

APPROVED

San Francisco Food Security Task Force (FSTF) Minutes

August 4, 2021

Members present: Ave Lambert; Raegan Sales (Children’s Council); Paula Jones (DPH Food Security); Geoffrey Grier (SF Recovery Theatre); Cissie Bonini (EatSF/UCSF); Emma Steinberg (Kaiser Permanente; Chester Williams (Community Living Campaign); Kim Madsen (Project Open Hand); Jeimil Belamide (HSA/CalFresh); Tiffany Kearney (DAS); Michelle Kim (DCYF); Jennifer LeBarre (SFUSD); Emily Cohen (HSH); Priti Rane (DPH-MCAH); Rita Mouton-Patterson (Hospitality House); Anne Quaintance (Conard House), Mei Ling Hui (Rec and Park)

Also present: Lea Troeh (EatSF/UCSF); Jalal Alabsi (TNDC); Meredith Terrell (Meals on Wheels SF); Michael Pon (UCSF); Marchon Tatmon (SF Marin Food Bank); John McCormick (TNDC); Kallisto Khan (TNDC); Lauren Small (Leah’s Pantry); Carolyn Lasar; Linda Garza; Susie Smith (HSA); Cindy Lin (HSA/Covid Food Coordination Group); Anthony Macaulay (MOWSF); Cathy Huang (HSA); Kathleen da Silva; Anthony Khalil; Sarah Chan; Janna Cordeiro (Food as Medicine Collaborative)

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEM
1. Call to order	Cissie called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm	None
2. Welcome, member roll call, introductions, Cissie Bonini (Chair)	Cissie welcomed everyone and called member roll. Members of the public introduced themselves in the chat.	None
3. Approval of minutes from June 2, 2021	Several typos were noted. Emma made a motion to approve the minutes. Ave seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with changes noted.	Post approved meeting minutes to the website.
4. General Public Comment	Paula Jones let the group know that this would be Emma Steinberg’s last meeting. She thanked Emma for her leadership on the Food Security Task Force. Everyone thanked Emma for her participation on the task force and wished her best of luck.	None

<p>5. State and federal legislative & budget update</p>	<p>Marchon Tatmon, Government Affairs Manager at the SF Marin Food Bank, provided an update on state and federal policy: We saw HISTORIC WINS at the state level last week. California just passed several critical anti-hunger reforms. This includes school meals for all children, improved CalFresh access for older adults, and restoration of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) grants that were cut 10 years ago during the recession.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Meals for All: Provides access to free breakfast and lunch for all students – making CA the first state in the nation to feed all kids! • SSP/SSI Grants: By 2023, fully reverses the grant cuts implemented during the Great Recession. • 15% Healthy Food Tax Credit: Extends to 2026 the tax credit for food donations – supporting famers and food banks while preventing waste • Many CalFresh investments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Simplified application for seniors and telephonic access (Sen. Wiener) ○ Equitable Consumer Compensation so low-income Californians are adequately compensated for participating in the user-centered design process creating the new CalFresh web portal (Asm. Calderon) ○ Support for counties to continue the CalFresh expansion to higher education students and implement CalFresh program simplifications • Emergency Food: \$110 million for food banks to respond to the ongoing crisis, and \$8 million for food banks to buy CA-grown food • Jennifer Lebarre (SFUSD) The state increased the reimbursement for 1 year, and they are hopeful for the federal government to implement universal meals for all. Also, SB 130 which authorizes independent study for students whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction, allowing SFUSD to continue the program providing meals to students needing them at home. • Raegan Sales (Children’s Council) said that an additional \$15 million in ongoing funding to help child care providers and child care centers serve meals to low-income children was included in the FY 21-22 budget. Child care educators are getting a higher reimbursement level starting in July. • Jeimil Belamide (CalFresh) said that funding for implementing programming and other costs to prepare to expand CFAP Food4All was included in the FY 21-22 budget. • Cissie Bonini (Vouchers 4 Veggies/EatSF) said the the WIC fruit and vegetable supplement is now \$35 per person per month (June – September.) President Biden’s budget would expand to 1 year. Also, the Child Nutrition Act will be 	<p>None</p>
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	<p>voted on in Spring 2020, and the supplement there is advocacy to increase the benefit to \$50. San Francisco is gathering stories for this effort.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chester Williams (Community Living Campaign) asked for an update on After School meals. SFUSD and DCYF offer afterschool meal program. • Priti Rane (DPH WIC) waivers for WIC have been extended. • Emma Steinberg (Kaiser) The Medi-Cal waiver was signed by the Governor and included medically tailored meals and groceries. The first step to implement will be for health care payers to adopt this benefit. 	
<p>FSTF reauthorization and other SF food security legislation</p>	<p>Paula Jones (SFDPH) updated the group about the following ordinances: Food Security Task Force reauthorization, the Biennial Food Security and Equity Report, and the Food Empowerment Market Fund. These ordinances were all signed by Mayor Breed on July 30, 2021. The ordinances work together, and Paula showed a diagram explaining the task forces' role in each ordinance. Cindy Lin (HSA) let the group know that the kitchen requirement was removed from the Food Empowerment Market Fund. Anne Quaintance asked if anything has changed with the reauthorization of the task force, and whether there will be an update to the strategic plan.</p>	<p>Materials will be posted to website</p>
<p>7. Local budget updates</p>	<p>Jennifer LeBarre provided a funding update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Meal Program Reimbursement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ USDA extended waivers that allow SFUSD to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide free breakfast and lunch to all children at all SFUSD sites ▪ Expand supper programs to all afterschool programs ▪ Add Snack- resulting in some schools now having FOUR MEALS PER DAY ▪ Continue our Door to Door program for those students that are continuing Online Learning • State Meal Program Reimbursement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased State Reimbursement for 21-22 SY only • Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mayor's Budget did not include Student Nutrition Services allocation. ○ SFUSD Leadership is working with Mayor's office to replace this budget allocation with other funding. <p>Universal Meals</p>	<p>As stated.</p>

- With the adoption of this year’s budget, California became the first state in the country to adopt Universal Meals.
 - This is dependent on leveraging/maximizing Federal reimbursement through programs like Community Eligibility Provision and other Provision programs like Provision2
 - More to come how this will be implemented
- Still hopeful that we will see this on a Federal Level

This [bill](#) was introduced and we are hopeful that it is either passed through Child Nutrition Reauthorization or via reconciliation process.

Michelle Kim provided the following update for DCYF: Last year during the height of pandemic, DCYF was able to use both USDA grants (SFSP and CACFP grants) to supplement food for the learning hubs (breakfast, lunch and snack). With expiration of certain waivers, DCYF is not able to use SFSP for this upcoming school-year but is still able to use CACFP (which was the standard pre-COVID). This will allow DCYF to sponsor supper and snacks. While USDA funding is limited this school-year for DCYF, DCYF maintains the same nutrition budget using other city funds in the event that learning hubs are needed again given the Delta Variant.

Tiffany Kearny (DAS) provided a presentation on DAS funding for programs: Congregate and home delivered meal nutrition services grants awarded totaling ~\$25.6M - \$20.6M ongoing baseline funding - \$5M one time only funding 2. Home delivered grocery services grants awarded totaling ~\$1.9M - \$1.3M ongoing baseline funding - \$600K one time only funding 3. Food assistance program - funding amount is ~\$2.3M. There was also \$1,271,500 Nutrition and Wellness Allocation through the Dignity Fund. Tiffany’s slides will be posted to the website. Tiffany also mentioned that most congregate meal providers are delivering meals.

Priti Rane (DPH) reported that Black Infant Health received an addback of \$250,000 for grocery vouchers.

Mei Ling Hui (Rec and Park) reported that Community Garden and Urban Ag budget for SFRPD has remained stable through the budget cuts - the department prioritized the program to ensure we could continue all the food security and social cohesion work we are engaged in.

	<p>Paula Jones (DPH) reported that the Healthy Food Purchasing Supplement received a one-time additional allocation of \$750,000. Additionally, the Sugary Drink grants received an additional one time increase of \$700,000 and a one-time addback of \$191,000.</p> <p>Emily Cohen (HSH) funds some meals in shelters as part of their services, but there isn't a dedicated line item for food. She provided budget highlights: *Leverage \$1 billion in funding over the next two fiscal years ~\$750 million from Our City, Our Home funds *Historic Expansion in Permanent Supportive Housing • ~\$400 million one-time investment from local and federal sources * Prioritize funding across entire Homelessness Response System • Prevention, housing stabilization, emergency shelter, and housing expansion. They will also maintain safe sleeping sites with meals including the site with trailers. They are phasing out the Shelter in Place hotels but will be providing placement services.</p> <p>Anne Quaintance (Conard House) mentioned that there is no dedicated HSH funds for food in supportive housing.</p>	
<p>8. Covid Food Coordination Group update</p>	<p>Cindy Lin (HSA) let the group know that \$16M is going to food. \$13M will be granted through RFPs that are currently open. \$3M will be going to Food Empowerment Markets and they are doing research on food sovereignty. They are also doing researching across the country and spoke with organizations in Boston Massachusetts, Santa Barbara, Nashville. They are getting an idea about how much the model costs. They will be putting out an RFP for D11 later this year for a pilot. They will be going back to the BOS with the rules for the Food Empowerment Market Fund. Ave asked how HSA is conceptualizing running the markets? Susie Smith (HSA) responded that the legislation didn't have funds attached, and HSA is looking for funds to start something this fiscal year. Final Food Empowerment Market legislation: https://sfgov.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9687616&GUID=6DB5FAA7-2C76-49F1-A307-955E4D22BE12</p> <p>Tiffany Kearney asked: are meals exclusively for seniors? Anne Quaintance: The food will be available for free and for sale? Raegan Sales: Will they be open to families?</p> <p>Cindy let the group know that the Covid Food Coordination Group held community listening sessions and met with over 40 organizations and stakeholder interviews. Some of the feedback</p>	<p>None</p>

	<p>included 1. Pivot driven by the need, 2. Choice and different modalities work best for clients (not one size fits all), 3. Need financial support to carry on – some asked for funds to support staff and infrastructure, and 4. Specific populations need tailored solutions – seniors liked higher quality meals and delivery, multigenerational households need more food, immigrant populations need to work with trusted CBOs (generally smaller organizations).</p> <p>Current RFPs open: 952, 953, 954. The RFPs are available at: https://sfcitypartner.sfgov.org/pages/index.aspx (Human Service Agency is issuing the RFPs)</p> <p>There is an increase in Covid cases and increased referrals to the IQ Food service managed by Meals on Wheels SF. The intake form is available here: https://www.tfaforms.com/4857945</p> <p>Public Comment: @reagan undocumented families, people qualify for Medical/SNAP also are included Thanks to Cindy and her team for the listening sessions and thoughtful research! Would love to hear a summary of the research done for the Empowerment Markets— other models, etc. What was the name of the organization you interviewed again? Empowerment sourcing ideas. Any leads on sourcing/suppliers at this stage? It was great to see SF-based BIPOC food suppliers prioritized for the latest RFPs! Very exciting work! Ok, we look forward to it!</p>	
<p>9. Food Security Task Force planning future meetings</p>	<p>Cissie Bonini and Paula Jones asked the group for input on future meetings, especially updates from community organizations. They won't need to prepare slides. Ave Lambert suggested Urban Tilth from Richmond as a great model.</p> <p>The following were topics were also suggested: Update on FSTF strategic plan priorities including what has moved forward, what hasn't, and new priorities; Money for food/guaranteed income/universal basic income – update from the Treasurer's Office on Universal Basic Income; food sovereignty/urban agriculture; values-based procurement; parallel food security task forces in neighborhoods ex. D10, Tenderloin; Food Empowerment Markets; how to support existing infrastructure to expand and reinvent to meet needs;; Under "Food As Medicine" open a communication line for providing a portal to Minority & Black Farmers plight to sale to larger food suppliers.</p>	<p>None</p>

	<p>Public Comment: Agree with topics</p>	
<p>10. Food Security Task Force member updates</p>	<p>Jeimil Belamide updated the group with the following CalFresh updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CalFresh caseload <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. June 2021 – 63,529 b. May 2021 – 62,761 c. June 2020 – 61,561 2. Supplemental Emergency Allotment benefits are approved for July. CalFresh households will receive a supplemental benefit to increase CF benefit equal to the maximum allotment for their household size. Supplemental amounts will be available to households around Mid-August. 3. P-EBT 2.0 cards <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Those who are 0-6 years old, part of a CF HH, and living in a county where at least one school facility is closed or limited to in-person instruction will have their P-EBT cards mailed to them through July and August. b. Schooled aged children who were enrolled in school year 20-21 in a school that participated in Federal Breakfast or National School Lunch Program, and eligible for free or reduced-price meals for school year 20-21, and are assumed to have attended school via all distance or hybrid during school year 20-21 will have their cards mailed to through August, September, October, and November c. Cards will be mailed by age group in alphabetical order based on the first name of the eligible child d. P-EBT Helpline is (877) 328-9677 4. State Budget Updates <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. SB464 (Food4All) will remain in Assembly Appropriations for the 2021 Legislative year. <p>Janna Cordeiro (Food as Medicine Collaborative) informed the group of a partnership with La Cocina to provide gift certificates to clients of Curry Senior Center. The clients received bags of fresh produce and gift certificates to the La Cocina Marketplace. They will be having a meeting</p>	<p>None</p>

	<p>to present results. If anyone is interested in attending the meeting, let Janna know. janna@sfphf.org</p> <p>Paula Jones shared information about a new Vax to You program: https://sfmayor.org/article/san-francisco-launches-new-vax-you-program</p>	
12. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 3:33pm	