



HEALTHY FOOD SMALL RETAILER PROGRAM

Food Deserts and Food Insecurity in North Carolina

North Carolina has more than **349**
food deserts

More than **1.5 million** North
Carolina residents are food insecure



Food Deserts and CVD

Study: Higher rates of diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and stroke found in food desert

Inconsistent Access to Food and Cardiometabolic Disease: The Effect of Food Insecurity

'Food Desert' Dwellers Have Worse Heart-Disease Risk Profiles


Higher rates of diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, stroke in 'food desert'

Living in a Food Desert: How Lack of Access to Healthy Foods Can Affect Public Health

Healthy Food Small Retailer Program

Taps into a community's existing retail footprint to make healthier food options more accessible

Provides equipment and technical assistance to small store owners in food deserts



Creation of the Healthy Food Small Retailer Program

\$250,000 included in HB 1030 which passed on July 1, 2016

Applications submitted November 27, 2016 through December 31, 2016



HEALTHY FOOD SMALL RETAILER PROGRAM

SECTION 13.4.(a) Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) for the 2016-2017 fiscal year shall be used to create a program to reimburse small food retailers for

in areas that qualify as food desert zones according to the Economic Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

is a small retail outlet, including corner stores, convenience stores, cooperatives, and bodegas, of no more than 3,000 heated square feet that sells a limited selection of foods and other products. Funds may **3,000 heated square feet** the purchase and installation of refrigeration equipment, display shelving, and other equipment necessary for stocking nutrient-dense foods, including fresh vegetables and fruits, whole grains, nuts, seeds, beans and legumes, low-fat dairy products, lean meats, and seafood.

SECTION 13.4.(b) The Department may reimburse up to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to a single small food retailer pursuant to this section. Small food retailers

must accept or agree to accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits and must accept or agree to apply to accept Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children benefits.


will be used to enhance and advertise the availability of nutrient-dense foods. The Department shall assist the small food retailer in identifying suppliers of nutrient-dense foods and in developing a strategy to encourage the sale of nutrient-dense foods to customers.

SECTION 13.4.(c) On or before October 1, 2017, the Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources and the Fiscal Research Division on the activities, number of small food retailers receiving reimbursement, how the funds were used by the small food retailers, and the gross amount of nutrient-dense food, in dollars, sold to customers by participating small food retailers.

*Seeking
\$1 million
in recurring
funding*

Supported by **more than 50** local, state, and national partners

The funding would provide

- Equipment
 - Marketing
 - Technical assistance
 - Training
 - Evaluation
 - Program director and local coordinators
- 

Questions?

