



# THE GREATER PITTSBURGH FOOD ACTION PLAN

## What is the Greater Pittsburgh Food Action Plan?

The Greater Pittsburgh Food Action Plan (or GPFAP, for short) is a community-driven assessment and strategy for improving how we grow, distribute, and dispose of food in the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. GPFAP will identify opportunities to reduce inefficiencies in the Greater Pittsburgh food system and enhance our collective action, with the aim of increasing access to healthy and affordable food for all.

## Why is a Food Action Plan important, especially for the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County?

With approximately 8,500 food facilities<sup>1</sup> and over 420 farms<sup>2</sup> in Allegheny County, food-related businesses are clearly a major industry in the region. A Food Action Plan can benefit the city and county by addressing and continuously evaluating every aspect of the food system, including production, processing, distribution, access, and waste management.

GPFAP is a roadmap for cross-sector, multi-stakeholder coordination between nonprofits, governments, businesses, and individuals. By aligning the public and a variety of organizations in all areas of the food system, we will promote and support a local food system that meets the economic, environmental, and nutritional needs of our residents.

## Who will coordinate this effort?

The Pittsburgh Food Policy Council (or PFPC, for short) will assist and oversee the creation of GPFAP. Driven by community-led solutions, PFPC brings together over 80 entities and 130 individuals to reimagine our region's food system and seek policies that promote local food growing, sustainable agriculture, equitable development, and access to healthy food, particularly in low-income communities.

Founded in 2009, the mission of PFPC is to build a food system that benefits our communities, economy, and environment in ways that are just, equitable, and sustainable. GPFAP is made possible by the support of the Henry L. Hillman Foundation and The Heinz Endowments.

174,110 (14.2%)  
FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY<sup>3</sup>

42,170 (17.8%)  
FOOD INSECURE CHILDREN IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY<sup>3</sup>

47%  
OF PITTSBURGH RESIDENTS LIVE IN FOOD DESERTS<sup>4</sup>

\$3.25 BILLION  
ECONOMIC COSTS DUE TO POVERTY AND HUNGER IN PA<sup>5</sup>

161,202  
SNAP PARTICIPANTS IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT | <sup>2</sup> US CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE |

<sup>3</sup> GREATER PITTSBURGH COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

<sup>4</sup> PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE | <sup>5</sup> JUST HARVEST |