# Snapshot of New Brunswick, New Jersey

July-December 2021 Progress Report



#### Goals

- Recruit and educate high school students to civically engage with their school food system
- Implement institutional-level changes that improve the school food system and food education in schools



## By the Numbers

- 10 high school students participated in 10 sessions of the Your Food, Your Choice program
- One new food services staff member hired by the district to design new lunch menu items that are culturally significant to the student body in response to survey results from 193 students

and family members

## **Success Story**

Improved partnerships with New Brunswick Public Schools' Food Services Department and the Urban Health Collaborative have been key to encouraging youth leadership in New Brunswick and bridging the gap between health and education. Collaborating with these entities has provided increased advocacy opportunities for students of the program, connections to a wider range of students, administrators and community organizations and greater influence in decisionmaking around school food service.

"The relationship-building model we use...has helped give a clearer aspirational arc to our relationships and directly inspires our drive to turn the school food management from cooperators into collaborators and the Urban Health Collective from collaborators into partners."

Jason Flatt, Elijah's Promise



#### **#Communties4Health**

