



# LEVERAGE POINTS

# FLINT

## Resident Food Empowerment

**Desirable Future:** With increased resident direction, control, and ownership, the food system improves food access to achieve equity, social, and economic justice for residents.

Example leverage points defined by community members are listed below. Join the conversation--detailed lists of more leverage points can be found at: [www.canr.msu.edu/FlintFood](http://www.canr.msu.edu/FlintFood)

### Upstream

- Brand locally produced/processed food from Flint to raise support for a local food economy and community empowerment
- Create accountability for retailers to help bring the community to a high quality of life by offering affordable, convenient, nutritious choices

### Midstream

Establish a network or organization that connects food system actors, represents the community, and conducts equitable decision-making

### Downstream

- Establish a community farm on the north end to increase availability and accessibility of produce
- Create a farmers market run by local farmers to strengthen a local food economy rather than business people

**Currently:** Focus on emergency food and meeting immediate needs limits work that will transform the food system and achieve equity and food sovereignty.

#### Definitions:

**Upstream:** Policies, laws, or regulations that improve community conditions, creating system-wide changes

**Midstream:** Barriers that need to be addressed in order for the system to evolve; and/or supports individual social needs

**Downstream:** Addresses individual needs and crisis management