Despite international efforts to eradicate hunger and a commitment by national governments to achieve universal food security, it is estimated that more than 780 million people, most of them children, do not have access to adequate nutrition. Various approaches to achieving food security have been attempted - from improved agricultural techniques, to the introduction of new technologies, to the creation of national and international policies that focus on human and sustainable development. One particularly successful strategy for improving food security is the creation and expansion of community-based food systems; it provides not only poor families and children with access to adequate food supplies, but adds economic value to families in these communities. This paper focuses on successful community-based food systems that are increasing health and nutrition in underserved communities around the world, and which are also promoting the health of local economies.

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