O41 (continued)

caregivers of children participating in SBFP were recruited to complete a self-administered survey, either on paper or through an online survey software (Question Pro).

Measurable Outcome/Analysis: Surveys, based on an existing tool developed for a Feeding America school-based food pantry evaluation, were adapted, reviewed, and revised with the partnering food bank. The 33-item survey explored client satisfaction with variety, quality, quantity, and nutritional value of food offerings using Likert-type scales, client program perceptions using open-text responses, and demographics. Descriptive statistics, including frequencies and means, were calculated to compare client acceptability between SBFP and SP programs.

Results: A majority of participants were White (100%), non-Hispanic (96%) females (88%), who reported either excellent (40%) or very good (16%) self-perceived knowledge of food preparation skills. Participant feedback and satisfaction were uniformly positive for both programs; however, a majority preferred the food variety (68%), quality (68%), quantity (84%), nutritional value (76%), and convenience (64%) of the SBFP compared to the SP program. Participants reported feeding more household members with SBFP (mean = 3.9 ± 0.91) than the SP program (mean = 3.0 ± 1.02).

Conclusion: Clients indicated acceptability of, satisfaction with, and preference for the SBFP. These findings support the continuation and expansion of SBFP at new sites to address food insecurity among low-income families with children.

Funding: University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

O42 Examining the Geospatial Characteristics of COVID-19 Pandemic Summer Meal Distribution Sites in North Carolina

Jared McGuirt, PhD, MPH, jtmcguir@uncg.edu, University of North Carolina Greensboro, The Department of Nutrition, 319 College Ave, 318 Stone Building, Greensboro, NC, 27412; Hannah Lane, PhD, Duke University; Jessica Soldavini, MPH, LDN, RD, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill; Stephanie Jilcott Pitts, PhD, East Carolina University; Alice Ammerman, DrPH, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Background: School meals are an important social safety net. During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools and community organizations were able to serve meals through federal summer meals programs (SMP) to reach kids in need who were not in school. It is important to understand how access to these programs may have been impacted across sociodemographic characteristics to prevent exacerbation of health disparities in future public health emergencies.

Objective: To examine the geospatial characteristics of COVID-19 pandemic SMP distribution sites in North Carolina.

Study Design, Setting, Participants: Cross-sectional study of COVID-19 SMP distribution sites ($n = 2,567$) in North Carolina during the 2019-2020 school year.

Measurable Outcome/Analysis: GIS was used to conduct a geospatial analysis. Pandemic SMP sites were mapped and spatially joined to US Census sociodemographic data and USDA Food Desert Atlas data, including designated census tracts. SMP site service areas were created for rural (10-mile) and urban sites (3-mile), and sociodemographic data aggregated within these areas to understand reach. Summary sociodemographic and food environment characteristics of meal sites were generated, and bivariate analysis used to assess group differences.

Results: There was a school meal site in 71% (267/368) of Food Desert Census Tracts. Census Tracts with meal sites had significantly higher levels of percent poverty (18.8% vs 13.2%) ($P < 0.001$), percent minority population (34.7% vs 25.7%) ($P < 0.001$), and a higher number of housing units without vehicle count beyond 1 mile from supermarket (56.3% vs 36.0%) ($P < 0.001$) compared to Census Tracts without SMP sites.

Conclusion: In North Carolina, meal sites were generally well placed to serve those in the most need. Future work should try to understand factors determining SMP location. The use of geospatial analysis of sociodemographic characteristics and use of spatial location-allocation modeling to inform meal distribution sites should be further explored to prevent future exacerbation of health disparities.

Funding: The North Carolina Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute.

O43 Timing of WIC Enrollment and Exclusive Breastfeeding: Results from the National WIC Infant Toddler Feeding Practices Study 2

Sina Gallo, PhD, MS, RD, sina.gallo@uga.edu, University of Georgia, 305 Sanford Dr, Ste 209, Athens, GA, 30602; Kiran Thapa, BS, University of Georgia; Janani Rajbhandari-Thapa, PhD, MS, MPA, University of Georgia

Background: Participation in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is associated with lower breastfeeding rates, compared to similar income non-participants. Breastfeeding decisions are often made before birth hence; the prenatal period may be critical for breastfeeding support.

Objective: To explore whether timing of WIC enrollment has an effect on breastfeeding exclusivity at 3, 5, and 7 months. As there are racial/ethnic disparities in breastfeeding, the association of timing of enrollment and race/ethnicity with breastfeeding outcomes was also assessed.

Study Design, Setting, Participants: This is a secondary analysis of data collected from the WIC Infant Toddler Feeding Practices Study-2, the most recent longitudinal assessment of mother-child dyads participating in WIC nationally. Only data collected from the prenatal through 7-months post-partum were included.

Measurable Outcome/Analysis: Logistic regression models analyzed the association between the timing of WIC enrollment - categorized as prenatal (1st, 2nd or 3rd trimester) or post-partum and exclusive breastfeeding -

Continued on page S21