Building Healthy NYCHA Communities Through Food

GOAL
Engage staff and NYCHA residents of all ages
In a community planning process
That identifies the best strategies for resident driven efforts
That increase access to and use of healthy whole foods.

ENGAGE STAFF and NYCHA RESIDENTS
• Conduct outreach to identify and involve staff and residents interested in the issue of healthy food access and use
• Identify and support potential NYCHA community leaders with whom to partner during this community planning process and into implementation

COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS
• Develop a multi-pronged approach to ensure community input and involvement including surveys, focus groups, town hall meetings, planning sessions and other methods to gain the input and involvement of NYCHA residents and other interested community members
• Partner with and involve local organizations working on healthy food access and use issues
• Develop communication loops to ensure people are informed and reengaged as plans develop over time.

BEST STRATEGIES FOR RESIDENT DRIVEN EFFORTS TO ACCESS AND USE HEALTHY WHOLE FOODS
• Strategies should have a mix of elements that together address access, learning, cooking and eating healthy whole foods.
• Strategies should deliberately offer multiple pathways for residents to get involved, which will increase the reach of a project and expand its impact.

OBJECTIVE
To develop an actionable, detailed written plan to increase access to and use of healthy whole foods among residents in NYCHA communities
That takes into account
• Community and resident needs, challenges, assets and interests as defined by NYCHA residents
• Existing initiatives, organizations and resources in the local community
And that offer
Multiple pathways for residents to work on, get involved in and lead the initiative and Opportunities for residents to learn, build their skill level, and have a stake in what unfolds