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The critical role of information sharing to the value proposition of a food systems network

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ABSTRACT

With goal-directed networks being used so extensively as a strategy to achieve ‘collective impact,’ increased attention is being paid to the investment of participating member organizations’ time, and informational, financial, and human capital in these efforts. Authors draw on the concept of ‘value proposition’ from the business and public administration literature and use extensive network data from a food systems planning network to test hypotheses focusing on the positionality of member organizations within specific operational subnetworks by correlating positionality with multiple assessments of value. Results indicate that embeddedness in the information sharing subnetwork most strongly correlates with member value proposition.

KEYWORDS:

Network analysis public–private partnerships food systems network governance

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Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Notes

1. The Farm to Plate website may be found at: http://www.vtfarmtoplate.com/

2. For this analysis, we used the network analytic software program *ORA (Carley 2001–11), which is designed a package for general network analysis, allowing for a wide array of analyses on network data from any field of study. Along with its capacity for all standard network analytic techniques, *ORA contains specialized tools for dynamic network analysis and geographically linked network analysis. See the *ORA Publications list (CASOS 2015) for an extensive list of publications documenting the use of *ORA.

Additional information

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