Update on the San Francisco Food Security Task Force

Presentation to: Health Commission – Community and Public Health Committee
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Outline

• Background on Food Security Task Force
• Alignment with Population Health Division
• Task force priorities
• Progress to date
• Current work
Food Insecurity in San Francisco

• Definition:
  – Food Insecurity exists when the ability to obtain and prepare nutritious food is uncertain or not possible

• Food insecurity results in poorer health:
  – Poorer nutritional intake
  – Extreme anxiety and distress
  – Cost-related medication underuse
  – Eating behaviors that persist for decades after food insecurity experiences
  – Higher health care costs

• < 200% of poverty – highest risk for food insecurity
  
  29% of San Francisco population
Alignment with Population Health priorities

• National: Healthy People 2020 goal
  – *Reduce household food insecurity*
  – *Reduce very low food security among children*

• SF: Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)
  – *Healthy Eating and Physical Activity is a top priority*

• SFDPH: Population Health Division Strategic Plan
  - *Improving food security is a priority*
San Francisco Food Security Task Force

• About:
  – Established in 2005
  – 15 members: City agencies, SFUSD & nonprofit providers
  – Staffed by SFDPH (DPH has 2 seats)

• Purpose:
  – Elevate food security as critical issue among decision makers
  – Prepare annual assessment of the state of hunger and food insecurity in San Francisco with recommendations for funding, programs, and policy
Who is the Food Security Task Force?

Paula Jones
San Francisco Department of Public Health (Staff and Member)

Teri Olle, Chair
SF-Marin Food Bank

Anne Quaintance
Meals on Wheels SF

Leo O’Farrell, Vice-Chair
Human Services Agency, CalFresh

Priti Rane
San Francisco Department of Public Health / SF Health Network (MCAH)

Ryan Thayer
Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation

Mei Ling Hui
SF Environment

Orla O’Keeffe
San Francisco Unified School District

Hilary Seligman
UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations at ZSFG

Charles Sommer
St. Anthony’s

Karen Gruneisen
Episcopal Community Services

Linda Lau
Department of Aging and Adult Services

Chester K. Williams Jr.
Community Living Campaign

Heather Tufts
Department of Children, Youth and Their Families

Geoffrey Grier
Green Mobile Health Education Kitchen Project
Task Force Priorities

• Monitor progress on Resolution to End Hunger by 2020
• Conduct current assessment of food security resources in San Francisco
• Educate and update policy makers
• Promote standardized measurement of food insecurity
Resolution to End Hunger by 2020

• Passed by Board of Supervisors in 2013
• Summary of resolution:
  – Leverage and expand existing programs focusing on:
    • CalFresh
    • Meals and groceries for seniors and people with disabilities
    • Meals in shelters
    • Meals for children when they are not in school
  – Innovate:
    • Develop healthy food purchasing supplement
    • Improve food security for residents of single room hotels (SROs)
    • Improve data on food security
    • Integrate food security into city planning
Snapshot of progress

Results:

– Increase in **CalFresh** enrollment
– Increase in meals served in **senior centers and clients’ homes**
– Significant expansion of **home delivered grocery program**
– 50% more children getting **summer lunch** daily
– 68 school sites now serving **supper** (0 in 2013)
– **Fruit and vegetable** purchasing program developed
– SRO pilot initiative in development
Current work

• City wide analysis of food programs and need:
  – Data from food assistance network
  – Demographic data to estimate need
  – Identify gaps and develop recommendations
  – Target completion date: May 2017

• Developed recommendations for standardizing measurement of food insecurity among clients:
  – 2 components:
    • Food insecurity screen (using validated questions)
    • Food program utilization
  – Standardized questions currently being integrated into community based organizations and city programs
Thank you and Questions