Innovative Strategies to Increase Food Security and Promote Equity

Please feel free to pose questions in the chat during the presentation.

We'll be hosting a Q&A at the end with questions pulled from the chat.

SAN DIEGO
HUNGER
COALITION

www.sdhunger.org

Today's Presenters:

Amanda Mascia
is the Hunger Free Kids Manager
at the San Diego Hunger Coalition

Sara Elazan
is the Director of Data Insights with the Center for Good Food
Purchasing which manages the Good Food Purchasing Program

Catherine Slomka MS, RD
is Director of Nutrition Services at
Oceanside Unified School District

Breakout Moderators
Deirdre Kleske - County of San Diego HHSA
Amanda Schultz Brochu - San Diego Hunger Coalition

Agenda

San Diego Hunger Coalition

- High level overview of food insecurity in CA & the role of school meals in addressing food insecurity
- Innovative strategies to increase food security and promote equity
  - Meals Count and CEP
  - After School/CACFP/Supper
  - Bulk Meal Kits

Center for Good Food Purchasing

- Intro to the Good Food Purchasing Program

Oceanside Unified School District

- Strategies for Good Food in Action

Food Insecurity Rates in California

Food Insecurity is a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food. (USDA, 2020)
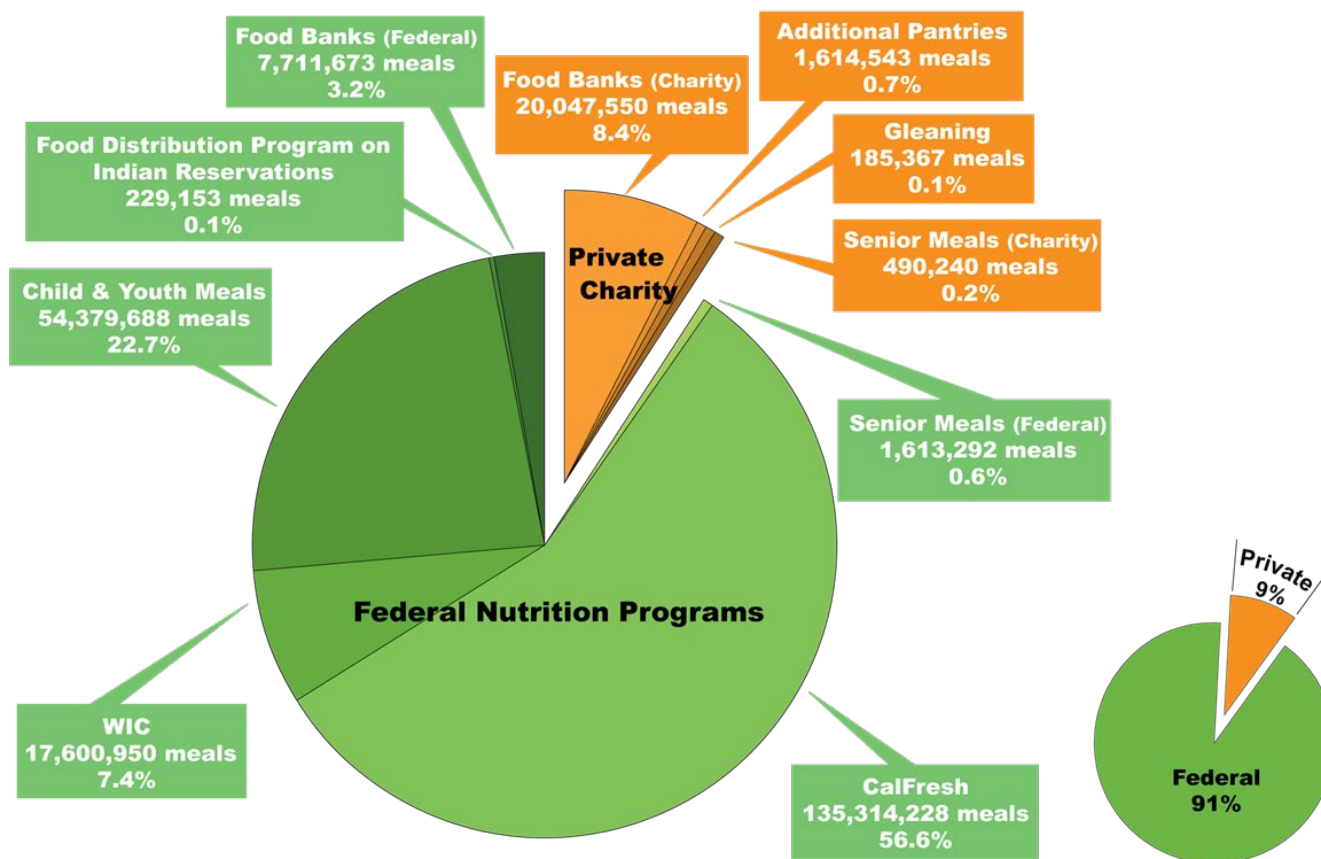
	All Californians %	Hispanic or Latino %	Black %	Asian %	White %
January 2021	**22.8%**	**31.5%**	**27.6%**	**17.6%**	**16.8%**

Source: https://www.ipr.northwestern.edu/apps/economicindicators.html

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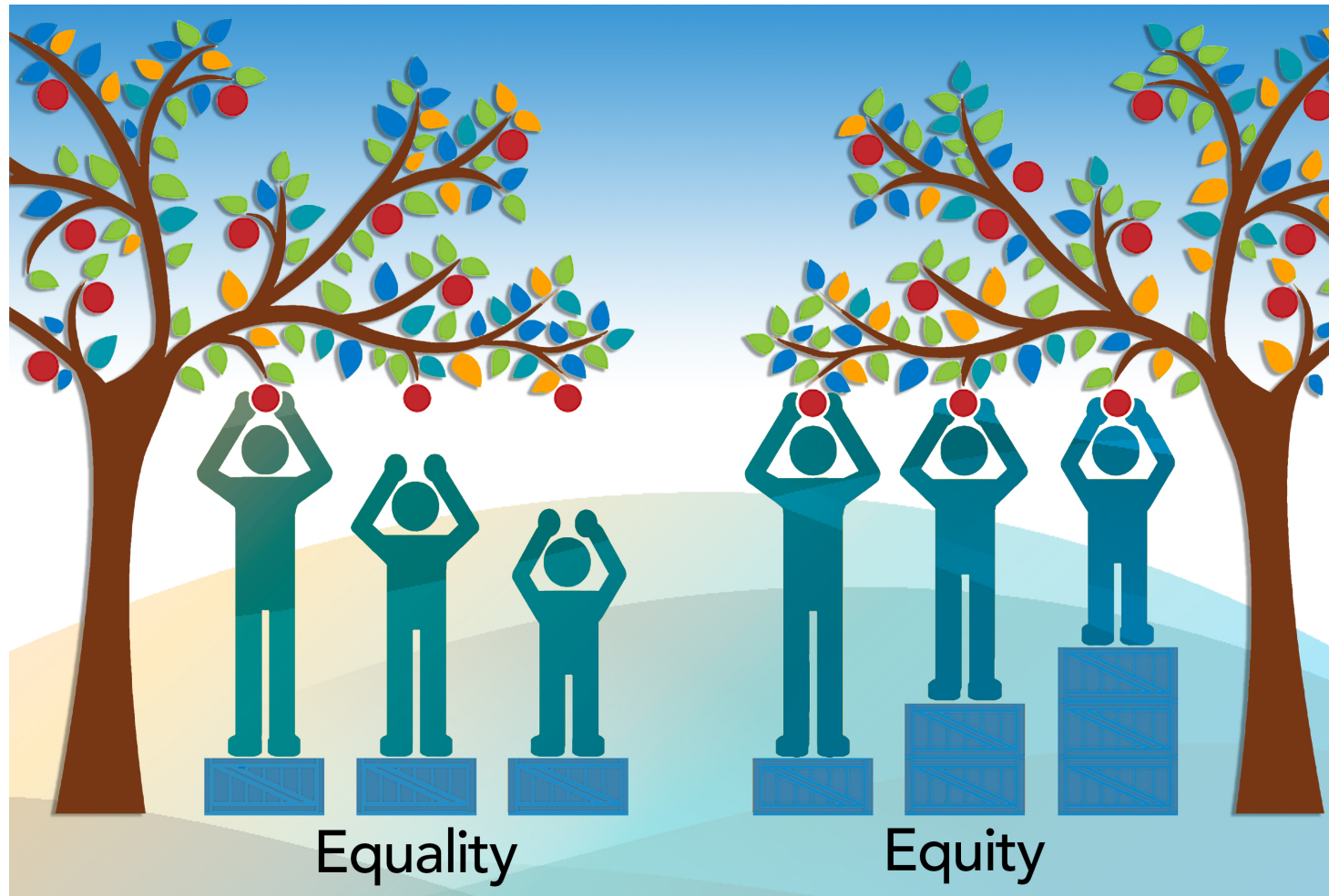
Role of School Meals

School Meals are a *fundamental* component of San Diego's Hunger Relief Sector.

Where Hungry San Diegans Get Food (2017)

Program type, number of meals, percentage of total meals, and funding source

- **Food Banks (Federal)** 7,711,673 meals 3.2%
- **Food Banks (Charity)** 20,047,550 meals 8.4%
- **Additional Pantries** 1,614,543 meals 0.7%
- **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations** 229,153 meals 0.1%
- **Gleaning** 185,367 meals 0.1%
- **Child & Youth Meals** 54,379,688 meals 22.7%
- **Senior Meals (Charity)** 490,240 meals 0.2%
- **Private Charity**
- **Senior Meals (Federal)** 1,613,292 meals 0.6%
- **Federal Nutrition Programs**
- **WIC** 17,600,950 meals 7.4%
- **CalFresh** 135,314,228 meals 56.6%
- **Private** 9%
- **Federal** 91%

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A Focus on Equity

Equality

Equity

Child Nutrition Program: Equitable Policies That Increase Food Security

1. **Automatic eligibility and enrollment for students for free school meals**, to children in households that participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or the alternative on Indigenous reservations, children in foster care, and children who are migrants or homeless.

2. **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) provides universal free lunch and breakfast** to schools that serve students living in low-income households, *without* **requiring individual household applications.**

Innovative Strategy:
Making CEP easier with Meals Count

Meals Count is an algorithmic optimization tool used by school districts and state education agencies across the country to streamline the grouping process, in order to optimize reimbursements for school meals from the USDA via the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and therefore increase the number of free meals provided to low-income students.

Meals Count

Food for Students.
Funds for Schools.

Meals Count is a free tool to help school districts optimize their Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) applications, maximize school meal funding, and fight childhood hunger.

Find Your District   Learn More

Edit   Optimized on 2021-03-09 19:31:02.807772 in 99.12s   edited rev #1   Export to CSV   Import from File   Start Over   help

Recommended Grouping	School Code	School Name	School Type	Total Enrolled	Total Eligible 2	Breakfast Avg Daily Participation (ADP)	Lunch Avg Daily Participation (ADP)	Included in Optimization	Estimated School ISP	School CEP Eligible	Estimated Annual Reimbursement Per School
1 ▾	37735690113522	Cesar Chavez Middle	n/a	716	296	286	501	✓	41.3%	✓	$274,595
1 ▾	37735696088991	DEL RIO ELEMENTARY	n/a	335	140	134	234	✓	41.8%	✓	$128,351
1 ▾	37735696069108	E. G. Garrison Elementary	n/a	350	111	140	245	✓	31.7%		$134,316
1 ▾	37735696038830	Jefferson Middle	n/a	580	287	232	406	✓	49.5%	✓	$222,581
1 ▾	37735696038848	LAUREL ELEMENTARY	n/a	445	231	178	312	✓	51.9%	✓	$170,980
1 ▾	37735696038855	Libby Elementary	n/a	500	222	200	350	✓	44.4%	✓	$191,880
1 ▾	37735696038863	Lincoln Middle	n/a	869	314	348	608	✓	36.1%		$333,455
1 ▾	37735696038871	Mission Elementary	n/a	593	312	237	415	✓	52.6%	✓	$227,480
1 ▾	37735693739026	Ocean Shores High (Continuation)	n/a	132	61	53	92	✓	46.2%	✓	$50,537

The Meals Count tool is a collaboration between Open San Diego, Nourish CA, the San Diego Hunger Coalition and No Kid Hungry. www.MealsCount.com

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Innovative Strategy:
Utilizing waivers to offer CACFP Supper

- **Pre-COVID:** Sponsors participating in the At-Risk Afterschool Meals component of the CACFP must use school data to determine area eligibility.

- **COVID:** Program operators are able to take advantage of current USDA waivers for area eligibility requirements to provide supper at **all** of their meal sites.

Grab and Go Sites

Meal Participation San Diego County 2019 v 2020	Overall Meal Participation	Breakfast	Lunch	Supper
	-24%	37%	-66%	36%

- Overall school meal participation is down 24% due to school closures

- Grab and Go sites offering ALL meals to each student accessing meals led to increased participation for Breakfast 37% and Supper 36%.

- *Equity allocates resources and opportunities needed to reach an equal outcome*

Equity

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Innovative: Bulk Meal Kits

Bulk Meal Kits = More than one serving of items, intended to make multiple days' worth of a single meal, to be scratch-cooked at home.

Benefits
- Provide whole fresh fruits and vegetables
- Establish new partnerships with local vendors
- Less packaged and prepared foods
- Healthier, more nutritious

Bulk Meals at Fallbrook UHSD

- Judi Reynolds from Fallbrook Union High School District reported that she doubled meal participation when moving to bulk meals!

- "Families love it, plain and simple. The food is whole, the food is fresh, the food is usable. We hear that kids love digging through the bags to see what goodies are in there."

"We are switching to bulk meal service to provide MORE MEALS, INCREASED VARIETY, and BETTER SERVICE to our children and families."

Innovative Strategies: Recap

Taking an equity based approach to ensuring access for students who have historically faced barriers to food assistance requires innovative strategies that address multiple components of the student's experience.

THANK YOU

Please send us your comments and feedback:

Amanda Mascia

Hunger Free Kids Manager

amascia@sdhunger.org

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Thank You! Next:

Sara Elazan

is the Director of Data Insights with the Center for Good Food Purchasing which manages the Good Food Purchasing Program

Catherine Slomka MS, RD

is Director of Nutrition Services at Oceanside Unified School District

INSTITUTIONAL FOOD SERVICE

$120 Billion Annually

"Food is the single strongest lever to optimize human health and environmental sustainability"

– EAT-Lancet Commission

HISTORY

2011-2012 — Los Angeles Food Policy Council develops Good Food Purchasing Policy

2012 — The City of Los Angeles and LA Unified School District adopt policies

2015 — The Center for Good Food Purchasing is founded
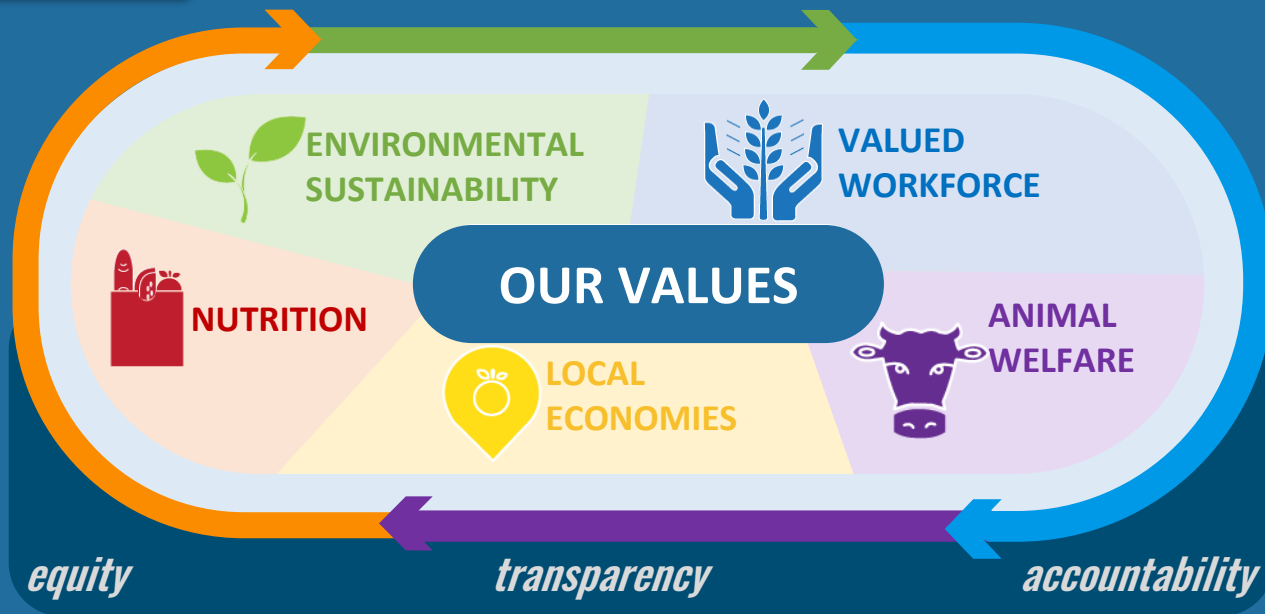
2021 — Participation by 20 cities/jurisdictions
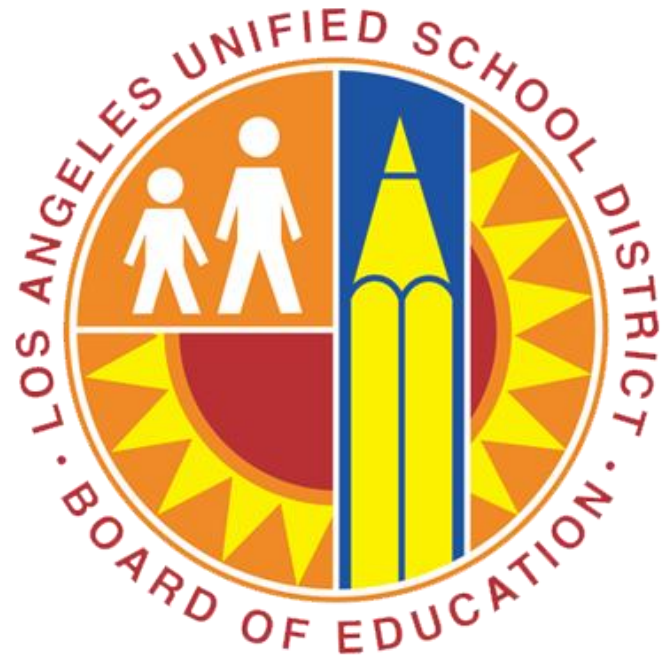
OUR GOALS AND VALUES

OUR GOALS

Increase good food purchases within and across institutions

Inspire new institutions to adopt the Program

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

VALUED WORKFORCE

OUR VALUES

NUTRITION

LOCAL ECONOMIES

ANIMAL WELFARE

Drive market change through the aggregate demand and unified good food framework

equity

transparency

accountability

Build a movement strong enough to change the food system

TRANSPARENCY + ACCOUNTABILITY = MARKET SHIFTS TO SUPPORT EQUITY

1. Assess Baseline

2. Set Goals + Make Shifts

3. Track Progress

4. Celebrate Success

GOOD FOOD

PURCHASING PROGRAM

SUMMARY OF GOOD FOOD STANDARDS

BASELINE REQUIREMENTS		QUALIFYING CRITERIA

Meets minimum purchasing requirement*

Item comes from within 250 mile-radius **AND** **Is grown or processed by** A family owned, family operated or cooperatively owned business

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Sources 25% animal products that are RWRAU[1] **Sources** no "Avoid" seafood **AND** **Meets** minimum purchasing requirement **OR** **Reduces** carbon and water footprint per meal

Item is third-party certified. Examples:
American Grassfed® · CERTIFIED HUMANE RAISED & HANDLED · FOOD ALLIANCE CERTIFIED · CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD MSC www.msc.org · RAINFOREST ALLIANCE CERTIFIED · Seafood WATCH · USDA ORGANIC

Meets minimum purchasing requirement **OR** **Reduces** volume of animal products sourced

Item is third-party certified. Examples:
American Grassfed® · ANIMAL WELFARE APPROVED · CERTIFIED GRASSFED by AGW · CERTIFIED HUMANE RAISED & HANDLED · global animal PARTNERSHIP · 100% GrassFed

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Meets minimum purchasing requirement **AND** **Outreaches** suppliers with significant records of labor law violations

Item is third-party certified. Examples:
efi · fair for life fair trade · FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED · FAIRTRADE INTERNATIONAL **OR** **Supplier is/has** A worker-owned cooperative A Social Responsibility Policy A Union Contract with Employees

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Meets 51% or more of applicable items on the Nutrition Checklist

Institution completes Nutrition Checklist evaluating practices that demonstrate commitment to healthy food procurement, healthy food service environment, health equity, and healthy food preparation

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*Minimum purchasing requirement varies based on level of compliance. See the 2017 Good Food Purchasing Standards for more details.
[1]Raised without routine antibiotic use (RWRAU)

ENROLLED INSTITUTIONS

CALIFORNIA:

14 SCHOOL DISTRICTS

AVERAGE FREE OR REDUCED PRICE LUNCH RATE = 71%

GOOD FOOD PURCHASING PROGRAM

Alachua County, FL
- Alachua County Public Schools

Austin, TX
- Austin Convention Center
- Austin Independent School District
- University of Texas at Austin

Baltimore, MD
- Baltimore City Public Schools

Berkeley, CA
- Berkeley Unified School District

Boulder, CO
- Boulder Valley School District

Buffalo, NY
- Buffalo Public Schools

Chicago, IL
- Chicago Parks District
- Chicago Public Schools
- Dept of Family and Support Services

Cincinnati, OH
- Cincinnati Public Schools

Cook County, IL
- Juvenile Temporary Detention Center

Denver City & County, CO
- Centura Health Care Systems
- Denver Jails
- Denver Museum of Nature and Sciences
- Denver Public Schools
- Office of Children's Affairs

Fresno, CA
- Fresno Unified School District

Los Angeles City & County, CA
- Department of Aging
- Greek Theatre
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- Los Angeles World Airports
- Parks & Recreation Summer Food Service

Minneapolis, MN
- Minneapolis Public Schools

New York City, NY
- Health + Hospitals Corporation
- Office of Food and Nutrition Services
- Administration for Children's Services
- Department for the Aging
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Homeless Services
- Human Resources Administration

Oakland, CA
- Oakland Unified School District

Philadelphia, PA
- Juvenile Justice Center
- Office of Homeless Services
- Parks & Recreation Department
- Prison Department

San Diego, CA
- Escondido Union School District
- Oceanside Unified School District

San Francisco, CA
- Laguna Honda Hospital
- San Francisco Sheriff's Department
- San Francisco Unified School District
- Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital

Ventura County, CA
- Hueneme Elementary School District
- Oceanview Unified School District
- Ojai Unified School District
- Oxnard Elementary
- Rio Unified School District
- Ventura Unified School District

Washington, D.C.
- District of Columbia Public Schools

West Contra Costa County, CA
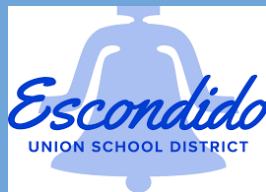- West Contra Costa Unified School District

SAN DIEGO PARTICIPATION

SDFSA identified and built interest with institutions & can help work on the ground to create supply chain connections

Escondido Union School District & **Oceanside Unified School District**
1. Assess Baseline
2. Set Goals + Make Shifts

Escondido UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT	FRL: 66%	EUSD Board voted unanimously to approve the Good Food Purchasing Policy
Oceanside Unified School District "Guiding Our Students to Bright Futures"	FRL: 59%	OUSD reached out to food suppliers with labor law violations and COVID practices citations

GOOD FOOD PURCHASING PROGRAM

goodfoodcities.org/portfolio/san-diego/

SUPPORT, TOOLS, & RESOURCES

ASSESSMENT & ANALYTICS

- Data normalization
- Supply chain research
- Annual reports w/ trend analysis
- Aggregate trends by sector and custom analytics

TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Support for institutions & vendors w/ action planning
- Guidance on bids, solicitations, supply chain development, and procurement process improvements

ONLINE TOOLS & RESOURCES

- Supplier and product search tool
- Resource library
- Impact modeling and decision support tool (2021)

COMMUNITIES OF PURPOSE

- Access to peer-learning and strategy networks within and across cities for institutions, coalitions, and policymakers

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Profile:

- $125 M annual food spend
- 600,000+ students
- 84% of students qualify for free and reduced price lunch
- 700,000+ meals served daily

$12 M redirected to local farms; 220 jobs created

100% of chicken products raised without routine antibiotic usage

40% wage increase for 320 workers in supply chain

10% reduction in animal protein, per meal served
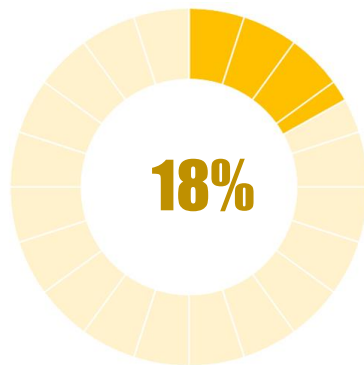
45 M servings of low-sodium bread w/o HFCS made from 100% local, sustainable wheat

AVERAGE % OF FOOD IN ENROLLED CA SCHOOL DISTRICTS MEETING THE GOOD FOOD STANDARDS

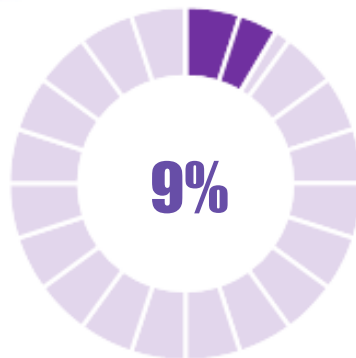## 14 CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DISTRICTS

$182 M ANNUAL FOOD SPEND

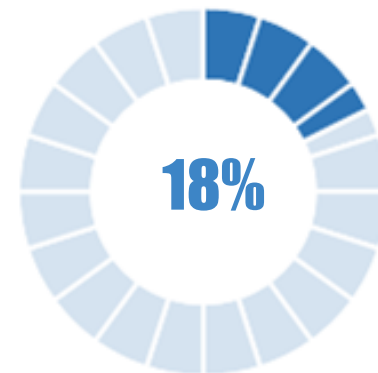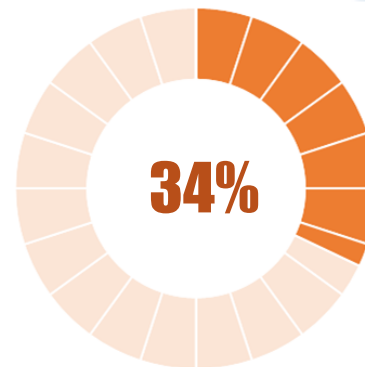**Local Economies**

18%

Environmental Sustainability

2%

Valued Workforce

18%

Animal Welfare

9%
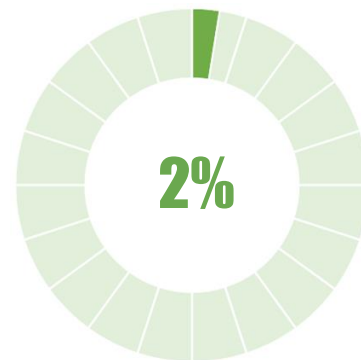
Nutrition*
average percentage of whole/minimally processed food

34%

Data based on school districts currently active in the Good Food Purchasing Program that have completed an Assessment.

Thank you!

To find out more about the Good Food Purchasing Program, please visit:

goodfoodpurchasing.org

selazan@goodfoodpurchasing.org

Oceanside Unified School District

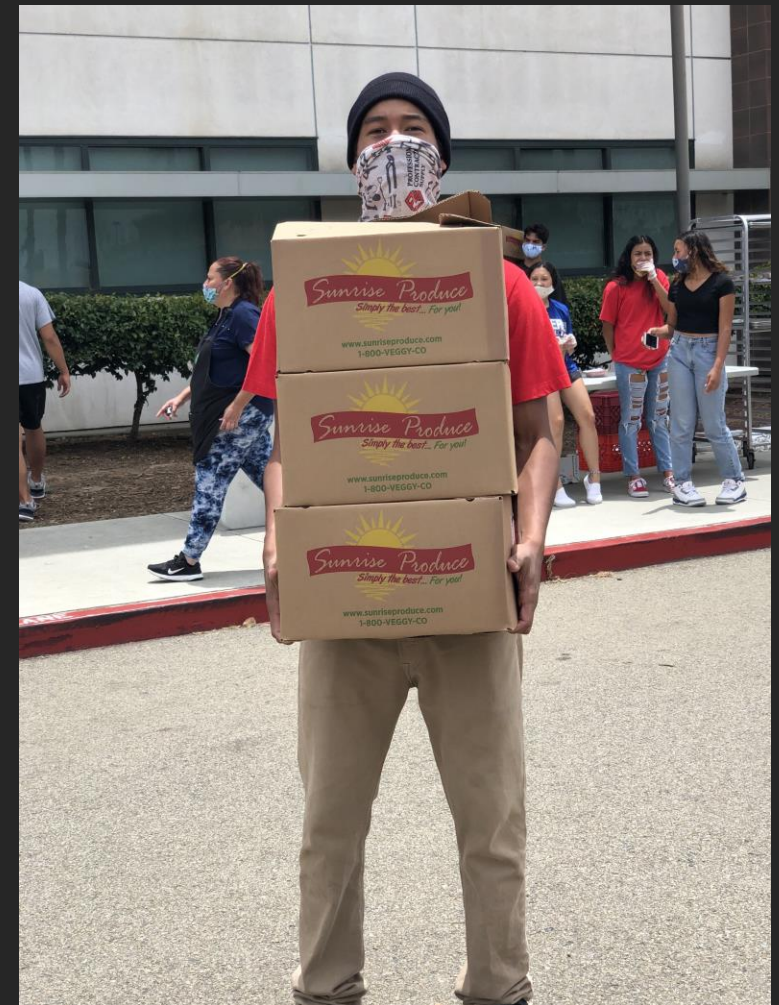:INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES TO INCREASE FOOD SECURITY AND PROMOTE EQUITY

MARCH 2020

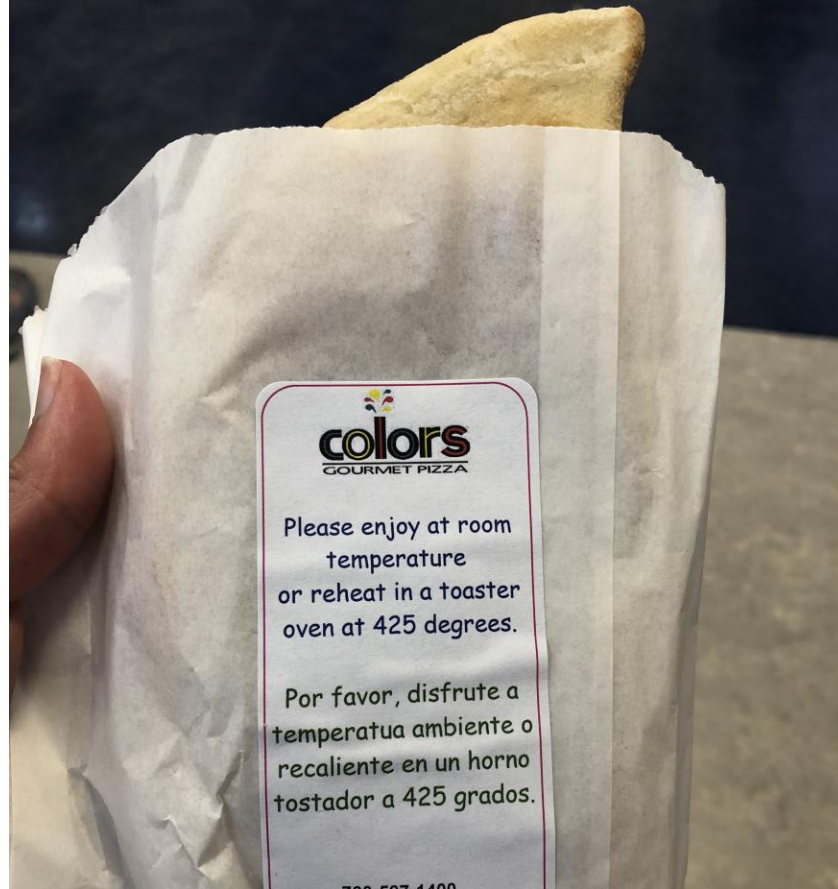# Curbside Transition

MARCH 16, 2020

Collaborations

Sunrise Produce

Goldstar-*Farmers to Families
Food Boxes*

Oceanside Kitchen Collaborative

colors
GOURMET PIZZA

Please enjoy at room
temperature
or reheat in a toaster
oven at 425 degrees.

Por favor, disfrute a
temperatua ambiente o
recaliente en un horno
tostador a 425 grados.

Colors Gourmet Pizza

Oceanside Library

Assembly Member Visit

Grocery Bags

Flexibility to offer whole foods.

Opportunity for increased participation.

Utilize DoD funds if possible.

Holiday Distributions

Partner with local organizations.

Use your Communication Team!

Hybrid Learning!

A New Normal

Maintain morale.

Focus on positive efforts.

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@ousdfreshchoice