

Growing Hope



Food Summit

APRIL 1-2, 2011

St. Joseph's Family Center 610 W. Exchange Street Akron

Purpose

Convene a community event that will:

- Serve as a launch for a broad-based community campaign to grow the local food system/economy
- Present major findings of the *2010 Community Health Assessment* commissioned by Akron Children's Hospital, Akron General Medical System and Summa Health System
- Provide time for all participants to engage in open discussions regarding the health/food connections identified in the *2010 Community Health Assessment*
- Share information on how to grow local food systems so all residents have access to fresh affordable healthy food
- Clarify the values and priorities the participants embrace to shape a vision and build a local food system/economy/food charter
- Build collaborative alliances that will engage a cross-section of stakeholders to share, learn and network to help insure the local food system is able to meet community needs and wants

What will Happen at the Summit?

Friday evening, April 1 (7pm)

Akron Summit Community Action, Inc. is sponsoring a public showing of Fresh the Movie which will offer a platform to raise awareness and connect people to solutions that can launch a grassroots movement to grow fresh food and ideas. The movie celebrates the farmers, thinkers and business people across America who are reinventing our food system.

Saturday, April 2 (9am-2pm/Registration Required/Lunch provided & Childcare available)

Residents from across Summit County are invited to attend. Each participant will receive a discussion guide with background information, discussion questions and worksheets. Each table of 8 participants will be supported by a trained table volunteer facilitator and lead facilitators. A small number of speakers will provide educational information.

Participants will represent a wide variety of stakeholder interests including, but not limited to residents from neighborhoods where access is a significant need, farmers/farmers markets, health systems, community garden organizers, local food processors, grocers, restaurants, community supported agriculture programs, faith communities, public and private schools, food distribution programs, universities, government, and elected officials.

Opportunities for networking will also be offered to grow more food locally this season (i.e. individual gardens, community gardens, market gardens, etc.) and to build upon existing resources to increase access in food deserts and prepare healthy meals. Resource tables will be located in the meeting room and organizations and businesses will be listed in the participant guide.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED: Registration Forms are available. Call Veronica Sims at 330.572.8304 or Visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FoodSummitRegistration>