



Oakland Achievements in Changing Health Outcomes Through Food

OAKLAND – Mayor Dellums gave welcoming remarks at the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service West Coast Summit. Discussion at the event, hosted by Roots of Change, focused on improving healthy food access and nutrition for low-income communities. Mayor Dellums highlighted key achievements within Oakland, which include:

The Oakland Partnership: Economic Strategy/Specialty Foods

The Partnership plans to grow businesses in industries like specialty food by leveraging Oakland's central location, talented work force, cultural values, and proximity to UC Berkeley and other schools.

Grocery Store in West Oakland: Mandela Foods Cooperative

The Coop, opened on June 6, 2009, will offer local goods; wholesome, fresh and affordable foods grown on family farms; nutrition education classes; and a cooperative economic investment program that provides multi-level investment for community residents.

City of Oakland: Oakland Food Policy Council (OFPC)

Food Policy Council coordinates city resources with supply-side food industry groups; OFPC will seat a maximum 21 members made up of representatives of all sectors of the food system.

Health for Oakland's People and Environment Collaborative

HOPE is a long-term collaboration funded by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation focused on assisting Oakland's neighborhoods most severely impacted by health disparities by: creating equal access to healthy, affordable local food; creating safe spaces for physical activity and play; and building strong neighborhood economies.

PUEBLO's Urban Youth Harvest

PUEBLO employs Oakland's youth to harvest and deliver locally grown fresh produce to low-income seniors who lack access to it. The program provides the youth job skills, education, case management and health care information.

Mayor Dellums' Community Task Force on Beautification

The Task Force has secured \$250K in grant money to start school gardens across Oakland in 2007. They worked with the School Site Garden Council in the building and upkeep of the established gardens and continue to support local gardens and sustainable food supply efforts.

Oakland Based Urban Gardens (OBUGS)

OBUGS strengthens families and builds community through educational programs offered in neighborhood gardens, green spaces, and farmers markets. It links separate venues and programs providing: nutrition and environmental education, connection with caring adults, and leadership training and entrepreneurial opportunities for youth.

Urban ROOTS

Urban Roots aims to train low income residents in using the EarthBox, which allows anyone to grow nutritious, organic vegetables without a backyard. They seek to build a worker cooperative movement using this tool in partnership with Oakland Parks and Recreation Department.