Workshop Two: Farm to Table

Part I -- Mini-workshop on Farm to Table

Essential Question: How does food get from the farm to the table?

Objective: The learners will research the process food travels from a farm to their table.

Instructional Procedures:

- Hook (5 minutes): (The day before this workshop, tell students to bring in the little stickers they find on the fruit in their homes or look up the country of origin from five food products.) When students bring these items in, map them out on the board. This will show students where the diverse geographic origins of their food. Discuss the pros and cons of foods coming from long distances.

- Discussion (10 minutes): Tell the students to think about their Thanksgiving meal and name a type of food, such as turkey or cranberries. Ask the students to brainstorm all the steps in the process of getting that food from the farm to the table. Write each step on a separate sheet of paper so as students name the steps, they can move the order around.

- Research (20 minutes): Allow students to use the internet to find the answers on the guided research worksheet (handout three).

- Reflection (10 minutes): Discuss the answers and questions students developed in this workshop.

Part II -- Small Group Discussion -- What are different sectors doing about the issue?

After they have conducted the “farm to table” research (handout two), ask the students if anyone is doing something to address the issues related to food costs and availability. Have students work in small groups to define the three economic sectors (public/government, private/business, and civil society/nonprofit) and discuss how the different sectors are trying to address the issue of food insecurity in the U.S. Project the following on the board to guide group discussions and research.

Define

Public Sector -
Private Sector -
Civil Society Sector -

What is each sector doing to address hunger in the U.S.?

Public Sector -
Private Sector -
Civil Society Sector -

How do you think each can do more to help the hunger situation in the U.S.?

Public Sector -
Private Sector -
Civil Society Sector -