

Community Innovation Lab – Food Insecurity

Project Update

We are excited to notify you that the next phase of the Nova Scotia Government funded project to find lasting ways for individuals, families, and communities to access food they like and enjoy on a regular basis is underway.

Last summer, a number of people from Amherst and surrounding area helped co-create and test a food inclusive housing concept. Responses were positive, and residents expressed interest in participating in a trial where food is purchased at a discounted rate in the same way residents pay rent. The food service will deliver pre-purchased food choices ranging from raw ingredients to prepared meals.

Last fall we shared the results of the food security innovation lab with senior officials in government. The recommendation to conduct an in-depth prototype was accepted by government.

During this next important phase of work, we continue to take a community-driven approach. We are working with individuals, families, community and system leaders to design, test, and determine the viability of the concept in Amherst and potentially other communities.

In order to meet these objectives, the prototype will need to:

- improve the **quality and affordability** of food for residents;
- be optimized in a way that is **desirable and meets the needs** of residents;
- increase **community connectedness** between residents and the community at large;
- **build enduring partnerships** with residents, community, and system leaders; and,
- identify **opportunities to expand and scale** the solution beyond the prototype testing phase.

The results of phase 2 will inform our recommendations to government in Summer 2019. We sincerely thank you for your continued interest in this project. As always should you have any comments or questions, please reach out to:

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Sincerely,
The Davis Pier Team