Berg Center develops Food Abundance Index

The David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership, part of the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, has developed a scorecard — the Food Abundance Index (FAI) — to measure food security within a neighborhood or geographic area. The index was created to determine the access to and availability of healthy, nutritious and culturally appropriate food.

“While awareness of the growing number of communities that are impacted by low food security has increased, existing tools to detect the presence of food deserts and measure the levels of food security have numerous limitations,” said Audrey Murrell, co-author of the FAI report, director of the Berg Center, and faculty member in business administration and psychology.

“The FAI attempts to combine the strengths of existing measures of food access and availability and examine food security based on five criteria: access, diversity, quality, density and affordability.”

The technical report that outlines the creation, use and impact of FAI as well as the potential contributions it can make and benefits that can accrue through its deployment is available at the Berg Center.

In addition, the center offers a user’s toolkit and training workshops in an effort to eliminate food deserts. The report provides an overview of the FAI scorecard to help individuals, communities and regions lay the foundation for improving food security and raising communities’ economic status, health and overall wellbeing.

For more information about FAI or to schedule training, call 412/648-2169 or visit www.business.pitt.edu/berg.

Filed under: Feature, Volume 43 Issue 14

Leave a Reply
You must be logged in to post a comment.