

Identified Assets - Ranked

Community gardens	8
Farmers market	4
Local produce vendors	4
Food pantries	3
Local food retailers	3
Public transit (SCAT)	3
Walmart	3
Food share programs	2
Gleaning program	2
Help available for those who want to learn	2
Residents who grow and share food	2
Sarasota County Schools Food and Nutrition Services	2
Access to expertise to initiate farmers market	
Available land	
Children who love to grow things	
Commercial kitchen at Robert L Taylor	
Community willingness to improve health	
Florida House	
Grocery stores	
Healthy cooking programs	
Healthy food programs	
Ideal climate for growing	
Jail gardening program	
Latent growing skill among people of color	
Public parks and playgrounds	
Retail space available	
Ringling College students with creative ideas	
School gardens	
Schools	
Small community	
Social gatherings centered around food	
Social services in Newtown	
Summer food program	
Thoroughfares	
Will of people to make changes	

Identified Barriers - Ranked

Transportation	8
Healthy food is not affordable	7
EBT (food stamps) not accepted at farmers market	2
Fast food marketing crowds out healthy options	2
Food pantries don't provide fresh food	2
Lack of knowledge about how to prepare healthy foods	2
Lack of knowledge of gardening	2
Lack of knowledge of healthy eating	2
Vandalism	2
Access to funding	
Access to information where to find healthy food	
Bureaucracy	
Economic volatility	
Unable to achieve economy of scale with produce	
Farmers markets far away	
Free food has reduced the personal value of eating healthy	
High crime and drug use	
Lack of exposure to healthy foods	
Lack of interest in healthy foods	
Lack of knowledge of portion control	
Limited land for gardening	
Local produce vendors don't sell at consistent times/places	
Local retailers lack knowledge and support	
Local stores don't stock healthy foods	
Marketing of non-healthy foods	
Negative view of community regarding crime and safety	
Produce at Walmart not a good value (price, quality)	
Segregated community	
Southern food traditions	
Time	
Unemployment	

Proposed Solutions

	Residents	Non-Residents
RL Taylor Food Drop-Off & Classes	11	3
Utilize Wasted Food	9	1
Use city lots for gardens	8	2
Container gardening	8	0
Community Garden Toolkit	7	0
Volunteers educating on healthy eating	6	0
Pop-Up Farmers Market	6	5
Veggie Mobile	4	5
Farmers Markets Accepting EBT	4	4
Children-focused community gardens	4	3
Food Sampling in Schools	3	1
Churches Promote Initiatives and Gardening	3	0
Rooftop Gardens	2	0
New College Community Garden	2	0
Weekly notification	1	0
Teaching Nutrition Visually	1	0
Gardening Workshops	1	0
Intergenerational education & partnering	1	2
Healthy Food Trucks	0	2
Healthy Café	0	1

North Sarasota Food Summit Summary

The North Sarasota Food Summit took place on May 22nd, 2013. More than 60 people attended. The goals of the food summit were to deepen understanding of the importance of access to healthy foods; connect key food system stakeholders; and highlight opportunities to advance strategies to improve access to healthy foods. This summary captures the assets, barriers, and proposed solutions as identified by participants.

