



ENSURING HEALTHY FOOD FOR ALL

ADDRESSING RURAL FOOD INSECURITY



WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 11, 2021 | 1:00 - 2:00 PM EDT

The meeting will focus on the topics of food insecurity, capacity building, and the role of churches and houses of worship in addressing rural hunger.

Center for Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships



RURAL FOOD SECURITY: COMMUNITY HUBS





RESOURCEFUL COMMUNITIES

A program of The Conservation Fund, national environmental nonprofit

Primarily in North Carolina, regional across Southeast

Support network of 300+ rural, community-based, faith-based nonprofits and churches

Serve as a grantor, capacity builder and connector



FOOD SECURITY DURING COVID

Have now awarded ~ \$3.75 million for COVID relief, primarily food-related (229 grants, rural, 61% BIPOC-led)

Between 60-70% of work done by faith-based organizations

Mostly small budget organizations/ ministries; mostly volunteer

Very limited local food – mostly sourced from grocery chains, Sam's Club, Food Banks; little fresh produce

Need “easy” food access

LOCAL FOOD SECURITY NETWORKS

We invest and support community food projects that go beyond “feeding the hungry”





WHAT IS A FOOD HUB?

Food Hubs aggregate local produce and food products to sell or market to wholesale, retail or institutional markets

Food Hubs have farmer connections, equipment, space, and transportation to source and aggregate local food

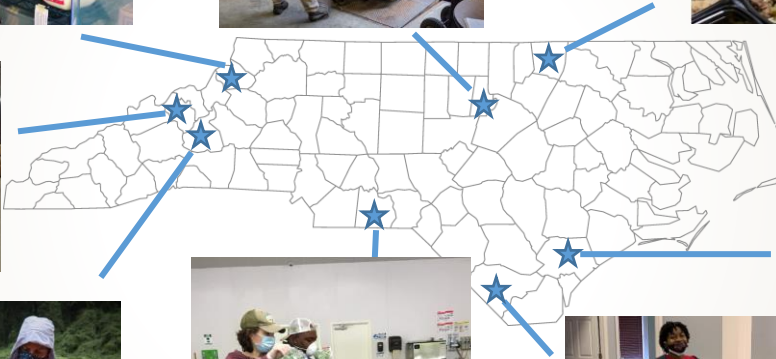
NC Food Hub Collaborative / www.ncfoodhubs.org

- Rural, nonprofit food hubs across NC
- Want to see strong, local food economies
- Have deep ties to their community (farmers to churches)
- Often the nexus of these local food projects



RESILIENT LOCAL FOOD

- Food hubs make local food “easy”
- Churches, community organizations know their community needs
- Partners applied for funding to support everyone’s needs (fair prices for farmers, cold storage, volunteer stipends, transportation)
- Faith partners often pair food with other established programs
- Strong model for local food resilience, especially in times of crisis
- Partners play the role where they are strongest

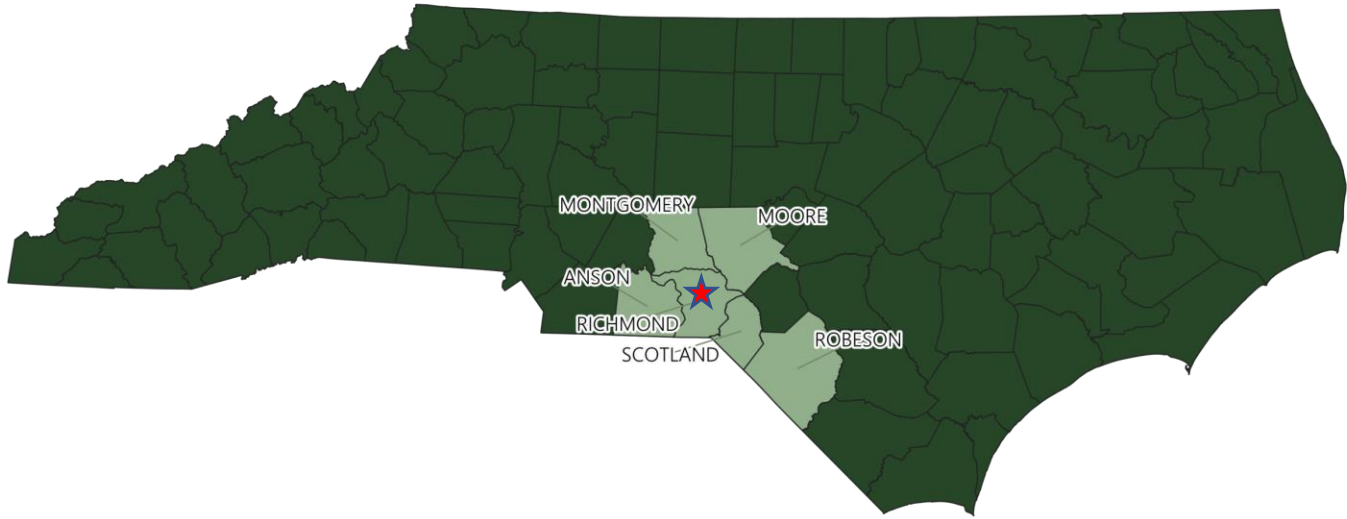




Sandhills AgInnovation Center

Richmond County, NC

Davon Goodwin



MONTGOMERY

MOORE

ANSON

RICHMOND

SCOTLAND

ROBESON





CUKES		thePLAN!	
SUPPER	FANCY	X-LARGE	
SELECT		LARGE	
SMALL	LARGE FANCY	MEDIUM	
SELECT	CHOICE	SELECT	
LARGE	ACORN	RED	
PLAIN	BUTTERNUT	SUNTAN	















General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc.

Rev. Dr. Tony W. Barr Sr

Executive Secretary-Treasurer





Who Are We?

Who Are We?



- Organized in 1867
- Largest African American faith-based membership organization in the State
- Comprised of approximately 1,600 affiliated churches with a combined membership of approximately 500,000.
- Represents approximately 22 percent of the State's AA population
- Facilitated by 58 GBSC Associations located throughout NC.
- Holistic well-being (e.g., spiritual, physical, mental, and social)
- Received national recognition for many of its Health & Wellness
- Advocates for underserved and marginalized communities
- Founding principles: Benevolence, Missions, & Education



Church

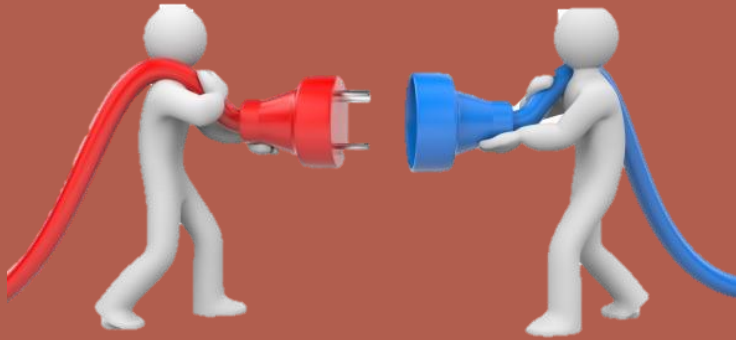
Food Insecurity

Matthew 25:35-36

³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'



GBSC Sandhills AG Innovation Center





Community Impact

Local Farmers

Live Food = Heathy

F A I T H

*Theology
That Fits
My Feet*



Community Facilities Programs

Chad Parker

Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service

 Rural Development
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

 Rural Development
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Community Facilities

- Hospitals, health clinics
- Schools
- Daycares
- Fire houses, first responder vehicles and equipment
- Community centers and more.

Community Facilities Programs Overview

- Offers direct loans, loan guarantees and grants to develop or improve essential public services and facilities
- Eligible Applicants: Public Bodies, Non-Profits, Indian Tribes
- Eligible Purposes: Construct, expand, renovate, or improve facilities that provide health care, education, public safety, and public services
- Populations of 20,000 or less



Emergency Rural Health Care Grants

American Rescue Plan

\$500 million for Emergency Grants for Rural Health Care:

- (1) increase capacity for vaccine distribution;
- (2) provide drugs or medical supplies to increase medical surge capacity;
- (3) reimburse for lost revenue to maintain capacity during the coronavirus pandemic;
- (4) increase telehealth capabilities, including underlying healthcare information systems;
- (5) construct temporary or permanent structures for vaccine administration or testing;
- (6) support staffing needs for vaccine administration or testing; and
- (7) engage in any other efforts determined to be critical to address the coronavirus pandemic, including nutritional assistance to vulnerable individuals, as approved by the Secretary.

Contact Information

Assistance under USDA Rural Development programs is available to applicants in areas designated as “rural.” Under law, the definition of “rural area” is different for each program.

Contact your local USDA Rural Development office for more information.

Chad Parker Chad.Parker@usda.gov

Or go to: www.rd.usda.gov

Or call 1 (800) 670-6553 (toll free)

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