

APPROVED

San Francisco Food Security Task Force (FSTF) Minutes

September 1, 2021

Members present: Ave Lambert; Raegan Sales (Children’s Council); Paula Jones (DPH Food Security); Geoffrey Grier (SF Recovery Theatre); Cissie Bonini (EatSF/UCSF); Chester Williams (Community Living Campaign); Kim Madsen (Project Open Hand); Jeimil Belamide (HSA/CalFresh); Tiffany Kearney (DAS); 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); Meredith Terrell (Meals on Wheels SF); Michael Pon (UCSF); John McCormick (TNDC); Kallisto Khan (TNDC); Lauren Small (Leah’s Pantry); Cindy Lin (HSA/Covid Food Coordination Group); Cathy Huang (HSA); Anthony Khalil; Janna Cordeiro (Food as Medicine Collaborative); Jenny Bach (API Council); Veronica Shepard (SFDPH); Jason Pruett (ECS); Naomi Maisel (La Cocina); Tommy McClain (HSA); Kathleen da Silva; Katie Ettman (SPUR); Anthony Khalil—Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates(Bayview Community Co-op); Aimee Crisostomo (SF Health Network Primary Care); Maya Bonner Bayview-Hunters Point Community Advocates

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEM
1. Call to order	Cissie called the meeting to order at 1:36 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 August 4, 2021	Corrections were noted: Mei Ling Hui attended that August meeting, and shared funding update. The notes will be modified to include these edits. Jeimil Belamide made a motion to approve the minutes with edits; Mei Ling Hui seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.	Post approved meeting minutes to the website.
4. General Public Comment	Jenny Bach introduced herself. She is from the API Council representing food security. Jenny asked to be included in discussions about API community.	None

<p>5. Medically supportive food/Medi-Cal update, Katie Ettman, SPUR</p>	<p>Katie Ettman provided an update on the work to have medically supportive food and nutrition covered through MediCal- CalAIM: California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal In Lieu of Services (ILOS): Flexible wrap-around services provided as a substitute, or to avoid, other Medi-Cal covered services such as ER utilization, a hospital or skilled nursing facility admission, or a discharge delay. In addition to medically tailored meals, medically supportive food and nutrition was included in the waiver language.</p> <p>Paula Jones asked what is needed to operationalize this work. Response: To operationalize this work, there is a need for 1. Capacity building for potential MSF&N ILOS providers including contracting expertise, billing infrastructure, protected health information compliant data transfer; and 2 Encouraging health plans to opt-in by showing the benefits, supporting matchmaking between non-traditional providers & health plans. The timeframe for the health plans to opt to this service is December 2021 and again in July 2022.</p> <p>To build capacity, there can be incentive payments from California to encourage setting up systems including “ladders” which are funds to support the steps to get providers ready, and “gate” funds to support specific outcomes. Organizations need to advocate with health plans to opt in. There probably is not enough funding in incentives funds, and philanthropy and local government can help. The Department of Health Care has draft incentive payment structure for ladders and gates.</p> <p>Tiffany Kearny asked: are there any other states doing this now? Response: Yes, North Carolina, Massachusetts, and Oregon. They are using Medicaid funds as “flexible benefits”. California is using the strategy of “In Lieu of Services”. The coalition working on this issue would like to use the experience of California to push a national movement.</p> <p>Ave Lambert asked how providers and patients are being educated about this. Response: Provider education is needed and the coalition is truing to get the information out to a wide audience. They would like for patients to know that this is an option. Health plan needs to be excited about this.</p> <p>Priti Rane asked if patients will be able to choose their option between prepared meals vs. groceries vs. vouchers. Response: It depends on how health plans opt in.</p>	<p>Send letter encouraging SF Health Plan to opt in.</p>
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	<p>Cissie Bonini added that it's a challenge to prove health impact. There has been a lot of work from on Medically Tailored Meals which has paved the way for the inclusion of medically supportive food and nutrition. Kim Madsen and Project Open Hand has led on this issue.</p> <p>Katie was asked how the Food Security Task Force can help. Katie said that high-cost patients are the highest priority for health savings from these interventions. The SF Health Plan has a Medically Tailored Meal pilot and we need them to opt in for medically supportive food and nutrition. The FSTF could recommend to the City to encourage the SF Health Plan to opt in. Providers can come up with a suite of services.</p> <p>Raegan Sales made a motion that the Food Security Task Force write a letter to the BOS, Mayor, SFDPH, the SF Health Plan to encourage the SF Health Plan to opt in. Geoffrey Grier seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.</p>	
<p>6. Covid Food Coordination Unit update, Cindy Lin, HSA</p>	<p>Cindy Lin provided an update on the Covid Food Coordination Group on several items including the community listening sessions, RFPs, and new program – Takeout Today. Tommy McClain is the contact for Takeout Today (tomas.mcclain@sfgov.org). Seth Harris from the SF Marin Food Bank also provided an update on the Pantry at Home Expansion. Seth's email is sharris@sfmfoodbank.org.</p> <p>Cindy was asked How much is each RFP? RFP 952 is \$3.325M, RFP 953 is \$3M; and RFP 954 is \$6.5M (\$2M for vouchers and \$4.5 M for grocery access).</p> <p>SF New Deal is operating the new program Takeout Today, and they have flyers to share. The Covid Food Coordination Group worked with SFHOT, the Emergency Department Social Medicine Team at SF General Hospital to get the word out. Contact Tommy if you want flyers.</p> <p>Tiffany Kearny asked if the Pantry at Home is short or long term program. Seth let her know that he's not sure.</p> <p>Cindy's slides will be posted to: www.sfdph.org/foodsecurity</p>	<p>Presentation will be posted to website</p>
<p>7. Food Security Task Force planning, Paula Jones, SFDPH</p>	<p>Paula Jones reviewed Timeline for rest of 2021 • Open membership seats • Vote on Chair and Vice Chair • End of year report • Changes to the bylaws.</p>	<p>As stated.</p>

	<p>Changes to the bylaws would be to add time to Section 3. Extended Leaves of Absence. Raegan Sales supports extending allowable leave to 6 months which is often needed for new parents. Rita Mouton-Patterson agreed that more time should be added. Jennifer LeBarre added that we should be specific about this. According to the task force bylaws, the change to the bylaws should be voted on at the next meeting.</p> <p>The group also discussed the end of year report. Tiffany Kearny added that it would be a good platform for advancing Medically Tailored Meals and Medically Supportive Food and Nutrition.</p> <p>Jennifer LeBarre added that the report should include a landscape of what has happened, and the state and federal legislation to address hunger such as Universal School Meals, and P-EBT including the length of time it took to roll this out.</p> <p>Cissie Bonini added that the report should address adequate community resources and summarize funding for food in a similar way that the BLA report did.</p> <p>Jennifer LeBarre added that the report should highlight gaps (for example, information in Cindy Lin’s slides from community listening sessions). Challenges to food security and for food programs should also be included.</p> <p>The slides will be posted to: www.sfdph.org/foodsecurity</p>	
<p>8. Compile Recommendations on Procedural and Program Flexibilities initiated during Covid-19, Cissie Bonini (Vouchers4Veggies, EatSF)</p>	<p>Cissie Bonini led a discussion to brainstorm flexibilities that happened during Covid-19 that the task force recommends be continued.</p> <p>Kim Madsen said that flexibilities with DAS funding were helpful including providing take out options and creating hybrid options for meals.</p> <p>Tiffany Kearny added that flexibilities allowed at the state level were helpful including hot take out options for meals.</p> <p>Raegan Sales added that for Children’s Council, being allowed to send prepared take-home meals to families was very helpful and allowed them to expand support to feed the household.</p>	<p>None</p>

	<p>Meredith Terrell added that DAS funds helped and being able to move funds around, flexibility to do eligibility remotely by phone or video was a game changer.</p> <p>Jennifer Lebarre added that federal non congregate meal time flexibility, area eligibility waivers allowed them to serve suppers at all neighborhoods. The limit of the California Meals for All is that it only covers breakfast and lunch. Additionally Seamless Summer Meal Program and funding was higher - \$1 more per meal at the federal level. Some federal funding has gone away but Covid-19 has not.</p> <p>Tiffany Kearny added that higher quality is possible with additional funds. DAS reimbursement for meals is not near the amount that meals through Great Plates was funded. During Covid-19, DAS was able to fund additional costs.</p> <p>Jennifer Lebarre added that an important issue is the major issues in providing service due to severe supply chain shortages for school meals. They can't get cheese, tortillas, turkey pepperoni, sauces. They can't provide pepperoni pizza which is very popular.</p> <p>John McCormick added that the Tenderloin Corner Store Coalition is hearing the same supply chain challenges for corner store owners.</p> <p>Meredith Terrell added that Meals on Wheels is also having issue with this too. Perhaps larger providers can combine forces.</p> <p>Jennifer LeBarre added that SFUSD doesn't have the facilities to make their own food. They are dependent on a broken food system and the USDA is being called on to act.</p> <p>Kim Madsen added that Project Open Hand is also experiencing supply chain issues and higher costs. They can't always get the food to meet their guidelines and proteins are especially difficult to get.</p> <p>Cissie Bonini added – increasing mail costs are difficult. Also, many CBOs are tired of tracking data and some donors have reduced the burden of tracking data.</p>	
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	John McCormick added that for corner stores which purchase from PitCo, healthy items aren't available.	
9. Food Security Task Force member updates	<p>Jeimil Belamide (HSA/CalFresh) provided an update on CalFresh. The case load for July 2021 is 64K compared to July 2020 which was 60K. Emergency allotments were approved for August. Temporary increase of 15% is expiring in September, but ~ 22% increase in the cost of living will happen in October. For P-EBT, the state is running a media campaign. CDSS will have outreach materials online.</p> <p>Raegan Sales updated that Children's Council will be managing a pipeline for Black/African Americans to build child care businesses. They need 40 people in the cohort. Please spread the word.</p>	None
12. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 3:33pm	