• Overview and goals of Full Lives grant program model

• Full Lives capacity building structure and approach

• Early successes, challenges and learning lessons from Full Lives grant program model

• Q & A

Presentation Overview
Full Lives Grant Program Vision

A healthy, equitable and sustainable community food system in North Minneapolis where all residents can thrive.
Full Lives Grant Program

- Long term community driven solutions to addressing food insecurity
- North Minneapolis geographic focus
- $1.5 Million in grants
- Grantee cohort: 14 projects, 11 different organizations
- Two-year program (March 2017-March 2019)
- 6 Core Objectives
Community Based Grants

Special Innovation and Partnership Grants

Organizational capacity building development grants

Training and technical assistance

Semi-annual grantee meetings

Measurement and evaluation assistance

Grant Programming & Capacity Building

Grant Program Evaluation
PROGRAM INVESTMENTS

- Provide funding to organizations impacting community food systems in North Minneapolis

- Increased program infrastructure

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Provide general capacity building funding, coaching, and technical assistance

- Increased knowledge of program strengths, efficiencies, and areas of development

- Provide evaluation focused capacity building supports, coaching, and technical assistance

- Improved articulation of program value, impact, opportunity, and purpose

- Convene and connect grantees

- Increased sharing of best and promising practices, learnings, and action

- Collect, synthesize, and amplify the experiences and needs of partners at system & policy level

- Sharing of resources and development of strong partnerships

SYSTEMS CHANGE

- Increased coordination and alignment of energy, dollars, data, practices and policy

- Increased program capacity, quality, and sustainability

- Increased number of individuals with foundational food skills

- Increased amount of healthy food available

- Increased ability to access and consume healthy food

- Increased ability to purchase and consume healthy food

- Increased strength of food infrastructure needed

- Increased opportunities to increase income and gain job skills related to food systems

- A healthy, equitable, and sustainable community food system in North Minneapolis where all residents can thrive

MISSION

- Uniting caring people to build pathways out of poverty, thereby improving individuals' lives and the community.

VALUES

- Inclusiveness
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Innovation
Full Lives
Capacity Building
Structure and Approach
Capacity Building Approach

- Guiding principles
- Community development framework
- Design elements: generative, adaptive, peer to peer
- Multifaceted and multi-level
Full Lives Program Capacity Building Areas of Activity

Organizational Capacity
- Organizational Development Capacity Grants
- Program Design Training
- Event sponsorship
- Evaluation and reporting assistance
- Congressional Hunger Center Partnership

Networking and Collaboration
- Semi-Annual Grantee Meetings
- Partnership Development Workshop
- Grantee Conference Attendance Support

Resource and Development
- USDA Grant Training Workshops
- Customized Grant Writing Assistance and Training
- Volunteer engagement support

Policy and Advocacy
- Northside Fresh Coalition Promotion and Support
- Engagement in City of Minneapolis Food Council

Food Systems Technical Knowledge and Support
- On-demand expert support TA support
- Food Systems Leadership Network Promotion

Volunteer engagement support

United we fight. United we win.
United we fight. United we win.

Evaluation Capacity-Building Approach

- Co-Create Indicators
- Assess eval capacity

- Shared Measurement

- Outcome Measurement

- Training & T.A.
Early Successes, Challenges and Lessons Learned
Successes

• Evaluation support and collective data system

• Increased collaboration and new partnerships

• Increased awareness of funding opportunities

• Increased program/organizational visibility
Challenges

• Rapid organizational growth

• Provider base, cultural and community competency and skill set

• Collaboration among organizations takes time, trust and investment

• You don’t always know what you need to know, just because they want it doesn’t mean they are ready for it
Lessons Learned

• Community development framework for designing capacity building can be a promising approach

• Capacity building requires effective deployment of resources, expertise and coordination

• Effective implementation requires trusting relationships between providers and users

• Capacity building in needs to be strategic, diverse and Responsive
Questions?