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**Abstract**

Food security in the American inner city is one of the most pressing problems of the 21st century. The residents of these economically distressed areas face difficulties obtaining healthy, affordable food to feed themselves and their families. Depending on imports and overreaching from the city’s food availability while low incomes leaves the poor urban residents without access to food. In many cases, the disparities of this complex situation leads to the abandonment of both nutrition and morals in favor of a full-scale epidemic.

In response to these devastating effects, a variety of solutions have been proposed to combat the food insecurity problem. The high food costs continuously to join (EDUCATION)  are temporary, since consumption, out of solutions and innovations, aims to create food lean through overcoming the sources of the problem—essentially seeking to change inner-city dynamic. Moving food retail actions into the city while reimagining the use of urban agriculture promotes food self-sufficiency and availability. Meanwhile, beautifying urban landscape and civic order would provide greater consumer purchasing power for both transportation and food.

The success of this initiative depends on its regular monitoring and promotion. Both professional and self-assessments would provide a reliable measurement of the program’s changing nature due to the solutions, as well as a reevaluation of test practices. Simultaneously, the position of fed and now professional methods will establish the necessary pathways and financial supports to ensure that the initiative realizes its maximum potential, satisfying the appetite of American inner cities.

**Problem**

Food Security: “Access by all people at all times to sufficient food and nutrition for a healthy and productive life.”

**Inner City:** Concentrations of U.S. Census tracts having a 20 percent poverty rate or higher, or either:

- Poverty rate or unemployment rate 1.5 times or higher than surrounding metropolitan area
- Medium household income of 5% or less than the surrounding metropolitan area.

- The median density of inner cities in 2000 was 6,113 residents per square mile, compared to 507 persons per square mile in the surrounding metropolitan area.
- 68% of inner city residents are low income, earning less than $20,000 annually.

- Companies assume that inner cities are not attractive markets because the average income per household is only $20,000 versus $42,000 nationwide. These averages neglect the power of the density of inner city dollars and the considerable number of urban middle income consumers.

**Solutions & Mechanisms**

System of Solutions addresses:

- Accessibility + Quality = Availability

- **Establishing Retail Outlets**
  -CSA: Community Supported Agriculture
  -Grocery Stores
  -Local Markets

- **Building Outside Agriculture**
  -Community Gardens
  -Agriculture Education

- **Urban Gardening**
  -Food Security

- **Reduced Crime**
  -Law Enforcement
  -Employment Opportunities

**Mechanisms**

- CSA: Community Supported Agriculture
- Farmers’ Markets
- Reduced Crime
- Urban Gardening
- Education
- Employment Opportunities
- Law Enforcement

**Monitoring & Evaluation**

Project Success is measured by changes in:

- Food availability, access, diversity, and quality
- Income and crime rate
- Necessity of food aid

Evaluation committee monitors project through:

- Project Performance Review
- Policies & Surveys
- Community Self-Evaluation
- Field Tests & Surveys
- Regional Conference
- Community Presentations
- Professional Presentations

**Promotion**

Target audience: Consumer, Supplier, Donor

Groups in inner city food systems

- **Marketing Campaigns**
  - Brochures, flyers, posters
  - Radio, TV, newspapers
  - Social media, community events

- **Funding & Grants**
  - Government, corporate, foundation
  - Fundraising events, community drives
  - Sponsorship opportunities

- **Regional Conference**
  - Professional development opportunities
  - Networking opportunities
  - Community outreach opportunities