**Purpose of Research**

To better understand food environments post-disasters, to provide information for policy’s and interventions to better help people in disasters and post-disaster.

**Introduction**

I traveled with a team of five to New Bern, North Carolina one-year post-Hurricane Florence and one day after Hurricane Dorian. New Bern is a small town on the coast of North Carolina, located in Craven County; about two hours south of Raleigh. The town is located between two rivers, the Neuse River and the Trent River.

**Key Findings**

- Farmers are moving away from NC agriculture due to disasters
- Farmers cannot afford to stay in agriculture in NC
- People are moving to cities because they don’t have homes/work in the County
- Rural food insecurity is a problem

**Takeaways**

What I learned:
- There is a real cost of climate change on agriculture
- The increase in frequency of disasters has flooded North Carolina farms, leading to produce loss.
- Climate change has begun to change the crop seasons, increasing produce prices.

How it’s impacted my professional/academic path:
- This experience provoked a desire to research and create programs geared towards creating equitable access to healthy food for our growing urban environments due to climate change
- I saw the disproportionate impact of disasters on vulnerable populations further motivating my inclination towards program planning for vulnerable populations

**Challenges**

- Long hours
- Some organizations are more receptive than others

**Future Directions**

- Plans for getting to my career goals include graduate school, MPH
- Prepare for a Career in program planning, interventions, and evaluation
- Career goal to eliminate food insecurity in my community and create more urban agriculture

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