Snapshot of Paterson, New Jersey





Goals

- Expand summer meals and afterschool dinner programs in the city of Paterson
- Adopt healthy food procurement practices at Paterson Public Schools
- Increase number of community gardens in the city of Paterson



By the Numbers

- 2,000 individuals provided with access to recipe cards and cooking demonstration videos
- 10,000 individuals provided with over 3 million meals through Paterson Public School District meal distributions
- 3 organizational policies adopted that normalize local sourcing of produce, engage new vendors who specialize in local sourcing and diversify produce offerings

Success Stories

- 1. Sourced more than 40% of produce served to the community from regional farms and introduced new produce items, like salad kits, to incentivize children from the community to eat more vegetables
- 2. Spearheaded a meal-delivery pilot that distributed meals to families who live beyond a 15-minute walk to a meal distribution site, ensuring that distance would no longer be a barrier for families who wanted to participate

"I think that the fact that we acknowledged residents as leaders and experts in their community helped create the change...Valuing them in this specific way added validation to their experience and is motivating them to participate wholeheartedly."

--Paterson HCCC team member







