



Transforming Child Food Security in the North Penn Region

Funded by the
North Penn Community Health Foundation

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Child Food Insecurity

In Montgomery County...

- More than 88,000 individuals are food insecure
- Child food insecurity rate is at 14%
- 8.3% of children live in poverty

In the North Penn School District...

- 27% of children are enrolled in the free or reduced price lunch program
 - 2 Elementary schools in the district have over 50% enrollment

The Costs of Child Food Insecurity

Child food insecurity creates long-term socioeconomic costs for children, families and municipalities.



Ages 0-3

- More likely to be hospitalized, or in fair or poor health
- At risk for developing developmental delays



School Age

- Socio-behavioral problems
- Leads to strained academic achievement

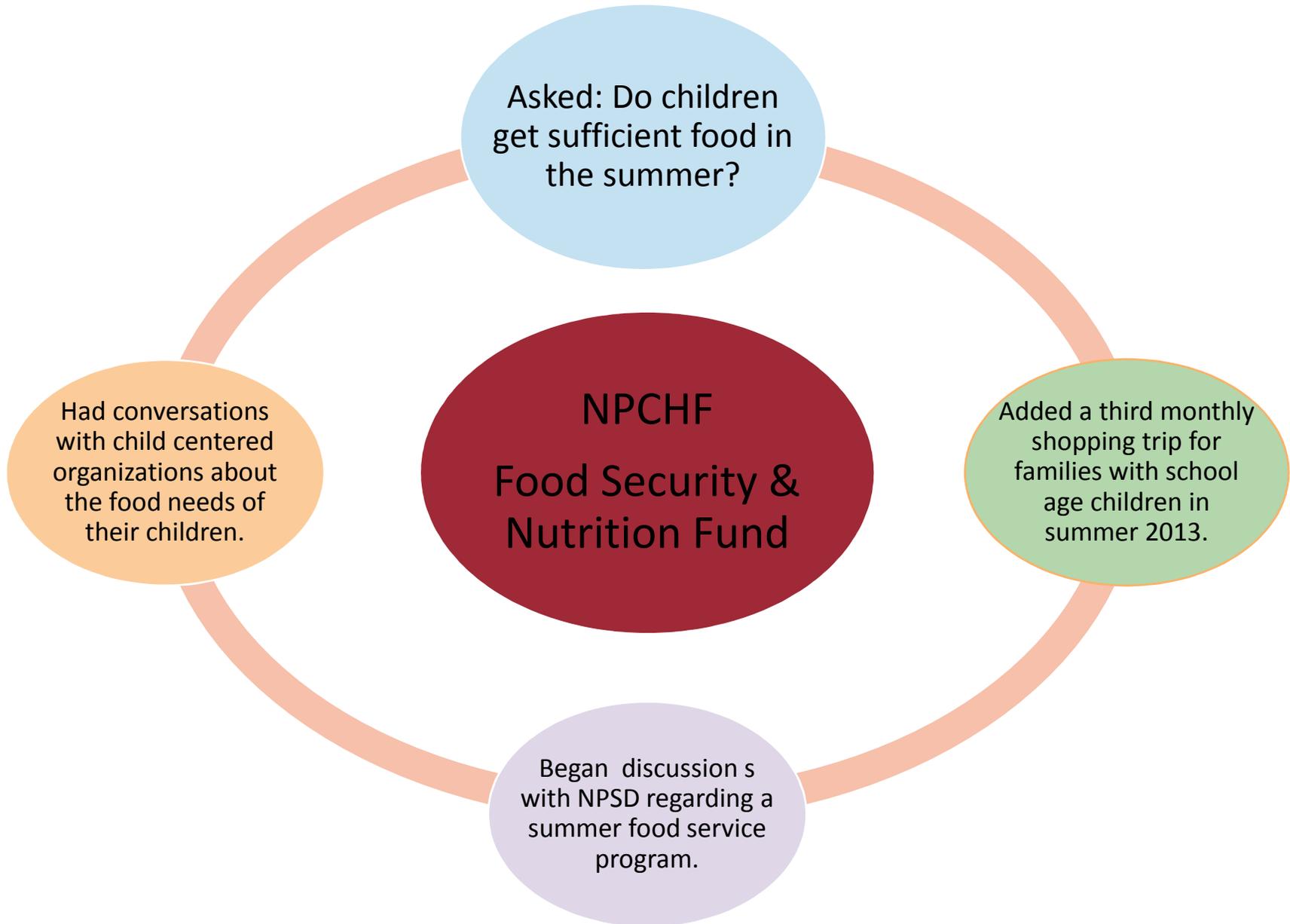


High School Age

- Dropout rates increase
- Leads to food, financial and employment challenges

Sources: Children's HealthWatch, June 2011; Feeding America, 2009

Genesis of the TCFS



TCFS

Systems Change, Four Pronged Approach

Healthy Food Access

- Fresh Produce 4 Kids
- Healthy snack program
- Community Garden

Nutrition Education

- Nutrition Education Program, "Fresh Kids"
- Child Friendly Shopping in Food Pantry, "Cool Kids Corner"

Summer Food Safety Net

- Summer Food Service Program

Financial and Food Security

- Intensive Outreach to Targeted Communities

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Produce 4 Kids

- Partnered with 2 area farms to provide produce year round
- Received 4,473 pounds of produce from July to December, 2014
- Provided produce 2,608 times to families with children at Manna and the Nutrition Coalition pantries from July to December, 2014

Cool Kids Corner

- Created an area in the pantry in which kids choose from the Produce 4 Kids shelves and a shelf containing kid-friendly healthy foods including: whole grain products, healthy fats, beans and brown rice
- Developed produce-specific brochures containing nutrition info, cooking tips and fun activities.



Summer Food Service Program

- Partnered with NPSD and NPUW
- USDA program administered by the local school district
- Meals distributed at 20 program and non-program community sites
- Manna served 143 children
- Total program served approximately 500 children

Community Garden

- Partnered with Christ United Methodist Church and built garden on church property
- Produced 658 pounds of fresh vegetables for Manna clients
- Garden volunteers included 17 adults and 16 children from Manna
- Children from the SFSP at Manna participated through field trips and tailored education topics



Fresh Kids!



manna
on main street
Ending Hunger. Building Community. Transforming Lives.

Fun food activities for kids at Manna

- Monthly food and nutrition themed lessons taught biweekly by volunteers
- Based on the Food Trust's "Kindergarten Initiative"
- Each class includes choosing Produce 4 Kids and food from Cool Kids Corner
- Designed for primary grade children
- Future plans include pre-school and secondary school lessons with distribution to organizations serving children

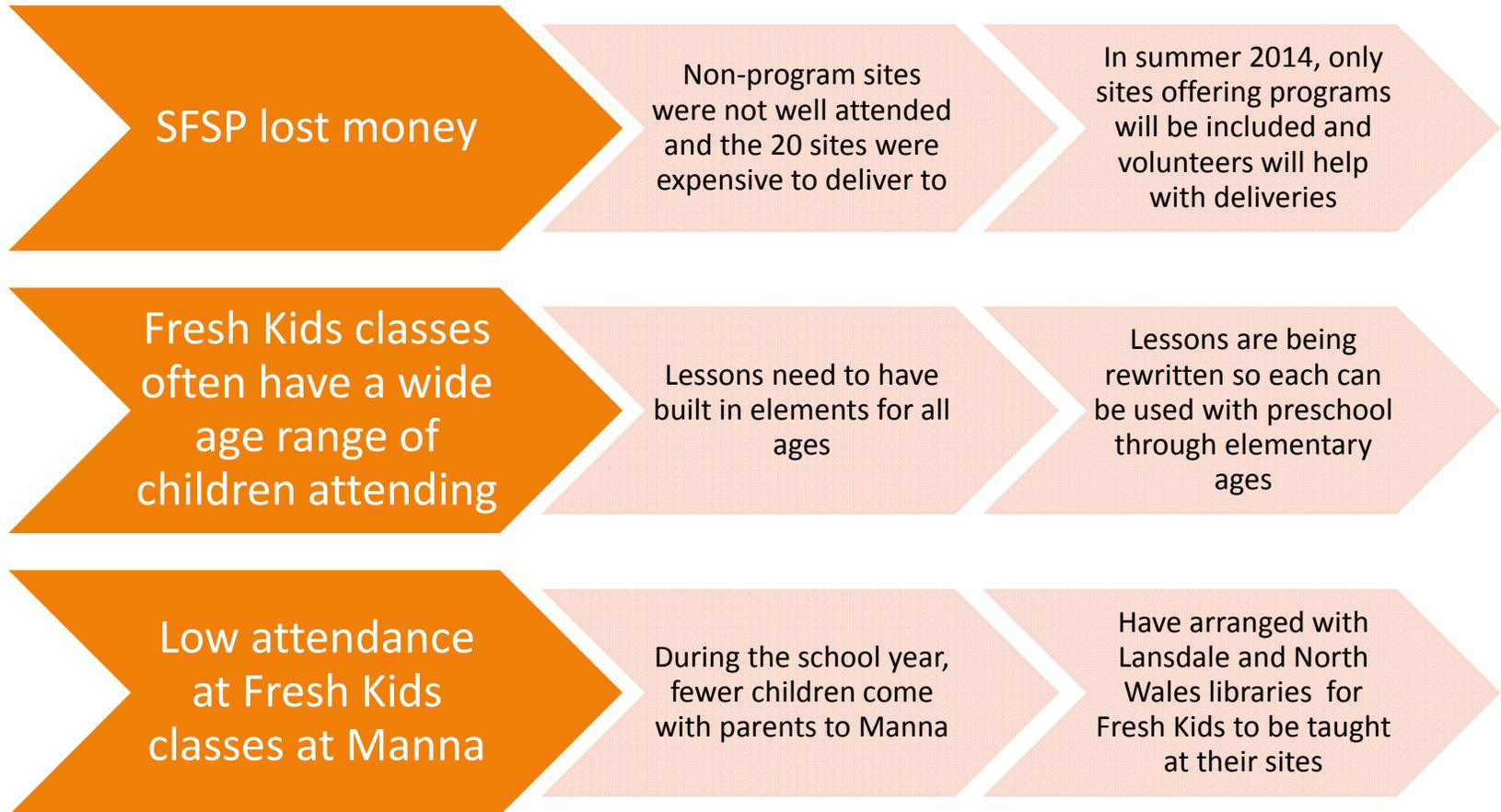


Challenges

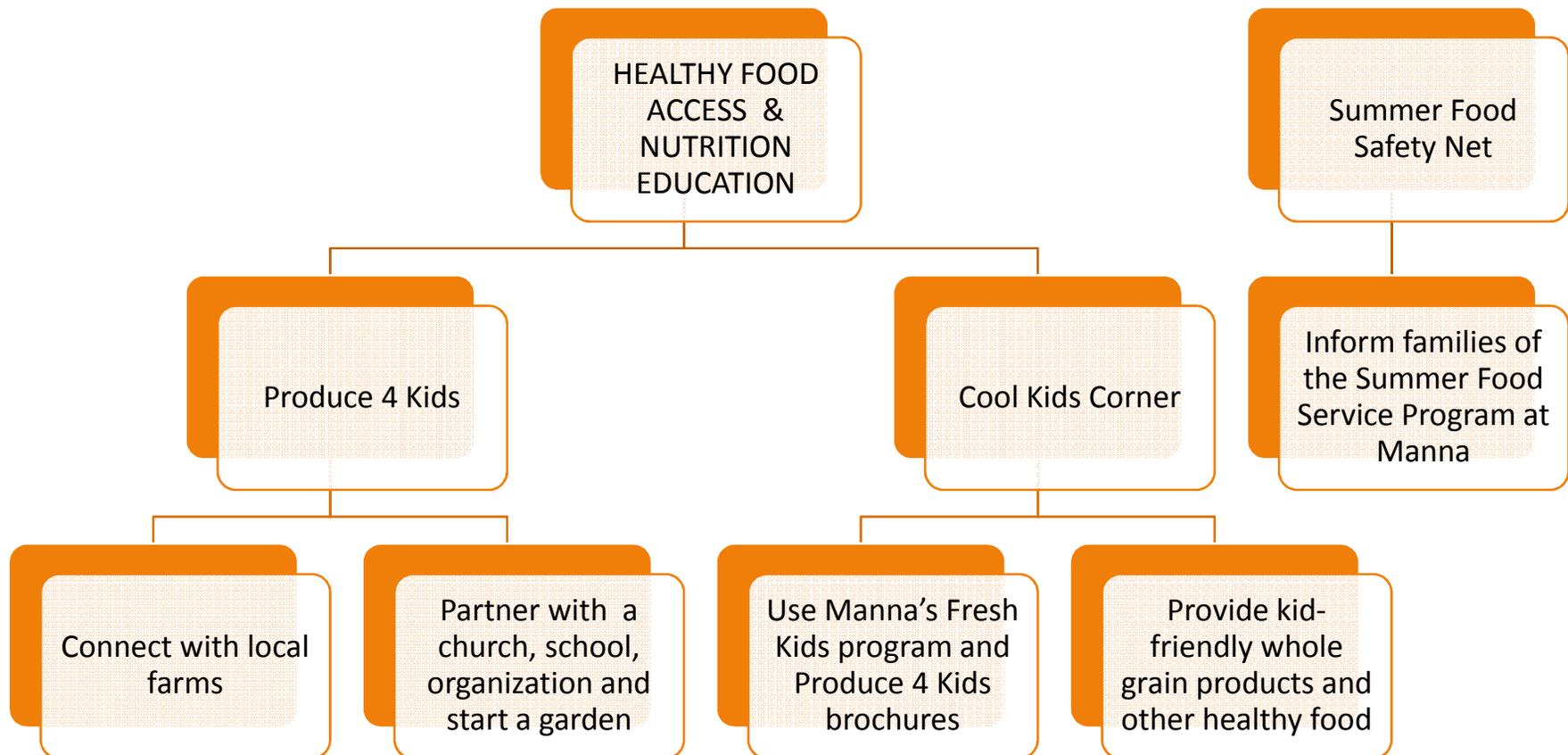
Adjustments



Lessons Learned



Implementation Plan for Pantries



We would love to share our TCFS materials with you or help you start a program transforming child food security in your region.

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