

Social Services Partnership

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Purpose Statement

- Assist Town of Scottsville staff and residents in identifying and addressing the needs, discrepancies, and opportunities regarding the provision of social services. Suggest further action that could be taken to make sure all voices are heard and conversations about social services have a goal of consensus.



Specific Goals and Objectives

- Identify current social services, where there is lack of them, and why that might be
 - Explore underutilized federal and/or state programs and potentially advocate for increased participation
 - Create GIS generated maps of currently available social services
- Collect input to develop clear understanding of needs of the Scottsville community
 - Surveys and interviews
- Aid in facilitating strong relationships between social services stakeholders, community, and Scottsville representatives
- Offer concrete recommendations to stakeholders about specific services needed and who needs them most
- Emphasis on inclusivity and equity
 - Having equal access to programs and services.
 - Diverse set of programs and services that are available to different demographics ex: age groups



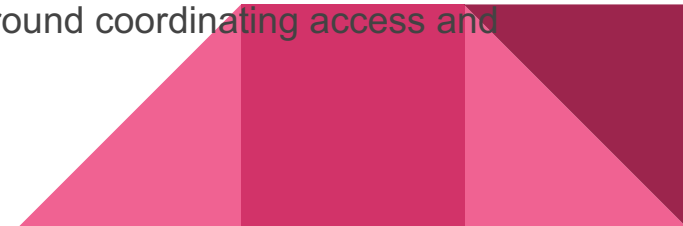
Evaluation Protocol

- The group's ability to work collaboratively, adhere to agreed upon schedules/meet deadlines, resolve conflicts, and satisfy client needs
- The feasibility of programs that are proposed
 - Increase awareness and access to social services throughout the study area
 - Connect local government and social service representatives for continuous collaboration
- Use of multiple forms of data - qualitative and quantitative
- Produced a report/deliverable that clearly outlines analysis and proposals (to allow for future work)
- Adaptation and completion of goals and objectives
- Connecting necessary point people to bridge social service gaps



Situation Assessment

- HEARR region (approximately the 10 mile radius around Scottsville, VA)
 - Overlapping boundaries with different towns, organizations, etc.
- Key stakeholders
 - Residents/community members, service providers, service recipients, County departments of social services, public schools, safety organizations, faith organizations
- Key issues identified during interviews
 - Transportation / access to services
 - Knowledge of eligibility and service availability
 - Stigma around accessing services
 - Aging population
- Key processes
 - Collaboration and inter-organizational partnerships, particularly around coordinating access and service capacities



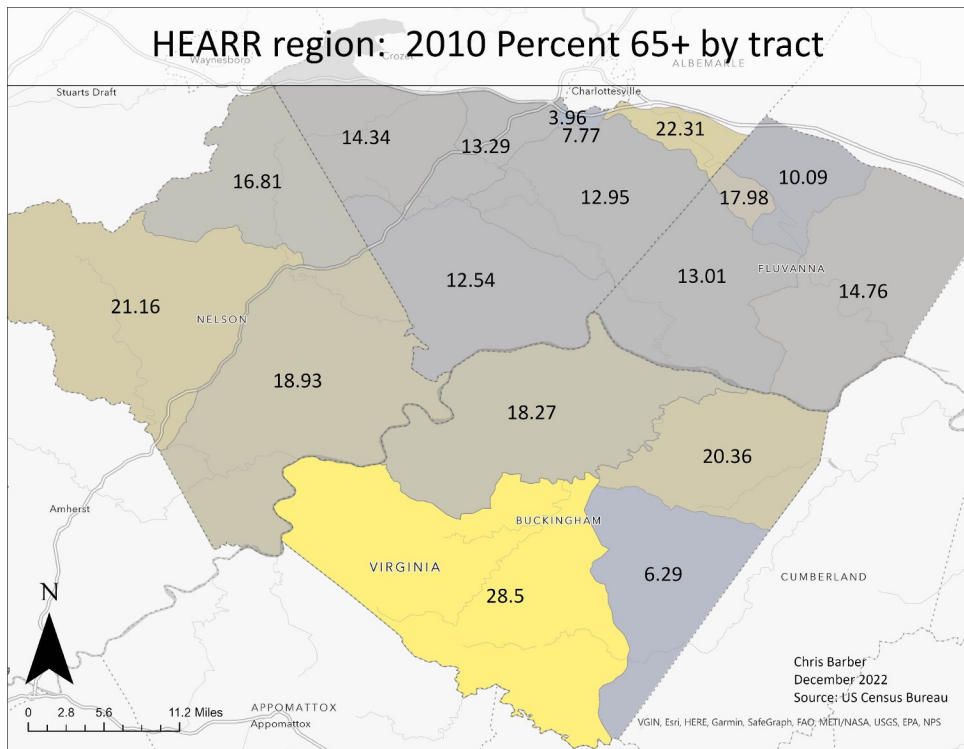
Situation Assessment (cont)

According to American Community Survey estimates, in the HEARR region:

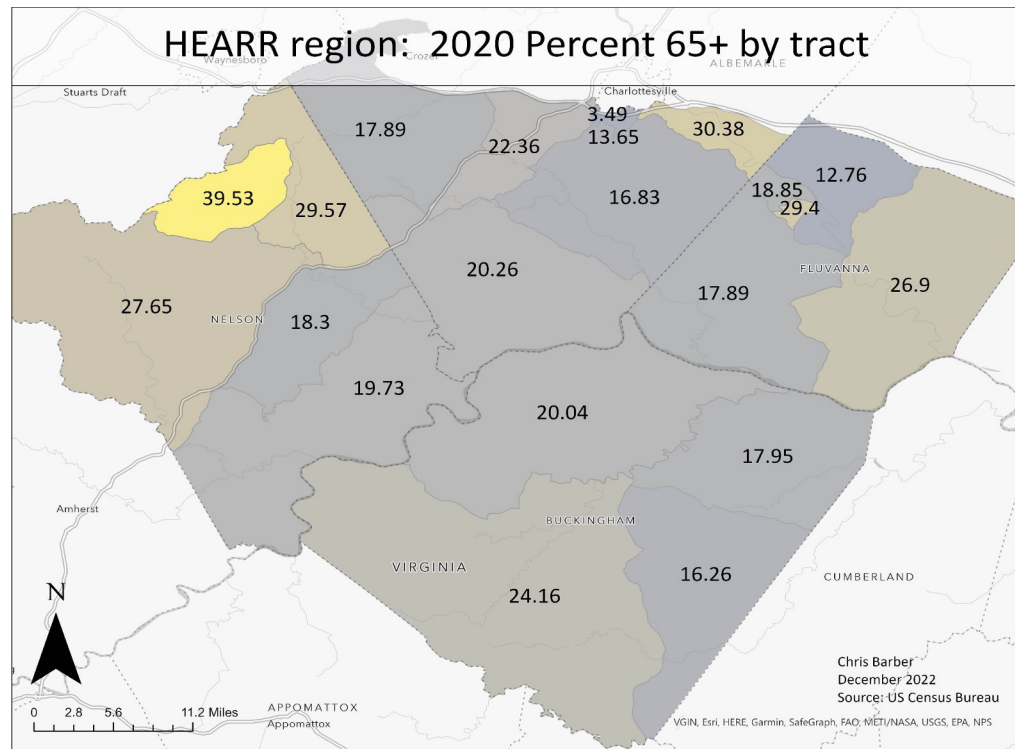
- 8080 individuals are below the poverty line
- 2232 receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits
- 12060 receive Medicaid assistance
- 12079 receive Social Security benefits
- The minor population (under 18) stayed roughly the same over a decade at 20.23% in 2010 and 19.34% in 2020
- The elderly population (65+) increased from 14.54% of the total population in 2010 to 20.08% in 2020



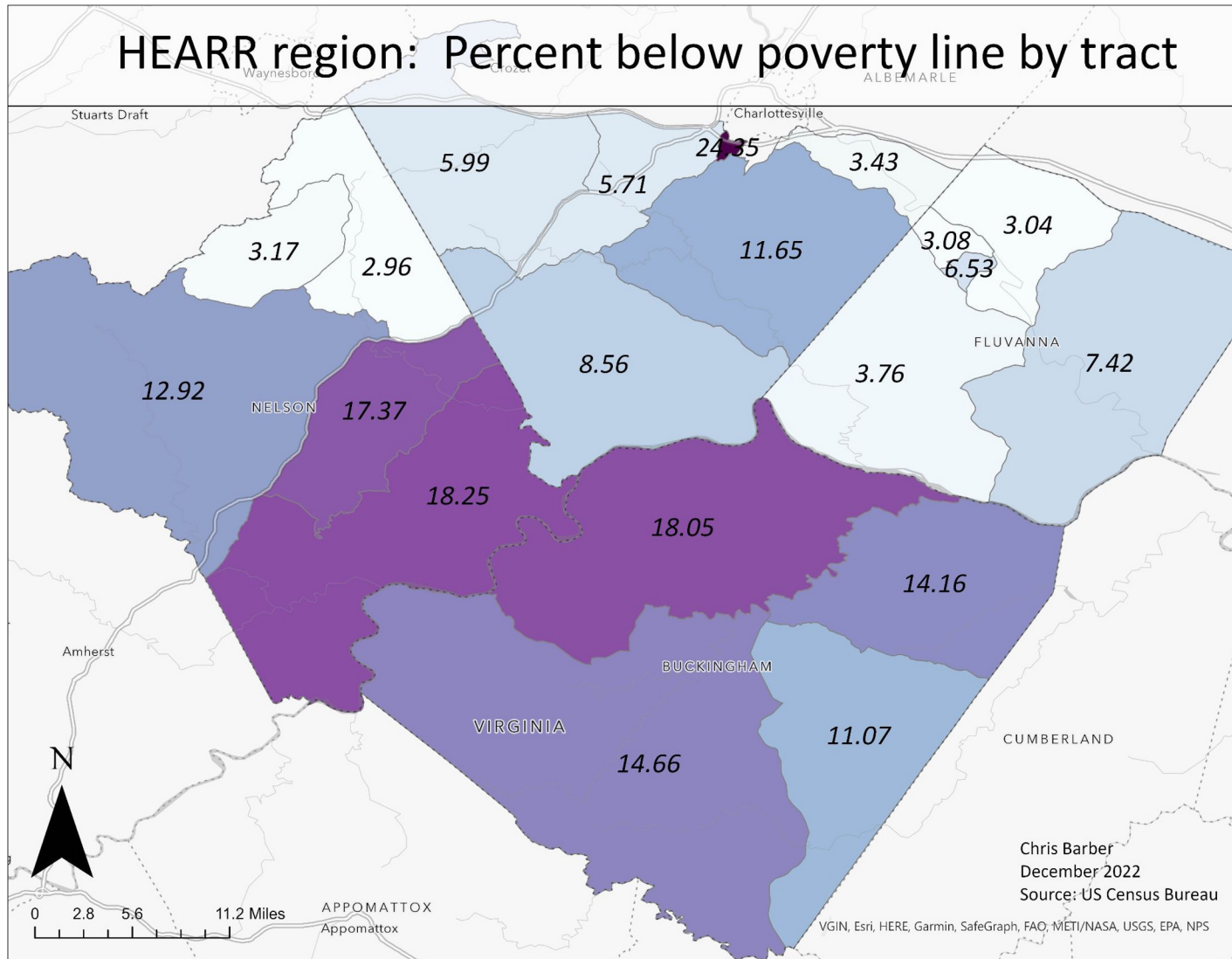
HEARR region: 2010 Percent 65+ by tract



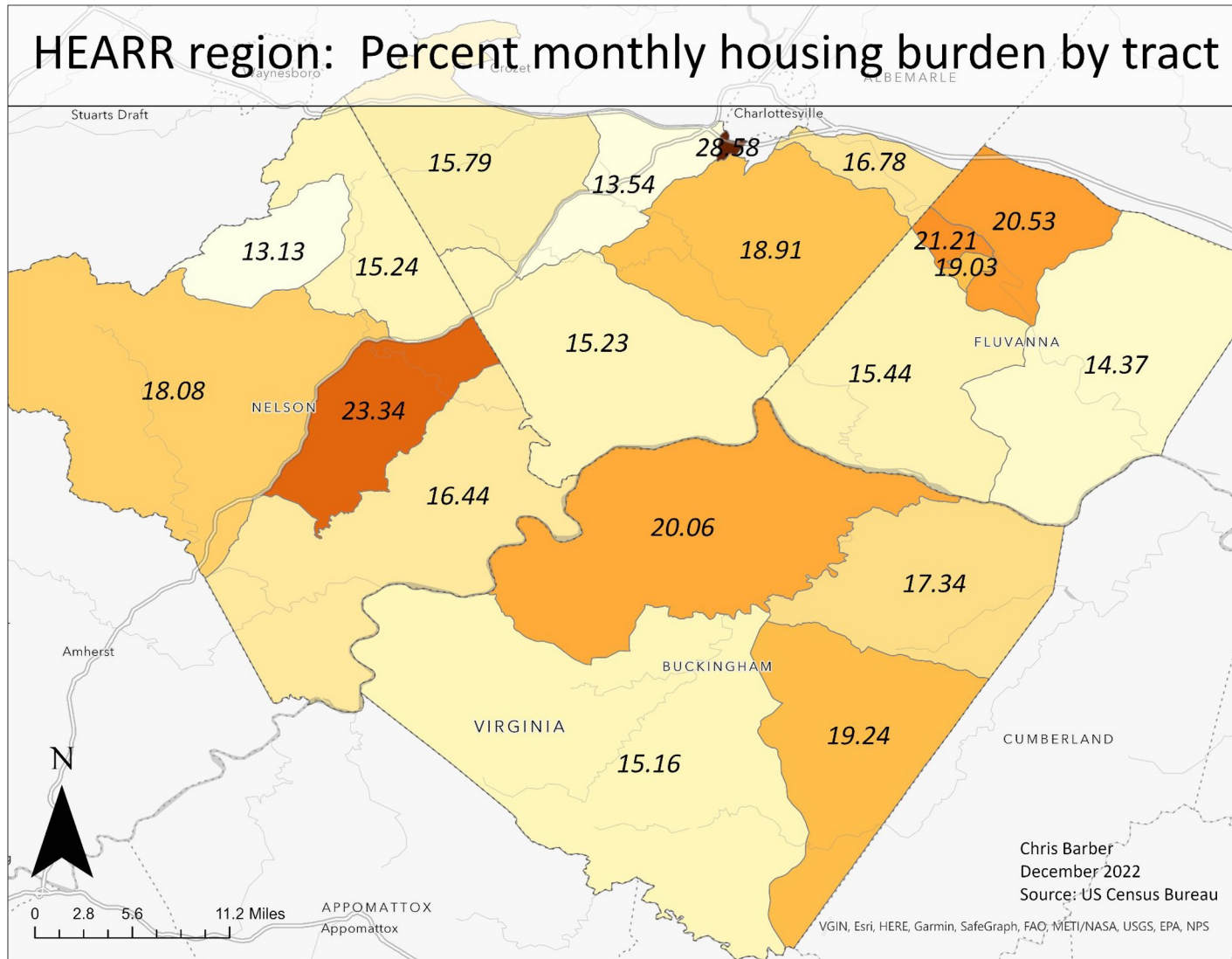
HEARR region: 2020 Percent 65+ by tract



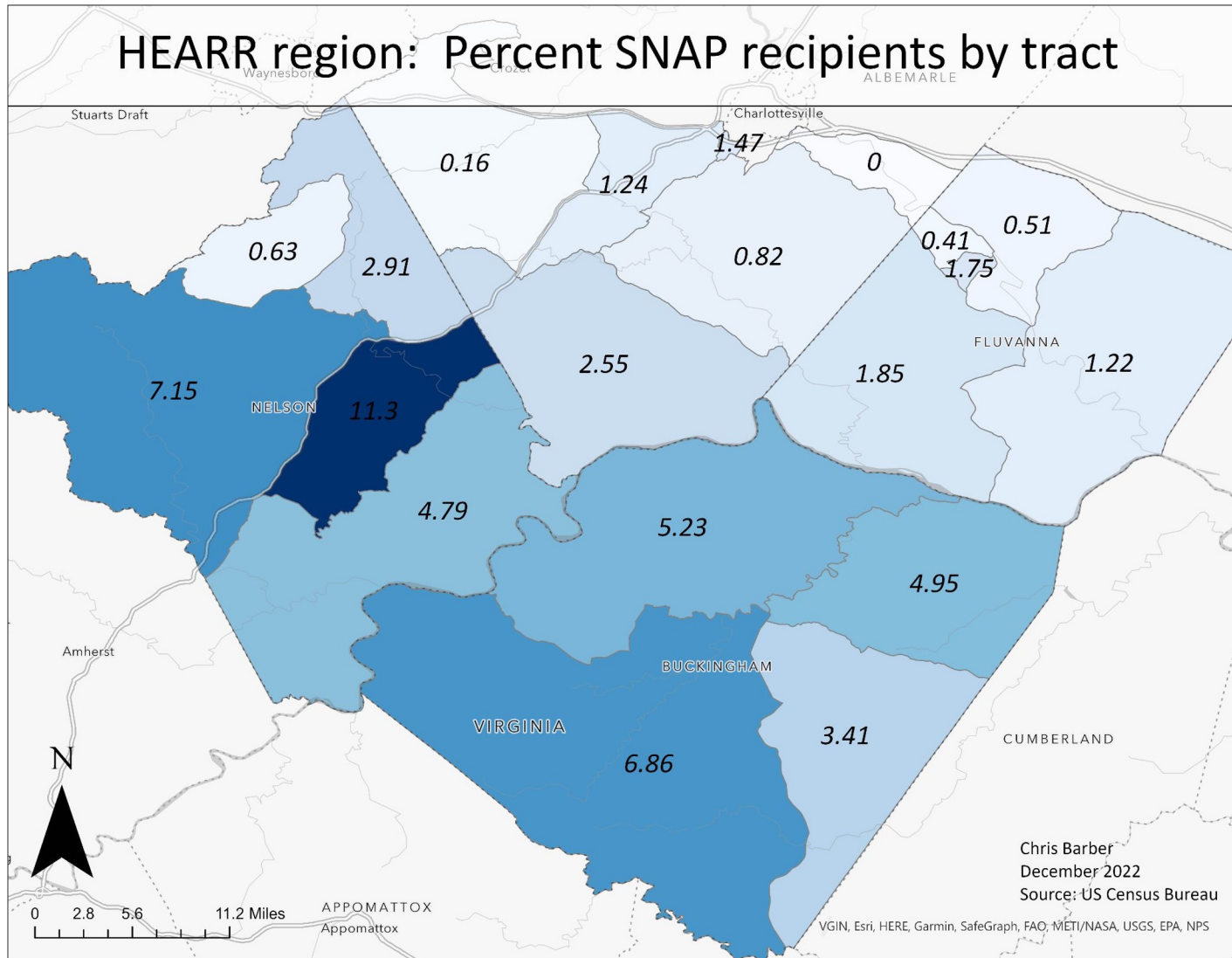
HEARR region: Percent below poverty line by tract

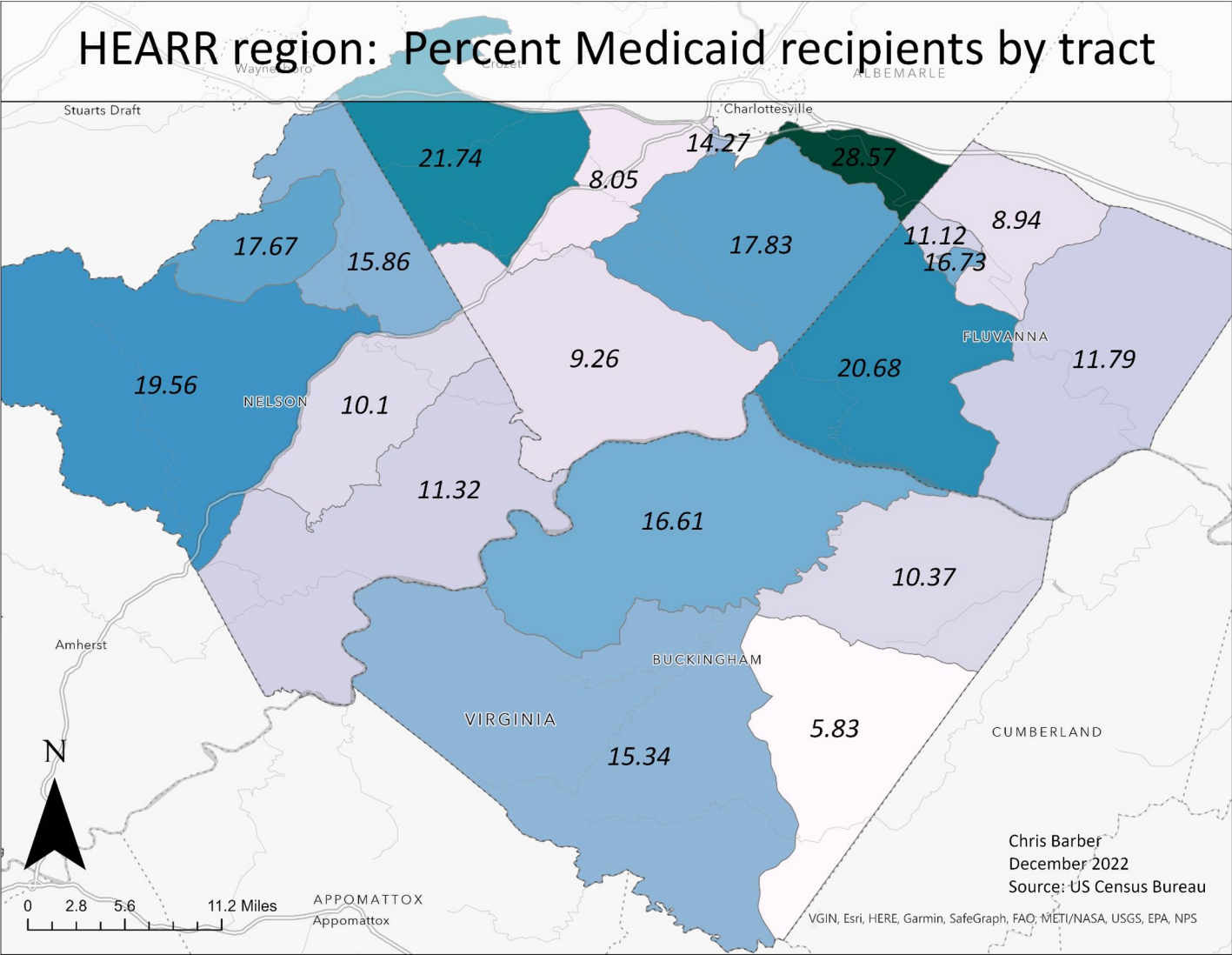


HEARR region: Percent monthly housing burden by tract

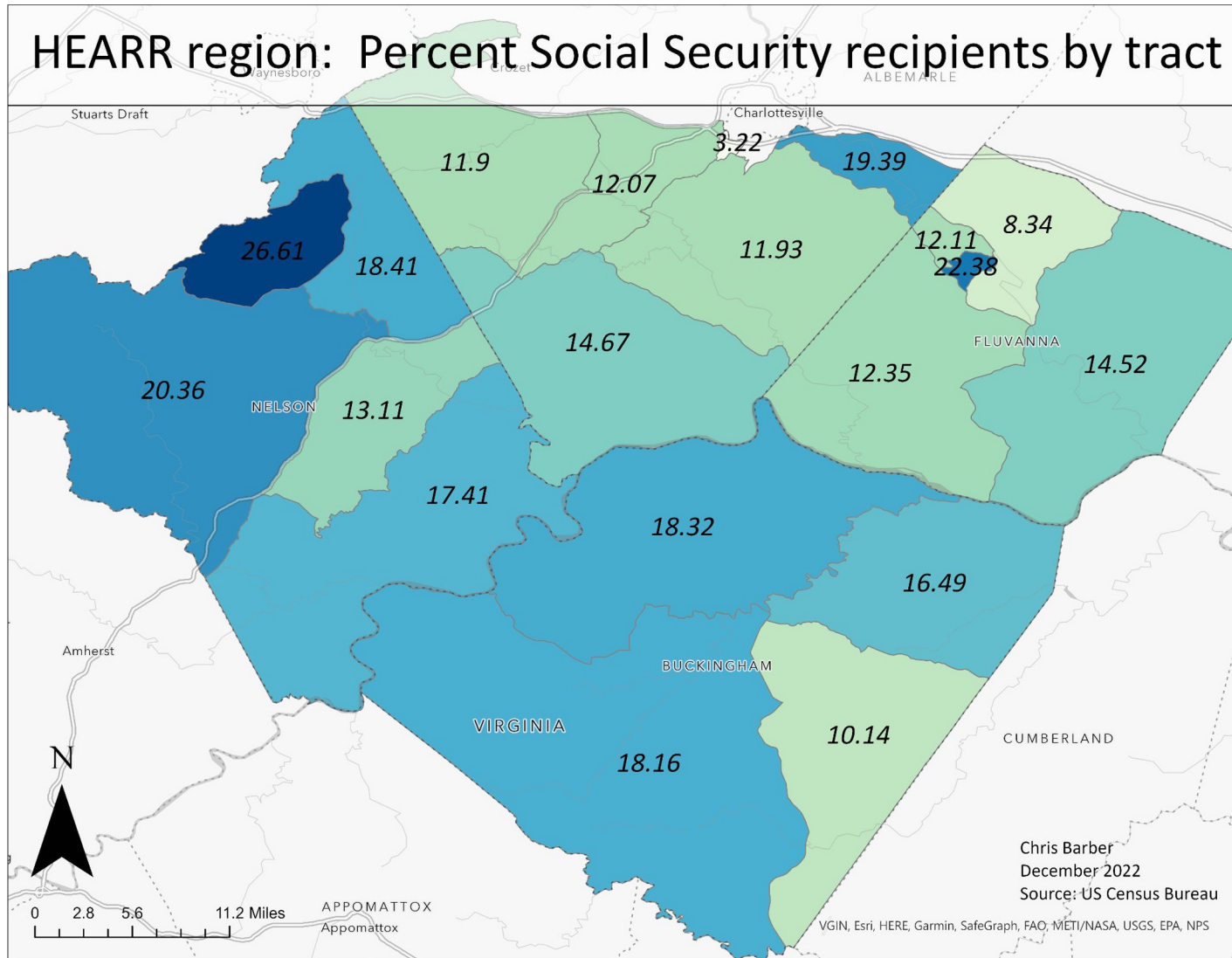


HEARR region: Percent SNAP recipients by tract

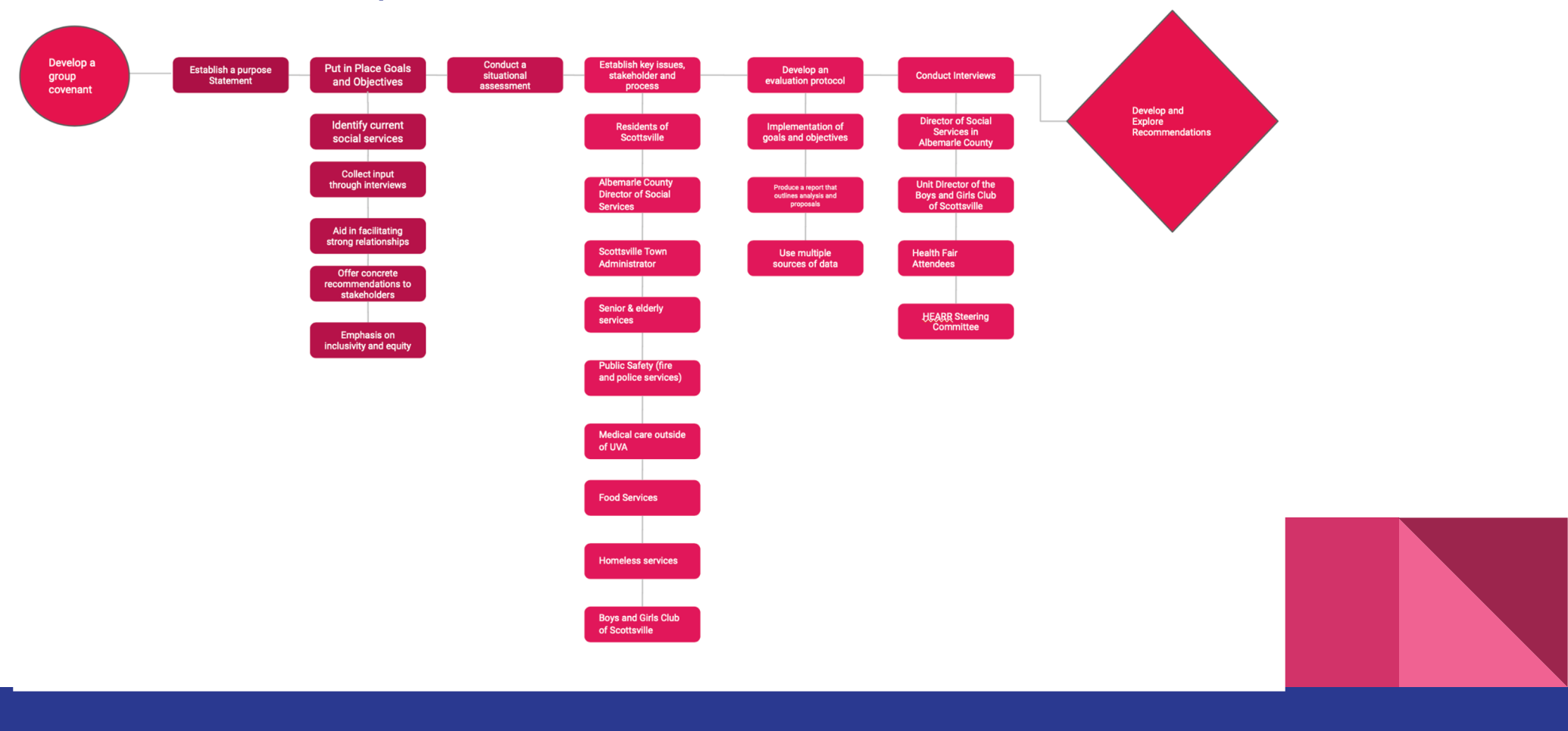




HEARR region: Percent Social Security recipients by tract



Process Map



Interview with Kaki Dimock



- Director of Social Services in Albemarle County
- Working in current position for over 1 year
- Challenges:
 - Lack of resources and staffing
 - Behavioral health positions severely understaffed
 - Achieving equitable outcomes
 - Mandates setting qualification thresholds
 - Set by state and federal government
 - Reaching underserved communities
- Desire to expand reach and redefine social services
 - “Human services”



Interview with Jelani Simpson

- Unit Director at the boys and girls club of Scottsville
- 7th year as the director and 10th year in total with the club
- Challenges:
 - Lack of funding and resources
 - They struggle to get grants due to being a rural club
 - Transportation is a major issue
 - It's hard for them to organize events outside of the club due to lack of transportation
 - They lost a couple of kids because Buckingham county stopped providing buses to transport kids
 - They believe that they are little forgotten because they are so isolated being a rural club
 - Lack of space
 - The space they currently occupy is owned by the Albemarle County Parks and Recs
 - Due to the pandemic they haven't had to share the space recently
 - They have been discussing finding a new larger space



Interviews with Health Fair Attendees

On November 5th, HEARR hosted a community “health faire” at the Yancy Elementary in Esmont

- Well-attended with at least 100 area residents and organizations representing a range of interests
- Interviewed four, randomly selected attendees about social services
- The conversations with both attendees and organization representatives revealed that transportation, knowledge of services, and youth services are concerns.



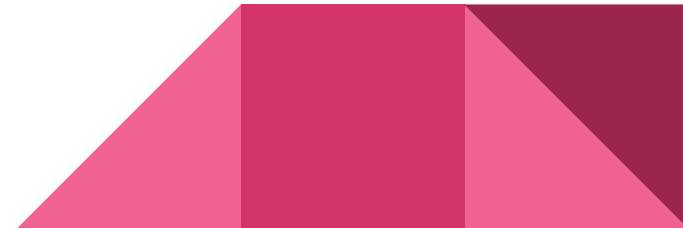
Interview with Nancy Gill and Peggy Scott

- Nancy Gill, former Mayor of Scottsville, and Peggy Scott, on HEARR Steering Committee
- Challenges:
 - Knowing what services are available and how to access them
 - Issues with accessibility - knowledge, transportation
 - Transportation particularly challenging for younger and older populations
- Ongoing Initiatives
 - JABA, JAUNT
 - HEARR guide
- Would like to see:
 - Identifying potential partnerships



Options and Recommendations

- Focus group of not only local government or social service organizations, but residents from the HEARR region to better imagine how collaboration between communities could be implemented in terms of social services
- Public outreach to increase enrollment, knowledge, and decrease stigma
- Lobby lawmakers in Richmond for legislative change
- Expand definition of current Social Services
- Engage transportation partners in collaborative discussion



Group Covenant

- Did well
 - Weekly meeting at 10:30am every Friday on Google Meet; share documents in Google Drive
 - Meetings were efficient and enjoyable
 - Communicating updates on progress
 - We did well practicing empathy and patience with one another and acknowledge we each have our own work styles and priorities outside of class
- Could use improvement
 - Clarification of roles and expectations at the beginning of the semester

