on improving the local food environment should be targeted at grocery stores and other retailers already selling fresh fruits and vegetables. Retailers should consider tapping into the local network of growers and producers identified through the HOP asset maps to further connect and strengthen the local food system in each community. Efforts to improve healthy offerings at food distribution sites should focus on equipment and structural improvements to enhance their ability to procure healthier foods. As operational changes are made, sites should consider partnerships with the many local producers identified in each community, in addition to implementing policies and nutrition standards that ensure the sustainability of healthful food distribution. Transportation efforts should be targeted at improving awareness of the available services and increasing ridership to and from local food retailers.



Background

In 2018, the LSU AgCenter entered into a 5-year cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address the nutrition and physical activity environments of six rural Louisiana parishes with an obesity rate over 40% (Assumption, St. Helena, Tensas, Madison, Morehouse, and East Carroll). Through the LSU AgCenter's Cooperative Extension Healthy Communities initiative, multi-level, community-driven approaches are utilized to identify and implement Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) change strategies with the ultimate goal of promoting healthy behaviors among residents and improving obesity rates and quality of life.

Priority Populations

Priority populations reside in six rural parishes in Louisiana. These populations include families in rural communities, including Lake Providence (East Carroll Parish), Bastrop (Morehouse Parish), Tallulah (Madison Parish), St. Joseph, and Waterproof (Tensas Parish), Greensburg (St. Helena), and Napoleonville (Assumption Parish). The cities of Lake Providence, Bastrop, and Tallulah consist of a population between 3,000-10,000 people, while St. Joseph, Greensburg, and Napoleonville comprise just under 1,000 people. All priority target communities are majority African American, except the target communities in Assumption, Morehouse and St. Helena parishes. The majority of the target parishes experience an obesity and poverty rate much greater than that of the state average.

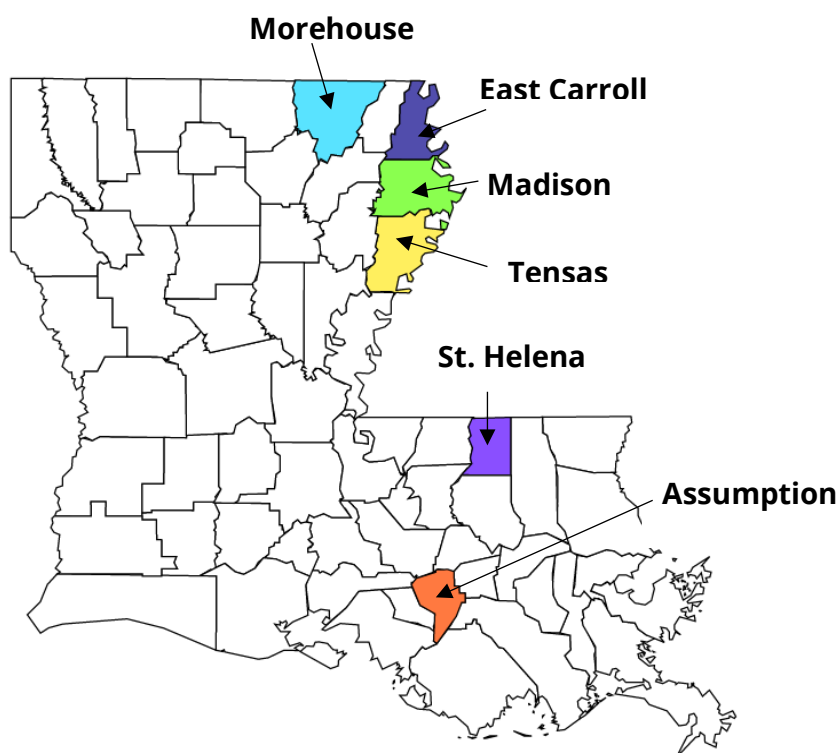
Parish and Priority Population Characteristics

<i>Parish</i>	St. Helena	Assumption	Tensas	Madison	Morehouse	East Carroll
<i>Town/Priority Population</i>	Greensburg	Napoleonville	Saint Joseph	Tallulah	Bastrop	Lake Providence
<i>Town Population</i>	681	598	999	6,768	10,278	3,602
<i>Parish Population</i>	11,203	22,300	4,462	11,161	25,398	7,126
<i>Total Parish Area (square miles)</i>	409	339	641	651	806	442
<i>Parish Population Density (inhabitants per square mile)</i>	27.39	69	7.4	17.87	31.5	16

Louisiana HOP Parish Demographics*

<i>Parish</i>	St. Helena	Assumption	Tensas	Madison	Morehouse	East Carroll	Louisiana
<i>Population</i>	10,132	21,891	4,334	10,951	24,874	6,861	4,648,794
<i>African American</i>	52.2%	29.6%	53.9%	62.5%	47.4%	67.8%	32.4%
<i>Non-Hispanic White</i>	44.2%	65.3%	42.6%	33.9%	49.5%	27.8%	61.8%
<i>Obesity Rate</i>	32%	42%	31%	41%	43%	40%	35%
<i>Physical Inactivity</i>	31%	34%	33%	39%	33%	28%	29%
<i>Food Insecurity</i>	20%	15%	26%	26%	22%	33%	17%
<i>Unemployment rate</i>	6.6%	6.7%	7.7%	8.3%	8.2%	10.3%	4.9%
<i>Uninsured</i>	12.7%	8.4%	18%	11%	9.2%	11.3%	8.9%
<i>Social and Economic Factors (rank out of 64 parishes)</i>	59	46	61	64	62	63	

*Data: County Health Rankings and US Census



The CDC High Obesity Program has been implemented in six target parishes, four of which are located in the Mississippi River Delta. Over the first two years of the program, various

assessments were conducted across food system sectors in an effort to better understand the local food system of each community. The following report details the findings from those assessments and makes suggestions for targeting program efforts moving forward.

Methodology

Assets Assessed

Using public records and input from community members, stakeholders, and local extension agents, parish asset maps were developed to identify community assets relevant to the food system in each parish (See Appendix). Details collected for each asset included address, a point of contact, and the asset's role in food system.

Assets Identified

Education
Citizen's Associations
Community Organizations
Private Sector
Local, State, and Federal
Medical and Healthcare
Food System
Physical Activity and Recreation

Food Pantries, Commodity Distribution Sites, and Prepared Meal Sites

Food pantries, commodity distribution sites, and prepared meal sites were identified in each HOP parish. Local Extension Agents and Food Systems Coordinators conducted an assessment with each food distribution site evaluating needs, barriers to stocking produce and perishable items, and client volume. To understand current procurement by partner food pantries in the Northeast region (n=3), pounds of food procured by partner pantries was obtained from the Northeast Regional Food Bank for May through July 2019 and 2020.

Early Care and Education (ECE)

Local providers were identified using public data from the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE 2019) and public records from the Louisiana Department of Records. Early care and education centers that were assessed included any childcare provider registered or licensed with the Louisiana Department of Education or Louisiana Department of Records in 2019. Demographic data was retrieved from the US Census and County Healthy Rankings. Assessments were created in Qualtrics, and local parish extension agents and food systems coordinators worked with ECE providers (n=40) to complete the assessments. Based on the preference of the ECE provider, surveys were delivered in person, via mail, or via email. Following the survey, semi-structured interviews were conducted with a small number of in-home (n=4) and private (n=1) providers to better

understand the challenges and barriers that small ECE providers experiences when improving the nutrition and physical activity environments and practices of their childcare center.

SNAP and WIC Food Retail Environments

SNAP and WIC retailers within HOP parishes were identified using records from the US Department of Agriculture. A random sample of 5 retailers per parish was drawn for assessment, and a total of 30 stores were assessed. Using the Market Basket Assessment Tool (MBAT), nutrition environments were assessed within each randomly sampled store. The Market Basket Assessment Tool (MBAT) was developed by Virginia Cooperative Extension and “provides information on the availability and quality of food items that closely align with the 2015–2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA) within a variety of retail Environments” (Misyak 2018). Local Food Systems Coordinators assessed the retail environment in-person using the MBAT. The MBAT evaluates the nutrition environment within six food group categories of each store: grains, fruit, vegetables, meat, dairy and eggs, and dried beans, seeds, and nuts. Based on the availability of products within each category, a score was assigned for each category and a composite score for each store was obtained.

Transportation

Information regarding available public transportation was gleaned through the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development website (LA DOTD 2020). Details on available public transportation were obtained for each parish, specifically the services provided, ridership, and vehicle ownership rates in the parish.

Food Access Focus Groups

Focus groups were held in all six HOP communities. Focus group participants were recruited from the community and compensated for their time. Participants needed to reside in a HOP community and be at least 18 years of age to participate. A semi-structured discussion guide was used by focus group facilitators. Questions were focused on access to food in the community, specifically how food was acquired, perceptions of the food environment, and barriers and facilitators to accessing healthy foods.

Results

Assets Assessed

Community assets were identified and compiled into Asset Maps for programmatic use (See Appendix). 139 existing food access points for consumers that have the potential to expand or improve their offering of healthier foods were identified. Access points included farmers markets, produce stands, retail stores, food pantries, commodity sites, local meal sites, summer feeding sites, school food programs when applicable, community gardens, and local institutions such as hospitals or health clinics. Three of the six HOP parishes have

only one grocery store in their parish. All but one parish has a farmer's market. School gardens (n=11) were more found to be more common than community gardens (n=2). Dollar stores were also found to be prevalent in all HOP parishes with 21 dollar stores identified across all six parishes.

Food Pantries, Commodity Distribution Sites, and Prepared Meal Sites

As of February 2020, there were a total of 19 community food distribution sites serving HOP parishes. Food distribution sites included food pantries, prepared meal sites, and federal commodity distribution sites. Site administrators included mostly faith-based organizations, Councils on Aging, local non-profits, community organizations, and extension offices. Sites reported the number of clients (people served) in terms of families and/or individuals. Of those that reported in number of individuals, it was reported that a total of 4,242 individuals were served per month by food pantries, meal sites, and commodity distribution sites. Of these individuals, almost half (46%) were served by prepared meal sites. Of those sites reporting in terms of the number of families served, it was reported that 1,614 families were served by food pantries and commodity distribution sites each month across all six parishes.

Each food distribution site was assessed by a member of the Healthy Communities team. During the assessment, sites were asked to identify their three greatest needs. Below is a table displaying the frequency at which each need was identified by distribution sites.

Distribution Site Needs

Refrigeration	25.0%
Storage	20.45%
Food	13.64%
Distribution Supplies	9.09%
Other Supplies	9.09%
Volunteers	9.09%
Funding	6.82%
Food Preparation Equipment	4.55%
Nutrition Education	2.27%

Refrigeration, storage, and food items were most often identified as a need. Volunteers, funding, and education were also reported as needs, however equipment, supplies, and food appeared to be the primary concern of sites.

Most food pantries and commodity distribution sites were found to only operate once or twice each month (with the exception of a holiday pantry in Tensas Parish operating one month per year, a pantry in Morehouse Parish operating three times a week, and one quarterly commodity distribution site operating once every three months in Assumption

Parish). Majority of prepared meal sites were found to be operational multiple times a month, with some operating multiple days a week. Almost all food distribution sites (n=15) relied on some form of volunteers to conduct site operations, such as volunteers to pick-up and deliver food supply to sites and distributing food to community members. About 8 sites had paid workers or support from local police jury members.

Inventory of partner food pantries in the Northeast Region (n=3) was assessed using data from the Northeast Regional Food Bank in Monroe, LA. It was found that meat and dairy products were the most procured items by these pantries in terms of quantity. Healthfulness of the meat and dairy products varied from grilled chicken filets to pork patties and processed cheese loaves. As of July 2020, only one of the three partner pantries had been procuring fresh fruits and vegetables regularly from the Northeast Regional Food Bank.

Early Care and Education (ECE)

All providers that were identified reported caring for children between the ages of 0 and 5 years of age and were either registered or licensed with the state of Louisiana. 35 of 40 (87.5%) early care and education (ECE) providers responded to our survey. Overall, ECE providers of the HOP parishes were comprised of 2.29% in home providers, 7.63% private providers, and 90.1% public providers. When providers were surveyed, 83% of providers reported being willing to purchase produce from local producers.

To better understand the challenges of rural ECE providers, in-depth interviews were conducted. Extension agents and program team members conducted interviews with a total of five early care and education providers, four of them in-home providers and one private provider. Interviews focused on challenges to procuring local produce, incorporating fresh produce into the curriculum, and for those with produce gardens, barriers, and facilitators to maintaining the garden.

Providers indicated that they purchased food from a variety of sources, both in and out of the parish, and that purchasing was usually done on a weekly basis. Providers seemed to be aware of the fresh produce available in their community, but cited time constraints, affordability, availability, and limited budgets as challenges to procuring these items. Furthermore, providers described using tactics to make food “stretch,” or last longer, such as purchasing frozen food items and buying in bulk. When asked about challenges to incorporating fresh fruits and vegetables into the curriculum, providers expressed difficulty with combatting habits made in the home and getting children to try new things; however, many stated that knowing what the children like and tailoring meals to those preferences were facilitators to serving healthier foods. Other challenges identified by providers included small profit margins, a lack of resources and/or business knowledge, and, for some, a lack of experience in childcare management. In one parish, we found that there

was a strong network between in-home providers where resources and knowledge were often shared via word of mouth.

SNAP and WIC Food Retail Environments

A total of 76 SNAP and 9 WIC retailers were identified in HOP parishes. 30 retailers were randomly selected for assessment using the MBAT. Three retailers were found to be closed indefinitely, and one retailer was determined to be too dangerous for assessment due to loitering outside the store. This made for a total of 26 food retail stores that were assessed. The following table consists of food environment scores for each retailer that was assessed across six food categories.

The average food environment score of all retailers that were assessed was 19.88 (49.7%) out of a maximum score of 40 points. Grocery stores scored the highest overall, with scores ranging from 29 to 39 points (out of 40) and an average of 34.75 (86.9%) points for all grocery stores assessed. Dollar stores and pharmacies received the second highest scores, with an average of 19.5 points (48.8%), with scores ranging from 15 to 26 points. Corner stores scored the lowest with an average of just 8.3 (20.8%) points. In terms of food category, the dried beans, seeds, and nuts category had the highest score with 79.5% of total possible points scored. The meat category scored second highest with 53.8% of total points scored, and vegetables scored the lowest of all the categories with just 40% of possible points scored.

SNAP and WIC Food Retail Environment Scores

Store name	Parish	Type of store	Grains score	Fruit score	Vegetables score	Meat score	Dairy, eggs score	Dried beans, seeds, nuts score	Total score
Family Dollar 8482	St. Helena	Dollar Store	3	2	3	3	3	6	20
Greensburg Market	St. Helena	Grocery Store	4	10	10	4	5	6	39
Dollar General 1210	St. Helena	Dollar Store	3	2	2	3	2	6	19
Hatfield's Country Store	St. Helena	Grocery Store	2	7	9	2	3	6	29
Outpost Travel Center	East Carroll	Corner Store	1	0	2	1	3	5	12
Uncle Pete's	East Carroll	Corner Store	1	0	2	1	0	4	8
The Shack	East Carroll	Corner Store	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Dollar General	Madison	Dollar Store	0	3	4	2	2	5	16
Doug's IGA	Madison	Grocery Store	2	9	10	4	5	6	36
Love's	Madison	Corner Store	1	8	2	1	1	3	16
Tallulah Travel Center	Madison	Corner Store	1	6	0	0	1	5	13
Winston Walters Grocery	Assumption	Grocery Store	4	8	9	3	0	6	30
Rouses Market	Assumption	Grocery Store	5	9	10	4	5	6	39
La La's Food Store	Assumption	Grocery Store	3	10	10	3	2	4	32
Circle K	Assumption	Corner Store	0	1	0	1	1	4	7
Dollar General	Assumption	Dollar Store	2	2	2	3	3	5	17
Britt's Pharmacy	Tensas	Pharmacy	3	6	7	3	3	4	26
Dollar General	Tensas	Dollar Store	3	1	2	3	5	6	20
Mac's Fresh Market	Tensas	Grocery Store	4	9	10	4	4	6	37
N A Food Mart	Tensas	Corner Store	1	1	1	0	2	4	9
Dollar General	Tensas	Dollar Store	3	4	5	3	3	5	23
Dollar General	Morehouse	Dollar Store	2	1	1	2	3	6	15
Bastrop Super Foods	Morehouse	Grocery Store	4	9	10	4	3	6	36
Happy Stop	Morehouse	Corner Store	1	1	1	1	0	5	9
J & LLL Stop and Shop 5	Morehouse	Corner Store	0	0	2	0	0	4	6
LLL Stop and Shop	Morehouse	Corner Store	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Food Category Average Score			2.04 (of 5)	4.19 (of 10)	4.38 (of 10)	2.15 (of 4)	2.31 (of 5)	4.77 (of 6)	19.88 (of 40)

SNAP and WIC Food Retail Store Owners

In addition to the MBAT, food retail store owners also participated in a brief survey to better understand willingness to participate in a healthy retail program and/or procure fresh produce to be sold in the store. Of the stores that currently do not sell fresh produce, we found that three of them had sold fresh produce in the past. When asked why they stopped selling these items, they stated that they had difficulty ordering the products, as well as being unsure of why they had stopped. We also asked those owners who did not currently sell fresh produce if they would be interested in the future. Only one of the stores stated that they would be interested in procuring and selling fresh produce. Reasons for not being interested in procuring and selling fresh produce included corporate constraints, lack of demand and fear of spoilage, and lack of space or infrastructure to stock fresh produce long-term.

Growers and Producers

A total of fifty-four growers and producers were identified in the six CDC Healthy Communities parishes. Growers and producers varied widely in terms of agricultural products produced, scale of production, participation in sales outlets, and whether they produced seasonally or year-round. Products produced included fruits and vegetables (largely seasonal), honey, cattle, goats, and specialty meats. Those that participated in sales outlets sold regularly or occasionally at farmers markets or roadside stands or directly from their farm or residence. Those that did not sell their products used them for personal consumption or gave them away to friends, family, or charity.

Transportation

According to the 2019 American Community Survey, the percentage of homes without vehicle ownership was found to be higher than the state average (8.3%) in five of the six HOP parishes. Assumption Parish was the only parish that was found to have a lower percentage of homes without vehicle ownership than the state average. Using DOTD resources, we found that three of the six HOP parishes (Assumption, Madison, and St. Helena) had a form of public transportation. An on-demand van service via local Councils on Aging (CoA) was available in all three parishes, with Assumption Parish also offering a separate van service for specifically for disabled residents through a local non-profit organization. All three CoA transportation services were available for use by the general public and provided transportation to medical facilities, businesses, work sites, senior centers, and other community locations, such as food retail locations. In addition, all three CoA ride services had out-of-parish options, however, this would usually result in a higher fare depending on the destination. One parish, St. Helena, was found to have transit vans dedicated specifically to nutritional services, such as meal delivery.

Parish	Service Provider	# of Transit Vehicles	Cost/Fare	Ridership	% of Homes without Vehicles ¹
Assumption	Council on Aging	9	\$4-\$10 based on destination	16,984	7.8%
Assumption	Assumption ARC	16	Free of charge	N/A	7.8%
Madison	Council on Aging	8	\$3-\$50 depending on destination	7,534	13.7%
St. Helena	Council on Aging	9**	\$5/seniors \$10/non-seniors	1,213	8.6%

* Data: American Community Survey (2019)

** Two of the vehicles in St. Helena are used for nutritional services.

Of the three parishes that offer transportation services, Assumption Parish had the lowest proportion of homes without vehicle ownership, but the largest ridership of its transportation services. Assumption also had the largest population overall of the three parishes. Madison Parish had the second largest ridership and the largest proportion of homes without vehicle ownership—almost twice that of Assumption Parish. Furthermore, the Madison transportation service had the highest range in cost per ride, but the widest geographical range of ride service. St. Helena had the lowest ridership. All three parishes had discounted or free ride fares for seniors.

Food Access Focus Groups

A total of 53 adults residing in six rural HOP parishes participated in focus groups. Participants were majority black (n=49) and female (n=44) and ranged from 26-81 years of age. Almost all participants received federal food assistance and were considered low income.

Major themes identified from the focus groups included store choice, outshopping, methods of acquiring foods other than the grocery store, and food insecurity, with price, quality, and transportation interacting with each theme. Having to leave the parish to find lower prices and better quality (i.e. outshopping) was a major theme in every focus group. Most participants were found to be traveling at least 30 minutes to acquire food. Furthermore, the need to pay for out-of-town rides came up in all focus groups. Rides were reported as costing anywhere from \$10-40 per ride. Almost all participants received SNAP benefits, though many participants mentioned receiving only \$16 or \$35 per month. No participants viewed convenience stores as a viable option for acquiring food. In each focus group there were participants who were more aware of the local food resources than others.

Many participants also reported participating in the Louisiana Commodity Supplemental Food Program which is available to low-income persons over 60 years old. When asked about trading or bartering for food, five of the six focus group participants responded

positively, except for a few individual participants saying they lived too far from neighbors to be able to do this. Questions about gardening yielded mostly negative responses, with just a few in favor of it. Gardening was viewed as impractical because of heat, time constraints, past garden failures, and startup costs. One focus group was conducted after a new farmers market had been implemented, reported that the addition of the new farmers market directly provided increased access to healthier foods.

Discussion

The purpose of these assessments was to understand the food system and food access needs of HOP communities in Louisiana. Areas of focus were SNAP and WIC retailers, food pantries, early care and education providers, transportation services, and community input.

Identification of community assets revealed that all six HOP parishes had an abundance of community assets related to the food system. More than one hundred food access points were identified as having the potential to expand or improve their offering of healthier foods. A strong network of community growers and producers was also identified in all parishes.

Food distribution sites (food pantries, commodity distribution sites, and prepared meal sites) were found to have a high need for equipment and supplies to facilitate procurement and stocking of healthier foods. In addition, a need for procuring more healthy foods was identified for food distribution sites. Efforts to improve healthy offerings at food distribution sites should focus on equipment and structural improvements to enhance their ability to procure healthier foods. As operational changes are made, food distribution sites should consider partnerships with the many local producers identified in each community, in addition to implementing policies and nutrition standards that ensure the sustainability of healthful food distribution.

A food environment assessment (MBAT) of local food retailers revealed that grocery stores had the strongest food environment in terms of available healthy foods, dollar stores scored moderately, and convenience stores scored the lowest. Although convenience stores have the most room for improvement, focus groups with community members revealed that convenience stores were not seen as viable options for purchasing food. Furthermore, dollar stores were found to be an important food access point in all HOP communities, however, store owner interviews indicated that they had little room to improve their offerings of healthy foods due to corporate constraints. Retail interventions focused on improving the local food environment should be targeted at grocery stores and other retailers already selling fresh fruits and vegetables. Retailers should consider tapping into the local network of growers and producers identified through the HOP asset maps to further connect and strengthen the local food system in each community.

An assessment of early care and education providers showed that there was interest in procuring fresh fruits and vegetables locally, however, interviews with in-home and private providers revealed a number of barriers that small childcare centers face when doing so, such as limited budgets, small profit margins, and availability.

Access to healthy foods in rural communities includes availability of transportation to and from food retailers. An assessment of public transportation options revealed that three of the six parishes were found to have on-demand public transit vans provided by their local Councils on Aging. Vans provided ride services to various community locations, such as healthcare centers, businesses, and local food retailers. One parish, St. Helena, was found to have two transit vans dedicated specifically to nutritional services, such as meal delivery. Examination of vehicle ownership rates revealed that five of the six HOP parishes experience higher rates of homes without vehicle ownership than the state average. Furthermore, focus groups with community members, revealed that community members often travel 30 minutes or more to purchase food, and many low-income residents without vehicles resort to paying other community or family members anywhere from \$10-\$40 for a ride to the grocery. Efforts to improve food access through transportation should focus on connecting residents to available transportation services, increasing ridership to and from food retail outlets, and increasing awareness of available services.

Conclusion

An abundance of community food system assets was identified in all six HOP parishes. Assessments revealed needs and areas for improvement across various sectors of the food system, including distribution sites, food retailers, Early Care and Education providers, and transportation services. Focus groups with community members revealed that community members want to eat healthy, high quality foods, but often are faced with challenges such as affordability, local availability, and transportation. Improvements to the local food system should focus on creating and strengthening partnerships between the existing assets identified in each community.

References

1. County Health Rankings.
<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/louisiana/2020/rankings/>. Accessed June 2020.
2. Holston, Denise, Jessica Stroope, Matthew Greene. 2020. "Perceptions of the Food Environment and Access among Predominantly Black Low-Income Residents of Rural Louisiana Communities." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.
3. Louisiana Department of Education. <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/early-childhood>. Accessed May 2019.
4. Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD).
<http://wwwapps.dotd.la.gov/multimodal/publictransportation/transitresources/> .
Accessed December 2020.
5. Misyak, Sarah A., Valisa Hedrick, Ellen Pudney. 2018. "Reliability of a Market Basket Assessment Tool (MBAT) for Use in SNAP-Ed Healthy Retail Initiatives." *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*. 50 (5): 511-515.
6. United States Census Bureau. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>. Accessed June 2020.