

2012 Johnson County Healthy Foods Stakeholder Interview SUMMARY REPORT

Submitted to

**Johnson County Department of
Health and Environment**

ETC Institute
725 W. Frontier Circle
Olathe, KS
66061

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2012 Johnson County Healthy Foods Stakeholder Interview Summary Report

OVERVIEW

ETC Institute conducted one-on-one interviews with community leaders of Johnson County, Kansas during September and October 2012 for the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment. The purpose of the interviews was to help the Department and its partners examine the perceptions that community leaders have of the accessibility of healthy foods in Johnson County. The input gathered from the interviews will aid the Department in the development of a community plan to help improve overall access to healthy food in Johnson County.

A total of 136 stakeholders were interviewed over the telephone by representatives from ETC Institute. To gather additional information from stakeholders who work in or for an organization that promotes and/or provides access to food to individuals of Johnson County, two versions of the interview were developed. Version 1 was designed to gather general perceptions stakeholders have of the accessibility of healthy foods in the County. Version 2 asked the same questions as Version 1 but included additional questions that asked the appropriate stakeholders how their organization helped improve the accessibility of healthy food in the region. Of the 136 stakeholders interviewed, 71 stakeholders completed Version 1 and 65 stakeholders completed Version 2.

The names and organizations of the stakeholders interviewed are listed below and on the following pages:

- Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City
- Adrienne Moore Baxter, Department of Dietetics/Nutrition KU Medical Center
- Adrienne Paine, Andrews - Self, Free Agent
- Amalia Almeida, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment
- Andrea Matthew, Kansas City Community Gardens
- Andy Volding, KU Healthy Kids Ivanhoe Initiative
- Angela Hemsath, Carondelet Health
- Anna Rizzi, Johnson County Human Services
- Arthur Smith, Mercy and Truth Medical Missions
- Bill Downham, United Healthcare Community Plan
- Bill Ebel, City of Overland Park, Kansas
- Brendan Cossette, Truman Medical Center
- Brontis Varona, Mosaikon Church
- Calvin Hayden, Board of County Commissioners
- Carol Roder-Esser, Johnson County Mental Health
- Carol Semrau, Gardner/Edgerton USD 231
- Catherine Satterwhite, KU Medical Center
- Cathy Anderson, Jewish Vocational Service
- Cathy Gordon, New Birth Company
- Chandler Moenius, Greater KC Community Foundation
- Charles Rathbun, Blue Valley School District
- Christy Ziegler, Gardner/Edgerton USD 231
- Cindy Galemore, Olathe School District 233

- Dan Goodman, Johnson County Human Services
- Dan Robeson, Johnson County Emergency Management
- Darren Odum, Olathe Medical Center
- David C Drovetta, City of Gardner, Kansas
- David Lindstrom, Board of County Commissioners
- Dawn Downes, Reach
- Dean Katerndah, Mid-American Regional Council (MARC)
- Dean Palos, Department of Planning, Development & Codes
- Deb Madden, Olathe Unified School District
- Deborah Markenson, Children's Mercy Hospital and Weighing In
- Debra Whiteman, Johnson County Department of Health/Environment
- Dennis Day, Johnson County Community College
- Diane Diedrich, Spring Hill School District
- Dolores Furtado, Part of Tri-County Smart Start
- Donna Martin, Mid-American Regional Council (MARC)
- Donna Missimer, Blue Valley School District
- Douglas A Sumner, Unified School District 232
- Dr. Al Hanna, Blue Valley School District
- Dr. Debra Sullivan, KU School of Nursing
- Dr. Ellen Averett, Department of Health Policy Management - KU Hospital
- Dr. Michelle Robin, Your Wellness Connection
- Ed Eilert, Board of County Commissioners
- Ed Peterson, Board of County Commissioners
- Eldonna Chestnut, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment
- Gene Johnson, Shawnee Mission School District
- Gretchen Kunkel, KC Healthy Kids
- Haly Aiken, Garmin
- Helen Kuttles, Spring Hill School District
- Holly Sobelman, Gardner/Edgerton School District
- Jackie Nowak, KUMC School of Nursing
- Jacque Amspacker, Medical Society of Jonson County/Wyandotte Center
- Jamie Katz, Regional Prevention Center
- Jane Zieha, Blue Bird Bistro
- Janet Burton, Turner House Children's Clinic
- Janet Vogt, Your Wellness Connection
- Jason Osterhaus, Board of County Commissioners
- Jason Wesco, Health Partnership Clinic
- Jayci Dalton, Spring Hill School District
- Jeannine Goetz, KU School of Nursing
- Jeff Meyers, City of Shawnee, Kansas
- Jerry Jones, Communities Creating Opportunities
- Jerry Wiley, City of Fairway
- Jill Geller, Johnson County Park and Recreation District
- Jim Allen, Board of County Commissioners
- John Geiger, Sain Luke's Hospital
- John M Ye, City of Westwood, Kansas
- John McReynolds, St. Luke's South
- John Neuberger, Department of Preventative Medicine/Public Health

- Joseph Hume, MD., Johnson County Department of Health and Environment
- Julia Woods, St. Luke's Hospital
- Julie Marshall, Blue Valley Multi Service Center
- Karen Clawson, Mid-American Regional Council (MARC)
- Karen Dieberty, Harvesters
- Karen Doyle, Cleveland Chiropractic College
- Karen Wulfkuhle, United Community Services of Johnson County
- Katie Nixon, City of Prairie Village, Kansas
- Ken Sissom, City of Merriam, Kansas
- Kevin Walker, American Heart Association
- Kim Chappelow Lee, Johnson County Parks and Recreation District
- Kim Kimminau, University of Kansas Medical Center
- Kristine Riott, Briding the Gap
- Laura Drake, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment
- Laura McConwell, City of Mission, KS
- Lee Jost, Christ the Servant Church
- Leslie Mackey, Shawnee Mission Medical Center
- Lisa Lousley, Society of St. Andrew
- Lori Bonnstetter, Carondelet Health
- Lougene Marsh, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment
- Lyn Wilson, St. Agnes
- Macie Houston, KC Metro Region - OP Service Center
- Mark Mollentine, Children's Mercy Hospital
- Marua Peterson, Bishop Miede
- Mary Ann Heryer, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment
- Mary Lou Jaramillo, El Centro
- Mary Nelle Trefz, Johnson County Health Needs Assessment
- Matt May, Johnson County Emergency Management
- Maureen Womanck, Johnson County Mental Health Services
- Melody Kinnamon, Central Resources Library
- Michael Ashcraft, Board of County Commissioners
- Michael Wilkes, City of Olathe, Kansas
- Mike Jensen, Olathe Health System Inc.
- Mike Meyers, Kansas Department for Children and Families
- Nancy Coughenour, Shawnee Mission School District
- Nicole Brown, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment
- Pam Henry, Johnson County Wastewater Department
- Paul Khoury, PB & J Restaurant Group
- Peggy Dunn, City of Leawood, Kansas
- Penny Postoak-Ferguson, Johnson County, Kansas
- Ralph Gomex, Children's Mercy Hospital
- Randy Dunn, City of Kansas City, Missouri
- Rhonda Pollard, Johnson County Parks & Recreation District
- Rick Boeshaar, City of Mission Hills, Kansas
- Robert Tietze, City of Mission Woods, Kansas
- Robin Harrold, Shawnee Mission Medical Center
- Ron Shaffer, City of Prairie Village, Kansas
- Sarah Chellberg, Blue Valley School District

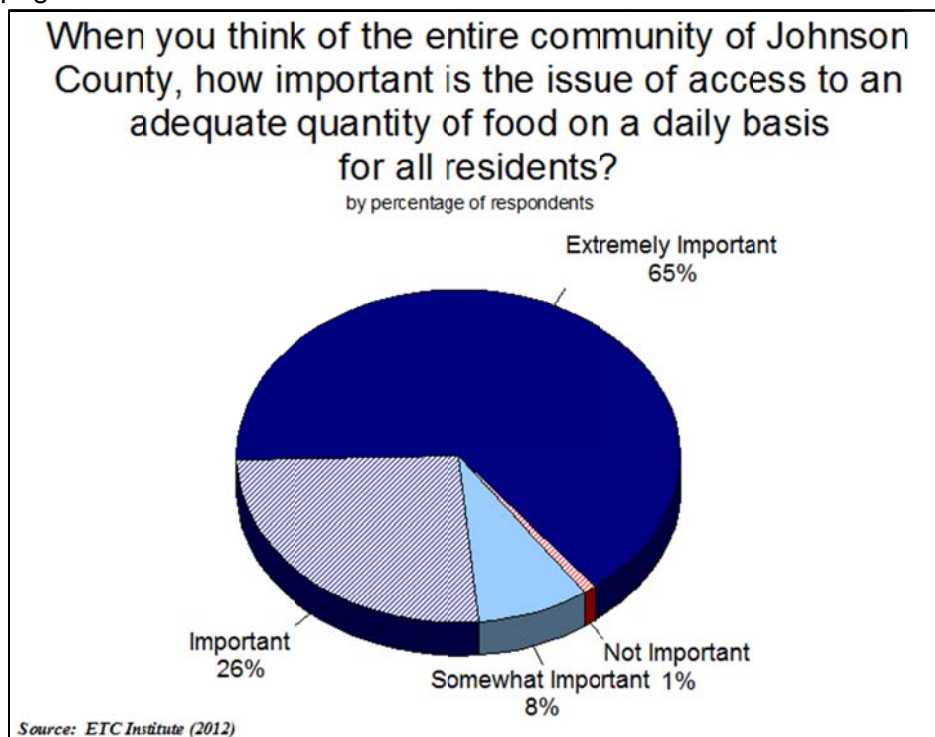
- Scott Lakin, Mid-American Regional Council (MARC)
- Sean Casserely, Johnson County Library
- Shelby Rebeck, Shawnee Mission School District
- Shelly Papadopoulos, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas City
- Shelly Summar, Children's Mercy Hospital
- Stacy Davis, Mental Health Association of Heartland
- Sue Matson, Regional Prevention Center
- Susan Larcom, Shawnee Mission Medical Center
- Tanya Honderick, KUMC - MPH Department of Preventative Medicine
- Teri Mapes, Menorah Medical Center
- Tom McConnally, Children's Mercy Hospital
- Tony Wellever, KUMC Department of Family Medicine
- Valorie Carson, United Community Services of Johnson County
- Vince Vandehaar, VVV Marketing & Development Inc.
- Wayne Burke, Spring Hill School District
- William C Barkley, The Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics
- Won Choi, PHD, KU School of Medicine

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

A summary of the major findings from the interviews are provided on the following pages:

The Accessibility of an Adequate Amount of Food on a Daily Basis

On average, stakeholders felt that 23% of the groups they serve have difficulty accessing the quantity of food they need on a daily basis. When asked how important they felt it was for residents to have access to an adequate amount of food on a daily basis, nearly all (99%) of the stakeholders surveyed felt it was an “extremely important,” “important” or “somewhat important; only 1% felt it was “not important.” The specific reasons for their ratings are listed on the following pages:



- Johnson County is a fairly affluent county and does not have the poverty like some other areas.
- Food is needed to lead a full and happy life.
- That is what we do here, feed the people and educate them on how to feed themselves properly.
- It is one of the basic needs for survival.
- Nutrition is a basic necessity.
- I think that for most children, adequate food at school is a major help.
- We work with limited English speaking people and they do not know how to bridge the gap. People need to understand there are ways to eat healthy. Some problems come from a cultural un-education.
- I know there is a problem with a number of residents who need help getting fed.
- I look at Johnson County as a whole and we need to help our residents get the food they need.
- We need to educate residents on where to find healthy food. We rely too much on fast food adding to obesity.
- It is a key to having a healthy community.
- If people do not have access to adequate quantities of food, we cannot be as effective.
- We know the importance of healthy food to your personal health because we are doing research on obesity.
- I am aware that although we are talking about Johnson County, the percentage and numbers of poverty is still high.
- We have invented food deserts. The quantity is there, but not always accessible due to transportation and cost. This problem gets drowned out and we do not see it but the affluent do have the access.
- Food is the basic building block to be a functioning person. We all need food to fuel the body.
- The availability of health food makes for a more productive community and saves medical costs for all.
- A particular part of Johnson County Government that we all have what we need.
- People need to eat to live.
- Extremely important for all people to have access and to be able to put food on the table.
- Being a chef and growing up in an Italian environment, it was an intricate aspect to know all people not just your own family needed enough food.
- If you eat healthy, from a physician's standpoint, you are a more productive employee and a better citizen.
- I see some of the kids who come in for free food so obviously there is a need for food.
- Johnson County residents have money.
- I suspect most people have access to an adequate quantity of food.
- We need to eat to survive and maintain our health.
- Everyone needs to eat and eat healthy.
- For all positive health reasons, we need nutritious food.
- I read enough about it so I am familiar with the obesity problem. I grew up knowing how important enough food is for everyone.
- Everybody needs enough food to eat regardless of income. No one should be deprived of food.
- If you are not well fed, all other aspects fail.
- We have a population that does not have access to jobs or food. We have people with needs.
- In order to do a good job, whether in school or professionally, you have to have enough food.

- Because we deal with pregnant women and we know enough food is very important for all.
- Food is absolutely necessary - would rather it be healthy food but sometimes it is not accessible.
- Food is one of the basic human needs - if you do not eat healthy foods in the long term you will pay for it.
- Food is medicine.
- Because of the level of activity the city is involved in doing that should not rank higher.
- Food is a necessity to keep going.
- Food is a necessity for a better life.
- A lot of people in the Johnson County area do not have enough to eat which is important to be healthy.
- There is good access to a variety of food in Johnson County.
- No matter rich or poor, everyone needs healthy, nutritious food.
- Food is one of the essential components of health; our business is in children's health.
- The community should have adequate food available to them and I think we do, with all the grocery stores and restaurants we have here.
- Food is the building block for overall health.
- Access to food and nutrition is important to have a healthy life.
- Food and nutrition is the basis for all health.
- Proper nourishment is key to being healthy, productive and improves brain activity; overall it gives us a better quality of life.
- That would be the health of our population.
- It is important because it is going to help the greater health of not only the county but the city and state.
- Healthy food is the foundation of life; if we do not start right, the foundation's building blocks will fall.
- Food is fuel for the body.
- Most of our population has access to grocery stores or farmers markets or food pantries.
- We need an adequate quantity of food.
- If you do not have your health, you have nothing.
- It is important for everyone.
- People have choices of food everywhere.
- It is important to everyone.
- It is a basic need for a good quality of life.
- We do have people here who are disadvantaged. Olathe schools send 1000 backpacks home to families who otherwise would not have food to eat over the weekend.
- I am a registered nurse so I know how important the long term consequences of not having enough food to eat are.
- People have to eat.
- The transit system in Johnson County is not what it should be. Transportation is a big barrier to the access of food.
- People in Johnson County have so many different options I do not think they are worried about it.
- Everybody should have food to eat. It is sad to see people go hungry because they did not have resources to get food.
- Without food you cannot think so you cannot learn, work or live very adequately or comfortably without it.
- When people do not have enough food, kids cannot learn and adults cannot work. You feel better and have a better quality of life.
- People are forced to decide between rent and food; 39,000 people in Johnson are below the poverty level.

- The majority of Johnson County residents have access so it is not extremely important because it is not a critical issue.
- This is important because it is fundamental to health.
- I am aware of the increase rate of poverty in Johnson County and I am aware of the depleted amount stores can donate to the food pantries and the increase in demand.
- My focus is on a very small community that has lower income potential and need help through the weekend back snack program.
- I think our population has a problem of obesity.
- I would like all citizens to have proper nutrition.
- This affects a person's overall health and well-being.
- I am more concerned about the quality and choice than the quantity.
- We need to eat.
- It is really hard times for people; one out of every four children do not have food security and they do not know when their meal will come.
- Kids that are well fed learn better.
- It impacts everything else, whether it is education or the overall morale of our community.
- This is important because we deal with people who do not have enough to eat.
- It is important for the obvious reasons - everyone needs daily nutrition.
- I think we have too much access, we eat too much.
- We work with a number of people who do not have access to food and they suffer greatly. A lack of food affects your quality of life and you have more chance of chronic disease.
- I do not want to see people starving. Hunger in Kansas City and Johnson County is very serious.
- Everyone should be able to have enough food to eat; no child should have to go to school and not eat.
- People need to have adequate food.
- We need to keep people healthy and happy with full stomachs.
- Without adequate nutrition, it is hard for kids to succeed in school and adults to succeed at work.
- If you compare Johnson County to other areas, other areas tend to have higher importance. Johnson County does not have the numbers as other communities.
- People have the perception that in Johnson County everyone has enough but there are a lot more people here that need help than the general public thinks.
- If we have access to an adequate quantity of food we will feel better.
- Healthy meals are the basis for everything. If kids do not get meals it affects their school and the elderly need to be able to eat an adequate amount.
- For the vast majority of Johnson County, I do not think we have a problem but with the increasing amount of low income people it is becoming more of a problem.
- If we do not have adequate food our health suffers.
- All of us have to eat.
- It is important to have enough food because food insecurity leads to poor choices and you are inspired not to eat healthy but just to eat something to fill you up because you do not know when you will eat again.
- Everyone should have access to food.
- No one should have food insecurity.
- Balanced nutrition is essential for healthy life and for education.
- Food is a necessity for health.
- Nutrition is needed for the overall wellness of a person.
- We know through studies that if you are well nourished you are more productive and mentally and physically better off.

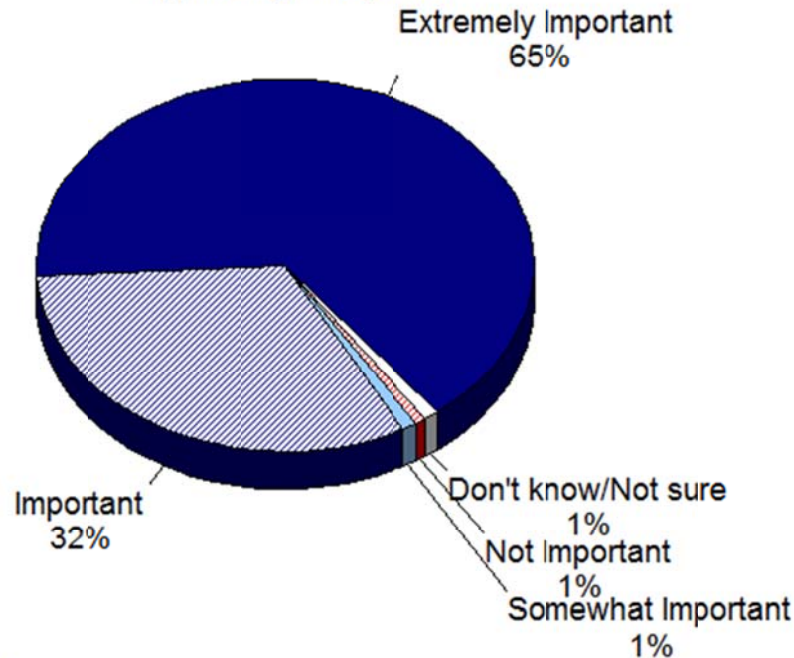
- It is important because everybody should have enough to eat.
- This is important, especially in the northern part of the county where there is not good access to a grocery store.
- I think most of my neighbors are concerned but not in panic mode.
- It is traditionally thought that in Johnson County no one has a need for anything, everyone is wealthy, but in certain areas having enough food and not transportation is an issue.
- If we do not have an adequate amount of food we would not be able to maintain our body.
- There are areas in our county that need help.
- We deal with the organized faith community and our focus is health.
- Food impacts the way people function.
- We work with young children and we all know that research shows that the brain as it develops needs all the nutrients to grow. Then there is also the obesity factor.
- If you eat properly you have fewer health problems.
- Everyone needs a good daily diet.
- Food is very basic and if we do not have enough it could be critical.
- We do have people in Johnson County who do not have an adequate amount of food to eat each day.
- The need for food.
- Everybody needs adequate access to food.
- All sectors need to have access, particularly low income.
- People feel the bigger the portion the more value.
- Everybody needs food.
- It is one essential piece of people's health to lead a fulfilled life.
- There should be quality, not quantity.
- Some people have other issues worrying them right now like how they are going to pay rent and pay medical expenses.
- Food is fuel; a basic component of life.
- Obviously it is one of the basic human needs and Johnson County has good resources for this.
- I think all residents should have access to food.
- Everyone should have access to food.
- In general, Johnson County is well served by grocery stores and probably pretty fairly priced.
- If people have access to food they should have the quantity they need.
- A healthy society is a more healthy society. Food is part of living and as a society we have to help those who are less fortunate.
- I am a health conscious person and a good diet is key to a good lifestyle.
- It is common sense, people need to eat.

The Accessibility of Healthy Food on a Daily Basis

On average, stakeholders felt that 29% of the groups they serve have difficulty accessing healthy food on a daily basis. When asked how important the issue of access to healthy foods to the health of all Johnson County residents is, nearly all (98%) of the stakeholders surveyed felt the issue was “extremely important,” “important” or “somewhat important;” 1% felt it was “not important” and 1% were not sure (results are shown in chart on the following page). The specific reasons for stakeholders’ ratings are provided on the following pages:

If you think specifically about the access to "healthy foods" for Johnson County residents, how important is the issue of access to "healthy foods" to the health of all residents?

by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (2012)

- I think most residents have access; although Johnson County is losing some grocery stores.
- Healthy food is important to lead a full and happy life.
- You want everybody's health the best it can be.
- More nutrients, better function of the heart, mental health and physical well-being.
- Often what is accessible is not always what is best; it is not fresh or is spoiled and more expensive, so we end up getting only canned or frozen foods and these again can be more expensive or not as nutritional.
- I think not everybody has access to healthy lunches that are low in fat and sodium and are nutritious foods.
- We know there are major health issues here such as obesity and other problems that diminish the health of the whole community.
- Here in America you hear about obesity. We need to reshape our way of thinking and make better choices.
- I think we have access to a lot, but there are areas that we need to do a better job informing people.
- I have a lot of elderly who live independently and they do not have access to fresh fruits and vegetables and they are too expensive.
- It would help having a healthy community and help decrease obesity.
- We cannot be effective if we do not stay healthy and develop better habits.
- It is important because of the relationship of healthy eating and long-term health.
- There is clearly a relationship between the quality of diet and health.
- Fundamentally, it gets passed down - what affects my neighbor affects me.

- It defeats the purpose to eat partially unhealthy food but could still get by but with no food is more serious.
- The availability of healthy food makes for a more productive community and saves medical costs for all.
- There still is a strong emphasis on fast food which is costly.
- Food is medicine.
- We can provide all kinds of food but is it healthy?
- I am a strong proponent about eating healthy and I work a lot with local farmers to bring in fresh foods to serve. With the increase in obesity and high cholesterol and all, healthy food needs to be a high priority.
- The key is healthy. Parts of the county there are not a lot of grocery stores and the poverty level is high.
- Obesity and high blood pressure are definitely issues. We need to have health choices more accessible to the public to prevent medical issues later on.
- Not everyone cares how their neighbor is doing.
- Healthy foods cost more.
- Johnson County residents have money; they just are not applying themselves.
- The cultural bombardment with mixed messages regarding food that is not healthy is an issue. We are brainwashed to supersize.
- Eating healthy food is critical to maintain good health.
- If there is more access we would be more prone to eat healthy.
- For all health benefits, we need healthy food.
- I know from reading and personal experiences that inadvertently healthy foods seem expensive but it is going to cost us more in the long run.
- We know healthy foods are much more filling and contribute to physical and intellectual growth.
- It is important to succeed in all you do and your future health depends on it.
- Everybody needs access to be able to make good choices.
- To do a good job in school or professionally you need to have enough healthy food.
- We deal with pregnant women and their families and we educate them now to try to help eliminate possible diabetes and heart disease in the future.
- We need to stress healthy eating.
- If you do not eat healthy you will pay for it in the long term.
- Good nutrition is the foundation for a healthy life.
- Your diet contributes directly to your health.
- Some of the more unhealthy foods are more readily available and keep longer, do not rot.
- Healthy eating can determine all medical conditions. With healthy eating there are better conditions.
- We need to have the fresh fruits and vegetables to combat obesity.
- We need to support health and healthy eating; it is the baseline to start with.
- No matter if rich or poor, everyone needs healthy, nutritious foods.
- Food is one of the essential components of health and in Johnson County if you want healthy food you can find it.
- If we utilize healthy foods, it should help on the obesity.
- It is the building block for overall health.
- Access to healthy food is one of the most important ways to a healthy life.
- Food and nutrition is the basis for all health.
- I am one for a healthy lifestyle and we need to address the issue of obesity and a lot of chronic diseases result from unhealthy eating habits.
- Healthy food makes you healthier.
- It is important for the health of our nation and everyone is impacted.

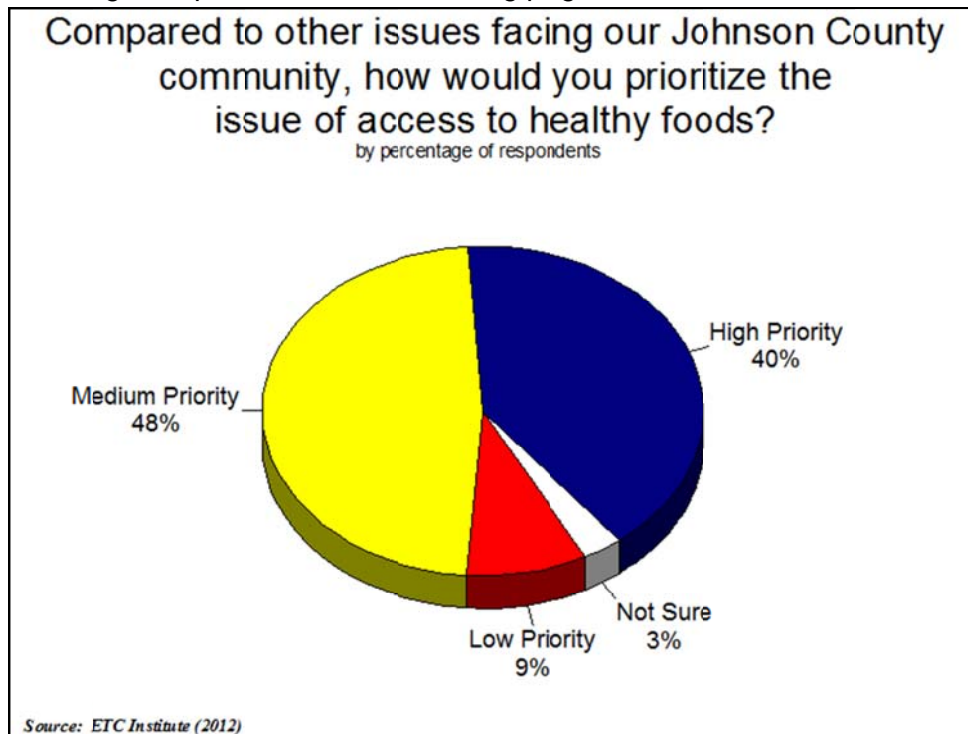
- Healthy food is the foundation of life and if we do not start right with healthy foods the foundation's building blocks will fall.
- People are realizing we need to change our own eating habits so we have better health. The obesity issue needs to be cured at the front end by education.
- If the access to healthy food is there, they can make better choices.
- Healthy foods contribute to our health.
- If you do not have good chemistry, you do not have good health and you have nothing.
- In Johnson County I do not think this is an issue - we have all sorts of neighborhood grocery stores with fresh vegetables and fruit.
- We need to eat healthy foods.
- It is important to everyone.
- Healthy food is a basic need for everyday quality of life. If you cannot access adequate healthy food, it could lead to lack of productivity and etc.
- Our population has become increasingly unhealthy and we need to have healthy food more accessible for a healthier environment.
- Healthy food is very important to our overall well-being.
- If they do not eat healthy food you fill up with food that causes weight gain and other unhealthy consequences.
- Back to transportation, it is an overall problem to access any type of food for my clients.
- There is access in Johnson County so I do not think they worry about it.
- Quantity is more important but healthy food effects the way kids learn and adults being productive.
- Obesity and hypertension come with eating in the wrong fashion.
- Healthy food speaks to our quality of life. If you do not have healthy food you do not function right.
- This is important because of the obesity and diabetes issues.
- Having access to healthy foods is good for our health and quality of life.
- This is important because it is fundamental to health.
- Here at The Turner House we see children who do not have access to enough to eat and healthy food would be that much better for them.
- I see students that are obese and so are their families; we need to educate them on healthy eating.
- People have more of a choice to access healthy food but they choose not to. We need to improve access to those who want to eat healthy.
- Healthy food obviously is going to impact our overall diet.
- Healthy foods habits affect a person's health and well-being and quality of life.
- It is well known if we eat a balanced diet we will be healthier and the social costs will be less.
- If we have food it should be healthy.
- Healthy food can prevent and reverse illnesses.
- If we only eat junk food it lowers our immune system and we get sick which causes more cost for healthcare in the long run.
- It addresses our overall health and our concerns of childhood obesity and overall nutrition.
- We have food available and accessible but not always nutritious and fresh.
- It is important with the growing level of obesity, diabetes and other health issues.
- Without healthy, quality food we would not have the ability to do our job - our physical and mental health would be affected.
- Access to healthy foods is very important to try to prevent chronic diseases. If we do not have access to healthy food our people cannot do what we recommend. A lot of times the only place they can get to is a convenience store that is close to them because they don't have the transportation to get anywhere else.

- As an environmentalist, the products of unhealthy foods we eat presents environmental harm to our citizens and causes greater expense on down the line in healthcare expense.
- It is extremely important people need to eat healthy food and if it is not available they cannot eat it.
- The right food options keep people healthy and helps keep our brains active so we can do better in school and in everything else.
- If everyone has access as far as accessibility and affordability goes, they can maintain better health as a community and face less medical expenses later on.
- Eating healthy is very important to overall health; with the obesity rate at a record high we need to make healthy food more of a priority.
- Everyone deserves access to healthy foods.
- Healthy food leads to healthy individuals who have better health condition in the future.
- Healthy, nutritious food is good for our general well-being.
- Our data shows that there are a lot of people in our county who lack access and income for healthy foods.
- If there is no healthy food in our body, our body cannot be healthy.
- We should all eat healthy and have healthy foods accessible to us.
- Healthy food is a huge element contributing to a person's health and their future health; it is preventive for chronic diseases.
- We should all have access to healthy food; it should be available as a choice.
- Healthy food is needed for preventative health.
- Balance nutrition is essential for a healthy life.
- Healthy food is necessary.
- The value of being able to eat healthy foods helps in preventing illnesses and the problem of obesity.
- Sometimes we focus on the quantity but we need to also consider the quality. I think some students only get healthy, quality food at school.
- I do not like to see people go hungry. We have plenty of access to food but it is not always healthy food we choose.
- There are areas where there is no access to healthy foods.
- Most of my neighbors take care of themselves.
- The issue is not for some of the population but there are pockets where this is definitely an issue.
- We need fresh fruit and vegetables to maintain good health.
- There are so many things in our diets that are not good for us; just look at the rate of obesity.
- Through daily conversations with the people we serve, I know they do not have the same level of access.
- Healthy food impacts the way our body functions.
- A lot of low income families have children and they do not live near a grocery store so transportation is a problem. You will see a woman pushing a stroller across a busy street trying to get to a grocery store.
- If you feed your body healthy foods you have fewer health problems.
- Everyone needs a good daily diet.
- Healthy food is part of a good balanced diet.
- We have people that have problems accessing food and what they can access is not always healthy food.
- The demographics of our county show there are people who tend to want healthy food and because of the obesity growth.
- There are too many fast food restaurants in the County; in this county it is not easy to get healthy food.

- Healthy food is more challenging - we need more access.
- I do feel that people in Johnson County are trying to eat healthier.
- The health factor is an issue.
- Healthy food is an important part of our daily life.
- There is a big obesity epidemic and Missouri is one of the top states for obesity rates; Kansas is not far behind.
- There are other stresses like paying rent and medical expenses that are issues as well.
- This is important because it causes many other issues such as medical issues. There needs to be more education, especially because of the way stores are set up they feature junk food; price is also an issue.
- We have an epidemic of obesity and part of this is because of what the people choose to eat; we need to have healthy foods available so they will hopefully choose the right option.
- It is important so we can all be as healthy as we can possibly be.
- Food is our fuel and we all need to be at our physical best.
- Healthy food is a part of the basis for general, good health.
- Healthy food is the foundation to healthy living.
- We all need access to healthy foods and we have lots of opportunities in Johnson County. Healthy foods seem to be more expensive and we have an increase in poverty in Johnson County.
- Eating healthy foods would help address the obesity issue; people need to have good access to healthy foods but sometimes we choose other food items because it is cheaper.
- It is common sense that what you put into your body should be good for you.

Priority of Access to Healthy Food Compared to Other Issues Facing the Johnson County Community

As the chart below shows, eighty-eight percent (88%) of the stakeholders surveyed felt the issue of access to healthy foods was a high or medium priority compared to other issues facing the Johnson County community; 9% felt it was a low priority and 3% were not sure. The reasons for their ratings are provided on the following pages:



- Access to healthy food has become a critical issue that most people do not realize. Johnson County has become more gained a lot more poverty.
- Everybody is pushing for a healthier environment.
- I felt it was a medium priority because I am sure the other issues are important too, like economy, education, etc.
- It is a medium priority because the difficulty of getting jobs affects how we can be able to get food in general.
- The type of food we consume is related to the long term condition of our life.
- I know transportation is a big problem and of course poverty. Food is the answer for a lot of these problems.
- This definitely needs to be addressed, but some things come first.
- When you balance against safety and transportation, healthy foods is high on the list but not number one.
- This issue is in the middle with safety and transportation.
- Some of the other topics have more of an immediate impact, but healthy food benefits us in the end.
- The access issue is more an issue of lack of income and lack of transportation to get to the healthy food.
- This is a high priority because your lifestyle choices, such as healthy eating, impact the community as well as the individual.
- Although it is an issue, because of Johnson County's size, there is not quite a food desert because they have access, but healthy food is very expensive.
- This is essential for a healthy community.
- This goes back to being the basic element of being healthy.
- Basically there are healthy foods available in our community but people are not choosing them - we are not a community that has a deficit of options.
- Basic health is dependent on it.
- If people had better access to healthy foods and kept well nourished, it would take care of a lot of other problems.
- We can somewhat control our environment for safety but a challenge to provide for food.
- You can find food but maybe not always the best food for you.
- This is an issue we deal with on a daily basis: how people eat and how eating negatively can lead to diabetes and other issues.
- People do not have access to see physicians. We need to have a way to educate the people to find healthy foods conveniently.
- This is not perceived to be a problem by most.
- Obesity is the fastest growing health concern.
- People need to stand on their own.
- I think people have access if they want access.
- Access to healthy food is critical, especially with obesity being huge.
- If people had better affordable access we would be healthier.
- In terms of a priority, it is placed in the middle - we do have comparatively good access.
- I understand the value of a good diet. We need to eat healthy to have healthy lives.
- I do think there are places where people can get healthy food especially kids such as school, free breakfasts at some school for kids and anyone else. Food pantries now have perishables that are very healthy foods.
- Some of the other issues are more critical, such as police.
- I do not think it overrides the others - it is an equal priority.
- Johnson County has more underserved people than any other counties in the state. There is a lack of knowledge in our community that people have what they need.
- Some issues rate higher.

- Knowing the service sector, we know there are other, more significant issues.
- It is what makes our community healthy or not.
- How we spend our time and money is the issue.
- Good nutrition helps you mentally focus better.
- There are other things more important than access to healthy foods.
- Healthy foods are an extremely important part of our component of being healthy. If we are not healthy, we are not productive.
- I feel there is a rich array of food sources in Johnson County that most do not know about.
- If we do not eat healthy, we cannot work and we cannot be productive to our society.
- When you look at public safety and access to healthy food, safety is a higher priority.
- That is what sustains us - if we cannot get food and stay healthy, it affects all the other issues.
- Some of the other issues related to other health conditions are somewhat more important.
- It is such a big indicator (if people could be healthy) especially for me being in the insurance segment; we are concerned about the obesity issue in our society.
- It is a high priority because an individual's health is one of the most important things in their own life.
- Johnson County is a large county and the public transit system is practically non-existent so you have to get in a car to get to a grocery store which is not always available.
- There are certain givens like public safety, police and fire that are huge therefore, they are more important.
- It should be a high priority because providing the community with health sustains growth.
- I do not think we have many food deserts in Johnson County - we have healthy food available if we want it.
- Public safety has to be number one but in the long run we have to have access to healthy foods.
- Our families seem like they have access to healthy foods but the other issues seem more prevalent.
- I think the other priorities are huge.
- We have the access to healthy foods we just have to choose it.
- I do not think we have the food deserts like they have in other parts of the metro.
- People choose what they want to eat; we cannot force things on them.
- The people in Johnson County have bigger issues than access to healthy foods.
- The majority of Johnson County has good access with more health stores available than most but there are certain parts that have a little more low income and minority that might have less access.
- We need to start our day with a good diet to be more healthy and sharp.
- I am aware of other needs being more important, for example mental health issues because of the stress of financial problems.
- I know there are other things that come first.
- I know how many grocery stores there are and about the transportation issue since the county is so spread out but it is more possible to walk to a grocery here than in the more rural areas.
- There are a lot of choices to get healthy foods but if they choose to go to McDonald's what can we do? It comes down to the public's choice.
- I think we do a good job on the other things so now is a better time to put more priority on healthy foods.
- Public safety is number one; education also ranks high as well as transportation.
- All kinds of things have to be in place.

- Healthy food and overall health ranks high because of seeing people struggle with high health costs.
- This is not as high of a priority mainly because Johnson County is more affluent and we do have the access to healthy foods.
- Healthy food is certainly important but more important is the access to healthcare; more affordable healthcare and transportation is an issue to get to social services.
- The support service and mental health and safety are priorities over nutrition.
- Although many do have access, they do not choose to eat healthy in time and then chronic disease starts.
- We have a lot of resources here in Johnson County; people have fairly good access to things.
- There are other priorities that are higher and some that are lower.
- We have a lot of mental health issues and suicidal tendencies in our area which are more important.
- There are other county issues that rank higher.
- For some people, safety and security are more urgent whereas you can at least get food somehow.
- If people are healthy they feel better which helps the crime rate to go down.
- Poor nutrition or lack of healthy foods impacts all other aspects of our community. The amount of the County's population with lack of access is increasing.
- Our healthcare business deals with people who do not have shelter, no home and no food so this is a little more important than healthy food.
- This is not as high of a priority for me because a couple of those are higher priorities, mainly mental health; it is more urgently critical at this time.
- We do have a lot of access but we have an obesity problem reaching to be a major health issue.
- Nutrition is so essential to lead a quality life and prevent diseases.
- Healthy food is fundamental to life, to healthy living and happiness.
- If people do not get access to healthy food to live off of, I could not see anything else more important. People should not be filled full of junk food.
- This is a medium priority because some of the other issues are bigger and impacts more people as a whole.
- Good transportation helps to get good access to community gardens and grocery stores so transportation is a higher priority.
- I truly believe that when comparing the other issues they can be solved but we need to be healthy to do this.
- This issue may certainly not rise to rate up there with public safety, transportation or mental health but because of the health of our community, we cannot minimize the priority of access to healthy foods.
- Based on our demographics of our County, other topics are a higher priority.
- At the end of the day, certain things have to be done so our society does not suffer. Some things come before healthy foods.
- Given the rising rates of obesity and the data showing it is going to continue to rise, this is an important issue to address.
- If we do not have our health, we have nothing.
- There is no sense in having healthy foods if we are not safe.
- Healthy food helps to be healthy and good health is linked to mental health.
- All of these issues need to be addressed.
- The rate occurrence of obesity in children should be a huge priority for our community.
- I believe that healthy food provides a better nutritional base.
- We have to have healthy food to sustain; without that we would not survive, there would be no need for any of the other issues.

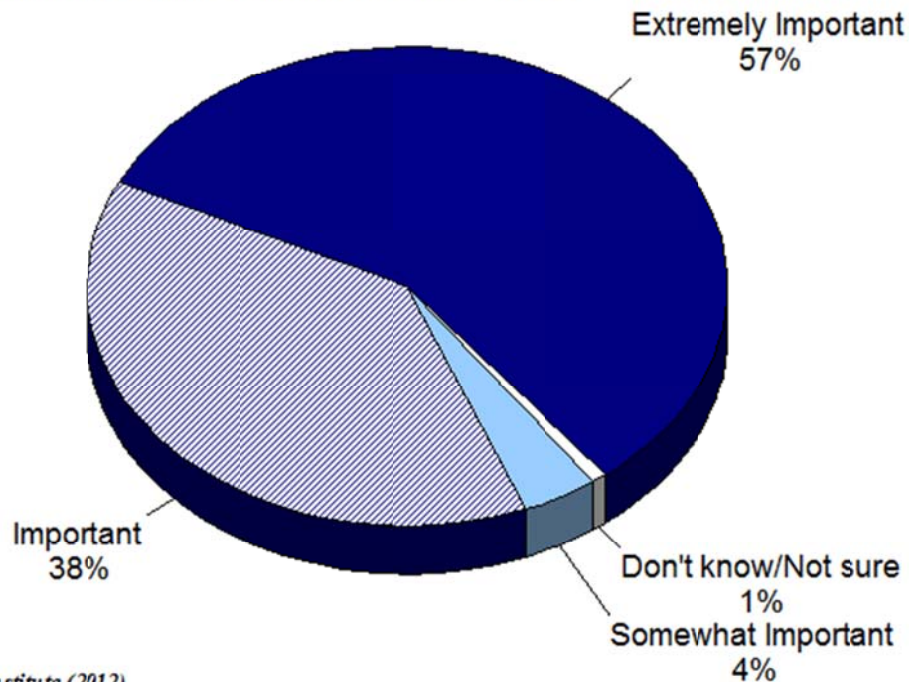
- Eating healthy foods is a major part of our overall health and wellness of the community; it is also a preventative to later problems which affects other issues.
- I think they raise a little more immediate significance than healthy foods.
- There are a lot of organizations that make food available but the other issues are not as easily taken care of.
- If there is not access to healthy foods we would be very undernourished people.
- Most of us take care of ourselves. Public safety and transportation come above healthy foods.
- It is all tied to the problem of obesity and we need to address the epidemic.
- This is important because everything revolves around our health.
- The other issues are so much more pressing.
- People I engage with have multiple problems so healthy food is not as much of a concern.
- Transportation and mental health are higher priorities.
- Individuals need good food to stay healthy. A child needs to develop mentally and physical. If they are hungry they do not learn and they do not focus.
- If we do have healthy food available it is important to the overall community.
- Public service is more important and a high priority in our city.
- We do have good access - we just take too many things for granted.
- There are a lot of very complicated issues in this county.
- I think we do have access but the issue is affordability.
- The escalation of the obesity rate makes this issue a high priority.
- We are in the business of health. The others are just as important and transportation has a lot to do with access to healthy food - could you walk to get to healthy food?
- They do have access in Johnson County - they just have to make the choice.
- It impacts even other aspects of life: 1) our basic needs and 2) as a community to be able to take care of ourselves.
- We know it is part of having a high quality of life.
- There is an obesity epidemic.
- There are other stresses such as medical issues and transportation.
- I believe that access is relatively good in Johnson County it is just not always people's choice. Our concern should be the people who cannot get out of their homes.
- Several other issues are more important.
- I think health is due to the food we eat and we should have access to healthy foods.
- It is a basic necessity for higher function.
- I do think some other issues like transportation and employment are higher priorities and more pressing issues.
- Transportation is a bigger issue.
- We have all the other areas covered as far as safety Johnson County does an excellent job. This is an important issue; students need to be nourished and healthy to learn.
- There are a number of issues that face us that need to be addressed before healthy food.
- It is not a problem.

Importance of the Issue of Access to Healthy Food to the Health of the Individuals or Groups that Stakeholders Serve

As the chart on the following page shows, nearly all (99%) of all of the stakeholders surveyed felt the issue of access to healthy foods to the health of the individuals they directly work with or provide service to on a daily basis was “extremely important” “important” or “somewhat important;” 1% of the stakeholders were not sure. The reasons for their ratings are provided on the following pages:

How important is the issue of access to healthy foods to the health of the individuals that you or your organization directly work with or provide service to on a daily basis?

by percentage of respondents
(excluding stakeholders who indicated they do not work directly with individuals)



Source: ETC Institute (2012)

- Our group mainly serves children and the elderly, both groups that need healthy foods.
- There are a number of communities in our boundaries that are known as being food deserts.
- You want everyone to be able to stay healthy so you try to teach them how.
- We are in the health industry - practice what you preach.
- We have a lot of young families and shortly the number of children continues to grow and the quantity of food needed will be more.
- We are a health-oriented organization trying to control things like heart disease, optimum physical condition for our quality of life.
- People have a lot of issues and maybe problems other than nutrition, like parasites or disease, etc., that outweigh nutritional issue.
- It is extremely important they get started on healthier habits and need to be taught how to do this.
- This directly impacts the diseases that our organization addresses.
- Good nutrition is essential to the health and well-being of the people.
- It is the key to help the recovery of health issues.
- There is a relationship between diet and health, particularly with the increase of obesity which stems into diabetes and arthritis.
- This impacts their overall health and then they end up in our clinics.
- The individuals we work with tend to be the neediest. Good diet is the core of a healthy being.
- Because there are healthy foods available in our community. We are not a community that has a deficit of options.
- Many clients are so undernourished they will not reach full recovery.

- This is a huge part of what we do, we are driven by what we eat - what we put into our mouth.
- If we do not have a healthy diet, our overall health is at risk.
- I know the ramification of healthy eating habits.
- Most people we work with are low income and access affects them a great deal.
- If you do not eat healthy, you do not feel good and you do not think well and you have to be the best you can be to learn well in school.
- In the hospital environment we set the example.
- The kids we serve are growing and they must have healthy foods to develop bones, muscle and the brain.
- I just don't have enough information to know.
- This goes back to being bombarded by so much misinformation with the market hype on unhealthy foods and sodas.
- This is important because access to healthy food is critical, especially with obesity being a huge problem.
- A lot of the sick people we see are sick because of their diet.
- The county has done a wonderful job making wellness programs available.
- We serve the entire county and it is important to all.
- The kids are all in a learning environment here and they need good nutrition and need to feel well to have their minds work well.
- In order to do a good job in school you need to eat healthy foods.
- It is all about the outcome, if a pregnant mom is healthy, the baby will be healthy.
- This all relates back to the necessity of healthy eating for a better quality of life.
- This is important because food is a basic human need.
- We need to educate and help them continue with the healing process so they will not end up back here in the hospital.
- This is important because healthy eating is also my own personal belief.
- It makes a difference to be able to concentrate and focus on what you are learning in school.
- We deal with health. Healthy eating, healthy body.
- It is just one of the many variables that impact health.
- We work with hunger relief and we are acutely aware of the economic statistics and the drive to eat right.
- Children obesity is a huge problem and a lot of issues contribute to that. Access to healthy foods is one of the key components to help the problem.
- I deal a lot with the aged population who think food should be easy to prepare and have easy access to so, therefore, they do not eat healthy, fresh fruits and vegetables.
- It is important that we all have healthy foods available and being in the insurance segment we are concerned about the obesity issue in our society.
- This is important because it is such a bearing on individual health.
- This is important because it is almost easier to get fast food. Healthy eating contributes to a healthy lifestyle.
- It is good for us to know about healthy foods and by eating them it could help our longevity.
- We directly impact our customers that engage in active lifestyles.
- I think you would find most people would say we have access to healthy food.
- We are a healthcare facility so we have to be the first in teaching the right way to eat.
- Healthy food provides nutrients needed to be healthy.
- It is healthier for us.
- In order to be healthy, we have to have healthy foods.
- I do not think we have the food deserts like they have in other parts of the metro.
- We talk to them about food choices.

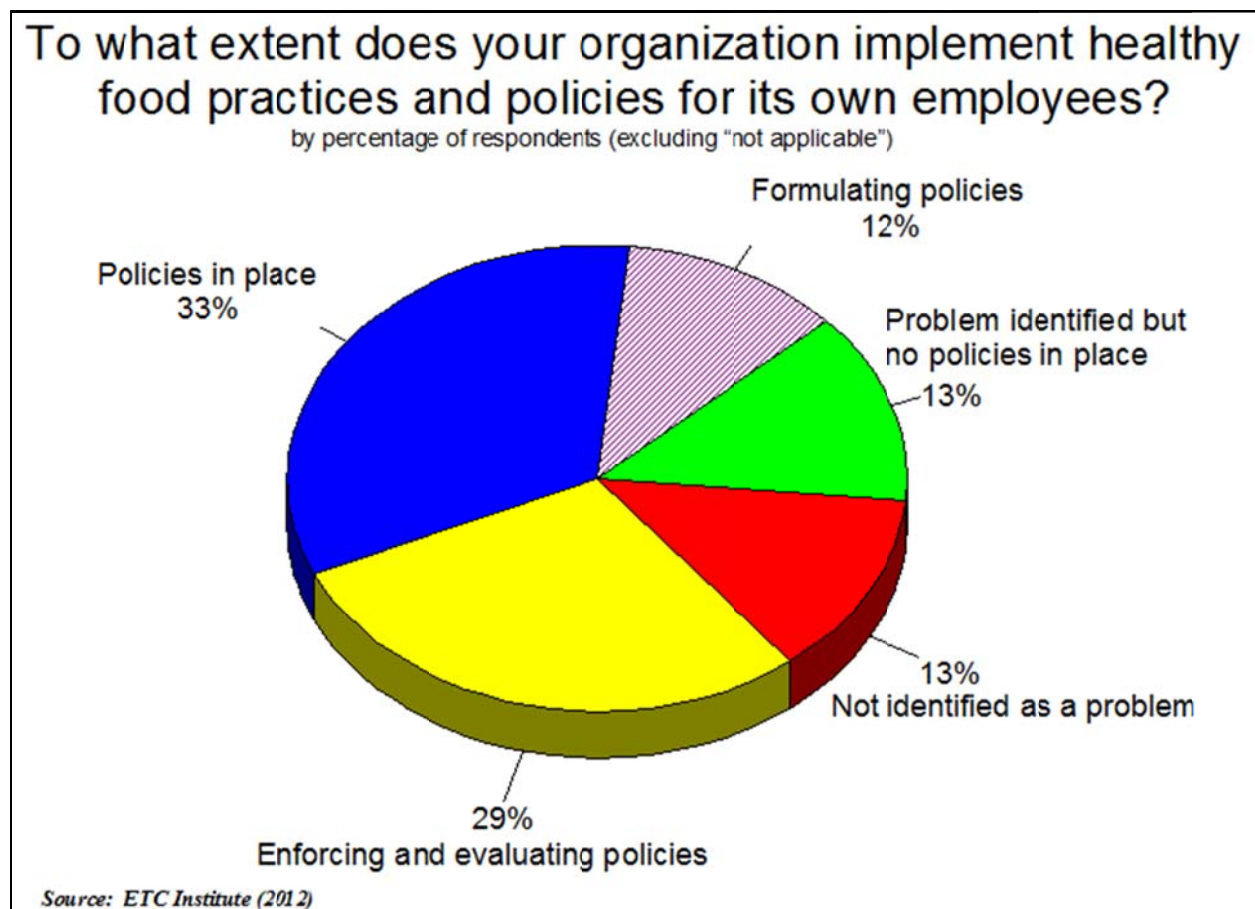
- It is extremely important to everyone everywhere.
- The transportation system needs to try for better service; especially more options for the elderly, low income and disadvantaged who tend to have less access to healthy foods.
- As a health provider, we have to set a good example. We see some patients come through here that the dietician has had to work with to encourage better healthy eating habits.
- It is our business to make sure the students learn and they cannot if they are not adequately fed because then they are not able to concentrate or focus.
- If you are hungry, your mind cannot learn.
- The residents I help are low income and a lot of times there is no transportation; they don't have a car available to just get in and go to the store.
- Our main clientele that we see as patients are directed by our doctors to eat healthy and our employees have a high knowledge about eating healthy.
- Mainly we work with kids and they need to start off right and they will lead a better life if they start off early on healthy foods.
- For one thing we are not in a role to serve - they select us in a role to serve them.
- We spend time trying to speak to clients on how to shop for foods. How to be healthy means many things.
- Access is difficult but people's habits are not always good in their choices of food.
- I mainly do not see a great need in our county - most do have access to healthy foods.
- This is important because it is fundamental to health.
- As a pediatric healthcare clinic, most of the children we see are in immediate need for healthcare assistance
- If kids are not healthy, they are not able to learn.
- Because of the chronic disease risk, we need a huge drive to eat healthy from the start.
- Our population is growing and learning so we need them healthy so they can continue on.
- This is important because healthy food habits affect a person's health, well-being and their quality of life.
- If we can get people to eat healthier and be healthier, less money is spent on healthcare.
- When we can we should emphasize healthy food habits.
- People are struggling these days and health is one of the basics but rent is more likely to be a higher issue - people are more likely to give food than pay your rent.
- I work in a school as a nurse so if they do not eat healthy they get sick and then my job gets harder.
- We primarily serve non-insured, low income people.
- The groups we serve have some basic education but they need to know the value of healthy foods and how to prepare healthy foods.
- Most people we work with are dealing with health conditions and most are recommended a healthy diet which consists of healthy foods.
- Without healthy food access we will not choose the right or best food options.
- I have done a lot of focus groups where our clients talk about when they do not have access to healthy food it affects their mental illness.
- Diet is fundamental to good health and disease prevention.
- The primary issue we address is we encourage them to grow their own food.
- Our organization works directly with dietary and our aim is health; if there is no access to healthy foods, they cannot do what we recommend.
- I work with seniors, the disabled and a lot of families with kids and they all need nutritious food to cope.
- People we deal with tend to already have good health to join our programs but everyone there is at the mercy of what is available at the ball park's concession stands.

- We believe healthy food is the key to staying healthy. The big barrier is in people's bad choices.
- We are in the business of serving kids healthy meals.
- It is good for our general health.
- This is important for the overall health of our community and to maintain a healthy weight.
- They have got to have good nutrition to take our programs and I work with seniors and they need good nutrition.
- A healthy individual is able to reach their potential rather than being limited to chronic diseases.
- For students, studies have been done about healthy students being more alert and learn easier.
- We teach kids and they need to be healthy to learn.
- Within our congregation, our members recognize that a full healthy diet is essential to the quality of life.
- When you think about children you need good healthy food to function.
- We are looking at a population that has chronic problems in one way or another.
- We deal with children's development and they need nourishment to learn.
- We educate kids and if they are hungry they will be more focused on being hungry than learning.
- If some cannot afford healthy food they have to get by with what they have.
- Most of us take care of ourselves.
- We specialize in working in prevention and what we eat is a good factor of that aspect.
- The body cannot work without good food.
- Our area is fairly affluent.
- Most folks we work with are in underserved areas and meet the criteria as being a food desert because the closest grocery stores are one to two miles to walk to.
- So many times people go to fast foods instead of eating healthy foods which affects their physical and mental health.
- Working with children we know they need healthy foods to develop mentally and physically.
- We are in the business of serving healthy foods.
- Everyone needs a good daily diet.
- It is part of a good balanced diet.
- Food and what people eat is important. We do have a problem with access to good food.
- We have a pretty good population of underprivileged families.
- We are an organization that addresses childhood obesity.
- It is all about prevention. If you have access to high nutritious food, you could prevent chronic disease.
- A lot of residents from Johnson County come in to our restaurant to eat looking for fresh foods.
- It affects the stability of healthy life, particularly seniors.
- It is part of the high quality of life.
- We are a healthcare organization treating conditions where obesity could be the problem because they do not have access to healthy foods.
- French fries are cheaper.
- Food is fuel, a basic component of life that impacts all.
- I think they have many needs but not having access to healthy foods is the most critical.
- I have seen the work these organizations have done and in our community they do a super job.
- Everybody needs good nutrition as a basic need.
- The prominence of this issue is rising and access is becoming an issue.

- The people I directly interact with probably are more fortunate than most.
- In my line of work it is all about teaching and learning. Kids need to be adequately fed to learn and focus in school.
- For us to educate a child, the child has to come to school healthy and alert.
- It is common sense that what you put into your body should be good for you.

Healthy Food Practices and Policies in the Workplace

As the chart below shows, seventy-four percent (74%) of the stakeholders surveyed indicated their organization either had food policies in place or were formulating food policies for their employees; 13% of stakeholders reported their organization had identified the problem but there were no policies in place and 13% reported their organization had not identified this as a problem in their organization.

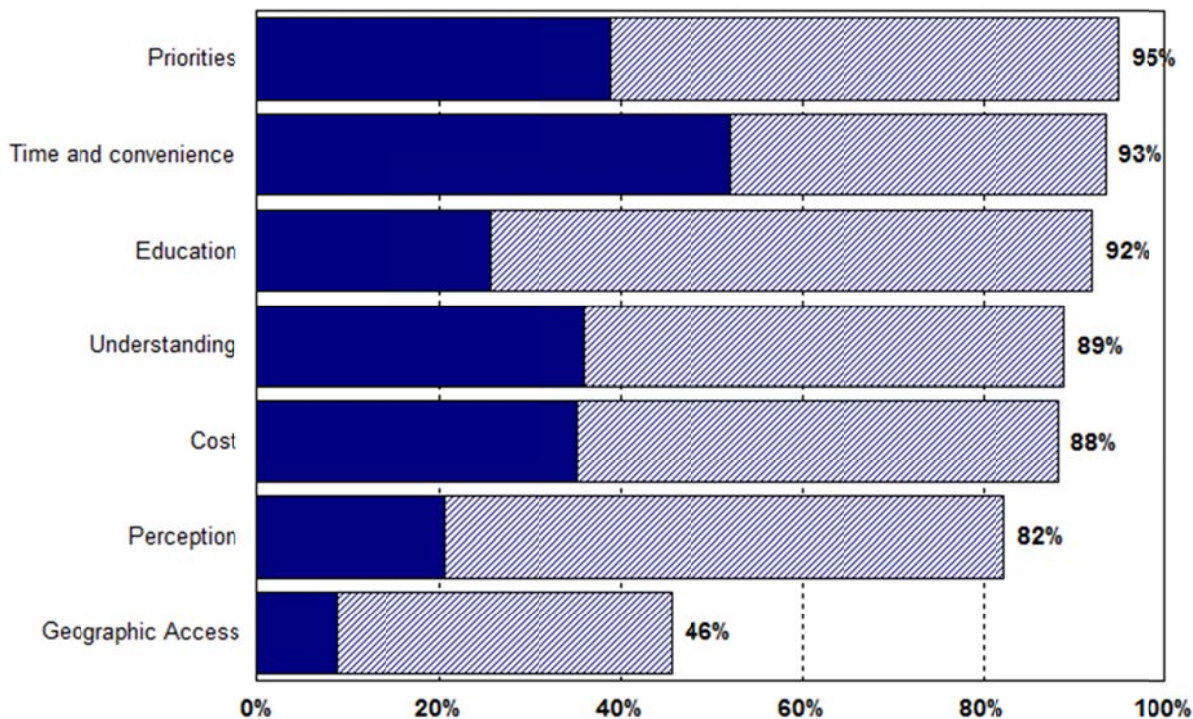


Factors Negatively Impacting the Access of Healthy Foods

As the chart on the following pages shows, the items that stakeholders felt were most negatively impacting the access of healthy foods in Johnson County, based upon the combined percentage of stakeholders who felt the item was a "major factor" or "somewhat of a factor," were: priorities (95%), time and convenience (93%) and education (92%).

Items Stakeholders Felt Were Negatively Impacting the Access of Healthy Foods in Johnson County

by percentage of respondents who rated the item as a "major factor" or "somewhat of a factor"



Source: ETC Institute (2012)

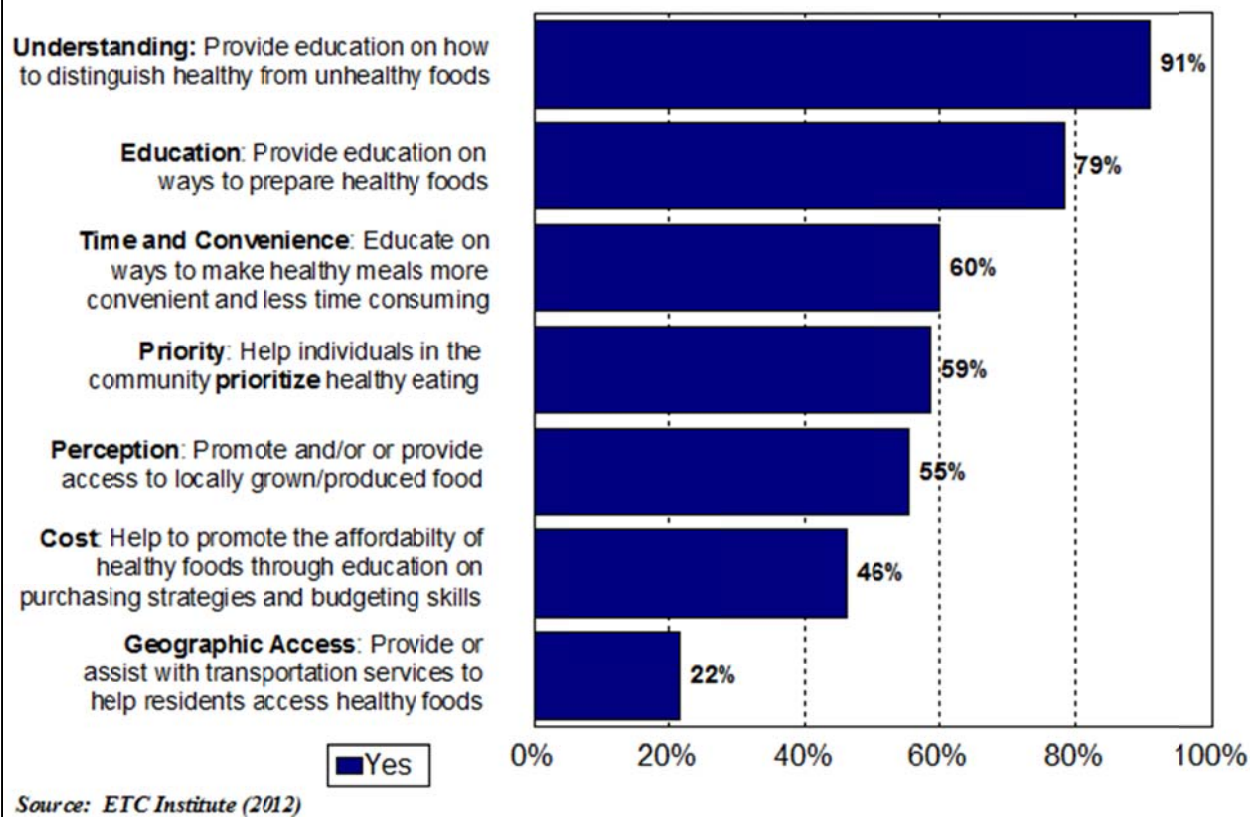
When asked to indicate which of the seven items listed on the survey were the top factors negatively impacting the access to healthy foods, the top three items selected by stakeholders were: 1) time/convenience, 2) cost and 3) priorities.

Activities Currently Being Done to Promote the Accessibility of Healthy Foods

Sixty-five (65) of the 136 stakeholders interviewed indicated they currently work in or for an organization that promotes or provides access to food to individuals of Johnson County. These stakeholders were asked additional questions about the types of activities their organization does to promote access to healthy foods in the community. As the chart on the following page shows, the types of activities that the largest percentage of stakeholders reported their organization does to promote the accessibility of healthy foods in Johnson County were: providing education on how to distinguish healthy from unhealthy food (91%) and providing education on ways to prepare healthy foods (79%). Stakeholders were then asked to specify the ways that their organization promotes each of the seven types of activities addressed on the survey; the specific comments made by stakeholders are listed on the following pages and are organized by type.

Does your organization:

by percentage of respondents who said "yes"



Education. The specific ways that stakeholders indicated their organization is providing education on ways to prepare healthy food are provided below:

- Handouts we provide working with Sodexo.
- We have a wellness committee preparing things along this line but not implemented yet.
- Educate through our promotional services designed to give people a choice of different healthy foods and ways to cook them.
- Through our series of cookbooks, our web information and handouts we provide.
- Wellness classes, informing what to eat, how to prepare it and informing about ways of accessing healthy food.
- Classes, pamphlets, menus, recipes.
- By the use of consultants and dietitians.
- Through the wellness coordinator to their staff.
- We run an extension service.
- We educate through the teaching in the classroom and the PTA.
- We have classes and on-site explanations on how to prepare healthy foods.
- We provide numerous courses for children and adults.
- Through cooking classes and a variety of well-ness classes; we also have demonstrations in our cafeteria showing how to cook fresh foods.
- We partner with Harvesters and provide classes on how to prepare fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Have a program called Phit Kids where children and their families prepare a meal and have the meal together. The day before they all go to shop at Harvesters for the food for the meal and each family is given a bag of food to take home.

- We have classes in it.
- Through lunch and learn demonstrations and cooking classes.
- We have a farmers market, a magazine, menus and recipes to give out.
- Through different community support events such as Women in Training and others.
- We have classes.
- Classes and employee wellness programs.
- Classes and we teach about healthy snacks.
- Nutrition assessments, counseling and recipes.
- We highlight healthy dishes in our cafeteria and provide recipes for these dishes. Each month we have a theme for example one month it was for women's heart healthy and all the dishes were heart healthy recipes.
- We refer people to other agencies.
- Education of children.
- We provide classes and information to community groups.
- Classes.
- We educate through our website and through the food pantries.
- Classes, pamphlets, monthly newsletters, recipes and we have a garden.
- We actually have a healthy education division involving local food pantries and an entire WIC division. We also have a diabetic food class.
- We offer to the public classes on nutritional care and also individual counseling with a physician and all patients receive these also.
- The extension office does classes and the food pantries recommend healthy food.
- We do workshops, distribute handouts and we have a chef train with individual community groups.
- We partner with Harvesters and we have an after school program cooking with the students.
- Through our health department.
- Education through the WIC program and the same forms of educating to the general public.
- We work with Harvesters with a program called Project Strength that teaches how to stretch your dollar at the grocery and how to buy healthy foods and stretch your dollar.
- Students come into the kitchen and do labs and also classes. We also have scholarships for cooking.
- With our middle school students we provide nutrition counseling and we have Nutrition Nuggets on our website.
- We provide pamphlets in both English and Spanish and we package food to go to local food pantries consisting of rice, vitamins and soy.
- We educate through pamphlets and brochures.
- We educate through classes.
- Chefs train our service employees.
- Through home health agencies case management and support programs.
- Wellness committee provides this education.
- We have a Well Life program at work.
- We offer health and food/nutrition classes.
- Our dietician does classes, our executive chef does some food demos and the cafeteria brings in local foods.
- We offer this education on a limited basis, through classes in middle school, high school and the FACS program.
- Educate through the health department.

Cost. The specific ways that stakeholders indicated their organization is promoting the affordability of healthy foods through education on purchasing or budgeting skills are listed below:

- We have purchasing and budgeting information in our social services department.
- With budgeting we connect them with organizations to help.
- We creating recipes and menus using store produce and products that are healthy and affordable.
- Our organization does this at the high school level and through school social workers.
- We offer programs that promote this.
- Education through our classes.
- Through our numerous courses for children and adults.
- Chef brings in produce and sells it. Our chef brings in locally grown fresh produce and sells it to anyone who wants to buy it and supplies recipes if wanted.
- Classes.
- Through our magazine, menus and recipes.
- Diabetes education and nutrition classes.
- Classes and employee wellness programs and nutrition education offered to employees.
- Provide individuals with classes and self-studies in the office.
- Our middle school curriculum.
- We have a teen mom's group to educate them and through the WIC program.
- Our website and the food pantries.
- Our WIC division has grants partnering in taking clients to a grocery and teaching them on-site.
- Through a human services program they help lower income people manage their buying and through the extension office.
- Promote healthy foods on the concession menus. The staff price shops the snacks before the after school programs.
- Classes.
- Through one-on-ones and some group sessions through the WIC program.
- Through the Project Strength program teaching how to buy healthy and stretch your dollar and we offer classes.
- Classes we have.
- Through home economics course.
- Classes.
- Case managers talk about budgeting.
- Consumer classes.
- One-on-one counseling.
- Limited basis through the culinary arts program and food classes.
- Brochures.

Geographic Access. The specific ways that stakeholders indicated their organization is providing or assisting residents with transportation services to access healthy foods are listed below and on the following page:

- We work with the Social Service Transport.
- Our organization arranges for rides to the food pantry or the market.
- We provide transportation for students during the summer with access to meals through the backpack program, where over the weekend we provide the families with food.
- We bring groups together that work on regional transportation.
- Provide transportation for the homeless or displaced. We also participate in the Backsnack project that provides food for families on the weekends and evenings.

- The bus service.
- We have a community sponsored farmers market here for our students where the fresh foods are brought in.
- We subsidize public transportation.
- The transportation department's Catch-a-Ride program.
- Through our transit department.
- If a client needs help to get to and from a grocery store, we will give them money or try to assist with getting a vehicle for someone without a car.
- Our organization has the summer food program.
- Offer the Catch a Ride through human services.
- We provide transit for the elderly and disabled.

Understanding. The specific ways that stakeholders reported their organization is providing education on how to distinguish healthy from unhealthy foods are listed below:

- People are given nutritional facts through our handouts/pamphlets and our menu.
- In our child care program, we teach nutrition and we are putting up calorie boards in concession areas.
- Our promotion kit tells people what healthy foods is, includes "did you know" aspects of how much sugar some foods have and how much sugar.
- In our handouts and information in our website.
- In the classroom as part of the health curriculum.
- By recipes and menus; also every Saturday in the summer through the CSA program we have an in-house farmers market.
- Brochures and local head start programs.
- Teaching students in class about choices, healthy food and they learn about the food pyramid.
- We support the "Just for You" program through Aramark.
- Teach this in classes K-12.
- We have different nutrition classes with the different grade levels.
- Classroom teaching.
- We have scheduled walk-throughs where we take people through the grocery store and show them how to read labels to understand what foods are nutritious and what foods are not.
- Through our numerous courses for children and adults.
- Through classes.
- By working with Harvesters.
- Through our weight management programs and we coordinate and partner with the Weighing In Program.
- Classes.
- Lunch and learn demonstrations and education materials, such as handouts and fliers.
- Our dietician teaches classes.
- Community outreach seminars.
- Classes and patient education.
- Nutrition education curriculum and employee wellness program.
- In the cafeteria we talk to the kids about the importance of healthy foods.
- Self-studies and nutrition assessment and counseling.
- Through our health and wellness person we combine both nutrition and health fitness. Our insurance also involves a health assessment.
- We provide some materials to parents and we refer them to other agencies.
- Children education.
- We provide information through resources classes and our clinics.

- Classes as part of our curriculum.
- Through community communication one way or another.
- Health class.
- Pamphlets, posters and patient handout information.
- We do this one-on-one with the patients and we have a group diabetes class.
- We have occasional articles for the general public and a magazine called Current Care; we also write articles for a newsletter for employers in the area.
- Health Department training.
- At the after school program.
- In schools when they have a school garden.
- Our dietician works with students in the classroom.
- Through training at the health department.
- Through the WIC program.
- Classes.
- Nutrition education.
- Classroom education.
- We have a summer camp program where the kids go shopping with a nutritionist and are shown how to shop for and prepare healthy foods.
- Health courses.
- Classes.
- Workshops on gardening informing why growing their own food is a better choice; also one-on-one counseling.
- We talk about the sources of our food to our customers.
- In our training program.
- Nutrition programs do this.
- Presentations provided to employees.
- Well Life at work.
- Health class and nutrition classes.
- Our cafeteria has a stop light salad bar and does nutrition labeling.
- Classes.
- We have programs at school lunches where we talk about what is healthy and what is not.
- Newsletters.

Time and Convenience. The specific ways that stakeholders indicated their organization is helping to educate residents on how to prepare healthy meals or make healthy meals more convenient and less time consuming are listed below:

- We give them recipes and tips through handouts.
- Offer recipes and how to cook the food in the recipes.
- Available through the wellness program to the staff and health classes to the students.
- Through the recipes and menus we educating residents on how to use convenient food and how much time to prepare them.
- Diabetes training and brochures.
- Patients are encouraged to use our menus as guidelines for portion size.
- Cooking classes in high school.
- The health department's extension office.
- We have a health fair that covers this.
- Through our classroom group topics.
- Through our numerous courses for children and adults.
- Through classes.
- We work with Harvesters.

- Phit Kids and our website.
- Classes.
- Lunch and learn presentations on affordable methods to prepare foods; they also learn this firsthand in our cafeteria.
- It is what we do.
- Classes.
- Student classes and employee wellness.
- Nutrition assessment, educational counseling and self-studies.
- Middle and high school curriculum.
- We share materials at classes and partner with organizations have programs like the extension office.
- Our entire education process.
- Cooking classes.
- Specifically in our WIC division.
- In group classes.
- We offer classes to the public and offer counseling.
- Extension agency has classes all the time.
- The after school cooking program.
- Training at the health department.
- Classroom education.
- Through the summer camp program where kids are shown how to prepare healthy foods.
- Home economics course.
- Facts classes.
- Case managers do that with the caregivers and a weekly education program, handouts every month.
- Wellness committee.
- Well Life at work.
- Nutrition class and family economics class.
- Newsletters, courses, education outreach.

Priority. The specific ways that stakeholders indicated their organization helps individuals in the community prioritize healthy eating are listed below:

- We are affecting our population through our hospital.
- Through our wellness team.
- Part of the ongoing education provided to our clients.
- Through the pamphlets/brochures they are provided with and the classes made available.
- We help with this on a regional basis to get healthy foods in vending machines.
- The knowledge of the nurses and dietitians promote with the patients and patients' families.
- Through educating the students.
- Our lunch menus have changed.
- This comes with our education on how to make healthy meals.
- Through our numerous courses for children and adults.
- Classes through wellness and nutrition department, weight management and grocery store tours open to the public.
- We work with Harvesters.
- Through education and methods of preparing healthy food.
- Classes and patient education.

- Nutrition wellness and the lunches and breakfasts model healthy foods.
- We pass out information to families about what they need to make available for healthy eating.
- Through our nutrition education we try to influence healthy eating.
- We do this with our employees because it is based on our insurance; our insurance and premium is tied to it.
- Education.
- We try to. We work with community groups and have newspaper articles.
- Through various education programs.
- We talk to them about their expenses and give them information on this.
- Through education, health fairs and healthy food campaigns.
- In group education classes and with one-on-ones.
- Through offering counseling and classes.
- Health Department programs and Human Services training.
- On our website.
- Through training at the health department.
- We have had and continue to have various education efforts.
- Our organization does this through the new changes - Health Hunger Free Kids Act. We have also have a flyer we publish.
- Facts classes.
- By telling them they need to take the food out of their own garden and eat it.
- We stress the importance of healthy eating.
- Presentations - we do a concerted effort through the County Health Department to communicate to the public.
- Well Life at work.
- Health class and nutrition class.
- Through one-on-one counseling; we also address this by having them meet with the dietician.
- Through the media.

Perception. The specific ways that stakeholders indicated their organization promotes and/or provides access to locally grown/produced food are provided below:

- Through CSA, Community Supported Agriculture, and supporting local growers - this goes along with our handouts.
- At our health fairs we have had farmers markets and organically prepared foods for own students.
- We are very supportive of agriculture working with Hy-Vee giving them money and they sack the groceries and take to their parking lot and the people come and pick up the food.
- Handouts, education efforts and legislation efforts.
- The CSA program.
- We have a community garden.
- Education and the back snack program which the farmers market is part of.
- We purchase locally for the whole Shawnee Mission School District.
- We promote it because we use it ourselves and it is a natural promotion to use community-based foods.
- Through the distribution network.
- Our chef purchases locally grown fresh produce and sells it through our cafeteria to anyone who wants to buy it; we also sponsor the Overland Park Farmers Market every year.
- We get produce from the field and get the produce to food pantries using volunteers to

help pick up and gather the produce.

- We have our own farm.
- We have on-site farmer's market events and we collaborate with other community vendors.
- Through CSA; we also purchase from local farmers and work with the Good Food Good Futures.
- Our cafeteria buys local, fresh food.
- We promote locally grown food.
- We promote locally grown food and refer people to other agencies.
- We participate with a media campaign and try to spread the word about farmer's markets and etc.
- We do this through school gardens.
- We have local fresh food donated to us and we have a garden.
- The meals served in the school cafeteria are locally grown and produced.
- We have had farmers markets in our cafeteria one or two days per year.
- Provide meals and transportation to grocery stores.
- We receive donated food to pass out.
- We buy some locally grown foods through the food service we use.
- We have several farmers markets.
- We purchase through local sources through our vendor.
- Normally through flyer and pamphlets.
- We sponsor classes and we advertise that there are farmers markets on our property which are open to the public.
- We work with the families trying to advise them that growing food in their own yard is the way to go and they can sell some of the food or share with their neighbors.
- By disclosing all the farmers we get our food from and where they can go to buy produce and meats.
- We bring all of our food from local farmers.
- Public education activities.
- We buy through Nature Family Farms and we sell local products; we also buy local cheeses.
- We have a partnership with Whole Foods usually during the holiday season.

Preventing Chronic Disease. Stakeholders were also asked to indicate if their organization encourages healthy eating as a way of preventing chronic disease. As the chart below shows, eighty-five percent (85%) of the stakeholders surveyed reported that their organization does encourage healthy eating as a way of preventing chronic disease; 12% reported their organization does not and 3% did not provide a response. The specific ways that stakeholders indicated their organization encourage healthy eating as a means of preventing chronic disease are listed below:

- We educate residents through our handouts.
- We provide education in our child care programs.
- Students are taught in the clinics that when they identify rashes they mention lifestyle changes to help their condition and the faculty try to live out their lives healthily as role models.
- We promote a health initiative and drinking water, eating oranges, apples, etc., and we use locally grown items.
- Being the Heart Association, we do that in everything we do, through volunteer work, the website educates, and the research we do.
- This is part of our wellness teaching.
- The hospital highlights that healthy eating habits will help their overall health.

- We get grants to do that - organize and provide training.
- This education occurs through nurses and dietitian's interaction with patients.
- We provide this education through health classes in the 7th and 8th grades.
- Health development programs.
- The health fair addresses how good nutrition helps the brain as well as the body.
- We offer fresh fruits and vegetables.
- This is a focus with our pregnant mothers to avoid disease later.
- Through the courses we provide for children and adults.
- Classes available to all.
- By working with Harvesters.
- Through our education programs on weight management.
- Classes.
- By our lunch and learn and on-site information such as fliers.
- We have classes on education on diabetes, congestive heart failure and obesity.
- Through inpatient and outpatient dietician programs and policies.
- Through community classes and patient education.
- Through the employee wellness program.
- Individual counseling and self-study.
- We have health and wellness programs and seminars we invite the public to - all day classes on things to do which point out proper nutrition.
- We converse with parents and provide material and have conversations with parents; we also provide materials and refer to resources. Children 0-4 years old we have the "healthy steps" program.
- Children education.
- We have different projects dealing with schools, such as the better snacks policy.
- Through our curriculum and we promote healthy eating in our own cafeteria.
- Through our wellness programs.
- Health class and the new healthier meals served at our school.
- Through patient information, one-on-one counseling and handouts.
- Through group classes and individual one-on-one sessions with the patients.
- Through a combination of current care, articles and counseling.
- Wellness program.
- In our high school classes we have food models and displays to teach them.
- Through our employee health and wellness program.
- Through educational efforts, probably more in a way of handouts.
- We do this, especially for our staff; nutrition was the focus in our last staff meeting.
- We do this through our menus.
- Classroom education.
- Health and wellness courses and activities.
- We have a health and wellness committee, we teach the students in class and have information on our website.
- We serve healthy foods, especially to those with health problems.
- Through our educational activities and the services we provide.
- Public education activities.
- We educate our staff internally from the dietician department and the Well Life at work.
- Have information in our cafeteria, such as more healthy lifestyle eating; we also have health and nutrition classes.
- We are doing more and more in the cafeteria - we have grab and go salads. We also hand out recipes.
- We are a school based health clinic, so healthy eating and preventing information is handled individually through one-on-one sessions with the doctor.
- Through science classes and foods classes.

- Through education programs.
- We have community outreach about these issues, such as through our community newsletters.

Other. Stakeholders were also asked to list any additional activities that their organization does to promote access to healthy foods; the other items mentioned by stakeholders are provided below:

- We participate in the Harvesters summer lunch program.
- We serve a lot of nutritional foods in our cafeteria and working on replacing our vending machines so we can supply our own types of healthy foods.
- We are involved in a variety of coalitions and through them we try to get the message out and legislative efforts.
- We offer healthy fresh snacks, such as fresh fruit and infused water which is weak tea to make sure they get enough water; this is all part of our prenatal care services.
- Provide Farmer's Market packages with bundles of locally grown fresh fruit and vegetables to the needy.
- We set up a farmers market once a week for the students.
- We have a wellness program and salad bar with stop-it procedure.
- We have materials available with healthy eating points. We also have healthy fundraising - not selling food/candy, cookies, etc.
- Have a salad bar available to kids whether they can pay for it or not. The salad bar food is donated by one of the families.
- We provide printed visit summaries depending on the child's needs.
- The new criteria for the school lunches serving more whole grain foods, fresh fruits and vegetables.
- We try to get donors to get healthy food items.
- Our main mission is to make gardening more affordable so we cut down on the cost of materials and lower the cost of seeds.
- We work with Meals on Wheels and we partner with human services and aging.
- We do summer programs with a grant for the backpack program providing free meals people can come get and during the school year we work with Harvesters.
- We donate items to the Spring Hill Multi Service Center to be given to families in need.
- We package the rice and soy meals and distribute them through the Mission Southside program.
- Our nurses work with local food banks.
- We send in homemakers to go in and prepare meals and fix healthy foods. Not sure if this really works because they still have choices and they do not always eat the healthier foods.
- We provide students with the Back Pack Program and the Sack Snack program through Harvesters.
- With the new school lunch program we focus on healthy eating more now.

Opportunities to Improve Access to Healthy Foods in the County

Stakeholders were asked to indicate what they felt the opportunities were to improve access to healthy foods in Johnson County. The specific comments made by stakeholders are listed below:

- Probably finding a way to have fresh produce and less expensive.
- Have healthy fast food options.
- By making educational material available to the public on how to eat better. Sadly, the way we grew up we could eat anything.

- You need to look at the population in Johnson County and find out who needs the most support; identify those communities to help.
- Look online - or as I say - Google it.
- Educate them on where to find the farmers markets and the healthy food areas available to them.
- Education is number one and then cost.
- The cost I see is a problem. Costs more to eat healthy. Need more healthy prepared food places to pick up food conveniently. Lack of education to the public where they can access healthy food and where they can access healthy food conveniently and that is affordable if possible.
- The Johnson County sprawl creates a huge problem, not sure how to fix that.
- Getting restaurants to participate in healthy preparation and education.
- Counter marketing the aggressive marketing that motivates the public to have unhealthy eating habits.
- Get out a lot of information. Need commercials and more things labeled to let us know what the calorie and nutrition count is and to inform the public what the normal calorie intake is.
- There is a lot of awareness - this is a good time to capitalize on it and help with the economic healing for farmers.
- Educate the value of Farmers Market - where the fresh food is more affordable than the grocery store. Also initiate fast food to provide list of the food calories and nutrient amounts.
- We need more volunteers to work with local farmers and growers.
- People need to have education on what is out there, what is available and why it is important to know what to choose.
- Educate the public.
- There is definitely room for improvement through more resources and through more community outreach programs.
- At sports events have more healthy options and maybe gluten free options; also need more nutrient information available on prepared foods too.
- County needs more programs teaching more about what is healthy and where to find it.
- Need to have other activities instead of treats for celebrations. Need to work at having strategically placed full service grocery stores everyone can get to.
- Showing the community how to grow a garden and by having more community gardens.
- I do not think there is a shortage of access to healthy foods except there might be a couple of areas where they do not have bus transportation.
- I suspect there are opportunities to develop school-based programs for children. We have a large number of immigrants and parents with low income and limited education.
- Improve the affordability of healthy foods.
- The County needs to try to go out and engage with some of the churches and try to get with families to help educate them.
- I think we are doing a good job but we need more community based teaching opportunities on how to prepare healthy food at a low cost or no cost.
- Basically we need more public education.
- We can refer to different agencies but I think we are pretty limited if we do not have more transportation to get them there.
- Getting the word out there by advertising, through means such as billboards. Even McDonald's has a calorie list which might make people think about what to eat.
- We should collaborate with local food pantries. School lunches are a huge opportunity. We also need more overall education and promotion to locations in our area.
- There are lots of opportunities with farmers markets but need to find ways to have peers connect people to local foods.

- Need to continue working on the school lunch programs and The Meals-on Wheels program which provides balanced meals.
- Educate the community and spread the message that there are options available where they can access affordable, good, healthy foods.
- We need more community gardens in our area.
- Try to control the cost so healthy foods could be a more reasonable for people.
- Educating the public is a big factor.
- Continue to work with schools and continue to work on own County, especially in worksites getting healthy items in the vending machines and cafeterias.
- Education.
- Need good publicity about the Health Act.
- Educate the public more on what is considered a healthy choice and get things like this out to the media.
- There needs to be better access to local growers and affordable producers. We also need better information for the families who receive the school meals; all of this needs to be done bilingually.
- We need more farmers markets around. The cost of some healthy food items could be less expensive.
- We need a County awareness program.
- Advertisement is key!
- Corner Store Initiative could have produce or healthy food convenient for residents.
- We need more education and programs in the schools.
- Education.
- We are a wealthy County with an abundance of resources to help but some are not always willing to help. We have a network in place but not always the fundamentals.
- Through continuing the focus on public education.
- Education is key. We need to provide some kind of quick and easy recipes maybe on the health department's website.
- Schools are a big opportunity to start the education on healthy eating from the start. Articles in newspapers would also be helpful.
- Get into the schools and introduce new healthy foods to the students and get them used to these foods while their taste buds are young.
- A lot of the groups we serve are very into eating healthy and another percentage of the population is into fast food or food with a lot of preservatives. We have a real mix of people. We need a lot of effort to cut down on obesity.
- I think it is good already.

Barriers to Accessing Healthy Foods in Johnson County

Stakeholders were also asked to indicate what they felt were the barriers to accessing healthy food in Johnson County. The specific comments made by stakeholders are listed below:

- Lack of awareness: not everybody knows the sources that are available to them for help accessing healthier food.
- The convenience of it. We need to have options for more prepared healthy foods.
- The cost and geographic challenges, transportation.
- Convenience is one. Easy to get to unhealthy choices like McDonald's. More drive-thrus than Subways; or it would be nice if you could go through a grocery store drive-thru for a salad.
- The financial impacts and transportation.
- Distribution.
- Cost and education.
- Convenience.

- Money and cost.
- Education or lack of and the cost of healthy food.
- Education - educate the public to not be swayed to unhealthy foods by through the marketing they see.
- Culturally we buy all the packaged prepared food because it is convenient and fast.
- People need to embrace the fact they need to eat healthy. It is a personal choice. They have to want to do it or things will not change.
- Culture - too fast paced life styles.
- Cost and knowledge, not knowing what to do with fresh food and people need to develop a taste for fresh food.
- A barrier is getting the produce from the local farmers to the farmers markets. The farmers markets should stay open more months during the year or what about having indoor farmers markets?
- Education, access and affordability.
- Primarily priority - people do not place any kind of priority on healthy foods.
- Convenience.
- Education and pricing.
- Cost.
- Getting farm items to the table – there is a disconnect here. We need some type of hub for this.
- Education, cost and the misinterpretation that healthy food is hard to cook.
- Cost, education and transportation.
- Lack of a personal plan and understanding you could take healthy food with you instead of stopping for food.
- Transportation and then think some people do not value it as much as they should - they just do not think it is important.
- It might be that there is a lack of access to the healthy foods but really I do not think it is this; people are not motivated.
- Cost, time and education.
- Affordability.
- Financial and physical problems, transportation and the perception that it takes too much time to prepare healthy foods or meals.
- Cost, access and lack of knowledge.
- People's lack of initiative.
- Cost and transportation.
- Cost is a lot more prohibitive for healthy foods.
- Cost. I do not think availability is a problem; I feel it is the overall lack of education and transportation to access healthy foods.
- Cost - we do have grocery stores, we do not really have food deserts but the cost is an issue.
- Go back to the reasons in this survey: education, cost, geographic access, understanding, time and convenience, priorities, perception, denial, excuses and lack of desire to eat healthy.
- Time and convenience.
- Affordability and accessibility.
- Time, convenience, money and understanding on how to prepare healthy foods.
- Education, understanding and priorities.
- Cost and the access issue to individuals who do not have transportation.
- Cost.
- Cost.
- Access is the issue; where we are in the region dictates what we choose.
- Time.

- Lack of knowledge.
- Personal perception and priorities.
- Time, convenience, the mindset that healthy foods cost more and the perception that healthy foods do not taste good.
- A major barrier is the California immigration labor that small farms cannot compete with.
- Knowledge and education.
- Transportation and fixed income people.
- Transportation and access for people less physically able to get their own food.
- Education, access and transportation.
- Education is a barrier; there are a lot of Hispanic and Spanish speaking people who do not understand this and of course the cost is an issue.
- The way the grocery stores are laid out is an issue.
- Language, transportation and income.
- The availability of it and whether there is enough of it.
- Generally time is an issue; it is easier to stop for food than prepare a healthy meal but it is all in the perception that it is harder and takes longer.
- It is a free choice - you cannot make people eat healthy.

Stakeholders were then asked to identify any type of data they wish they had or research that would help the County to address barriers to the accessibility of healthy food. The specific comments made by stakeholders are listed below:

- Information on organic and farmers markets that are available throughout the year, not just in the summer; preparation information and recipes would be helpful.
- Thinking about the Hispanic population, it would be helpful if some of the healthy food available was more ethnic.
- If somehow groceries could have readily available quick meals that are healthy.
- Understand the community in Johnson County. What access do they have as far as grocery stores with healthy food options and open markets? Information to the public would be helpful.
- Create lists of places people can go to and who to contact.
- The whole issue with obesity on the rise. One out of three children will be obese and many will be diabetic or be pre-diabetic.
- Send me information!
- All the statistics from Johnson County would be helpful. We already work with MARC and others but any information would be helpful for our organization.
- More information about transportation, how people can get around when they do not have a car accessible.
- Additional resources for families.
- We need food insecurity information; from the census we think we know where the problem areas are, such as where the people are who need help, but we need to know more detail about where the problems actually are.
- Results to this survey would be nice.
- I would like to know where there are needy areas in Johnson County. We are more familiar with Wyandotte and Missouri.
- Statistics on the county as whole and a breakdown of what areas need help.
- Discussion needs to continue on this subject.
- I would be interested to know what the barriers are for the Spanish speaking population in Johnson County.
- Information on who needs help and where the minorities are or where there are communities who have no access to fresh foods.

- I would like the answers to the questions of what percentage have difficulty getting access to the quantity of food and healthy food.
- I would like to know how many people eat breakfast, especially among school age children.

Other Comments

At the end of the survey, stakeholders were given the opportunity to leave any additional comments; these comments are listed below:

- I have a sense of confusion on how the government makes social services work.
- Take into consideration I am new to the district and might not be fairly giving a thorough picture of the issues.
- The schools are doing better but we need to move to all ISD's, not just Shawnee Mission.
- We need make a comprehensive list of resources available to the public.
- There are nine schools in our district and only four of the nine schools have food pantries and/or the back snack program.
- There are a lot more people struggling financially in Johnson County than people are aware of.

CONCLUSIONS

- **The Majority of Stakeholders Felt Access to Healthy Foods in Johnson County was Important.** Ninety-eight percent (98%) of the stakeholders surveyed felt access to healthy foods was “extremely important” “important” or “somewhat important” to the health of residents of Johnson County. When asked to specify why they felt the accessibility of food was important, there seemed to be an overwhelming consensus among stakeholders that a high quality diet would results in healthier, happier, more productive citizens.
- **Most Stakeholders Felt Access to Healthy Foods Should Be a Priority for in Johnson County.** When asked how they would prioritize the issue of access to healthy foods compared to other issues facing the Johnson County community, eighty-eight percent (88%) of stakeholders felt access to healthy foods should be a “high priority” (40%) or “medium priority” (48%). Even though many stakeholders felt items such as public safety and transportation were high priorities, there were several stakeholders that felt improving access to healthy foods could positively impact some of the other problems facing the County.
- **The Most Frequently Mentioned Way That Stakeholders Reported Their Organization Helps Promote the Accessibility of Healthy Foods In Johnson County Was Through Education.** The types of activities that the largest percentage of stakeholders reported their organization does to promote the accessibility of healthy foods in Johnson County most often were: providing *education* on how to distinguish healthy from unhealthy food (91%) and providing *education* on ways to prepare healthy foods (79%).

- **Top Factors Negatively Impacting the Access to Healthy Foods.** When asked to indicate which of the seven items listed on the survey they felt were the top factors negatively impacting the access to healthy foods, the top three items selected by stakeholders were: 1) Time/convenience: education on how to prepare healthy meals or make healthy meals more convenient and less time consuming, 2) Cost: education on purchasing strategies and budgeting skills and 3) Priorities: the priority placed on eating healthy.
- **Education/Information Was Identified As An Opportunity to Improve Access to Healthy Foods in Johnson County.** Stakeholders were asked if they felt there were any potential opportunities that existed to help improve the accessibility of healthy foods in Johnson County. The most frequently mentioned opportunity mentioned by stakeholders was a need for more education and information for Johnson County residents. Stakeholders were also asked to identify any types of data or research that would help the County address barriers to accessing healthy food; the results again showed that most stakeholders felt there was a need for more information.