

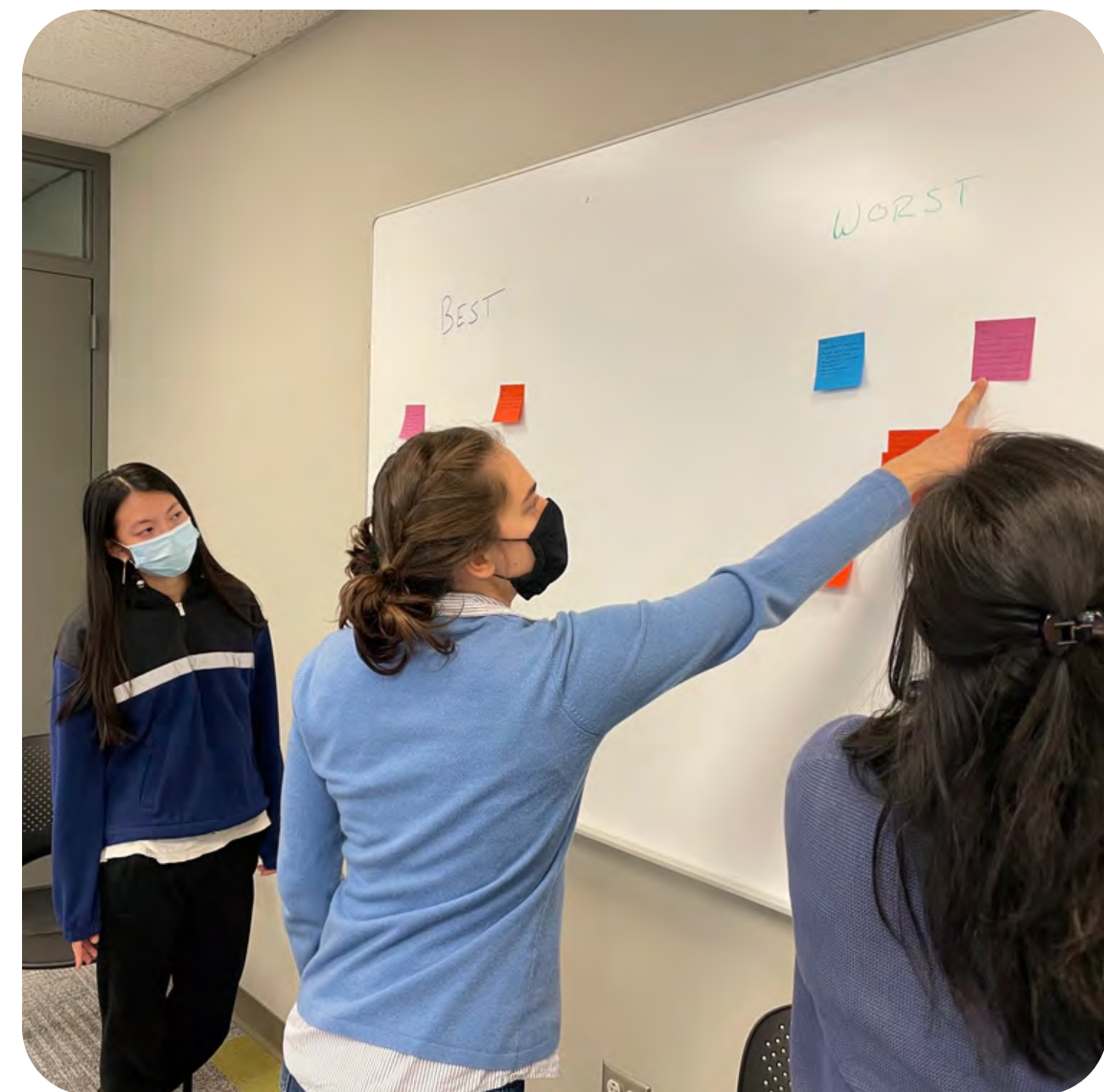
Snapshot of Tompkins County, New York

July–December 2021 Progress Report



Goals

- Identify current approaches, community assets and barriers related to increasing food security
- Embed the Childhood Nutrition Collaborative within other food systems initiatives
- Influence systems change that has the potential to increase food security for every person pre-birth to age 24



By the Numbers

- 453 individuals received information on SNAP assistance through flyers, web-based communications and in-person student outreach
- 190 students connected with SNAP application assistance by completing a SNAP eligibility screener and/or attending informational workshops

Success Story

The Tompkins County legislature approved funding for the implementation of a Student Resource Navigator program that will deploy students in health care settings to initiate and track referrals to community resources. Leveraging local student populations through this program is an innovative cross-sector approach to connect residents more effectively to existing resources in the community, many of which are underutilized by eligible community members. It will also help build better relationships and connection points between health care and social service providers, and residents within the county. The program pilot will take place in summer of 2022.

Creating more opportunity for communication and connection across sectors will allow us to break down silos and connect more people to existing resources that support health, as well as build our understanding of gaps in our existing resources. Creating these connections through health care providers normalizes the concept that social and environmental conditions are crucial determinants of health outcomes.”

**Grace Parker Zielinski,
Cornell Cooperative Extension**