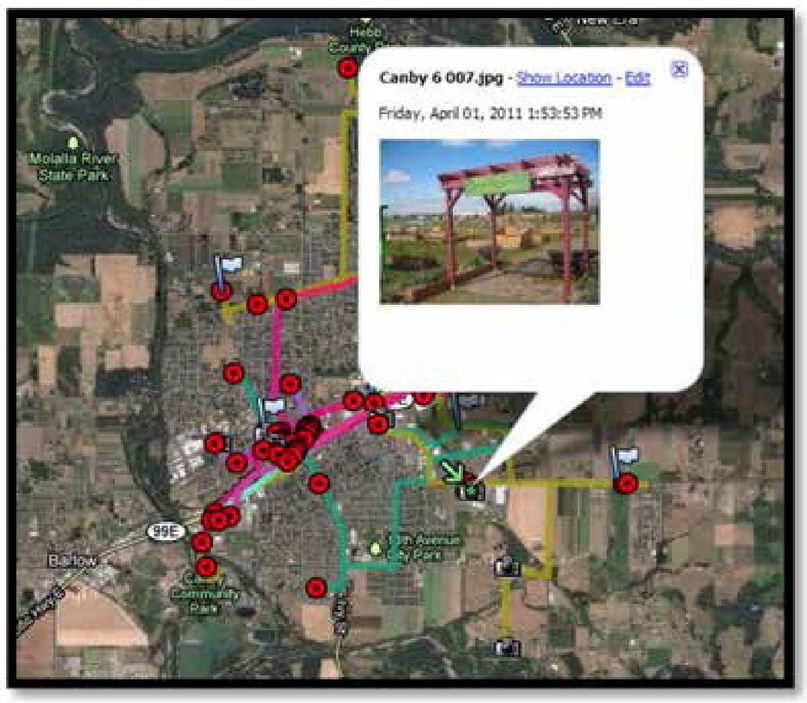
HEAL MAPPS: Healthy Eating & Living Active Mapping Attributes Using Participatory Photographic Surverys



How you can get involved:

- **Get involved in our FORC research, and think about implementing HEAL MAPPS in your community - as a University department, or student**
- **Help disseminate the research findings, with a link to our StoryMap (go.osu.edu/bescz)**
- **Provide childcare for our parents/stakeholders during our Community Conversations, and Focus Groups (dates and times to be determined)**

To get involved, contact:

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Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved
OSU Extension
The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity
Butler County Extension
Knowlton School, City and Regional Planning Department
College of Education and Human Ecology

Community Partners Involved
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Meadow Ridge Apartments (West Chester, Ohio)
Lakota Schools
Butler County Educational Service Center: Butler County Success

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Purpose

HEAL MAPPS is a community-based participatory research process that uses photography, GPS and GIS technology, and residents' voiced perceptions to address food access, healthy eating, and physical activity; coordination involves working with community partners, local Extension offices, and campus faculty to plan, implement, and evaluate HEAL MAPPS.

The HEAL MAPPS methodology also involves conducting focus groups and Community Conversations with community members.

Over a series of four meetings, over the course of six weeks. During the Community Conversations, in which champions and decision makers are asked to meet and talk about issues in the community.

Impact

After the Community Conversations conclude, we analyze the data through NVivo qualitative analysis software to identify recurring themes or issues. The analysis software then allows us to run a query to determine the level of community readiness, supports, barriers, and resident recommendations for change. An Anchored Rating Scale is used to determine the level of community readiness.

All of these items are analyzed and put into a community report. The community report functions as an evidence-based document that can drive decision-making in the community. The report is a tool designed to drive policies surrounding healthy eating, food access, and active living.

So far we have recognized an undeniable presence of suburban food insecurity in the West Chester community. In addition, there are many issues surrounding transportation and food access as it relates to locations of stores, and presence of sidewalks.