Food Security For All: A Strategic Plan to End Hunger in Our City



The San Francisco Food Security Task Force January 2007

Food Security Task Force About Us

Chair

- Anne Quaintance, MNA, Associate Director of Programs, San Francisco Food Bank (July 2006 - present)
- Former Chair: Libby Albert, Child Nutrition Coordinator, Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (November 2005 - June 2006)

Vice-Chair

- Libby Albert, Child Nutrition Coordinator, Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (July 2006 - present)
- Former Vice Chair: Gina Fromer, Executive Director, Bayview Hunter's Point YMCA (November 2005 - July 2006)

Other Voting Members

- Daisy Anarchy, San Francisco Coalition on Homelessness
- ◊ Gina Fromer, Executive Director, Bayview Hunter's Point YMCA
- Paula Hamilton, Principal Recreation Supervisor, Citywide Recreation Programs, San Francisco Recreation and Park Department
- Bruce Ito, MBA, MA, Senior Community Development Specialist, Mayor's Office of Community Development
- Maria R. LeClair, MPA, RD, Director of Nutrition Services, City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health
- Leo O'Farrell, Food Stamp Program Manager, Human Services Agency, City and County of San Francisco
- Gail Priestley, Director of the Clothing and Furniture Program/Farm/Justice Education, St. Anthony Foundation
- Ed Wilkins, Director, San Francisco Unified School District, Student Nutrition Services

Non-Voting Members

- Dennis Stewart, Food Stamp Program Regional Director, USDA, Food and Nutrition Services
- Timothy Thole, Child Nutrition Programs Program Team, USDA, Food and Nutrition Services Western Regional

Food Security Coordination Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair:

 Gail Priestley, Director of the Clothing and Furniture Program/Farm/Justice Education, St. Anthony Foundation

Subcommittee Members:

- ◊ Gina Fromer, Executive Director, Bayview Hunter's Point YMCA
- Maria R. LeClair, MPA, RD, Director of Nutrition Services, City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health

Food Security Task Force About Us (continued)

One Dennis Stewart, Food Stamp Program Regional Director, USDA, Food and Nutrition Services

Food Stamps Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair:

♦ Anne Quaintance, MNA, Associate Director of Programs, San Francisco Food Bank Subcommittee Members:

- Oaisy Anarchy, San Francisco Coalition on Homelessness
- Leo O'Farrell, Food Stamp Program Manager, Human Services Agency, City and County of San Francisco

Former Subcommittee Members:

- O Darryl Smaw, Community Builder, Mayor's Office of Community Development
- Melissa Daigle, Outreach Coordinator, USDA, Food and Nutrition Services

Target Populations Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair:

Libby Albert, Child Nutrition Coordinator, Department of Children, Youth and Their Families

Subcommittee Members:

- Oaisy Anarchy, San Francisco Coalition on Homelessness
- Paula Hamilton, Principal Recreation Supervisor, Citywide Recreation Programs, San Francisco Recreation and Park Department
- Timothy Thole, Child Nutrition Programs Program Team, USDA, Food and Nutrition Services Western Regional

Former Subcommittee Members:

 Marina Levy, Supervisor, San Francisco Unified School District, Student Nutrition Services

Regularly Attending Non-Members

- Ylonda Calloway, Food Stamp Program Analyst, Human Services Agency, City and County of San Francisco
- ◊ Paula Jones, Director, San Francisco Food Systems
- Marguerite A. Nowak, Advocacy and Education Manager, San Francisco Food Bank
- ◊ Leah Rimkus, Program Manager, San Francisco Food Systems
- ♦ Meredith Terrell, Program Manager, San Francisco Food Bank

Staff to the Food Security Task Force

 Christine Wong Mineta, MPH, Health Educator, Nutrition Services, City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health

Food Security Task Force About Us (continued)

Consultant to the Food Security Task Force

◊ Rick Smith, Principal, PHS Management Services (January 2006 - November 2006)

Sponsor of the Food Security Task Force

• Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 10

Past Members

- Melissa Daigle, Outreach Coordinator, USDA Food and Nutrition Services
- Marina Levy, Supervisor, San Francisco Unified School District, Student Nutrition Services
- O Darryl Smaw, Community Builder, Mayor's Office of Community Development

In Appreciation of their Contributions to the Food Security Task Force

- Brigit Adamus, Congressional Hunger Fellow, Department of Human Services
- ◊ Autumn Arnold, Friend of the San Francisco Food Bank
- Ylonda Calloway, Food Stamp Program Analyst, Human Services Agency, City and County of San Francisco
- ◊ Kenneth Hecht, Executive Director, California Food Policy Advocates
- ◊ Paula Jones, Director, San Francisco Food Systems
- ♦ Linda Lau, Nutritionist, Department of Aging and Adult Services, Office on Aging
- Marguerite A. Nowak, Advocacy and Education Manager, San Francisco Food Bank
- ◊ Leah Rimkus, Program Manager, San Francisco Food Systems
- Ellen Stroud, Former Employee of the San Francisco Food Bank
- Meredith Terrell, Program Manager, San Francisco Food Bank
- ◊ Laurie True, MPH, Executive Director, California WIC Association
- Dana Woldow, Chair of the SFUSD Student Nutrition/Physical Activity Committee

Project Funders

- ♦ MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
- ♦ San Francisco Food Bank
- ♦ St. Anthony Foundation

Other Important Contributors to our Planning Process

- ◊ Connie Chan, Aide to Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, San Francisco Board of Supervisors
- Sarah He, Former Aide to Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, San Francisco Board of Supervisors

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Executive Summary

The Challenge

Every day, vulnerable families and individuals in San Francisco live with the threat of hunger. This threat doesn't discriminate; it affects people of every race, ethnicity, age, gender and neighborhood in the City. One in four children, one in five adults, and one in three older adults cannot afford to meet their basic nutritional needs.

Community service providers and government agencies are working hard to help vulnerable residents of our City achieve food security: the condition in which all persons obtain a nutritionally adequate, culturally acceptable diet at all times through local non-emergency sources. With the support of elected officials, local businesses, taxpayers, and the public at large, San Francisco has developed a diverse network of programs that help thousands of San Francisco residents by providing free meals, groceries and supplemental benefits for purchasing food.

Federally funded nutrition programs serve as the cornerstone of this effort to end hunger in our City. More than a dozen federal programs form a patchwork of assistance. Many programs, like the National School Lunch Program, are designed to prevent hunger among children. Others focus on ending hunger among older adults. A few, like the Food Stamp Program, can assist any U.S. citizen or legal resident who meets the program's strict income limits and non-financial eligibility requirements.

Together, these federal nutrition programs have the potential to prevent hunger. Yet even with the presence of these programs in our City, 150,000 residents still struggle to put food on the table. Poor nutrition almost always leads to poor health, including the chronic health problems caused by obesity. It impairs a child's ability to learn and grow. Among older adults, it speeds the onset of degenerative diseases. In every age group, it impedes San Francisco's most vulnerable residents from having healthy and productive lives.

Underutilization also means the loss of significant federal resources: San Francisco lost over \$70 million in federal nutrition benefits last year due to low participation in available programs. As just one example, an estimated 39,547 low-income San Franciscans- or 55% of eligible people- are missing out on approximately \$46 million in federal food stamp benefits each year.

These untapped federal resources would go a long way toward achieving food security, supporting public and private sector jobs, encouraging economic growth and helping to reduce the public cost of health care and emergency services. Underutilization of federal programs in San Francisco is a problem that can be solved. Members of the Food Security Task Force have already secured a \$1 million federal grant to increase access and participation in the Food Stamp Program.

With the active support of the Board of Supervisors, Mayor, City Departments, San Francisco Unified School District, community-based organizations and public at large, the Food Security Task Force will use these recommendations as a blueprint for preventing hunger in our community.

Recommendations

San Francisco has an obligation and an opportunity to maximize the value of federal nutrition programs for our community. The Food Security Task Force recommends the following five priorities.

- 1. The Board of Supervisors support and fund the use of technology to reduce stigma, cut red tape, and increase access to nutrition programs. For example:
 - Develop online application tools and a mail-in recertification process for the Food Stamp Program.
 - Automate enrollment in the School Lunch and Breakfast Programs and implement an automated Point of Sale system.
 - Automate eligibility for the Child and Adult Care Food Program.
- 2. Program administrators seek funding to fill gaps in service to especially vulnerable populations. The Board of Supervisors should consider how to provide some of this funding. For example:
 - Use local funding to ensure that no older adult is left on the waiting list for home-delivered meals or turned away from congregate meals sites.
 - Ask state legislators to craft legislation that would allow older adults receiving SSI and living alone to qualify for food stamp benefits in California.
 - Seek Child and Adult Care Food Program expansion funds available through the California Department of Education.
- 3. The City actively supports state and federal legislative efforts to secure adequate funding for federal programs in San Francisco. For example:
 - Direct the City's lobbyist to advocate on the 2007 Farm Bill by opposing funding caps, program limitations and ensure the federal food assistance programs are meeting the needs of those at risk of hunger.
 - Direct the City's lobbyist to advocate for adequate federal funding for the Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program.
 - Direct the City's lobbyist to work on behalf of Student Nutrition Services and Child and Adult Care Food Program sponsors to seek legislative relief regarding reimbursement rates and income thresholds for school meals in high-cost areas.
- 4. The City invest in public outreach activities; and local program administrators develop partnerships with community organizations to reach people eligible for benefits. For example:
 - Develop a marketing campaign to target San Francisco residents who are unaware of their potential food stamp eligibility.
 - ♦ Include the Mayor in a media event announcing the Summer Food Service Program.

- Send multilingual flyers about the Summer Food Service Program home with all school children and to public housing, public libraries, food pantries and recreation centers.
- 5. The Board of Supervisors sustains San Francisco's progress toward food security by continuing the Food Security Task Force.

Food Stamp Program (FSP)

The Challenge

Although the federal Food Stamp Program (FSP) provides benefits to more than 32,000 San Francisco residents, we estimate that only 45% of eligible individuals are enrolled in the program. An estimated 39,547 low-income San Franciscans are missing out on approximately \$46 million in federal food stamp benefits each year.

In addition to the direct benefit of the FSP, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) estimates that each food stamp dollar spent stimulates \$1.84 in local economic activity. San Francisco's low food stamp participation translates to an estimated loss of \$84 million in local economic activity.

About the Program

The Food Stamp Program was developed by the federal government to eliminate hunger in the United States. It helps low-income children and adults improve their health by providing greater access to a nutritious diet.

Eligibility for the program is based on household income. Most people enrolled in CalWORKs or any of the County Adult Assistance Programs (CAAP) are automatically eligible. In California, all legal immigrants are eligible for food stamp benefits.

Food stamp benefits are distributed on Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards, which can be used to purchase any food item at participating grocery stores. Elderly, disabled, and homeless customers may even purchase prepared foods at certain locations by participating in San Francisco's Food Stamps Restaurant Meals Program. Food stamps may also be used at local farmer's markets, offering customers an opportunity to buy affordable and healthful food. With the exception of benefits for a small population of legal immigrants, food stamp benefits are 100% federally funded.

Overall Program Goals

- Streamline the process of accessing food stamps benefits so that tens of thousands of potentially eligible individuals and families can participate
- ♦ Increase our City's FSP participation rate by 10% over the next three years

Program Objectives

♦ Increase the number of working families who access food stamp benefits

- ♦ Increase the number of the elderly or disabled who access food stamp benefits
- Increase access to food stamp benefits for people without homes
- Increase food stamp customers' ability to maintain participation in the FSP
- ♦ Increase opportunities to become aware of the FSP
- Decrease the fear and stigma associated with accessing and participating in the FSP
- Provide food stamp customers with a FSP experience that is positive, accommodating, and dignified

Recommendations

1. Establish Remote Enrollment and Recertification Sites

San Francisco's primary access point for the FSP is the DHS office at 1235 Mission Street. This location is a daunting site for many potential applicants. Limited transportation and geography may also make them inaccessible, especially for Asian households who live in Chinatown, the Sunset, and the Richmond, and Latino/Hispanic households who live in Excelsior/Visitation Valley.

The limitations of the 1235 Mission Street location are compounded by a cumbersome, frustrating application process. Applicants may be asked to return multiple times for various appointments or to present documentation needed to move forward in the process. Understandably, some become discouraged and fail to keep appointments and produce documentation. Others fail to follow through when they learn that they are only eligible for a small monthly benefit. In these situations, potentially eligible people go without food stamps.

To overcome these barriers, we recommend setting up remote sites in easily accessible and non-threatening locations. At these sites, food stamp customers will work with knowledgeable staff to apply for or recertify their benefits. Easy-to-use technology and language appropriate service and documents can facilitate the application process.

2. Build Community Partnerships

San Francisco Department of Human Services (DHS) seeks to collaborate with community-based and faith-based organizations, as well as other sectors of City government, to establish FSP access points across the City. Because they have regular contact with people who are potentially eligible for food stamps, these community- and faith-based organizations are uniquely poised to reach our target population.

We recommend that DHS provide mini-grants to help organizations develop remote application kiosks. Technology for these kiosks can include: computers, faxes, copiers, voice and data lines and web cams for interactive interviews at remote sites.

DHS will also provide FSP information, training, and development for partner organizations' staff, as well as support with the application of technology. We recommend funding as an incentive for community- and faith-based organizations to help customers complete applications and provide other services related to food stamp benefits.

3. Create a Telephone Bank

We recommend expanding and improving DHS' telephone bank to provide better customer service for approved cases and screen callers for potential FSP eligibility. Operators will provide program information, direct callers to appropriate staff or services, and schedule appointments for customers to meet with an eligibility worker either in person or via a Remote Enrollment and Recertification Site.

4. Create a Screening Tool and Web Application

We recommend developing a web-based FSP screening tool and web-based application. These tools access from any Internet-accessible location, at any time and any place. Both tools should be available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian and Vietnamese and in magnified format for the visually impaired.

A simple, interactive screening tool will allow potential FSP customers to assess the likelihood of their eligibility in a matter of minutes. If likely eligible, the participant will be directed to a page where they can immediately complete a FSP application. This application is submitted via the Internet to the FSP. A tracking number is assigned and each applicant is asked about the best times and methods of follow-up (telephone, email, phone, face-to-face).

5. Allow Re-certification by Mail

In order to maintain their benefits, most FSP customers must present quarterly reports and become recertified every 12 months. Elderly customers must be recertified every 24 months. To simplify the process of maintaining food stamp benefits, we recommend a recertification process that can be completed and submitted by mail with a follow-up phone interview. While federal regulations require an interview, a face-to-face interview can be waived for a variety of hardship reasons.

6. Develop a Marketing Campaign

Best practices from other states and other programs suggest that outreach will inform potential FSP customers of available services and minimize their level of distrust in government agencies (especially among immigrant populations). We recommend media and other marketing campaigns to target San Francisco residents who are unaware of their potential eligibility. This campaign will also focus on people who have not accessed the program due to fear or stigma, as well as those who lack time or transportation to apply.

DHS will conduct an ongoing evaluation of these strategies by utilizing both quantitative and qualitative methods. In quarterly reports, we will identify progress towards meeting targeted increases in the numbers of potentially eligible people who access the FSP.

7. Improve Food Security for People without Homes

There are different communities of people without homes spread throughout San Francisco. We recommend that community-based organizations in close proximity to these different communities be engaged as partners so that potential FSP customers do not have to leave their neighborhoods in order to apply for food stamp benefits.

In addition to training community-based organizations' staff to complete Food Stamp applications, we recommend providing ongoing technical and financial support for this partnership. In addition, people without homes who are known and trusted by their communities should be hired as outreach workers and peer nutrition educators.

To improve food preparation options for people who were formerly without homes and now live in supportive housing units, subsidized housing, and SROs, we recommend providing a personal microwave and refrigerator. These items will ensure unlimited access to food preparation and secure food storage facilities.

8. Support Legislative Actions to Improve the Food Stamp Program

A number of state-level changes would significantly improve the FSP in San Francisco. We recommend support of the following efforts:

AB 3029 (Laird) will improve FSP participation by removing unnecessary paperwork; allow re-certification by phone; and implement a FSP "Simplification Demonstration Project" which would require the state to test the impact of removing federally required barriers to accessing the FSP.

Update: This bill was passed. Will be implemented in January 2009.

◊ AB 2205 (Evans) will make it easier for MediCal customers to enroll in the FSP. It would also allow children receiving food stamp benefits to automatically receive free school meals.

Update: The Governor vetoed this bill.

• AB 2384 (Leno) will provide financial incentive for FSP customers to buy fresh fruits and vegetables.

Update: This bill was passed in September 2006.

Eliminate the State Fingerprint Imaging System (SFIS), which requires that all adult household members be finger-imaged. This requirement is a barrier to potentially eligible people. Working customers have to miss work to be finger-imaged. Finger imaging is even required of some household members who are ineligible to receive benefits due to their citizenship status.

School Lunch and Breakfast

The Challenge

Approximately 30,985 children in San Francisco are eligible for free or reduced-price School Lunch and Breakfast, yet 30.1% of eligible students are not eating school lunch and almost 85% are not eating school breakfast.¹ With these rates, the City foregoes approximately \$10.9 million in federal funding every year.²

For low-income students, missing out on breakfast or lunch isn't simply a lost resource; it represents a lost opportunity. School Breakfast has been shown to reduce students' absenteeism, lateness and behavioral problems while improving grades and test scores. Research has shown that individuals who eat breakfast are less likely to be overweight or obese than those who do not.³ School Lunch has also been shown to be a powerful tool in addressing hunger and obesity. Studies have also revealed that students who eat school meals consume more fruits, vegetables, calcium and certain vitamins than those who do not. Having nutritionally balanced meals can also reduce disruptive behavior in the classroom. For many low-income students, a School Breakfast or Lunch is their only access to a balanced meal.

While Student Nutrition Services (SNS), a department of the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), has made progress in increasing both participation and the quality of meals, a number of challenges remain.

About the Program

One of the nation's largest child nutrition programs, the National School Lunch Program (NLSP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP), provide lower-income students with free or reduced-price lunches and breakfasts. In most cases, schools provide free or reduced-price meals to students with incomes at or below 185% of the federal poverty line.

SFUSD has been a leader in improving the quality of meals served to children at school. In 2003, the Board of Education passed a resolution banning the sale of junk food in schools and improving school meals. The Student Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee crafted a comprehensive school nutrition policy that set requirements and nutritional standards for food sold to students during school hours. SNS has made other efforts to diversify entrees and improve nutrition. For example, last year, Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy offered students a salad bar once every two weeks. As a result of these policies and practices, food served by SFUSD tends to be lower in fat and healthier than those served by other districts.

Student Nutrition Services has partially implemented a Breakfast Grab 'n Go pilot at Balboa High School. When fully implemented it will allow students to pick-up a bagged breakfast and eat it on the way to class or during the first ten minutes of class. It will be enhanced in October 2006 with a Point of Sale system that will permit the Grab 'n Go cart to be stationed at a convenient entrance point. This system will help ease accounting requirements for free and reduced-price meals, increase availability of staff time, decrease stigma of school meals and

¹ 2005-2006 enrollment data provided by Student Nutrition Services

² 2005 County Nutrition Profile, California Food Policy Advocates

³ Kennedy, Erin "Power Breakfasts: Valley schools find few takers for free meals, but a handful succeed by bringing food to class" *The Fresno Bee* March 18, 2003.

ultimately allow significant cost savings. Even with partial implementation this model significantly increased participation in the School Breakfast Program. The pilot will also be expanded to an elementary school in Fall 2006. Other planned improvements for the Breakfast program include introducing more fresh fruit to the menu and starting a hot breakfast program in the elementary schools.⁴

Despite this progress, San Francisco faces a number of barriers to continued improvement in meal quality and student participation:

<u>Budget</u>- SFUSD is facing a \$6 million budget deficit for 2006-2007 and has stated that they will not subsidize SNS. SNS ran a deficit of \$1.2 million in 2002-2003, though that deficit was reduced to \$430,000 in 2004-2005. Despite the continued need for nutritional improvements, the increasing cost of food, and essentially flat reimbursement rates from the federal program, according to the Direct of Student Nutrition Services, SFUSD is mandating that SNS operate without a deficit.

<u>Low Reimbursement Rates</u>- National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program are USDA nutrition programs administered by the California Department of Education. The reimbursement rates for the meals and the income eligibility guidelines for participation are based on national statistics that do not take into account the high cost of living in San Francisco.

<u>Missing Meal Applications</u>- SNS has had difficulty getting families to return their applications for free meals. Many students who come through the lunch line would qualify for a free meal, but SNS is not able to claim reimbursement for the meal due to the lack of enrollment. Instead, it must absorb the cost of these meals. The number of students qualifying for reimbursable meals increased from 49% in 2003-2004 to 55.1% in 2005-2006, while the number of students without a meal application on file dropped from 35.3% to 30.9% in the same time period.⁵

<u>Co-Pay for Reduced-Price Meals</u>- During the 2005-2006 school year, against the recommendation of SNS, SFUSD reinstituted the co-pay for reduced-price meals. As a result, SNS reported a significant drop in School Lunch participation, recognizing that students who in the past received a free meal were going without. SNS advocated for a repeal of the co-pay and this will take affect in 2006-2007, but it may require outreach to inform families of this change.

<u>Cost of Living</u>- Wages in San Francisco are higher because the cost of living is higher, with cafeteria workers paid wages higher than their counterparts in other districts. Starting salary for an entry-level cafeteria job range from \$6.75 in Kings County to \$15.19 in San Francisco.⁶ Fifty percent of the meal reimbursement SNS received from the USDA went towards labor in 2005-2006, leaving less money to pay for food. Renegotiated contracts for cafeteria workers will drive those costs even higher over the next two years.

Students whose families fall below a federal income scale based on family size and household income qualify for a free meal. For example, a child from a family of three with a household income below \$21,580 would qualify for a free meal. A child coming from a family of three that earns between \$21,580 and \$30,710 would qualify for a reduced-price meal.⁷ However, a

⁶ Starting salaries for entry-level school cafeteria jobs. www.edjoin.org. Compiled on July 7, 2006

⁴ Of 56 High School students surveyed that do not eat Grab n Go breakfast, 50% indicated that they did not care for the food or wanted more variety and 25% indicated that the issue was a lack of time. Survey by Student Nutrition Committee, January 2006

⁵ SNS distributes information in English, Spanish and Chinese while making it clear that the information is confidential and will not jeopardize immigration status. All students whose families receive food stamps, or participate in TANF or CalWorks are automatically qualified through direct certification.

⁷ SFUSD repealed the co-pay in 06-07 for these students and they now receive free school meals.

household income above \$30,710 would require the child to pay \$1.00 for breakfast, \$1.75 for lunch in elementary school or \$2.00 in middle and high school.

Given San Francisco's high cost of living, many families who do not qualify for free or reduced-price meals still struggle to pay the bills, buy food, and keep a roof overhead. Many children from these families show up in the lunch line without \$1.75 or \$2.00 for lunch. SFUSD serves them a meal anyway and absorbs the cost of these meals.

Student Nutrition Goals- Agreed on by the Food Security Task Force and Student Nutrition Services

- Increase participation in School Breakfast from 15.3% to 35% and in School Lunch from 69.9% to 75% of eligible participants within three years. (This will place San Francisco within the median for participation statewide.)
- Continue to enhance efforts to ensure that school meals are nutritious, including increasing consumption of fresh and unprocessed foods.

Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

- 1. Consider investing funds to support Student Nutrition Services with the following priorities:
 - Point of Sale will help decrease stigma of school meals, increase funding to SNS, increase availability of staff time and ultimately allow savings to be directed towards meal improvement. SNS estimates that the system will cost \$1 million but generate \$1.8 million in cost-savings.
 - Efforts to increase the efficiency of school meals and acquire funding to support capital expansions and pilot initiatives.
- 2. Limit the sale of junk food near schools- pass an ordinance to ban food vendor trucks from operating within 1,000 feet⁸ of the perimeter of schools between 7am 5pm.
- 3. Encourage the School Board and SFUSD to make student nutrition a top priority and urge the School Board to consider Superintendent candidates that have demonstrated support for student nutrition services.
- 4. Ask the City lobbyist to work on behalf of Nutrition Services to seek legislative relief regarding reimbursement rates and income thresholds for school meals in high-cost areas.

⁸ Same distance from schools that tobacco advertising is limited. American Cancer Society

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

The Challenge

Although thousands of children depend on nutritious free and reduced-price meals and snacks during the school year, just a fraction of those children receive free meals provided by the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). In San Francisco, Approximately 21,000 students receive a free lunch from SFUSD Student Nutrition Services, but only 9,000 receive free meals during the summer.

In a USDA survey of families whose children receive school meals but do not participate in SFSP, more than half of the parents surveyed were not aware of SFSP sites in their area. USDA's analysis also showed that these same households were more likely than others to be classified as moderately or severely hungry.

In recent years, San Francisco has made significant progress in reaching children through SFSP. Given the number of eligible children who don't receive free meals during the summer, much work remains.

About the Program

The Summer Food Service Program was created to prevent hunger among children during long school vacations. When school is out, many children who rely on free or reduced-price meals at school no longer have the nutritional building blocks they need to learn and grow. SFSP fills this gap by providing reimbursement to schools and summer programs that serve meals during the summer.

In California, SFSP is administered by the California Department of Education (CDE). Locally, the San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (DCYF) provides sponsorship and oversight for a network of school- and neighborhood-based meal providers.

Overall Program Goals

♦ Increase participation in summer lunch by 5% per year for three years.

Program Objectives

- Create new sites in underserved neighborhoods, including the Excelsior, Richmond and Sunset Districts
- ♦ Increase capacity at existing SFSP sites

Recommendations

Outreach Recommendations:

- 1. Create 'branding' for summer lunch so that parents start to connect flyers/banners/media with summer lunch sites.
- 2. Consider a bus shelter campaign.
- 3. Include information about summer lunch in water bill.
- 4. Include the Mayor in a media event announcing summer lunch.
- 5. Ask Supervisors to send email to constituents with information about sites in their districts.
- 6. Market the program to younger siblings of participants.
- 7. Where it is practical, have sites hang a large banner that says "Tasty and free lunches for kids available here" in English, Cantonese and Spanish.
- 8. Increase outreach to families by:
 - Sending multilingual flyers home with all school children, public housing, public libraries, churches, food pantries, food stamp recipients and recreation centers advertising the location of all summer lunch sites
 - Putting announcements in school newsletters, parent list serves and neighborhood newspapers
 - Publishing entire list of sites in the SF Examiner
 - Having monitors leaflet neighborhoods surrounding summer lunch sites
 - Attend principals' meeting to raise awareness about summer lunch
 - Ask for principals' support in encouraging kids to stay for lunch
 - Ask them to have teachers walk the students to the cafeteria at dismissal time and encourage them to stay for lunch
- 9. Make multiple pushes with outreach throughout the summer.
- 10. Publicize the summer lunch sites to summer school students at the end of SFUSD.
- 11. Seek funding to support outreach and promotion, such as:
 - ♦ Find a pro-bono designer to create a brand for SFSP
 - Request funding from SBC

Programmatic Recommendations

- 1. Work with the schools to pilot making summer lunch part of the educational day. Currently, lunch is served immediately after school is dismissed and many students leave without eating lunch.
- 2. Use monitors as a resource for summer lunch sites. Have monitors bring activities for sites. Consider partnering with grad students from local universities.
- 3. Work with San Francisco Food Systems on strategies to diversify fruit and vegetable choices in the summer lunch program.
- 4. Investigate implementing "Offer vs. Serve" in summer lunch.
- 5. Show appreciation for sites so that they feel they are helping with the larger issue of increasing food security.
- 6. Don't take a punitive approach when dealing with site personnel.
- 7. Identify the meal preferences of the participants in the neighborhood and offer meals to accommodate ethnic needs, where needed.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

The Challenge

Through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), children in San Francisco receive 5,000 nutritious, home-cooked meals each day from their home-based child care providers. Because of increasing administrative costs, San Francisco's two CACFP sponsors are struggling to continue this critical program.

Since 1995, USDA has added more oversight requirements for CACFP sponsors and more paperwork for family child care providers. Its administrative reimbursement to San Francisco's two sponsors, Children's Council of San Francisco and Wu Yee Children's Services, has not kept pace with these increased administrative demands. This concern is not unique to San Francisco; in the last five years, California has lost more than 50% of its CACFP sponsors due to soaring administrative costs.

As with many federal programs, this problem is compounded by the high cost of living in the City; sponsors here must stretch their administrative dollars to cover higher salaries, and the program does not provide higher reimbursement for areas with higher costs of living.

Last year, a coalition of City Departments provided \$75,000 in one-time funding to San Francisco's two sponsors. This funding covered the sponsors' operating deficits so that participating children could continue to receive meals. This was only a temporary fix, however. Ongoing local public/private funds must be identified to ensure the sustainability of this program.

About the Program

CACFP is a federal nutrition program similar to the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. The program, which is administered by the California Department of Education, provides nutritious meals to children and functionally impaired adults who are enrolled in child or adult daycare centers and family child care homes.

While licensed child care centers may sign up directly with the California Department of Education, family child care providers work with a sponsoring organization to offer the program to children in their care. Frequently, sponsoring organizations also serve as Resource and Referral Agencies by offering subsidized child care and referral services for the county.

Family child care providers participate in CACFP in exchange for a modest reimbursement based on the number of children and the number of meals they receive. The many benefits of the program include:

5,000 nutritious, home-cooked meals are served to children each day in San Francisco.
 Without the program's modest reimbursement, parents would pay higher child care fees to cover the cost of the food and/or child care providers would provide less expensive,

less nutritious food.

- ♦ Family child care providers attend one to two nutrition education workshops per year where they obtain important information about child nutrition, physical activity, food safety, menu ideas, nutrition and gardening activities, childhood obesity and much more.
- Sponsoring organizations visit each child care home three to four times per year to ensure compliance with program regulations. During these visits, the CACFP serves as a vehicle for referring child care providers to workshops, counseling, and other resources.

Overall Program Goals

- ◊ Retain community-based sponsors of the Child and Adult Care Food Program
- ♦ Increase participation by 10% over three years

Program Objectives

- Increase the number of family child care providers, exempt child care providers and child care centers participating in the CACFP
- ♦ Identify additional public/private funds to ensure the sustainability of this program

Recommendations

Legislative recommendations:

- 1. Study the adequacy of the administrative reimbursement and lobby Congress and/or the state legislators to raise reimbursement rates for high cost of living areas such as San Francisco.
- 2. Work with California Food Policy Advocates on legislation to increase reimbursement to child care providers for including more fresh produce in their meals. This would provide more funding to existing child care providers and attract new providers to the program.
- 3. Support legislation to automate eligibility for CACFP. This effort would reduce paperwork and simplify enrollment for low-income families.
- 4. Identify local funds to support program administration.
- 5. Work with state legislators to create additional program enhancements at the state level.
- 6. Engage with Governor's Office around CACFP and obesity prevention.

Programmatic recommendations:

- 1. Investigate expansion funds available through the California Department of Education for increasing participation in the program.
- 2. Encourage sponsors to continue to automate their menu correction procedures through systems such as the Minute Menu System, allowing staff to spend more time on recruitment and enforcement of integrity regulations.

- 3. Studying the feasibility of more creative meal monitoring methods, especially for child care providers with no previous problems.
- 4. Increase family child care and child care center recruitment strategies including:
 - ◊ Sponsors attend child care licensing meetings & child care provider association meetings to promote participation in CACFP
 - ♦ Create radio PSAs to promote the CACFP
 - Create attractive marketing materials to promote the benefits of the program to parents and child care providers
- 5. Consider consolidating the two CACFP sponsors in SF to eliminate the need for two administrative structures to sustain the program.
- 6. Increase family child care providers' access to technology as a way to increase communication between providers and sponsors.
- 7. Create a public awareness campaign to raise awareness about CACFP.

Policy recommendations:

- 1. Seek a policy change at the state level to allow for volunteers and interns to conduct monitor appointments.
- 2. Work with the California Department of Education, USDA and local child care providers to ensure timely implementation of anticipated USDA recommendations on streamlining CACFP.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

The Challenge

Unlike school meals or the Food Stamp Program, the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program is not a federal entitlement program. San Francisco's WIC program must maximize participation within its allocated food and nutrition services grant, which is appropriated by Congress each year. Despite WIC's proven track record as the nation's premier public health-based nutrition program, the Bush administration recently proposed inadequate WIC funding, a 25% cap on nutrition services and administration (NSA) funds, and a 20% state match requirement for NSA funds, beginning in 2008.

In San Francisco, even the current level of WIC funding does not provide for adequate staffing. Because the program does not provide higher administrative reimbursement for high-cost-of-living areas, the program's staff-to-participant ratio in San Francisco is double the recommended level.

This year, Congress rejected Bush's plan and proposed higher funding for WIC. However, the Bush Administration has indicated that it will propose WIC cuts in future budget cycles. A 25% cap on NSA or any further reduction of funds would severely cripple program services for the 16,000 women, infants, and children WIC serves.

About the Program

WIC is the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, a 100% federally funded program. WIC provides nutritious food, individual counseling, nutrition education, breastfeeding education and support, and referrals to medical and social services to at-risk, low-to-moderate income women and children up to the age of five.

In San Francisco, the WIC Program serves 16,000 participants per month. Each month, participants receive food coupons worth between \$55 and \$150, depending on their age and situation. This translates to approximately \$11 million each year in federal food purchasing dollars for San Francisco residents.

The majority of participants are Latino (42%), followed by Asian (39%), African American (14%), and Caucasian (5%). While half of WIC participants are enrolled in MediCal, only 20% are participating in CalWORKs and Food Stamps. The San Francisco WIC Program is the largest provider of nutrition and breastfeeding support services to infants and toddlers, annually providing nutritious food and parental guidance to over 12,500 children from birth to age five. San Francisco WIC serves 5,000 pregnant and postpartum women.

Research has shown that the WIC Program has positive impact on improving the health of program participants. These outcomes include:

• Reduced numbers of low- and very low-birth weights in infants

- Decreased incidence of iron deficiency anemia in children
- ♦ Improved growth of nutritionally at-risk infants and children
- ♦ Improved dietary intake of pregnant and postpartum women

Studies have also shown that WIC is one of the most successful and cost-effective federal nutrition programs. In 1992, the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) found that WIC saved \$3.13 in health care dollars for every \$1.00 spent on the program. Most of the savings, or approximately \$2.89, was saved in the first year of life.

For detailed information about WIC, including income eligibility guidelines, the foods currently provided, and how to find nearby WIC sites, please visit the California Department of Health Services WIC website at www.wicworks.ca.gov.

Overall Program Goals

- ◊ Maintain 100% of the San Francisco WIC Program's allocated caseload each month.
- ♦ Identify additional public/private funds to ensure the sustainability of this program.

Recommendations

Legislative recommendations:

- 1. Direct the city's lobbyist in Washington, DC to advocate for adequate federal funding at the Federal level in the coming years.
- 2. Direct the city's lobbyist in Sacramento to advocate for state funds to make WIC whole (state funding for targeted and evidence-based nutrition services in California) if the 20% State match requirement occurs.
- 3. Advocate at the Federal level for parity for high cost of living areas (this would be during the next WIC Reauthorization, in four years).

Programmatic recommendations:

1. Ensure WIC Program has adequate staffing to serve eligible populations; in order to insure and maintain quality WIC nutrition education and services for a high-risk population.

Policy recommendations:

1. Develop a policy statement strongly opposing pending cuts to federal nutrition and safety net programs operating in California, including WIC, Food Stamps, Food Stamp Nutrition Education, Head Start, and school meal programs including the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Programs for Older Adults

The Challenge

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 33,384 San Francisco residents who are 60 years of age or older live with the threat of hunger.⁹

Low-income older adults in San Francisco seek food assistance from a network of federal, state and local programs. Some receive help from a variety of sources, including the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), pantry programs, congregate meals, home-delivered meals and soup kitchens.

In addition, many older adults look to food programs for permanent instead of temporary assistance. Unlike a family who may use food assistance programs only until its economic situation improves, older adults' economic situations typically worsen as inflation erodes the value of their fixed incomes.

No single federal, state or local program is designed to meet the nutritional needs of older adults in our community. In total, food assistance programs for older adults provide the equivalent of eight free or reduced price meals each week per person in San Francisco. They are not able to ensure that the 33,384 older adults living with the threat of hunger in San Francisco are able to eat three nutritious meals a day, seven days a week.

About the Programs

The following list includes the major food services and income support programs currently available to older adults in San Francisco. Because many older adults access multiple food programs to try to meet their nutritional needs, the service estimates below reflect the number of meals served, not unduplicated service of individuals. Through these services, we estimate that a total of 266,777 meals are provided to older adults in San Francisco each week.

<u>Congregate Meals</u>- This Citywide hot meal program partially funded by the Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) offers lunch five days a week to older adults. Congregate meal sites, which are often located at senior centers, serve 15,265 meals each week.

<u>Home-Delivered Meals</u>- Partially funded by DAAS, organizations deliver one to two prepared meals each day to homebound older adults up to seven days a week. These organizations serve 17,563 meals each week.

<u>Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)</u>- This federal program features a comprehensive service delivery system modeled on the acute and long-term care services developed by On Lok Senior Health Services in San Francisco. For most participants, the comprehensive service package permits them to continue living at home instead of moving to an institution. This program serves 4,839 congregate and home-delivered meals each week.

⁹ This calculation is based on information pulled from table PCT50 indicating the number of people by age 0 years-85 years + at or below 150% of the poverty line. Additionally, in order to determine the number of seniors between 60 years and 85+ years we used table P8. Both tables are located in Summary File 3 of the 2000 U.S. Census.

<u>Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)</u>- Through this federal program, children and incapacitated adults receive nutritious meals and snacks each day as part of their day care. In San Francisco, CACFP serves an estimated 3,000 meals each week to older adults.

<u>Other Meal Programs</u>- Nonprofit organizations not funded by DAAS offer hot meal programs ranging in scope from three meals a day to one meal a week. San Francisco Food Bank's participating agencies serve an estimated 12,942 meals each week to older adults.

<u>Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)</u>- Operated by the San Francisco Food Bank, this federal program distributes a monthly box of USDA commodities to qualified low-income older adults, women and children, providing food for 55,190 meals each week to older adults.

<u>Food Pantries</u>- Operated by the San Francisco Food Bank and partially funded by DAAS, weekly pantries provide San Francisco residents with groceries, including staple items such as fresh produce, grains and protein items. These programs provide food for 130,928 meals each week to older adults.

<u>The Food Stamp Program</u>- This federally funded program provides benefits on an electronic card that can be used at grocery stores to purchase food. In San Francisco this program provides older adults with benefits for an estimated 26,064 meals each week.¹⁰

<u>Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program</u>- This federal program provides fresh, unprepared, locally grown fruits and vegetables to participants. In San Francisco this program provides older adults with benefits for an estimated 300 meals each week.¹¹

<u>Supplemental Security Income (SSI)</u>- This federal cash assistance program provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind and disabled persons in the United States. The single payment recipients receive in the beginning of each month includes both the federal SSI payment and a State Supplemental Payment (SSP) from the state of California. Originally, \$10 of the SSP was earmarked for food, but currently, the average SSP \$209 does not include any money specifically set aside for food. Although the program is meant to provide food support, there is no longer an amount of money allocated specifically for food. Therefore, no meals have been added to our calculations.

Recommendations

Policy Recommendations

- 1. Support DAAS' efforts to consider older adults' food issues and programs holistically. Policy discussions should take into account all programs in the City offering food services to older adults, including those supported by DAAS, those supported by government entities other than DAAS, and those offered by nonprofit organizations without the support of public funding.
- 2. Ensure no interested and eligible older adult is denied home delivered or congregate meals. It would have cost \$1,614 a day to provide a home delivered meal to the 269 older adults on the waiting list for 2005-2006 and this number likely under represents

¹⁰ The dollar to meal conversion of \$1.92 per meal is based on statistics developed by America's Second Harvest for a different purpose and likely under estimates the cost of a meal.

¹¹ The dollar to meal conversion of \$1.92 per meal is based on statistics developed by America's Second Harvest for a different purpose and likely underestimates the cost of a meal.

interested and eligible older adults. There were 1,873 congregate meal denials in 2005-2006 valued at \$9,365.

- 3. Allow participants to use Food Stamp EBT cards to pay for home-delivered meals. This would enable providers to expand services to more older adults.
- 4. Urge DAAS to encourage contractors to be more efficient with their resources by accessing more products at the San Francisco Food Bank.
- 5. Through outreach, encourage older adults who receive SSI and do not have a kitchen to apply for the \$55 monthly food stipend from SSI.
- 6. Research and support the creation of a program providing delivered groceries to home bound older adults who can cook but who have limited mobility. This program would act as an additional resource for the older adult and homebound communities fulfilling some of the unmet food needs in San Francisco that are currently being partially addresses with home delivered meals.

Legislative Recommendations

- 1. Pursue a pilot program in which SSI recipients in San Francisco are no longer excluded from receiving food stamps. Under this pilot, regulations for SSI recipients living in mixed households would remain the same, while those living alone or with a spouse would be allowed to apply for food stamp benefits.
- 2. If this pilot program is approved, San Francisco should also apply to participate in the automatic enrollment program, in which older adults who receive SSI are automatically enrolled in the Food Stamp Program.

Background: Currently California is the only state in which SSI/SSP recipients are ineligible for the Food Stamp Program. For example: If Applicant A has an income of \$812 (the average SSI/SSP benefit amount that a single older adult without income received in 2005 in California) minus his/her rent of \$950 (average rent for a studio apartment in San Francisco), Applicant A would most likely be eligible to receive \$152 of food stamp benefits. Currently, Applicant A would not receive any food stamp benefits because his/her income is derived from SSI. In 2005 there were 27,235 people aged 65 years and older who received SSI in San Francisco and were not eligible for the Food Stamp Program.

3. Lobby Congress and the State legislators to increase federal and state funding for Older Americans Act Title IIIC nutrition programs, Child and Adult Care Food Program, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and the Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly.

Food Security Task Force Attachments

	Program	Financial Impact	Action Items
Low-Income Individuals & Families	Food Stamp Program (FSP) USDA & CDSS ¹ oversee the program Human Services Agency - Department of Human Services administers FSP U.S. Department of Agriculture 2007 Farm Bill	 \$1 million has been secured to fund the additional food stamp access points If 100% of eligible people participated, an additional 39,547 people would receive \$46 million in benefits per year; for every food stamp dollar spent in the community, \$1.84 in economic activity is generated Ensures federal food assistance programs are meeting the needs of people	Support the Human Services Agency's staffing, funding and support requests Support state legislative efforts to remove remaining restrictions that prevent people with drug-related felonies from receiving food stamps Oppose federal restrictions and funding reductions Oppose federal funding caps, cuts and limitations on federal nutrition programs, including
		at risk of hunger	Food Stamps, WIC, School Meals, CSFP and the commodity programs Advocate for an increase in The Emergency Food Assistance Program foods in the 2007 USDA Farm Bill
Older Adults	Supplemental Security Income (SSI) The Social Security Administration administers and oversees SSI.	27,235 low-income SSI recipients over 65 years could receive up to \$155 of food stamp benefits every month, generating more than \$7.8 million in economic activity per month	Support outreach efforts to eligible older adults to apply for the \$55 monthly food stipend from SSI Request the State to support a pilot in San Francisco that would allow eligible SSI recipients to receive food stamps

¹ United States Department of Agriculture and California Department of Social Services

	Program	Financial Impact	Action Items
Older Adults	Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) USDA & CDE ² oversee the program San Francisco Food Bank administers CSFP	Clients receive \$50 worth of nutritionally-balanced USDA commodities	Oppose federal funding cuts and lobby to maintain the program Support San Francisco Food Bank's request for increased federal funding
	Senior Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals Partially funded by Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS), Older Americans Act Title IIIC and USDA	Last year 1,873 people were denied a congregate meal and 269 people were on the waiting list for a home- delivered meal Congregate feeding programs served 783,722 meals last year and home-delivered meal programs served 913,300 meals last year	Support DAAS with appropriate funding to ensure there are no waiting lists and annually review this allocation Support the creation of a home-delivered grocery program for seniors with limited mobility but able to prepare meals Lobby Congress and Legislature for increase funding to maintain and expand programs
	Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) USDA & CDE oversee CACFP Local Adult Care Centers administer the program <i>Also see listing under children</i>	The adult component serves low-income older adults and adults with disabilities. CACFP provided 307,812 meals in 2002-2003 and 423,973 meals in 2003-2004	See CACFP listing under children

	Program	Financial Impact	Action Items
Women & Children	Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) USDA and California WIC Branch oversee WIC Local Agencies San Francisco Department of Public Health administers WIC	Any further reduction in Nutrition Services funding could result in approximately 1,000 participants dropped from the program Further reduction in the number of WIC staff will affect clinic waiting times Reduction in breastfeeding, childhood obesity prevention, and nutrition education services Decrease in approximately \$750,000 federal dollars per year to the community Increase in key health factors such as iron deficiency anemia in children, and increase in the number of low birth weight infants that the WIC Program has helped to reduce	 Direct the City's lobbyist in Washington DC to advocate for adequate WIC funding at the federal level Direct the City's lobbyist in Sacramento to advocate for state funds to make WIC whole (state funding for targeted and evidence-based nutrition services in California) if the 20% State match requirement occurs Advocate at the federal level for parity for high cost of living areas (this would be during the next WIC Reauthorization, in four years) Ensure that the WIC Program has adequate staffing to serve eligible populations; in order to ensure and maintain quality WIC nutrition education and services for a high-risk population Develop a policy statement strongly opposing pending cuts to federal nutrition and safety net programs operating in California, including WIC, Food Stamps, Food Stamp Nutrition Education, Head Start, and school meal

programs including CACFP

	Program	Financial Impact	Action Items
Children	Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) USDA & CDE oversee CACFP Children's Council & Wu Yee Children's Services administer CACFP	Requires additional \$100,000 per year to maintain the current level of service Provides 5,000 nutritious meals to low-income children every day in family child care homes and 7,600 meals in child care centers	Support funding and legislative requests for CACFP Lobby the state or federal governments for higher administrative reimbursements Reduce paperwork and restrictive reporting requirements
	National School Lunch Program (NSLP) & School Breakfast Program (SBP) USDA & CDE oversee the program SFUSD- Student Nutrition Services (SNS) administer NSLP & SBP	Requires a one-time cost of \$1 million to implement the Point of Sale system Generates a cost-savings of \$1 million within the first year and revenue is expected to be higher in the following years Reduces stigma of school meals and improves program efficiencies SCHOOL LUNCH:	Support Point of Sale system implementation Encourage the Superintendent and Board of Education to make student nutrition a high priority Support SNS efforts to improve meal quality, participation, infrastructure and efficiency Support legislation to increase
		If \$381,600 is spent per year in additional food costs and participation is increased from 69% to 75%, than 23,329 low-income students will receive lunch and \$737,384 will be generated in extra revenue	reimbursements
		SCHOOL BREAKFAST: If \$1,064,160 is spent per year in additional food costs and participation is increased from 15% to 35%, than 10,845 low-income students will receive breakfast and \$1,876,041 will be generated	

in extra revenue

	Program	Financial Impact	Action Items
Children	Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)	\$30,000 is needed for a media and outreach campaign to increase participation. Every	Support Department of Children, Youth & Their Families and the San
	USDA & CDE oversee the program	year the Children's Fund invests \$40,000 in Summer Lunch	Francisco Food Bank in the City's Summer Lunch outreach campaign
	SFUSD- Student Nutrition Services (SNS) and the Department of Children, Youth & Their Families administers SFSP	Provides healthy lunches for 10,526 children a day (a 5% increase every year for three years)	

Food Security Task Force Government-Funded Nutrition Program Reference Guide

Nutrition Program	Population Served	Current Participation Rate	Food Security Task Force Goal
Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) USDA & CDE ¹ oversee CACFP Children's Council & Wu Yee Children's Services administer the child portion of CACFP and local senior centers administer the adult care portion	Children in day care at family child care providers and child care centers Low-income older adults and adults with disabilities at non- residential adult care centers.	Currently 5,000 meals are served every day to young SF children in family child care and 7,600 in child care centers ² CACFP provided low-income older adults and adults with disabilities with 307,812 meals in 2002-2003 and 423,973 meals in 2003-2004	Retain CBO sponsors of CACFP and increase participation by 10% (500) within three years Reduce paperwork and reporting requirements
Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) USDA & CDE oversee CSFP San Francisco Food Bank administers CSFP	Senior citizens with incomes at or below 130% of the poverty line (\$12,740 for an individual)	CSFP is serving 101% of caseload, 9,715 seniors (<i>in</i> 2006 the federal government approved cuts to the program and SF's caseload dropped from 11,000 to 9,619) ³	Stop further cuts to the program
Congregate Meals for Seniors Partially funded by Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS)	Low-income older adults at senior centers	17,280 meals are served five days a week	Support DAAS in adequately funding senior meal programs
Food Stamp Program (FSP) USDA & CDSS ⁴ oversee FSP Human Services Agency - Department of Human Services administers FSP	Individuals and families with an income at or below 130% of the federal poverty level (\$21,580 for a family of three)	45% (32,357) of eligible individuals are receiving food stamps ⁵ In 2005 San Francisco was ranked 37 th for participation as compared to other California Counties ⁶	Increase participation by 10% (7,191 people) over three years

¹ United States Department of Agriculture and California Department of Education

² Data obtained from Department of Children, Youth & Their Families

³ Data obtained from the San Francisco Food Bank ⁴ California Department of Social Services ⁵ 2005 Estimates of Non-participants by County, California Food Policy Advocates ⁶ Country Food Stamp Performance, California Food Policy Advocates, Spring 2006

Food Security Task Force Government-Funded Nutrition Program Reference Guide (continued)

Nutrition Program	Population Served	Current Participation Rate	Food Security Task Force Goal
Home-Delivered Meals for Seniors	Homebound older adults receive one to two prepared meals every day	19,978 meals are provided seven days a week	Support and adequately fund senior meal programs
Partially funded by Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS)			Offer Food Stamp EBT cards as a payment option for participants
National School Lunch Program (NSLP)	Students from families with an income at or below 185% of the federal poverty level (<i>Income below \$30,710 for a</i> <i>family of 3</i>)	69.9% (21,645) of eligible students receive a school lunch ⁷	Increase participation to 75% (23,239) of eligible students within 3 years
USDA & CDE oversee the program			This would place San Francisco in the 50 th percentile of participation statewide
SFUSD- Student Nutrition Services administers NSLP			
School Breakfast Program (SBP)	Students from families with an income at or below 185% of the federal poverty level (\$30,710 for a family of three)	15.3% (4,750) of eligible students receive a school breakfast ⁸	Increase participation to 35% (10,845) within three years <i>This would place San</i>
USDA & CDE oversee the program		In 2005 San Francisco had the 5 th lowest participation in SBP as compared to other California counties ⁹	Francisco in the 50 th percentile of participation statewide
SFUSD- Student Nutrition Services administers SBP			
Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)	Low-income seniors that participate in Medicaid	PACE provides funding for 9,678 home-delivered meals every week	Maintain current caseload and funding levels
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services			
On Lok Senior Health Services administers PACE			

 ⁷ Data obtained from Student Nutrition Services, San Francisco Unified School District
 ⁸ Data obtained from Student Nutrition Services, San Francisco Unified School District
 ⁹ 2005 Country Nutrition Profile, California Food Policy Advocates

Food Security Task Force Government-Funded Nutrition Program Reference Guide (continued)

Nutrition Program	Population Served	Current Participation Rate	Food Security Task Force Goal
Summer Food Services Program (SFSP) USDA & CDE oversee the program	Any child 18 and under	29.3% (9,092) of the 30,985 students eligible for school lunch during the school year receive a summer lunch	Increase participation by 5% per year for three years
SFUSD- Student Nutrition Services and Department of Children, Youth & Their Families administer SFSP			
The Emergency Assistance Food Program (TEFAP) Partially funded by Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS)	Low-income families and individuals, with incomes at or below 150% of the federal poverty level receive this food though the San Francisco Food Bank's pantry network and congregate meal sites (\$24,900 for a family of three)	On average 11,008 households receive TEFAP per month through the San Francisco Food Bank's pantry network (<i>In the last two years</i> <i>commodities from USDA for</i> <i>the TEFAP program have</i> <i>dropped 47%, from 3.5</i> <i>million pounds of food to 1.89</i> <i>million pounds, previously the</i> <i>Food Bank provided this food</i> <i>on a weekly basis.</i>)	Expand volume and variety of available commodities
Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) USDA & California WIC branch oversee WIC San Francisco Department of Public Health administers WIC	Pregnant and post-partum women and children up to age five, from families with an income at or below 185% of the federal poverty level (\$30,710 for a family of three)	WIC is at 100% participation rate and serves 16,000 women, infants, and children ¹⁰	Continue to maintain 100% of allocated caseload per month Stop further cuts and increase funding for the program's nutrition costs

¹⁰ Data obtained from the San Francisco Department of Public Health, WIC Program

Food Security Task Force Contact List

Libby Albert Child Nutrition Coordinator Department of Children, Youth and Their Families 1390 Market St., Ste. 900 San Francisco, CA 94102 Phone: (415) 557-6852 Fax: (415) 554-8965 E-mail: libby@dcyf.org

Gina Fromer Executive Director Bayview Hunter's Point YMCA 1601 Lane St. San Francisco, CA 94124 Phone: (415) 822-7728 Fax: (415) 822-7769 E-mail: gfromer@ymcasf.org

Bruce Ito, MBA, MA Senior Community Development Specialist Mayor's Office of Community Development 1 South Van Ness Ave., 5th Floor San Francisco, CA 94103 Phone: (415) 701-5558 Fax: (415) 701-5502 E-mail: bruce.ito@sfgov.org

Leo O'Farrell Food Stamp Program Manager Human Services Agency City and County of San Francisco P.O. Box 7988 San Francisco, CA 94120 Phone: (415) 558-1157 Fax: (415) 558-1184 E-mail: Leo.O'Farrell@sfgov.org Daisy Anarchy San Francisco Coalition on Homelessness 468 Turk St. San Francisco, CA 94102 Phone: (415) 824-6883 Fax: (415) 775-5639 E-mail: swolhcr@yahoo.com

Paula Hamilton Principal Recreation Supervisor Citywide Recreation Programs San Francisco Recreation and Park Department 755 Stanyan St. San Francisco, CA 94117 Phone: (415) 831-6311 Fax: (415) 753-7105 E-mail: paula.hamilton@sfgov.org

Maria LeClair, MPA, RD Director of Nutrition Services City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health 30 Van Ness Ave. Ste. 260 San Francisco, CA 94102 Phone: (415) 575-5686 Fax: (415) 575-5695 E-mail: Maria.LeClair@sfdph.org

Gail Priestley Director of the Clothing and Furniture Program/ Farm/Justice Education St. Anthony Foundation 121 Golden Gate Ave. San Francisco, CA 94102 Phone: (415) 592-2706 Fax: (415) 252-1635 E-mail: gpriestley@stanthonysf.org

Food Security Task Force Contact List (continued)

Anne Quaintance, MNA Associate Director of Programs San Francisco Food Bank 900 Pennsylvania Ave. San Francisco, CA 94107 Phone: (415) 282-1907, x 263 Fax: (415) 282-1909 E-mail: aquaintance@sffb.org

Timothy Thole Child Nutrition Programs Program Team USDA FNS Western Regional 550 Kearny St., Rm. 400 San Francisco, CA 94108 Phone: (415) 705-1366, x 403 Fax: (415) 705-1364 E-mail: Tim.thole@fns.usda.gov

Christine Wong Mineta, MPH Health Educator Nutrition Services Department of Public Health City and County of San Francisco 30 Van Ness Ave., Ste. 220 San Francisco, CA 94102 Phone: (415) 575-5746 Fax: (415) 575-5797 E-mail: Christine.Wong@sfdph.org Dennis Stewart Food Stamp Program Regional Director USDA Food and Nutrition Services 550 Kearny St., Rm. 400 San Francisco, CA 94108 Phone: (415) 705-2333, x 301 Fax: (415) 705-1364 E-mail: Dennis.stewart@fns.usda.gov

Ed Wilkins Director Student Nutrition Services San Francisco Unified School District 841 Ellis St. San Francisco, CA 94109 Phone: (415) 749-3604 Fax: (415) 749-3618 E-mail: wilkinse@sfusd.edu