

Office of Food Access & Healthy Communities

Mission

We aim to support health by improving food access and nutrition security and by creating ways to be active, connect and belong.

Our parameters/values

Food Security

Nutrition Security

Dignity

Affordability

Sustainability

Community building

Community investment

What we do

Convene and Connect

Inform

Evaluate

Advocate

Fund

Boost

Operate

What we do	How	Metrics
Convene & Connect	Somerville Food Coalition SNAP practice group Outreach via events, meetings Tap Water	Monthly meetings In person gatherings Number of stakeholders engaged
Inform	Keep several online platforms up to date Produce new and updated flyers Disseminate SNAP freeze updates	3 websites, Instagram, Facebook # impressions Content updates 7 multilingual flyers here
Outreach	Attend community events, meetings, present to partners	20 events in 2025
Evaluate	Community Food Assessment Data collection and program review	Coming Winter 2026
Advocate	Coordinate partners for letters and sign-ons	Areas of focus: Universal School Meals, State SNAP, Summer EBT, HIP, Immigrant rights
Fund	Manage \$1.5M of contracts using community benefits fund Participatory Budgeting General fund	Support over a dozen community-based partners in their work.
Operate the Mobile Farmers market	Direct food access program Tool for engaging resident, understanding policy, systems and gaps. Building resilient food systems	Supports over 20 local farms 4 weekly sites 17 weeks 3500 transactions \$33,500 in sales

Update on Calendar Year 2025 Goals



- **Explore sustainable solutions** to continue some food security programs after ARPA ends in June 2025 – **ongoing, with progress**
- Complete and publicize a **community food assessment** and **food action plan** in partnership with the advisory group – **In progress**
- Continue to **backbone** and strengthen the **Somerville Food Coalition** - **ongoing**
- Maintain accurate food resource information on a **variety of platforms** including **websites, social media and flyers** – **ongoing**
- Run our **15th season** of the mobile market - **completed**
- Continue existing partnerships – **ongoing**
- Manage new **nutrition security projects** as a result of **community support** via Participatory Budgeting round 2- **won in PB – project underway.**
- Determine next steps for supporting **transit as a driver of health.** – **not done but...Alissa presented at a national conference and finalizing data.**

Impact

OFAHC's SPENDING IMPACT (2024)



10+

Farms supported by the
Somerville Mobile Farmers
Market in 2024



1000s

of residents visited
Somerville Farmers
Markets



14

Food access outreach
events



4

Somerville Community
Fridges



700

Families Visited the SPS
School Markets



250

SHS Students Learned
about Urban Agriculture



15+

Organizations in the
Somerville Food Coalition



300

Holiday Grocery Gift Cards
Donated to Families



7

Meal Sites for Just Eats
Summer Meals

2026 Goals

Complete

- Complete Assessment & Food Action Plan

Use

- Use Food Action Plan as living doc to guide our work

Manage

- Manage Community Benefit funding
 - Sustainable funding, evaluation

Stabilize

- Stabilize Somerville Mobile Farmers market for its 16th season

Build out

- Build out Ready-made, low cost meal network
- Install PB funded shared cold storage unit.

Continue

- Continue monthly meetings that convene stakeholder networks

Keep

- Keep external facing media up-to-date and useful for others

Continue

- Continue outreach and engagement

Continue

- Continue local advocacy