



# Phases of Council Development



SEED



START-UP



GROWTH



MATURE

Community-based coalitions are organizing across North Carolina and focusing on improving their food system.

These 'food councils' often progress in these stages.



During the **SEED Phase**, a community considers whether a food council might be worthwhile.



SEED



START-UP



GROWTH



MATURE

- Explore the idea of a food council
- Host a meeting to gauge interest
- Learn about past efforts
- Identify community assets
- Talk with local government
- Listen to community interest





During the **START-UP Phase**, a task force begins to design the council while engaging the community.



SEED



START-UP



GROWTH



MATURE

- Get educated
- Share gathered information
- Collect feedback
- Enlist government support
- Recruit members
- Draft food council charter



During the **GROWTH Phase**, new council members finalize their structure and prioritize issues.



SEED



START-UP



GROWTH



MATURE

- Affirm purpose
- Finalize food council charter
- Identify priorities
- Deepen/expand partnerships
- Build social capital
- Engage the community





During the **MATURE Phase**, the council develops strategic plans and collaborates with other councils.



SEED



START-UP



GROWTH



MATURE

- Update strategic plans
- Evaluate progress
- Support leadership transition
- Contribute to the network
- Continue relationship building
- Make adjustments

