



Georgia Rural Hospital Food Collaborative, Inc.

HRDC update, Dec, 2021

GEORGIA'S RURAL CENTER

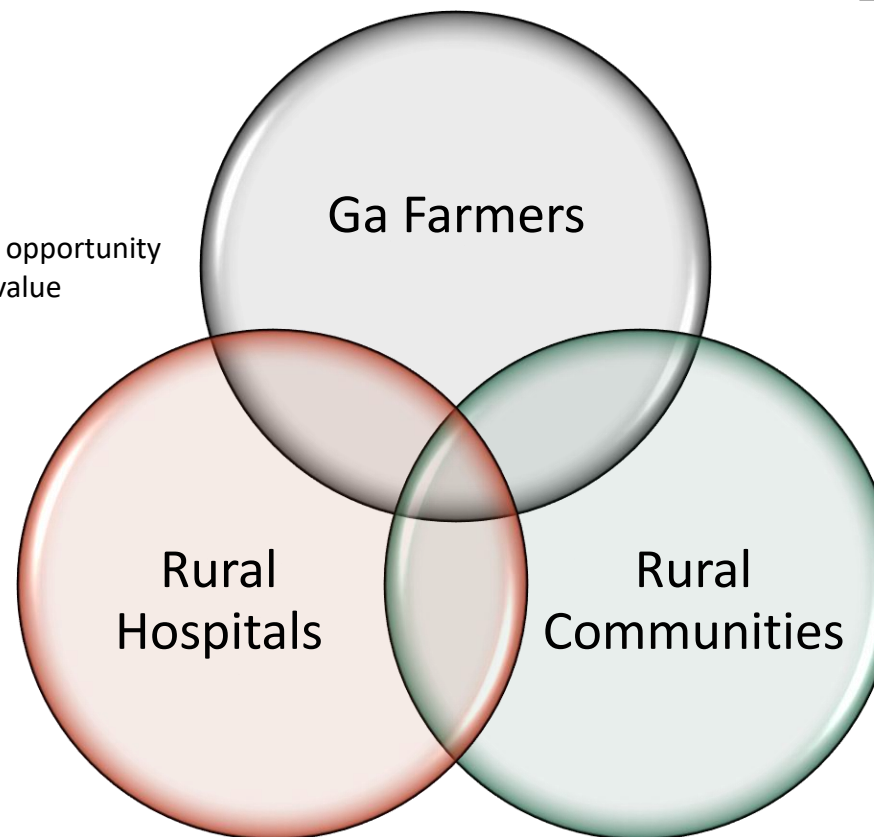
Powered by Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

From April 2020



- Market vulnerability
- Squeezed by imports
- Limited private treaty opportunity
- Cannot retain added value

- Threatened \$\$ sustainability
- Dependent on fragile supply chain
- Isolated from local farm community

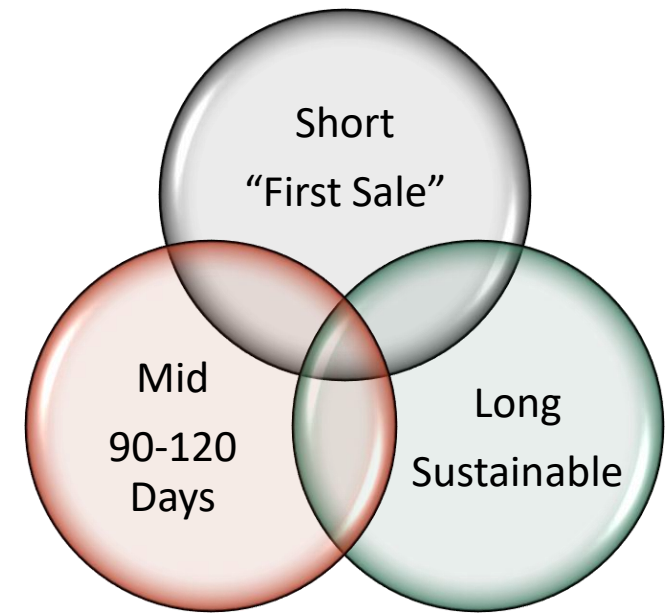


- Sustainability?
- Population decline
- Healthcare essential for growth
- Need economic activity

At the Beginning – Opportunities
Now – Proving it can be done

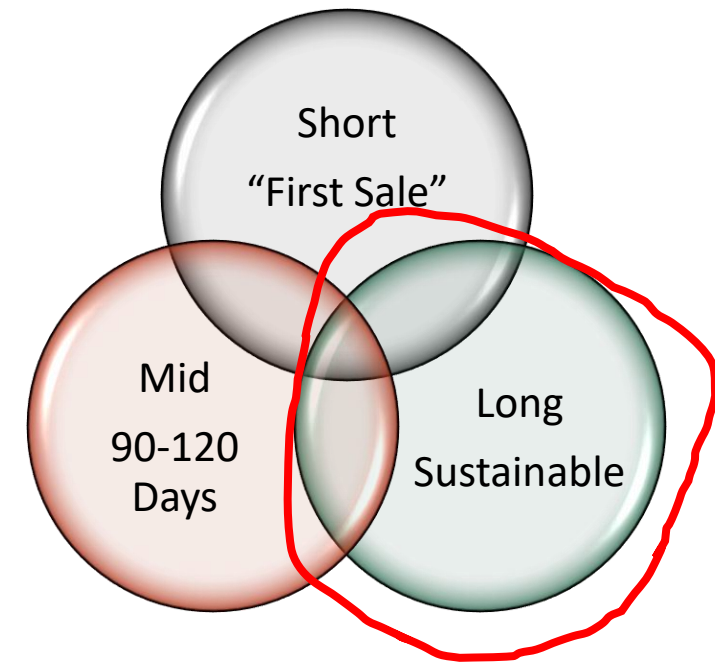
What has been accomplished?

- Successes
 - Sourcing fruits, vegetable, protein from Ga farmers,
 - Serving rural healthcare facilities via a reliable, local supply chain,
 - Improving sustainability of farms and hospitals, and
 - Providing fresh and nutritious foods to patients.
- Innovations
 - Created a partnership that involves farmers, healthcare, businesses, and institutions.
 - Simplified and hardened (made more reliable) the supply chain.
 - Connecting common interests among rural communities.
 - Demonstrating to state leadership the potential for rural communities to thrive when empowered to do so.



Status Report – As of Dec 2021

More and What's Up Next?



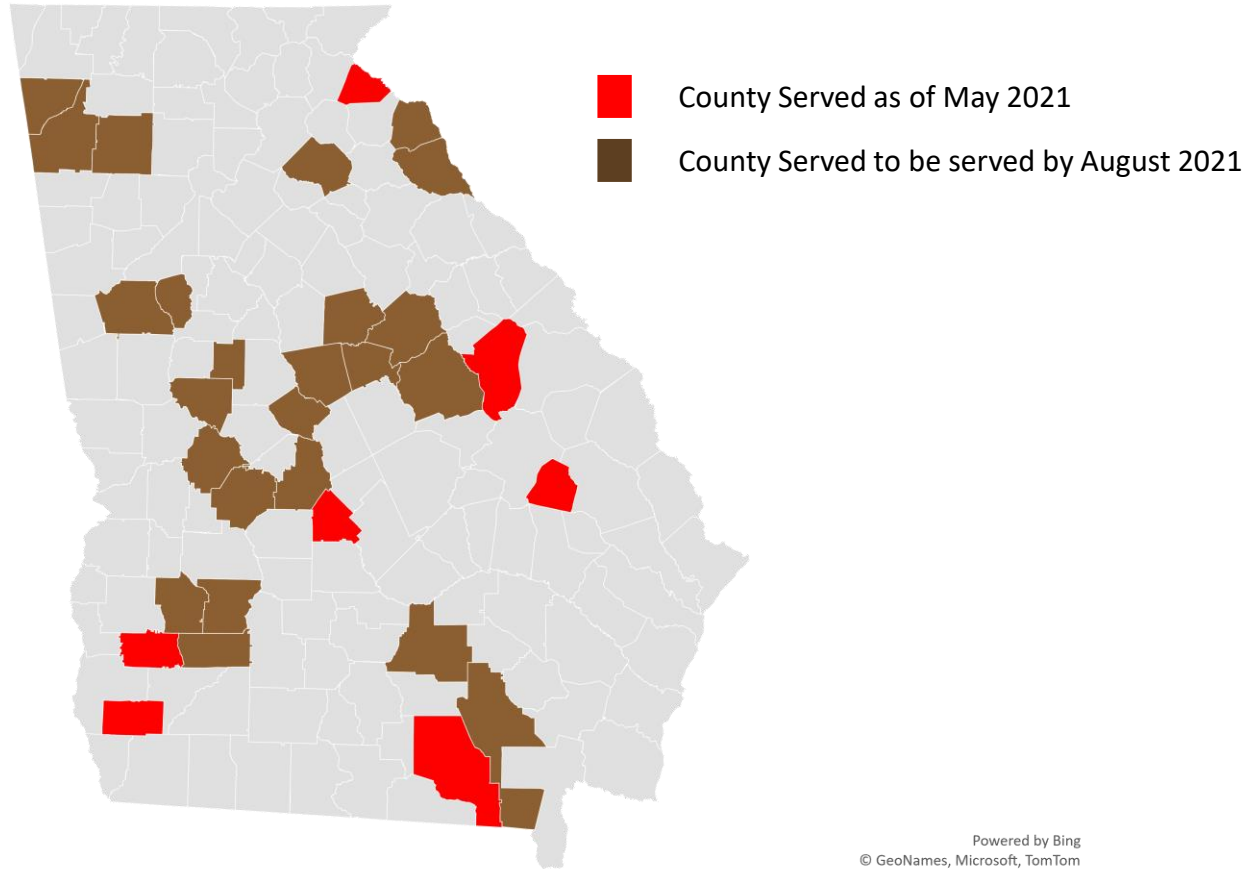
- Sustainability
 - ✓ Created a Georgia Nonprofit corporation:
Georgia Rural Hospital Food Collaborative, Inc.
 - ✓ Expanding area of service.
 - ✓ Adding new partners - customers and suppliers.
 - ✓ Generating revenue that will support expansion.
 - ✓ Hiring a manager and/or operating officer.
- Innovations
 - Purchased and now operating a protein facility.
 - Adding value to farm commodities, monetizing those adds, and retaining value in local community.
 - Use the Collaborative as a vehicle to drive economic prosperity in the rural community which will support business, increase tax revenue, sustain and improve healthcare.
 - Create a brand and sell it statewide!

Status Report – As of Dec 2021





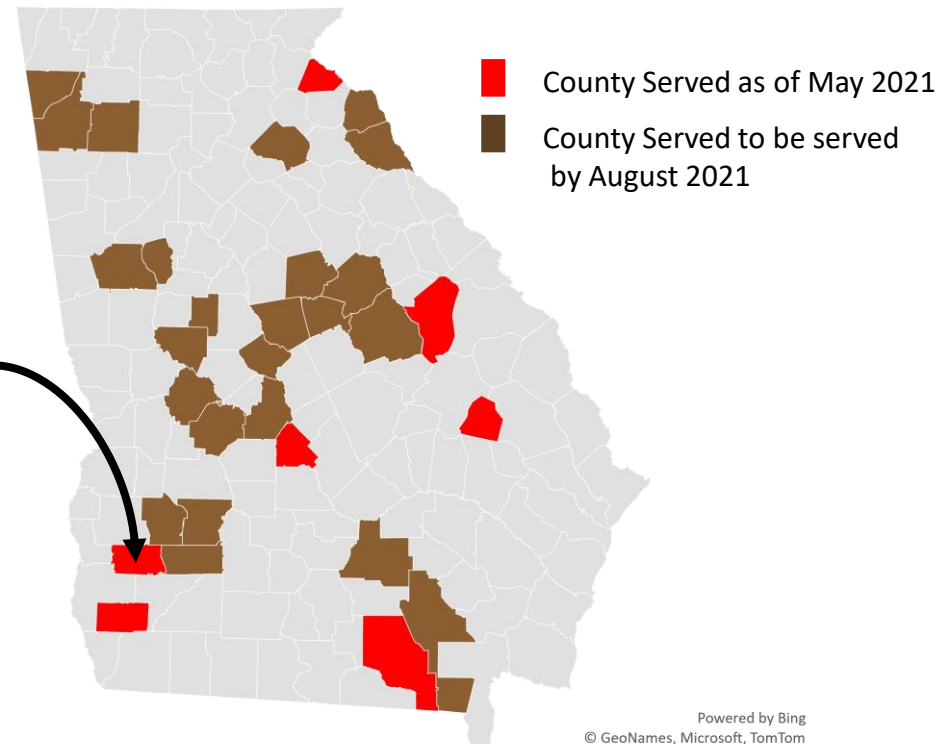
Counties Served by Collaborative



Status Report – As of Dec 2021



Counties Served by Collaborative



Next Step – Protein! – Done!!

Own and Operate Meat Processing - Why?

- Supply chain
 - Control supply chain – slaughter/processing is the weakest (nonexistent) link in the supply chain, and
 - Must have a reliable, local means of supplying protein to customers.
- Market opportunity for small and medium-size farmers.
- Economic development
 - Jobs
 - Retail opportunity
- Demonstrate proof of concept – will likely need to replicate in other areas of State.



Necessity Creates Opportunity