To explore how the Weinland Park community could make the production, processing, distribution, preparation and celebration of food a catalyst for urban neighborhood development, an OSU Extension team collaborated with other community organizations. With funding support from a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Challenge Grant, the team invested in a two-year Urban Agriculture Overlay Planning Project.

Urban agriculture is increasingly recognized by public health professionals, urban planners, community organizations and policy-makers as a valuable tool for economic development, preservation of green space, and improvement of food security (Brown & Jameton, 2000).

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity.
INTRODUCTION
Weinland Park is an urban neighborhood located between downtown Columbus, Ohio and The Ohio State University. It is home to approximately 4,500 residents, many of whom confront unemployment, poverty and crime. Despite the challenges of this community, residents and businesses have demonstrated resiliency. With the help of community, corporate, civic, church and university partners, this community is being revitalized. The community decided to use food as a focus for transformation.

METHODS
To explore how the Weinland Park community could make the production, processing, distribution, preparation and celebration of food a catalyst for urban neighborhood development, an OSU Extension team collaborated with other community organizations. With funding support from a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Challenge Grant, the team invested in a two-year Urban Agriculture Overlay Planning Project. The OSU Extension team focused on the education component of the project, conducting a Community Food Assessment Survey, piloting educational workshops, facilitating strategic planning dialogues, meeting with stakeholders at numerous events and engaging in ongoing interaction through the OSU University District Extension office.

“Ohio State University Extension has been an incredible opportunity for residents in Weinland Park,” said Joyce Hughes, president of the Weinland Park Community Civic Association.
OSU Extension Educator, Susan Colbert (right), with Joyce Hughes

What mode of training do you prefer?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Training</th>
<th>Number of People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrations</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group/lecture instruction</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field trips</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent trainings</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Snapshot from one of the survey research questions

Extension educators set the stage for stable relationships, inter-organizational linkages, and feedback loops upon which localized food systems could be built (Dunning, et al., 2012; Gulati & Gargiulo, 1999; Ramasawmy & Fort, 2011; Sundkvist et al., 2005).
RESULTS
To cultivate community through food-related education and sustainable community economic development, the OSU Extension team developed an Educational Plan for the Food District @ Weinland Park. The comprehensive guide draws upon a foundation of national, state and local Extension research-based programming, as well as the literature, urban agriculture resources, existing community assets, and engagement with community residents. **Primary objectives of this planning project** included improving:

- sustainable food production practices and food production capacity
- business start-ups, employment and investment (food & business)
- healthy behaviors and health indicators (food & family)
- social, environmental and economic conditions (food & community)

**Food Production**
- Growing with your family and community
- Growing for profit
- Food production health and wellness
- Safe food production and harvesting

**Food & Business**
- Business planning and management
- Workforce development
- Employee health and wellness
- Food safety business practices

**Food & Family**
- Accessing, planning and preparing healthy meals
- Preserving food for your family
- Family health and wellness
- Serving safe food to family and friends

**Food & Community**
- Planning and supporting community food developments
- Leadership and community development
- Community health and wellness
- Community food safety

CONCLUSIONS
Educational needs and priorities will continue to emerge as the Food District at Weinland Park develops. This project provides a starting point and framework based on what was learned during the Urban Agriculture Overlay Planning Project. The Educational Plan is an ongoing process that will continue to develop as the community moves into various phases of implementation. For updates on education in Weinland Park, visit [http://go.osu.edu/urbanag](http://go.osu.edu/urbanag)
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
The work that provided the basis for this poster was supported by funding under an award with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Through this Community Challenge Grant the following organizations collaborated with OSU Extension, Franklin County Board of Commissioners, AmeriCorps VISTA, Wagenbrenner Development, and residents on the Urban Agriculture Overlay Planning Project.

CONTACT
Susan Colbert, Program Director, (CD) OSU Extension University District, colbert.22@osu.edu
Julie Fox, Ph.D., Program Director, Direct Marketing Food & Agriculture, (CD) OSU Extension, fox.264@osu.edu
Mike Hogan, (ANR) OSU Extension Educator, hogan.1@osu.edu
Marilyn Rabe, (FCS) OSU Extension Educator, rabe.9@osu.edu
Christie Welch, Program Manager, Ohio Cooperative Development Center & Farmers’ Market Program, welch.183@osu.edu

http://go.osu.edu/urbanag