



## The Department of Nutritional Sciences Spring 2023 Seminar Series

### "Interventions to improve the food environment in Baltimore: Past findings and new directions"

**Joel Gittelsohn, Ph.D.**

Professor  
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Host: Sarah Curran, MHS, RDN  
Instructor of Supervised Practice, Rutgers



**Wednesday, February 8, 2023 @ 2:15 PM**

Zoom: <https://go.rutgers.edu/Gittelsohn-Seminar>



Dr. Joel Gittelsohn is a public health nutritionist and medical anthropologist, who focuses on the primary prevention of chronic disease in disadvantaged communities. With more than 300 publications, Dr. Gittelsohn has led multiple intervention trials aimed at improving the food environment and providing education needed to support healthy food choices and reduce obesity and diabetes in Native communities, Baltimore City, and Pacific Islander communities. Dr. Gittelsohn has conducted a series of intervention trials with corner stores, carryouts, wholesalers, churches, and recreation centers in Baltimore City. These studies have shown success in increasing knowledge, healthy food purchasing and consumption, in reducing obesity, and in improving stocking and sales of healthier foods. Recently, he has begun to use systems science methods in his work, to simulate the impact and unexpected consequences of policies to improve the urban food environment and is developing an app to improve the distribution of healthy foods to food sources located in low-income neighborhoods of Baltimore. Dr. Gittelsohn currently leads grants to improve the food environment by working with independently owned restaurants, retail food stores, and food pantries.



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