

LOCAL VOICE SUBMISSION



SUBMISSION DATE	Thursday, 22 September 2022 09:30 GMT -04:00
HEADING	Dismantling Silos to Strengthen Nutrition and Food Security Research
SUBMITTED BY	Food Tank
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Region/City New Orleans, Louisiana
ABOUT PARTICIPATION	358 attendees participated, including those working on the ground within local communities to solve the issues of hunger and food insecurity, as well as those from municipal offices, private industry including entrepreneurs, farmers and producers, grassroots leaders, academia including HBCUs, land-grant universities, and Tribal Colleges, and more.
TYPE OF SUBMISSION	Organization
METHOD USED	Opinion
VOICE SUBMISSION PAGE	https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52144/
FEATURED VIDEO	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziULxQUR7Ok&ab_channel=FoodTank

To better inform Dialogues, and all efforts related to ending hunger, improving nutrition and health, and reducing disparities surrounding these issues in America, Local Voices are from people who are willing to share their own, organizational, or collective opinions, stories, perspectives and experiences on these topics. It is hoped that these Local Voices help inspire people to convene multistakeholder Dialogues in the future!

1. PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

1

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-18 1 19-30 0 31-50 0 51-65 0 66-80 0 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

0 Male 1 Female 0 Non-binary 0 Prefer not to say or Other

PARTICIPATION BY RACE

0 American Indian or Alaska Native 0 Asian
0 Black or African American 0 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
0 White

PARTICIPATION BY ETHNICITY

0 Hispanic or Latino 0 Not Hispanic or Latino

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

0 Academia/education 0 Agriculture 0 Economic empowerment
0 Environment and ecology 0 Finance 0 Food consumer
0 Food distributor 0 Food production 0 Food processing
0 Food retail 0 Government 0 Healthcare
0 Health insurance 0 Hunger 0 Livestock
0 Nutrition 0 Public Policy 1 Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

0 Academic/Expert 0 Advocate
0 Corporation 0 Community Organization
0 Direct Service Provider 0 Farmer/Food Producer
0 Financial Institution 0 Impacted Individual
0 Logistics provider 1 Non-Profit
0 Policy Maker (current/former) 0 Small business
0 Student 0 Supplier
0 Other

2. LOCAL VOICE FOCUS AND OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

The interactive listening sessions included discussion of: the inaccurate and insufficient nutrition research and data currently available; recommendations for the U.S. federal government to improve food security with increased investments; and recommendations for local, state, territory, and Tribal governments, private sector, nonprofit and community groups to better understand the lived experience of the hungry and food insecure.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE PILLARS

- 1. Improve food access and affordability
- 2. Integrate nutrition and health
- 3. Empower all consumers to make and have access to healthy choices
- 4. Support physical activity for all
- 5. Enhance nutrition and food security research

KEYWORDS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nutrition | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Empowerment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technology | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data & Evidence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and Climate | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Innovation |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy |

MAIN FINDINGS

Recommendations for the U.S. federal government:

1. Participants agreed that food security is national security, and the federal government should allocate the appropriate resources to reflect that. The government must invest in cultivating a pioneering and innovative nature for our food system, bringing it to the top of its list of priorities.
2. The power of universal basic income to address poverty was noted multiple times throughout the discussion.
3. Multiple panelists also mentioned universal school meals as a simple yet powerful tool to create change—as well as teaching children how to cook as part of basic school curriculum.
4. Discussion on the federal government’s role in solving hunger and food insecurity focused on inclusivity, democratization of the food system, and trust in local communities. This means being less prescriptive in policies, resources, and recommendations and allowing communities to solve for themselves.

Recommendations for local, state, territory, and Tribal governments, private sector, nonprofit and community groups:

1. Throughout the discussion, panelists agreed that a transdisciplinary approach to nutrition data collection and research is critical. This means bringing in all voices to better understand the lived experience of the hungry and food insecure, as well as working across sectors.
2. Participants agreed that research needs to not only look at the number of hungry people but understand the other systems in place that hinder the ability to get nutritious foods.
3. Evidence such as storytelling is devalued in the broader conversation about how to address hunger and food insecurity, but panelists said that the nuances of conversation allow for open-ended opportunities to listen to what communities need.

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KEYWORDS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nutrition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Food Security
<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthcare	<input type="checkbox"/>	Economic Empowerment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Data & Evidence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment and Climate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Human rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	Innovation
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy

VIEWS

Currently, the United States lacks data and information not only about what is nutritious but also what is culturally appropriate for its communities. Insufficient data is directly shaping food policy that fails to meet the needs of citizens.

According to participants, a lot of the standard research methodologies have been developed by white males, and many researchers lack experience in the field. This means that the findings influencing policy and resource allocation are driven by those without lived experiences on the ground within communities.

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

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- Innovation
- Policy

ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- **Food Tank White House Conference Listening Session**
https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Food-Tank_White-House-Conference-listening-session.docx