

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP

Rachelle Bonelli, Gleaners Community Food Bank

Christi Demitz, Michigan State University Extension

Carolyn Thomas, Macomb ISD





WHY?

- ▶ Many children come to school hungry and tired
- ▶ Extended time spent in school, after school programs, activities, latch key
- ▶ For many children, their only meals are those received in school
- ▶ School nutrition programs should serve the needs of the customer base of all students
- ▶ Relevant for all children



THE VISION

- ▶ Feeding The Whole Child The Whole Year - Wraparound Nutrition Model
- ▶ 3 nutritious, high quality meals daily
- ▶ Coordinated Nutrition Education
- ▶ Weekend backpacks for students in need
- ▶ Mobile food pantries year round
- ▶ Summer meals



WHAT CAN WE DO TO ACCOMPLISH THIS?

- ▶ Access community collaborations and partnerships to increase capacity and impact.
- ▶ School Nutrition Programs as a nutrition hub
- ▶ Combatting childhood hunger, serving healthy, nutritious meals, operating financially sound program
- ▶ Internal Hub - what are the Child Nutrition Programs available, and maximizing their potential in your community
- ▶ External Hub - working with community partners to maximize effectiveness and services offered



INTERNAL



EXTERNAL



Food Banks as Community Partners

- ▶ Gleaners Community Food Bank of SE MI
 - ▶ School Mobile Pantry Program
 - ▶ Backpack Program
 - ▶ Cooking Matters™ nutrition education
 - ▶ Full Food Security pilot



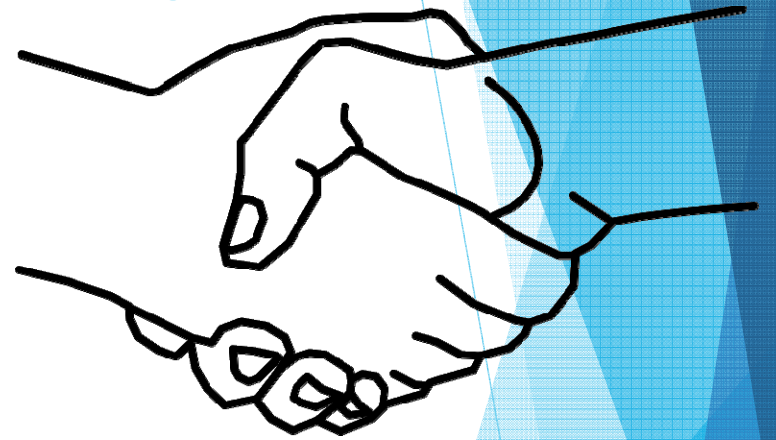
Cooperative Extension as a Community Partner

- ▶ Smarter Lunchroom technical assistance
- ▶ Classroom nutrition education
- ▶ Culinary class for school nutrition professionals
- ▶ Cultivate Michigan
- ▶ Local school service collaborative
- ▶ Teacher trainings
- ▶ Parent Engagement



STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION WITH PARTNERS

- ▶ Shared Purpose
- ▶ Flexibility and Willingness to Collaborate
- ▶ Complementary Strengths
- ▶ Agreed Upon Boundaries
- ▶ Marketing and Communications
- ▶ Assessing Physical Space



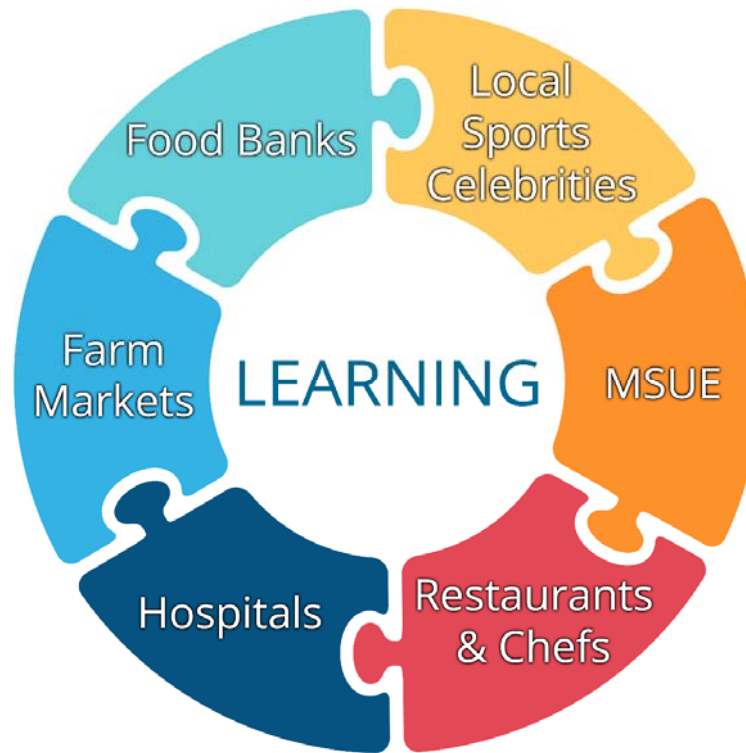
Source: J Snow, Engaging Your Community—A Toolkit for Partnership, Collaboration, and Action (Jan 2012)

Putting Your Ideas Into Practice

- ▶ 5 minutes to brainstorm with others at your table one idea YOU will use to further your collaboration
- ▶ Each table will report on 1-2 ideas generated
- ▶ 5 minutes to make a commitment to reach out to one partner



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Thank you for attending!

Rachelle Bonelli, Gleaners Community Food Bank
313-571-0230 - rbonelli@gcfb.org

Christi Demitz, Michigan State University Extension
616-632-7881 - demitzch@msu.edu

Carolyn Thomas, Macomb ISD
586-228-3349 - cthomas@misd.net

