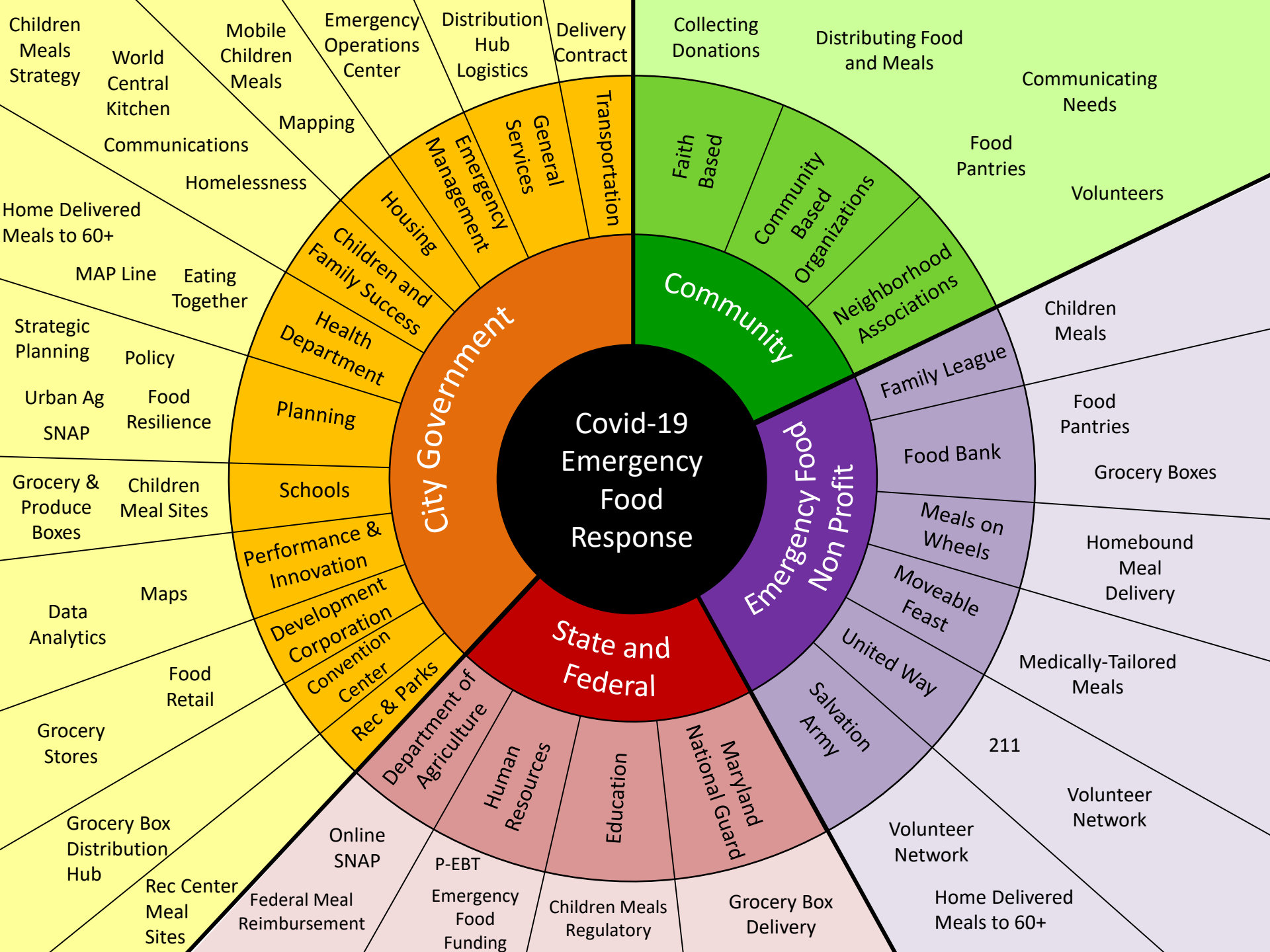




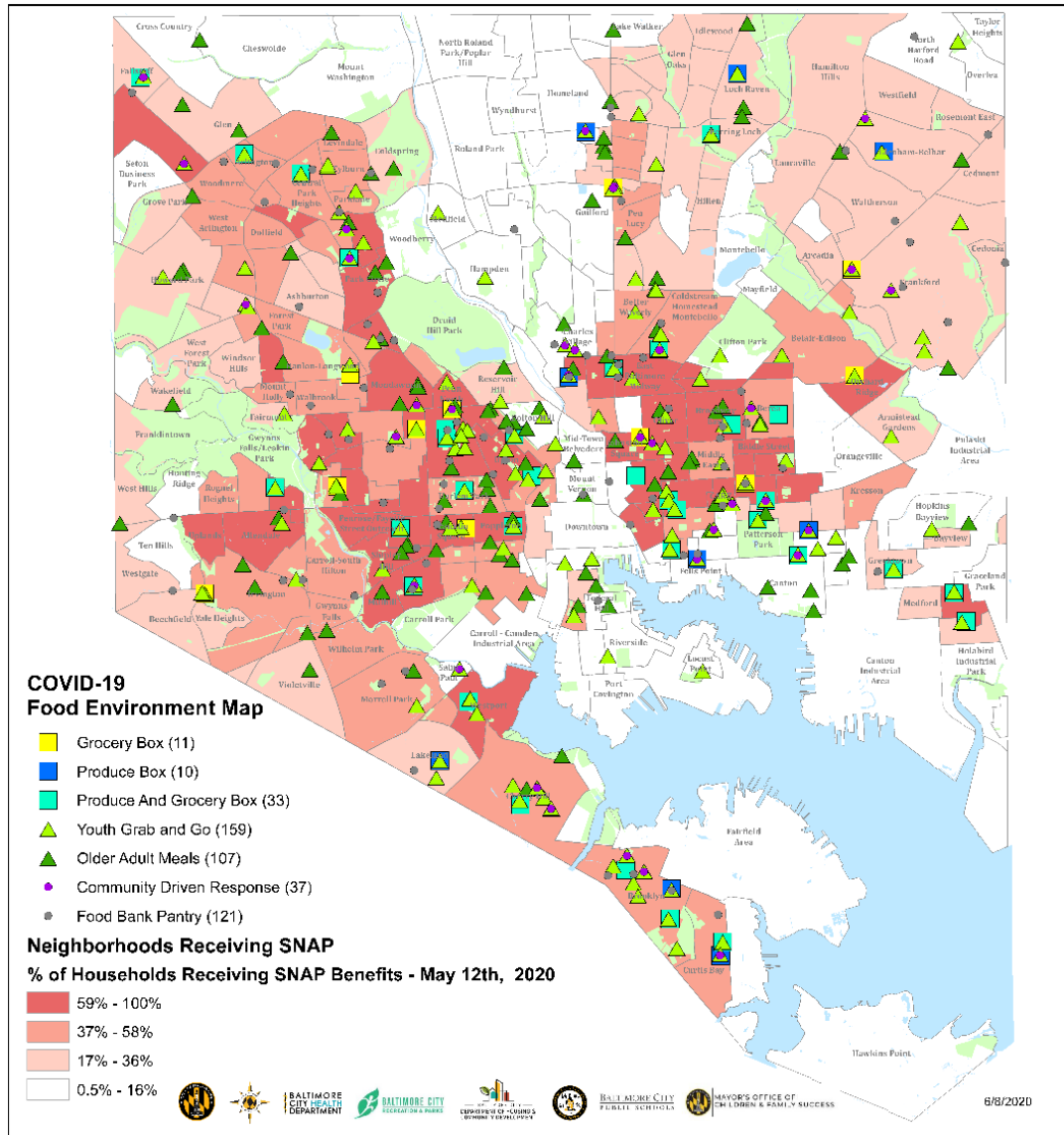
# EMERGENCY FOOD RESILIENCE PLANNING - COVID-19 RESPONSE

**HOLLY FREISHTAT**  
**FOOD POLICY DIRECTOR**  
**BALTIMORE FOOD POLICY INITIATIVE**  
**SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**





# SNAP AND FOOD INSECURITY



## Food Insecurity

- 1 in 4 residents are experiencing food insecurity due to COVID 19
- 124% increase in household food insecurity across State

## SNAP

- Approx. 83,000 households in Baltimore City receive SNAP benefits
- 5% increase since first case of COVID-19 was identified in March



# COVID-19 FOOD ENVIRONMENT MAPPING

## BALTIMORE CITY COVID-19 FOOD ENVIRONMENT BRIEF



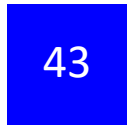
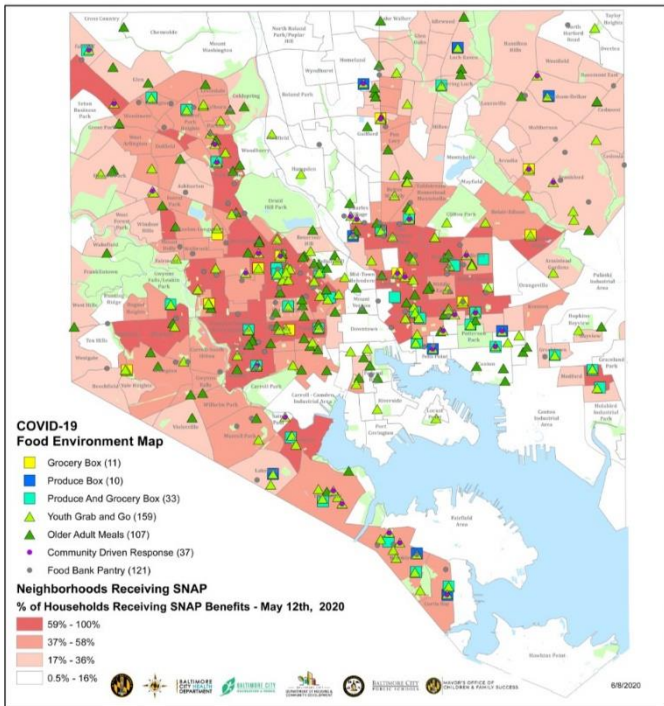
### DATA INFORMED RESPONSE

In May 2020, nearly 83,000 Baltimore City households received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, a 5% increase in participation compared to March 2020 when COVID-19 first reached Baltimore.

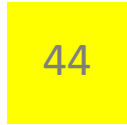
Increases in SNAP participation indicate a rise in citywide food insecurity. However, they do not capture the full need among vulnerable populations, such as immigrant populations or certain older adult populations, who are unable to access federal and state resources because they did not apply or were ineligible.

Established emergency food plans and provisions were immediately activated by City agencies, schools, recreation centers, and community organizations in March. These included meal programs, such as Eating Together in Baltimore and the Summer Food Service Program.

Additional targeted strategies, such as produce boxes and home delivered grocery boxes, were informed by existing data. They were built to meet the growing need to prevent hunger among vulnerable residents as the pandemic continues to worsen healthy food access disparities.



Produce Boxes



Grocery Boxes



Older Adult Meals



Youth Grab and Go



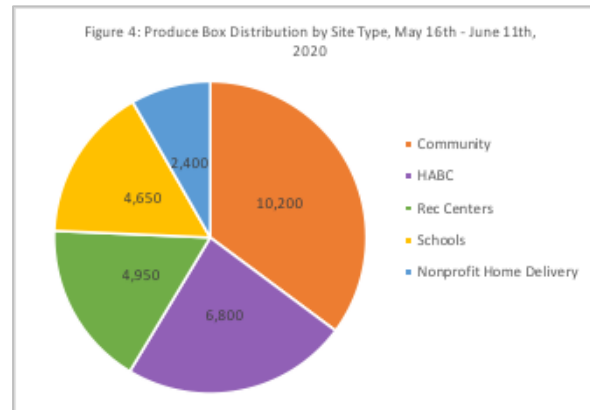
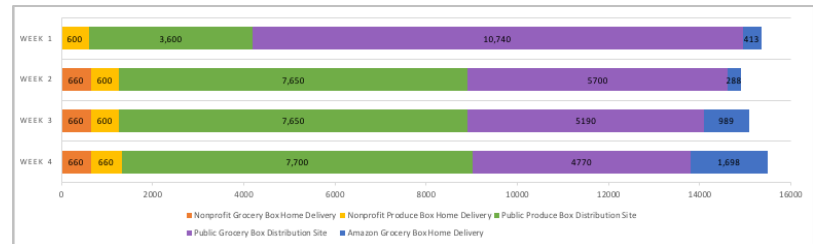
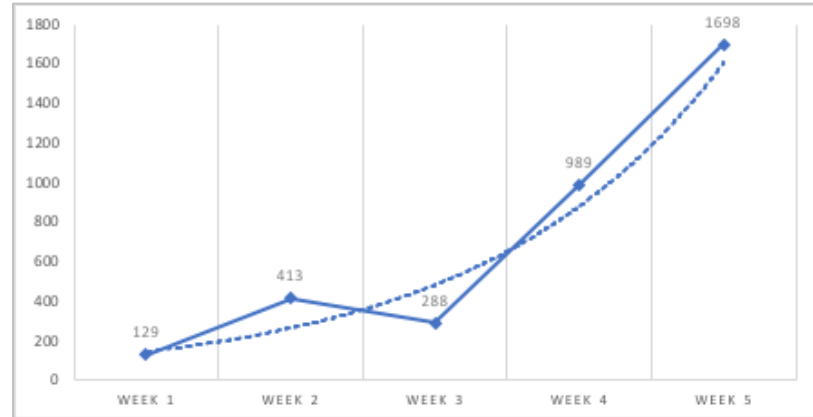
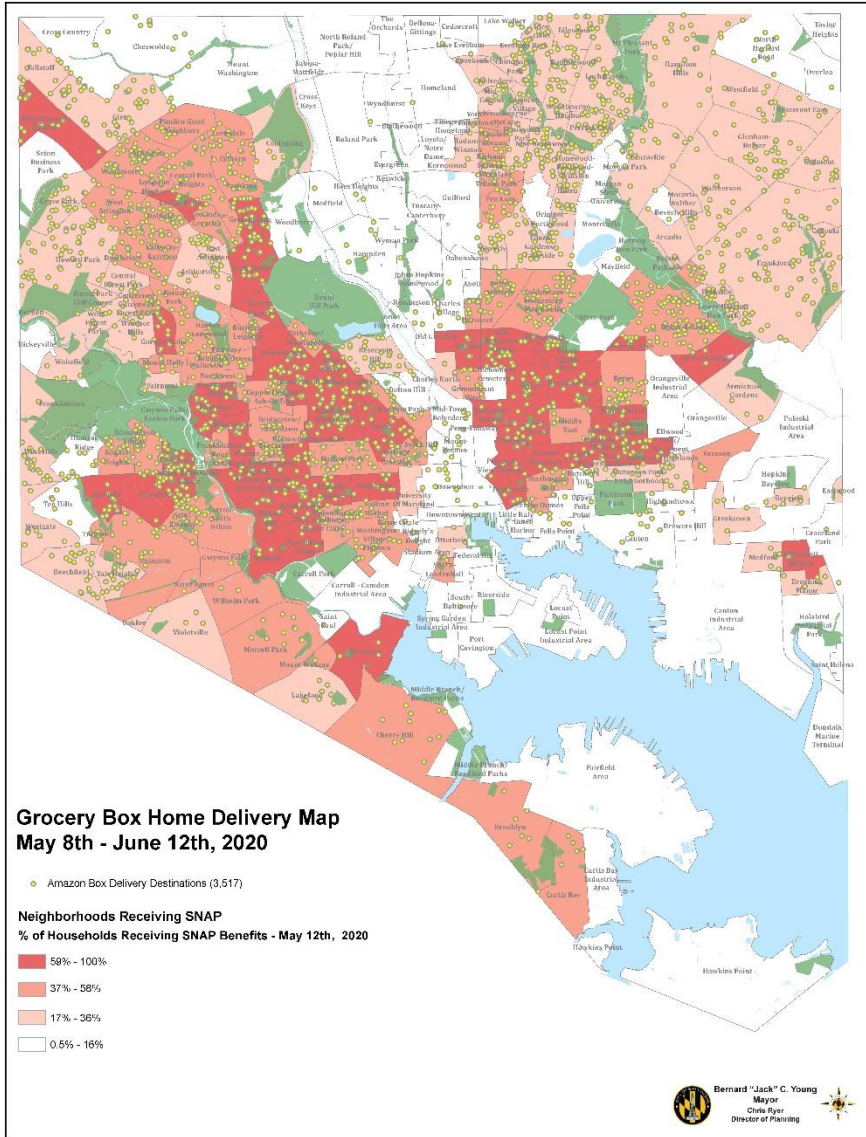
Community Driven Response



Food Bank Pantries



# GROCERY & PRODUCE BOXES



# STRATEGY AND LONG TERM PROJECTION



## COVID-19 Emergency Response

March - June 2020

- Meal distribution, grocery box distribution, produce box distribution, Amazon grocery box home delivery

## COVID-19 Summer Strategy

July-August 2020

- Expand home delivery
- Decrease grocery boxes in public sites and reallocate to home delivery
- Continue produce boxes
- Streamline logistics

## COVID-19 Food Resiliency Strategy

September 2020 - February 2021

- Create flexible distribution system that adapts for fluctuating COVID-19 cases
- Stakeholder engagement to create plan



# LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM RESILIENCE

## Urban Farms & Community Gardens

- Growing food as a form of resilience and response
- Encouraging local purchasing to keep farms growing

## Farmers Markets & Community Supported Agriculture

- Social Distancing Measures
- Nutrition incentives
- Support buying from local growers

## Leveraging Philanthropy

- Linking funders with urban agriculture organizations
- Length of response is showing need to invest in longer-term food solutions



# RESOURCES

## Phone Numbers

- 59 and under: 2-1-1
- 60 and over: (Maryland Access Point) 410-396-2273
- SNAP Application Assistance (MD Hunger Solutions): 866-821-5552

## Websites

- <https://coronavirus.baltimorecity.gov/food-distribution-sites>
- [www.bmorechildren.com/food-assistance-1](http://www.bmorechildren.com/food-assistance-1)
- [www.charmcare.org/locations?keyword=Food](http://www.charmcare.org/locations?keyword=Food)







# CONCLUSION



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Website: <https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/baltimore-food-policy-initiative>

**CONTACT INFORMATION**