

Informing the White House
Conference on Hunger, Nutrition,
and Health

AMPLIFYING STORIES OF FOOD ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY TO SHAPE EQUITABLE FOOD POLICY

A Good Food Dialogues Report

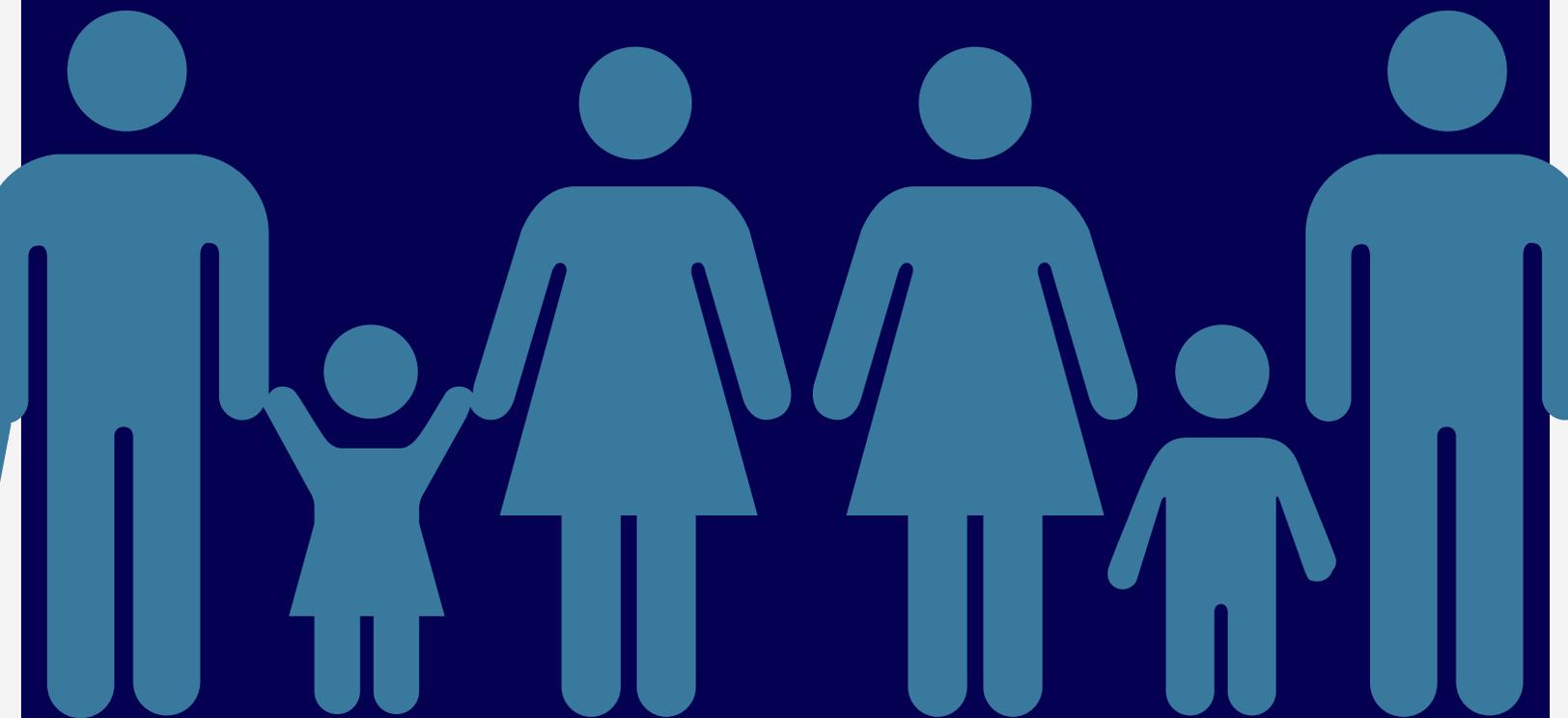


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I. Executive Summary

This report memorializes the thoughts and recommendations from a diverse group of stakeholders who are invested in reducing food insecurity and the rate of diet-related diseases in the United States. All the themes, identified barriers, and proposed solutions were synthesized from more than 700 participants in the Good Food Dialogues (GFD). The recommendations contained herein summarize the voices of participants and are not a reflection or endorsement of the views of sponsor organizations.

Participants universally identified poverty, and the many root causes, as the primary driver of food insecurity in the United States. “Food access and affordability is not a black and brown problem, it's a poor people's problem.” [1] The COVID-19 Global Pandemic and post-COVID consumer price inflation has tipped more people over the line from moderate food security — “anxiety over food sufficiency or shortage of food in the house” [2] — to low or very low food security. [3] With multiple participants citing the rising cost of everything from housing and transportation to childcare and healthcare, more families are forced to choose between food and medication or food and rent. Grassroots community organizations that are already tapped out both in terms of funding and labor, must also face the reality that the purchasing power of every dollar has dropped.

It logically follows that many solutions proposed by GFD participants focused on economic relief and putting more funding into communities via local programs and on an individual level. “Dialogue participants convened around the shared ideas that a stronger social safety net boosts food security, reduces poverty, and helps equalize opportunity.” [4] Recurring recommendations included making the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) universally accessible, reducing eligibility for and increasing the benefits of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), providing free transportation to grocery stores and farmers’ markets where underserved people can purchase more fresh and healthy foods, incentivizing private businesses to donate food, and supporting community-level food recovery programs.

Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson, in an introduction to the BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH Local Voices submission to GFD, spoke for many participants when she wrote of her community, “The Bronx needs sustainable programs that function systemically, serve to bridge the gap in food access and affordability, and that integrate nutrition and health at the core of public awareness campaigns.” [5] All efforts to address food security and nutrition education should center local voices and work to establish trust and buy-in from community members in both the design and implementation of programs. Increasing funding to community-led programs with deep local knowledge is the best way to help small organizations scale to meet growing needs. The good news is that there is a passionate, engaged audience with diverse lived experience and subject matter expertise, committed to expanding access to food and improving health outcomes in their communities and beyond.

[1] Increasing Nutritious and Affordable Food Access Webinar. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51907/official-feedback-51907-en.pdf?t=1663976667>. 28 August 2022.

[2] Definitions of Food Security. USDA Economic Research Service Website, 7 September 2022. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-u-s/definitions-of-food-security/>.

[3] Definitions of Food Security. USDA Economic Research Service Website, 7 September 2022. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-u-s/definitions-of-food-security/>.

[4] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[5] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

A. About this Report

This report amplifies more than 700 voices, representing over 100 cities coast to coast, and 30 organizations. Gathering virtually or in-person, individuals shared their experiences and perspectives on how to solve the hunger and nutrition crisis affecting communities across the country.

The discussions, findings, and stakeholder recommendations in this report represent a summary of the Good Food Dialogues (GFD) project Informing the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health (WHC) — a national partnership of engaged individuals and organizations committed to improving access to nutritious food for all. Led by Food Systems for the Future [6] (FSF), GFD is driving national efforts to energize and empower grassroots participation from communities across the United States in the policy solutions needed to address the nation's hunger crisis. Empowering these voices will help drive a more equitable approach to addressing the hunger, nutrition, and diet-related disease needs of underserved and low-income communities. The recommendations in this report directly reflect the experiences and expertise of those working to improve food systems or the individuals impacted by these challenges. FSF has submitted the findings laid out in this report to the White House in advance of the WHC scheduled for September 28, 2022 to ensure that the voices of GFD participants are an integral part of the policy discussions taking place during the conference.

The themes, policy recommendations, and proposed solutions captured through the GFD platform ahead of the WHC, via Local Dialogues and Listening Sessions official feedback forms and Local Voices Submissions, were used in three key ways:

- Official feedback forms, containing recommendations and main findings, were directly submitted to the White House, as they were published on the GFD platform.
- Key findings have been summarized in this publicly available report.
- All Local Dialogue, Listening Session, and Local Voice official feedback forms will remain publicly available for download on the GFD [7] website.

Following the conference and the release of the White House plan, the GFD platform will remain active and serve as a tool for communities and stakeholders to continue collaborating on hunger, nutrition, and health policies and engaging on topics related to the implementation and perceived gaps of the national strategy. The platform will also be activated for community input on other related events and policy actions, such as the 2022 Climate Change Conference and the Farm Bill.

FSF will work with partners to take action on key policies and recommendations outlined below, through multi-sectoral coalition building and awareness and education campaigns. The conference is just the beginning of the journey towards an equitable food system transition.

[6] Food Systems for the Future Website. <https://www.fsfinstitute.net/>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[7] Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

B. Areas of Focus

Local Dialogue conveners received an overview of the five pillars defining the scope of the WHC in their Good Food Dialogue Reference Manual. These pillars are:

- Pillar 1: Improve Food Access and Affordability
- Pillar 2: Integrate Nutrition and Health
- Pillar 3: Empower All Consumers to Make and Have Access to Healthy Choices
- Pillar 4: Support Physical Activity for All
- Pillar 5: Enhance Nutrition and Food Security Research

In consultation with stakeholders, Local Dialogue conveners determined the focus and framing of their respective dialogues and crafted an event title to reflect that theme. If pertinent to their dialogue, conveners also outlined discussion topics for breakout groups to explore, with the support of a dialogue facilitator. Examples of Local Dialogue titles include:

- Hungry for a Just Food System
- Technology & Nutrition: Equalizing Maternal & Infant Health
- Youth. Fed Up.
- Activity as Activism

A complete list of Local Dialogues, Listening Sessions, and Local Voices is available in Appendix B.

Pillars 1, 2, & 3 were the most heavily explored during GFD Local Dialogues, Listening Sessions, and Local Voices. Pillar 4, Support Physical Activity for All, was the least-sought theme for participating stakeholders.

In addition to the WHC Pillars, GFD participants expressed concern and a need to respond urgently to other pressing issues, including food systems and climate justice; economic/labor injustices in food production; and food waste.

C. A Note on Language

The GFD project is made up of three distinct participation channels: Local Dialogues, Listening Sessions, and Local Voices (see Section II.A for more detail). Throughout this report, the word “Dialogues” will be used to refer to all three models collectively. Specific Local Dialogues and Local Voices are cited by name in the footnotes. In many cases, multiple stakeholder groups identified similar barriers and potential solutions. In cases where there is no specific attribution, this content should be understood as having common ideas between multiple Dialogues.

The views, opinions, and recommendations in this report do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions, or positions of Food Systems for the Future or any given participating or sponsor organization; these organizations should not be construed as approvers nor endorsers of the report.

II. Introduction to the Dialogues

A. The Good Food Dialogues Format

Good Food Dialogues (GFD) is an online platform and forum launched by Food Systems for the Future (FSF)[8] to inform policy conversations at the September 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health (WHC).

All stakeholders with an interest in the WHC were encouraged to participate in GFD in the following ways:

1. Convene a Local Dialogue.
2. Attend a national Listening Session, hosted by FSF.
3. Submit a Local Voice.

Local Dialogues

Dialogues provided participants with an opportunity to help design a new national strategy for ending hunger and reducing diet-related diseases and explore how multi-sector partnerships at the local, state, and national levels, together can produce bold action that transforms the nation's food systems and ensures a healthier, hunger-free America.

Local Dialogues were convened by individuals and organizations outside federal agencies. To ensure successful engagement, GFD provided convening organizations with resources on facilitation and engagement aligned with the five pillars of the WHC.

The format of Local Dialogues allowed conveners the flexibility to adapt the topics discussed to participant preferences. However, all Local Dialogues conveners used the same methodology to guide the conversations and were required to complete and submit standardized official feedback forms. This allowed for a uniform connection to the WHC and comprehensive analysis and synthesis of findings.

Official feedback forms submitted by conveners following each Local Dialogue summarized the ideas and findings that emerged during the conversation and included the following sections:

- Section 1: Participation — Captured the demographics and diversity of Local Dialogue participants.
- Section 2: Principles of Engagement [9] — Established the methodology used for Local Dialogues, GFD Principles of Engagement, and allowed conveners to share advice with fellow conveners.
- Section 3: Method — This section asked conveners to confirm whether they had followed the standardized GFD method that was suggested to conveners and outlined in the Good Food Dialogues Reference Manual [10].

[8] See Appendix E

[9] See Appendix C

[10] Good Food Dialogues Reference Manual. Good Food Dialogues Website. Version 1.0, June 2022. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Reference_Manual_Toolkit.pdf.

- Section 4: Local Dialogue Focus & Outcomes — Allowed conveners to summarize the specific focus of their Local Dialogues; the main findings that emerged from the dialogue; participants' views on actions urgently needed; perceived challenges; and areas of divergence.

Organizers were specifically advised against attributing views or direct quotations to named individuals. All Local Dialogue official feedback forms published on the GFD website were submitted to the White House on a rolling basis, in advance of the WHC. All Local Dialogue official feedback can be viewed here. [11]

Listening Sessions

GFD Listening Sessions invited stakeholders from across the country to join hour-long virtual conversations and: share their experiences accessing or working to improve their local food systems; provide feedback on the policy pillars guiding the WHC; and contribute ideas and solutions to improve food access and affordability for all. Listening Sessions provided another opportunity for those with lived experience in food insecurity and food development systems to engage with GFD and help center their experiences during the policy discussions at the WHC. Listening Sessions took place August 25, 2022 through September 26, 2022; were guided by pre-determined questions aligned with the WHC core pillars; and followed the same methodology and Principles of Engagement as Local Dialogues.

Local Voices

To better inform Local Dialogues, and all efforts to end hunger, improve nutrition and health, and reduce the persistent disparities across all three problems, the GFD platform invited the public to contribute to Local Voices. Local Voices offered individuals, groups, and organizations lacking the capacity or ability to convene a Local Dialogue another pathway to share: their own, organizational, or collective experiences with and expertise on hunger, malnutrition, diet-related diseases; their perspectives on the WHC pillars; and areas in which they diverged from the pillars. Local Voices are uploaded documents or statements. Organizations that drafted their own submissions to inform the WHC were encouraged to upload these documents as Local Voices to ensure a repository of the ideas, suggestions, and challenges are easily accessible. All Local Voices feedback reports are available for download on the GFD website. [12]

We believe that by amplifying diverse voices and inspiring multi-stakeholder Dialogues, we will collectively contribute to the systems change needed to reduce hunger, improve nutrition and health, and reduce the disparities surrounding them throughout the United States.

[11] Explore Good Food Dialogue Feedback. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/explore-feedback/>, Accessed 26 September 2022.

[12] Explore Good Food Dialogue Feedback. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/explore-feedback/?dm_dialogue_type=voice. Accessed 26 September 2022.

B. Diversity and Inclusion

Dialogues are most effective when they include a wide range of stakeholders. Producers, processors, distributors, retailers, caterers, chefs, marketers, and traders, among others, are directly involved in moving food from farm to fork and have important perspectives to be considered. GFD describes diversity as “bringing together a wide range of people across all ages, genders, education levels, professions and backgrounds, including those not normally present. By including those less heard, unusual voices, new and promising options for actions can be identified. Inclusion refers to the consideration and attention given to ensuring that everyone has an equal voice and is equally heard.” [13]

Local Dialogue conveners were provided resources to facilitate multi-stakeholder explorations of topics discussed during Local Dialogues to ensure conversations were rooted in respect, inclusivity, and trust-building.



Local Dialogues are moments for:

- Elevating all actors and voices; including those not normally included
- Uplifting stakeholders to explore ideas together
- Encouraging creativity, emphasizing equity
- Exciting more powerfully through connections
- Facilitating pathways, actions, intentions and commitments together

One Dialogue convener reported, “Our dialogue included people with lived experience on SNAP, biotechnologists, first-generation immigrants, researchers of food systems, fermentation experts, an employee of a farmer coop, farm volunteers, a resident of a US territory, and more.” [14]

Another convener wrote, “Respect was a core principle throughout the conversation ... Every policy proposal that each person shared was grounded in a story, and each story shared deepened the trust in the room.” [15]

C. About the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, & Health

More than 50 years have passed since President Nixon convened the first-ever—and until now, only—White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. The original conference catalyzed many of our nation’s major nutrition policies and programs, such as Food Stamps (now the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP), the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast

Program (SBP), and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). While the 1969 WHC was celebrated for its bipartisanship, vision, and impact, five decades later the landscape has changed. Though food insecurity is still a concern at the forefront, poor nutrition, diet-related diseases, and the disparities that pervade these problems are now major issues and the approach to end hunger and improve nutrition and physical activity in the country needs a re-envisioned approach.

[13] Good Food Dialogues Reference Manual. Good Food Dialogues Website. Version 1.0, June 2022. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Reference_Manual_Toolkit.pdf.

[14] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[15] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

Hunger, poor nutrition, and diet-related conditions and diseases disproportionately impact underserved communities, including many Black, Latinx, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Native American communities in addition to many others such as those with disabilities, older adults, and LGBTQI+ people.

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated and further exposed the existing fragilities and inequalities of our current food system. The urgent need for change is clear.

The Biden-Harris Administration's new national food policy strategy, announced at the WHC on September 28, 2022, outlines actions for a coordinated response from the public and private sectors. It incorporates feedback provided by key players from the worlds of science, business, policy, health care and academia, as well as farmers, indigenous people, youth organizations, consumer groups, environmental activists, and other key stakeholders including, and importantly, those with lived experiences.

GFD participants were enthusiastic about sharing their ideas on how policymakers, community leaders, non-profits, and the private sector should address pressing hunger, nutrition, and health issues and had clear expectations about what would make the 2022 WHC a success. One Local Dialogue group said it was "critical" that the conference—and food systems research, policy and action in general—be holistic and interdisciplinary:

"The White House Conference must truly be a conference, not a lecture-style presentation ... The conference should not explore one issue at the expense of another, nor view issues as trade-offs: physical activity vs. food security vs. nutrition vs. economic empowerment. It must consider these issues, and the broader issues of poverty, income inequality, and health inequity as part interrelated systems of oppression." [16]

Specific recommendations on how conference organizers could acknowledge this interconnectedness included offering a land acknowledgement at the start of the event; evaluating each pillar and speaking proposal through the lens of justice; and engaging, without tokenizing, stakeholders with lived experience of hunger.

Historically, the term "Food Desert" has been used to describe a geographic area that lacks a quality grocery store or access to fresh food. Many activists, scholars, and people who work on the front lines of hunger prefer the term "Food Apartheid." Food apartheid is a system of segregation that divides those with access to an abundance of nutritious food and those who have been denied that access due to systemic injustice. The term was coined by food sovereignty leader Karen Washington [17] to illuminate the fact that limited access to affordable, healthy food is driven by systemic racism. In this report, you will see both terms as we use the specific language captured and shared by our Local Dialogues and Local Voices participants.

[16] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

[17] "Food Apartheid." Project Regeneration Website. <https://regeneration.org/nexus/food-apartheid>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

III. Key Insights & Themes

A. Divergence in Dialogues

While every Local Dialogue emphasized the values of trust and respect, facilitators made space to explore productive divergence in topics raised, policies recommended, or solutions offered; the resulting “Divergence in Dialogues” is captured here. Issues and root causes of hunger and health outcomes are complex, so stakeholders were not always fully aligned. As a result, key areas of divergence emerged from these conversations.

Food Security vs. Nutrition

All Local Dialogue participants agreed that the conference must holistically address issues of food security and nutrition, but they disagreed about how best to do so.

“Some were concerned that an over-emphasis on nutrition would detract attention, support, funding, and independence away from food security programs. For example, WIC is denoted a nutrition program and includes specific guidelines around what products can and cannot be purchased with WIC. SNAP is a food security program, and has few restrictions on which items can be purchased. Reducing freedom and dignity of choice within SNAP with restrictions would, in some participant's views, be anti-productive.” [18]

Food System Supply Chain

Participants had different views about which part of the food system supply chain was most effective at increasing sustainability, reducing food insecurity, increasing economic fairness, and achieving food justice.

“Some [stakeholders] focused on nutritional benefits programs, retail grocery store prices, farmers markets, and other demand-side interventions. Others focused on subsidies, corporate agriculture, and food distribution networks. While each of us thought that action at specific points in the supply chain may be more or less impactful than other points, we all agreed that holistic food systems transformation must happen at every level.” [19]

Level of Intervention

Participant feedback also diverged on which level of impact would be most change-making: local, city, state, federal, or international action.

[18] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

[19] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

“Some participants argued that all change is local, while others spoke to the power of massively-funded federal programs. Ultimately, all agreed that coordinated, organized action at all levels is necessary to transform the food system.” [20]

B. Common Themes in Dialogues

The following themes transcend any one particular WHC pillar and were sufficiently robust in Local Dialogues, Listening Sessions, and Local Voices to merit special attention here. Throughout this report, recurring themes and similar recommendations that arose from Local Dialogues will not be cited, but verbatim quotations and specific, detailed recommendations are included with a reference source.

1) Hunger as a Symptom of Poverty

Hunger has many systemically entrenched root causes, but current post-COVID economic conditions, such as low and insufficient wages and high medical, housing and childcare costs, have increased the risk of food insecurity. For decades, academics, advocates and direct service providers have been sounding the alarm that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits have not kept pace with the rising cost of groceries. Now, with inflation soaring, the shortfall for many families is growing dangerously wide. In August 2022, food costs were up more than 11% [21] which drastically lowers the purchasing power of SNAP benefits.

Joel Berg, CEO of Hunger Free America, emphasized, “We cannot end U.S. hunger without significantly reducing poverty, and we cannot significantly reduce poverty without first raising wages, reducing inflation, boosting economic opportunity, and bolstering the American middle class.” [22] While the WHC pillars specifically focus on food access, nutrition education and research, and physical activity, there is a clear case for creating jobs, raising wages, and stabilizing the rising costs of necessities like housing, childcare, transportation, health care, and utilities in addition to food.

Writing from rural America, one Local Voice contributor notes that in his area, political rhetoric seems to color every issue, resulting in misinformation about the extent of the food insecurity crisis and “false perceptions of who actually needs support and funding.” [23] When people cannot, or refuse to, recognize the food inequities experienced by their own neighbors, hunger and malnutrition, and the disparities they breed, are allowed to persist in urban, suburban, and rural communities across the country.

One Local Dialogue participant warned that if the outcomes of the WHC focused on things like personal choice and responsibility without making substantial strides to alleviate the impact of external factors like “sky-high” inflation and the vanishing middle class, the resulting recommendations “will be ridiculed.” [24]

[20] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[21] Consumer Price Index. Bureau of Labor Statistics Website. <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[22] To End U.S. Hunger, We Must Cut Poverty, Boost Economic Opportunity, Reduce Inflation, and Bolster the Middle Class. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52131/local-voice-52131-en-1663850844.pdf>. 22 September 2022.

[23] Lorain County Food Forward. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51998/local-voice-51998-en-1663012367.pdf>. 12 September 2022.

[24] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

2) Food and Climate Justice

GFD participants stressed the existential urgency of addressing the climate crisis through food systems transformation. As one participant emphasized, "Climate change and the intersection of food systems is critical." [25]

Instead of solving climate challenges, our current food system is a major contributor to issues like overconsumption of water and greenhouse gas emissions. As the current food system in the United States fails millions of people, growing environmental challenges like resource scarcity and soil degradation will continue to exacerbate the problem.

The impacts of climate change and extreme weather patterns are disastrous for those same communities that have been systematically excluded from access to fresh and healthy food. The Fourth National Climate Assessment [26] published in 2018 found, "People who are already vulnerable, including lower-income and other marginalized communities, have lower capacity to prepare for and cope with extreme weather and climate-related events and are expected to experience greater impacts." Some participants worried that developing infrastructure like roads and buildings to increase access to food could also lead to adverse effects on struggling communities where tree removal and an overabundance of pavement would influence "temperature, water runoff, air quality, and overall quality of life." [27]

During a Local Dialogue convened by the Houston Area Urban League, the impact of ever more frequent natural disasters further exacerbating issues of food access and affordability was raised. Natural disasters increase costs, disrupt supply chains, and increase demand for holistic support services. [28]

3) The Untapped Power of Youth

The participation of young people in GFD has been particularly encouraging. It is clear that these emerging changemakers understand the power they wield, even if older policymakers have diminished their contributions.

One recent graduate working with the LA Food Equity Roundtable explained that it was the interdisciplinary nature of food systems work that drew her to it: "I'm interested in working around the food system because it is the nexus of workers' rights, environmental and human health, and racial and class equity. It's a great opportunity to address all of these issues, to look at how we can achieve environmental sustainability and social equity while uplifting human health. Viewing these issues through a systems lens requires a holistic understanding." [29]

[25] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

[26] Volume II: Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States. Fourth National Climate Assessment, U.S. Global Change Research Program, 2018. <https://nca2018.globalchange.gov>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[27] Activity as Activism. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51527/official-feedback-51527-en.pdf?t=1657927707>. 14 July 2022.

[28] Houston National Urban League. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52253/official-feedback-52253-en.pdf?t=1664241039>. 27 September 2022.

[29] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

“The White House must actively involve young people in policy development and implementation. We gathered at this Dialogue because we were frustrated with feeling unheard and unrepresented; we are excited at this rare opportunity to be heard amongst the halls of power. The White House should proactively engage BIPOC, LGBTQ+, immigrant, and disabled youth, farmers and rural youth, and youth who receive or whose families receive SNAP, WIC, free or reduced-price school meals.” [30]

In addition to calls for direct action, young people are also advocating for greater participation and influence. They are eager to contribute to a renewed food policy strategy and suggest opportunities like “working with USDA [United States Department of Agriculture] to create regional food systems visioning committees on which young people serve” and urge the federal government to consider “expanding internship opportunities for young people to work in the White House and USDA before, during, and after college.” [31] Other participants urged the creation of a Farm Corps. [32]

“Because our generation has inherited this system, and because we now bear the responsibility of ensuring it can nourish and sustain our bodies, the planet, and future generations, it is critical that the concerns and ideas of youth be centered in future US food policy.” [33] These highly engaged stakeholders are also making food policy a key issue when it comes to voting, “we need to elect politicians that refuse to let corporate interests and campaign funding sway their ideology, that believe in competitiveness, fairness, antitrust, and small business entrepreneurship, and who will listen to their constituents over companies.” [34]

4) Dismantling Structural Racism in our Food Systems

Local Dialogues with a strong presence of young people were more likely to identify the intersection of hunger and food insecurity with systemic inequities and injustice in the United States.

“Dismantle structural racism in the food system. Remove barriers for BIPOC farmers. Ensure Native American food assistance programs such as FDPIR [Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations] include traditional foods, and allow Tribes to administer their own programs through the 638 Authority.

“Food brings people together. The US food system should empower, not decenter, that truth. Today, food insecurity, poverty, environmental degradation, and monopolism robs the food system and everyone who participates in it of their dignity. Instead, young people want to experience food as “joy”, “a vehicle for health”, and “a means of communication, in a way that language fails.” Sometimes eating well and nourishing our bodies feels like “an act of rebellion” against the current food system. Young people long for a food system that helps them connect with food, land, and other people with dignity.” [35]

[30] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[31] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[32] Faith Dialogue Informing the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51960/official-feedback-51960-en.pdf?t=1664201125>. 26 September 2022.

[33] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[34] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[35] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

Invest in sustainable, regenerative agriculture that employs traditional ecological knowledge. End food apartheid by investing in public transportation, innovative grocery delivery and distribution pilots and SNAP online, supporting urban grocery cooperatives and nonprofit grocers, and urban farming.” [36]

Participants identified the history of red-lining [37], the legacy of sharecropping, and Jim Crow laws as systemic drivers of food insecurity. “Sharecropping practices— those that kept Black farmers in debt to White farm owners— prevented complete control over farmland. [Today] the number of Black farmers has decreased significantly, with only 1.4% of farmers identifying as Black.”[38]

Concerns over racist microaggressions in food and nutrition programs—which often take the form of ignoring or undervaluing cultural attitudes, experiences, and traditions—were raised by numerous participants. One Local Dialogue convener stressed to fellow participants, “Racism, not race, is the primary driver of racial disparities of food insecurity.”[39]

The Activity as Activism Dialogue focused their discussion on the fact that parks, green spaces, and waterways are often unwelcoming to and exclusionary of Black and Brown people. “Making green spaces and features more common and accessible creates opportunities for people to get active without the pressure of adhering to a strict schedule or paying for membership fees. A casual walk in the park can help improve wellness, and is accessible compared to a gym membership and a personal trainer.” [40]

During a Local Dialogue on increasing access to affordable, healthy foods, the importance of incentivizing and expanding the use of public-private partnerships to allow greater access to healthy, nutritious food in historically underserved communities was highlighted. Innovative solutions are needed to ensure “reliable” access and acceptance by communities that have been systematically discriminated against. In this conversation, FSF Founder, Ambassador Ertharin Cousin noted, “Scaling sustainable market-based innovative agriculture and food businesses, particularly those led by BIPOC entrepreneurs, is a critical requirement to making nutritious food more available.” To strengthen community ties to the food people eat, community cooperatives were offered as a potential solution to ensuring community buy-in and ownership. [41] This point was further underscored in a National Urban League Dialogue stressing the importance of increasing access to finance for BIPOC business and businesses operating in underserved communities. [42]

Participants also highlighted the importance of removing barriers to government funding opportunities in historically underinvested communities. Increasing access to programs like the Justice 40 Accelerator were offered as potential solutions to ensuring organizations on the ground have the support they need to navigate and prepare to apply for federal funding. [43]

[36] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

[37] Uprooting Institutionalized Racism as a Driving Force of Food Apartheid in America. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/UnBox-Presentation-08_17_22-FINAL.pdf. 27 September 2022.

[38] Uprooting Institutionalized Racism as a Driving Force of Food Apartheid in America. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/UnBox-Presentation-08_17_22-FINAL.pdf. 27 September 2022.

[39] Uprooting Institutionalized Racism as a Driving Force of Food Apartheid in America. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/UnBox-Presentation-08_17_22-FINAL.pdf. 27 September 2022.

[40] Activity as Activism. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51527/official-feedback-51527-en.pdf?t=1657927707>. 14 July 2022.

[41] Increasing Nutritious and Affordable Food Access Webinar. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51907/official-feedback-51907-en.pdf?t=1663976667>. 28 August 2022.

[42] National Urban League Affiliate CEOs Dialogue on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51590/official-feedback-51590-en.pdf?t=1661440536>. 22 July 2022.

[43] Faith Dialogue Informing the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51960/official-feedback-51960-en.pdf?t=1664201125>. 26 September 2022.

5) Food Insecurity Among College Students

"I'm Native American and Mexican. Our tribe is not recognized, so we don't have access to lots of resources that federally recognized tribes have. The Native side of my family grew up in poverty. I have a public health background in social determinants of health. There is a lot of talk about veganism which is great, but the diets of my community have always been high in protein. Many can't have access to those protein sources anymore because prices are so high. Sometimes we are even shamed [for our traditional foodways]. On the health and mental health level, you can see this all play out. We might have had one small market in our hometown, but now it's all processed junk food. There's no other option but fast food because that's how food systems have impacted us." [44]

Nearly one-third of college students reported experiencing food insecurity in 2020, and effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on this figure have not been studied sufficiently. [45] The rate of food insecurity among college students is particularly concerning "because fueling low-income and first-generation students through college is essential for reducing income inequality and increasing economic mobility. Working tirelessly in school, extracurriculars, and part-time work, while also worrying about how to afford food, forces students to make impossible choices between their basic needs and their education." [46]

A Local Dialogue hosted on a university campus found that existing resources to address student hunger are insufficient and there are many obstacles to access them. Resource centers are often run by students and volunteers and are only available during limited hours, which is particularly inconvenient for students who live and work off campus. Some students choose not to take advantage of on campus resources because of embarrassment and stigmatization. [47]

"The White House must act creatively, urgently, and in partnership with student-led groups to end campus hunger for good. Education is the most important lever for equalizing opportunity and economic mobility. Students who must stretch their mental bandwidth and financial budgets to afford basic survival needs do NOT have the same chance at educational success as students who don't carry that burden." [48]

GFD participants expressed one way the White House can help student populations is to eliminate the SNAP time limits for Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) which often result in students losing access to much-needed federal benefits. Though it was noted that SNAP time limits should be waived for everyone, the lack of access to SNAP benefits is particularly challenging for busy college students who are adapting to independent living and trying to balance a precarious load of studies and obligations.

The Federal Government's national strategy should acknowledge that students are relying on technology to find information and share resources. One group wanted to bring attention to a new mobile app, Too Good to Go [49], that connects stores with surplus produce with those seeking food. One student reported, "There are campus listservers which spread the word about safe, plentiful dumpster-diving opportunities." [50]

[44] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

[45] Rowan, Lisa. "How Hunger Impacts College Students — And What's Being Done to Alleviate It." Forbes, August 2021.

[46] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[47] Hunger, Nutrition, and Health on Campus. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51750/official-feedback-51750-en.pdf?t=1661210141>. 30 July 2022.

[48] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[49] Too Good To Go Website. Too Good To Go International. <https://toogoodtogo.com/en-us>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[50] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

A recent college graduate explained, "It's difficult to navigate what the best program is. There are no centralized resources to access the programs that exist, and those who can't find them are those who need them the most." [51]

6) The Food Waste Problem

Food donation is not a solution for food insecurity, but it is a vital tool that can be capitalized on to help improve access to food. Many people working for food businesses want to reduce food loss and waste and increase food donation—they are acutely aware of the optics of throwing food away at a time when many people are hungry, and report employees challenge food businesses to align food waste with their company values. However, weak liability protections and confusion around policies currently in place prevent more private businesses from participating in food recovery programs.

The Local Dialogue hosted by the Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic stressed, "It is important to make sure that we do not think of or imply in our communications that food donation is redistributing "waste" or use food recovery to dump low-quality food; rather it should be framed and communicated as redistributing food from an imbalanced system to improve availability of wholesome food for consumption." [52]

"Addressing food loss and waste through food donation, recovery, and strengthening regional food systems has the potential to impact historically marginalized communities by promoting economic development for the livelihood of women, BIPOC-owned businesses, farmers and growers." [53]

A culinary student shared, "I want to see us change food systems in order to reduce the amount of food waste that we produce in the US and North America in general—agriculturally and in grocery stores. There are so many ways I have learned how to repurpose food; I've learned in culinary school how to increase product utilization, to reuse and repurpose ingredients. I have research and policy experience, but I'm in the kitchen nine hours a day and understand food from a culinary and operational side of things. It's the people on the ground in the operational space who are actually executing policies. It's a different story for those folks... I want to see better policies supporting food recovery programs. There are many organizations working on food donation, bringing excess food from restaurants to shelters, but there needs to be more government action supporting that." [54]

[51] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[52] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[53] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[54] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022..

IV. Barriers & Solutions

The following barriers were identified and highlighted consistently by participants across the Dialogues and represent areas of focus for improving hunger, health, and nutrition across the United States. The recommendations summarized below were sourced from: Local Dialogues, Listening Sessions, and Local Voices submissions across multiple geographic areas; diverse subject matter experts; and people with varied lived experiences.

A. Improve Food Access and Affordability

Objective: End hunger by making it easier for everyone—including urban, suburban, rural, and Tribal communities—to access and afford food.

Participant Identified Barriers and Proposed Solutions

Participant-Identified Barrier: Small food retailers, such as bodegas and dollar stores, do not offer the same access to fresh, nutrient rich foods. “Instead of 24/7 access to over-processed fast food, we want access to farm-fresh produce and relationships with the people who grew it.” [55]

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Neighborhood level Food Hubs can provide access to cold/dry storage and incubator kitchens for food entrepreneurs selling prepared foods to local audiences.
 - In some cases, rezoning may be necessary to incorporate local market concepts and to bring community assets and business opportunities to underutilized areas.
 - In their Local Voices report [57], Bronx Impact Food Access Collective (BIFAC) and Bronx Health REACH Nutrition and Fitness Workgroup highlighted the Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative [58] as one model to consider.
 - Commissary kitchens are also valuable additions to food hubs. These kitchens provide safe and sanitary spaces for food to be individually portioned, packed, canned, dehydrated, and more.
- State governments should work with food retailers to provide incentives for stocking healthy food items at affordable prices.
 - As an example, see New York City’s FRESH Program (Food Retail Expansion to Support Health). [59]

“In many neighborhoods, there is only one supermarket for tens of thousands of residents, often providing overpriced and poor-quality food options. The Bronx is NYC’s lowest-resourced borough yet is also home to the main food hub in NYC. Though all the freshest food brought into NYC lands in the Bronx, hardly any of it reaches the borough’s residents. The trucks and highways that tear through the Bronx carrying all this food also have devastating environmental health impacts on the population.” [56]

[55] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[56] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

[57] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

[58] Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative Website. Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative. <https://jarcbx.com/>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[59] Food Retail Expansion to Support Health (FRESH). New York City Economic Development Commission. <https://edc.nyc.gov/program/food-retail-expansion-support-health-fresh>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

- In addition to state government programs, the federal government can work with distributors to create incentives for small food retailers to commit to stocking healthy options and selling them at a slight discount.
- Revamp federal programs for crop insurance and commodity price supports to diversify fruit and vegetable production which can increase supply and profitability. [60]
- Fund small and local food stores to support healthy food promotions and in-store advertisements meant to engage consumers in underserved communities.
 - Multiple Dialogue reports stressed the importance of involving local community stakeholders in these efforts to increase community buy-in and excitement.
- Increase and sustain funding for programs like the Farmers to Family Food Box program. [61]
- Through public-private partnership and increased federal funding, incentivize more BIPOC entrepreneurs to start food system businesses, generally, and food businesses that support underserved communities and eliminate barriers to accessing funding. [62]
- Create a centralized state and federal benefits system that makes it easier to enroll people in eligible benefit programs and reduces redundant paperwork.
- Incentivize programs, like Fresh Truck, that bring healthy produce straight to consumers in areas with low access. [63]
- Encourage and provide funding incentives for collaboration between food distributors and corner stores to make it easier for these local stores to purchase healthier foods at bulk prices, as these kinds of retailers are heavily relied upon in many communities. [64]

“We need federal solutions to help balance what is accessible at the local level and the power that large processed food corporations have on what is available on food retail shelves.” [65]

“Participant-Identified Barrier: Limited and exclusionary access to transportation is an ongoing issue in both urban and rural communities and has been exacerbated by inflation. People who own cars struggle to afford gas, resulting in consolidated or limited trips. People who do not own cars are similarly affected when it comes to purchasing taxi or ride-share options to access quality grocery stores. In many metro areas, the cost of public transportation has long been out of reach for the families in greatest need. In New York City, a one-way bus or subway ride costs \$2.75 for most riders [66], in Chicago full-fare bus rides cost \$2.25 [67], and a single ride on the San Francisco MUNI costs \$3.00 (less if you pay via mobile app). [68] As a result, in both rural and urban areas, people are limited to stores that are within walking distance to their homes.

[60] Faith Dialogue Informing the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51960/official-feedback-51960-en.pdf?t=1664201125>. 26 September 2022.

[61] Food Deserts: Challenges and Innovations. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51688/official-feedback-51688-en.pdf?t=1660537695>. 12 August 2022.

[62] Increasing Nutritious and Affordable Food Access Webinar. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51907/official-feedback-51907-en.pdf?t=1663976667>. 28 August 2022.

[63] Fresh Truck & Friends. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51820/official-feedback-51820-en.pdf?t=1662580894>. 24 August 2022.

[64] Faith Dialogue Informing the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51960/official-feedback-51960-en.pdf?t=1664201125>. 26 September 2022.

[65] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

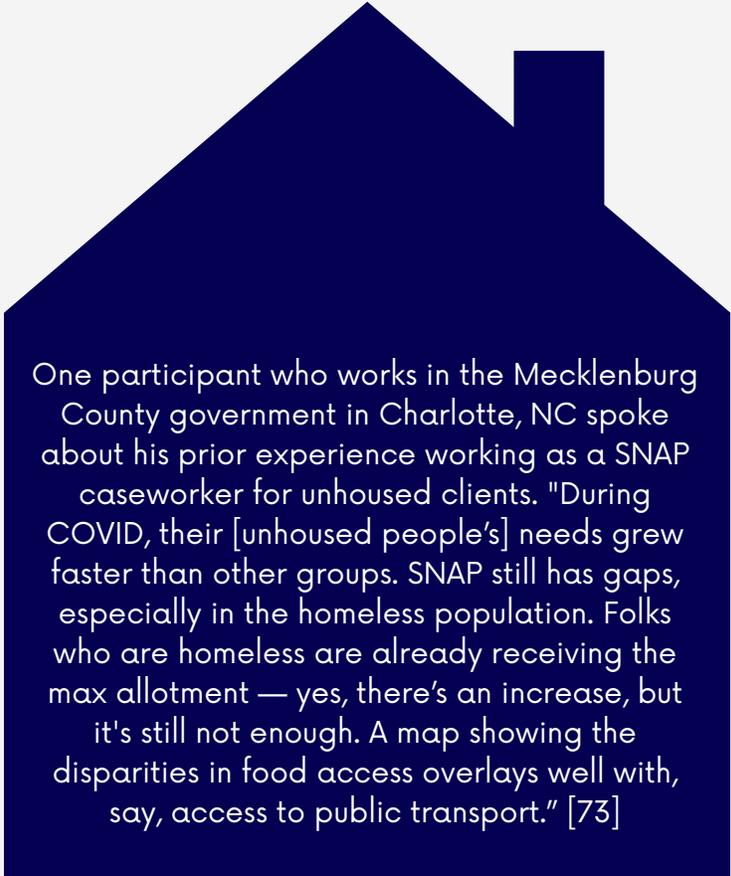
[66] Everything You Need to Know About Fares and tolls in New York. Metropolitan Transit Authority Website. <https://new.mta.info/fares>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[67] Fare Information. Chicago Transit Authority Website. <https://www.transitchicago.com/fares/>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[68] Fares. San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Website. <https://www.sfmta.com/getting-around/muni/fares> Accessed 26 September 2022.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Many Listening Session participants stressed the need for transportation support in rural, urban, and suburban areas. They recommended that free or subsidized transportation be provided by community centers to quality grocery stores and farmers' markets.
- Online SNAP ordering has improved accessibility for older adults and people with disabilities. Online and delivery options also benefit people without reliable access to transportation. Participants suggested making SNAP/EBT an eligible payment option for grocery delivery and online ordering and encouraged private businesses to waive delivery fees for customers paying with SNAP.
- Access to safe and reliable transportation remains a persistent issue on Indian Reservations. Participants advocated for giving qualified individuals on Indian reservations simultaneous access to the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) and SNAP, to ease the burden of transportation off the reservation. [69]
- Continue funding and building upon the successes of programs developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, like the Farmers to Families Food Boxes, rather than ending them since the needs they address persist and these programs are lifelines for many families. [70]
- "There should be funding specifically set aside on a city level for making underserved communities [particularly those identified as food deserts], more bike friendly and pedestrian friendly." [71] Both overdeveloped urban areas and underserved rural areas can benefit from infrastructure improvements that go beyond car ownership.
- "There should be infrastructure projects that take into consideration the natural movement of the community members and which enhance their way of life and promote physical activity and accessibility to green spaces." [72] For example, development of protected bike lanes can allow individuals to build physical activity into daily routines, increase access to more food options, and improve quality of life.



One participant who works in the Mecklenburg County government in Charlotte, NC spoke about his prior experience working as a SNAP caseworker for unhoused clients. "During COVID, their [unhoused people's] needs grew faster than other groups. SNAP still has gaps, especially in the homeless population. Folks who are homeless are already receiving the max allotment — yes, there's an increase, but it's still not enough. A map showing the disparities in food access overlays well with, say, access to public transport." [73]

[69] Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic: Recommendations to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Harvard-FLPC-Recommendations48.pdf>. 15 September 2022.

[70] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF-WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[71] Activity as Activism. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51527/official-feedback-51527-en.pdf?t=1657927707>. 14 July 2022.

[72] Activity as Activism. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51527/official-feedback-51527-en.pdf?t=1657927707>. 14 July 2022.

[73] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

Participant-Identified Barrier: In the United States, it is estimated that 30-40% of food goes unsold and uneaten [74] and a large proportion of this wasted food is safe and edible. Community-led food recovery organizations are under stress and need greater support from the Federal Government in both funding and policy, “specifically around liability protection, tax incentives for food donation, infrastructure and resiliency planning, funding gaps, and data collection and education opportunities.” [75] Improving America’s shocking rates of food waste will require participation from state, local and Tribal governments; private companies; and nonprofit and community groups to address food loss and waste and increase food donation.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Strengthen liability protection for food donation programs and increase communications to small establishments and grassroots organizations about the protections that do exist.
 - For example, “Liability can be extended to food donated to organizations that charge a small fee for donated food, so that food rescue organizations can cover their operating costs and have more time and money to meet community needs.” [76]
 - Strengthen the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act [77] by passing the Food Donation Improvement Act [78].
 - Expand liability protection to include coverage for gleaners who voluntarily harvest food.
 - Many Dialogue participants suggested there is a need to provide educational guidelines for potential food donors about how food can be donated safely.
- Standardize date labels on food and educate the public about how date labels should be used. [79]
- Position K-12 schools as centers of best practices in food waste reduction
 - Expand funding for food waste education in K-12 schools via state curriculum standards to strengthen both the connection between young people and where their food comes from and their understanding of food as a valuable, labor-intensive resource.
 - Expand eligibility for the USDA’s Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program (FASLP) [81] to high school students to engage more young people in learning about distinct parts of the food system.
 - Build food waste reduction into school processes, by increasing adoption of Offer versus Serve [82] guidance.

Gleaning is defined as harvesting extra crops from farms and gardens to distribute to people facing food insecurity. It is estimated that more than 30% of the food grown on U.S. farms is never harvested. [80]

[74] USDA Food Waste FAQs. United States Department of Agriculture Website. <https://www.usda.gov/foodwaste/faqs> Accessed 26 September 2022.

[75] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[76] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[77] Information on the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Act. USDA Food and Nutrition Service Website. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/information-bill-emerson-good-samaritan-food-act>. 18 June 2019.

[78] H.R. 6251 Food Donation Improvement Act of 2021. Congress.gov Website. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6251>. Accessed 27 September 2022.

[79] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[80] Baker, Gregory A, et al. “On-farm food loss in northern and central California: Results of field survey measurements.” Resources, Conservation, and Recycling, October 2019.

[81] Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program. USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Website. <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/food-agriculture-service-learning-program>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[82] Updated Offer vs Serve Guidance for the NSLP and SBP Beginning SY2015-16. USDA Food and Nutrition Service Website, July 2015. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/updated-offer-vs-serve-guidance-nslp-and-sbp-beginning-sy2015-16>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

- Normalize and destigmatize food-sharing initiatives in schools, like share tables, pop-up pantries, and other food donation efforts.
- Increase the length of time for school lunches so that kids have time to eat their food after waiting in line to get it.
- Incentivize private sector businesses to participate in food recovery/food donation programs.
 - Provide funding to conduct industry training on how to effectively draft contract agreements that allow for more flexibility in food donation, such as allowing for supplementary partnerships with smaller food recovery organizations instead of exclusive agreements with larger ones. [83]
 - Require large waste producers or big box retailers to demonstrate partnerships with a food donation organization. Require that such partnerships include multiple organizations (small, large, and in-between) so that producers/retailers can mix and match their recovery and transportation needs with the organization that best fits the donation size/type. [84]
 - Educate retailers on financial and environmental benefits of having food donated as quickly as possible (for example, less storage space needed and reduction in energy costs) [85].
- Provide funding and support to help states and localities implement local policies that aim to reduce food waste, like California’s SB 1383—a law designed to reduce the amount of food scraps and organic materials that end up in landfills.
- Provide grants to companies developing innovative solutions for food waste, beyond composting and food recycling. Examples include companies working on anti-spoilage technology or better demand planning. [86]

Participant-Identified Barrier: Public K-12 schools provide a crucial infrastructure to reduce childhood hunger, but offerings are not optimized for nutrient density or choice.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Funding for school lunches should revert to focusing on hot meals, which in the past have been accepted more among children.” [87]
- Expand access to healthy, plant-based meal options in K-12 schools.
 - “We cannot provide healthy school meals for all until all students—including those who prefer or require plant-based options for religious, ethical, cultural, or health reasons—have options to eat at school. Despite growing demand from students and their families and commendable efforts from many school food operators, plant-based options are typically lacking in school cafeterias.” [88]

[83] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[84] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[85] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[86] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[87] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

[88] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

- Support the Healthy Future Students & Earth Act (HFSEA) with funds from the Healthy Food Incentive Fund. “United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) should devote a portion of this funding to pilot a program modeled after the HFSEA to expand healthy, fiber-rich entree options, bringing student protein, legume, and fiber intake into better alignment with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA).” [89]
- Adopt regulatory flexibilities at USDA that facilitate plant-based and plant-forward meal options. “The USDA should support schools in overcoming the technical, financial, and regulatory barriers to expanding their plant-based offerings. This innovation can diversify protein intake consistent with the DGA [90] recommendations, particularly around lowering processed meat consumption and increasing fiber and legume consumption.” [91]
- Expand the availability of plant-based ingredients and ready-to-serve plant-based food options in the USDA Foods Program. “The USDA Foods Program offers limited plant-based ingredients and ready-to-serve plant-based food options like a black bean burger or falafel. Expanding these offerings such that schools can purchase plant-based food options through their entitlement dollars will help schools offer more diverse protein choices cost-effectively.” [92]
- Fund universal nourishing school meals to increase access and reduce stigma around free and reduced-price school lunches.

Participant-Identified Barrier: Asset and income limits for benefit programs keep individuals and families in poverty. When trying to better their financial position, the benefit cliff prevents upward mobility as individuals lose benefits if their salaries increase too much. In one Dialogue, we heard about individuals who find better employment but then are faced with benefit loss resulting in no childcare, food assistance, or decreased health benefits, so are unable to accept a job opportunity that offers incrementally more money.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Ensure robust access to support services that bridge the gap in benefit loss when circumstances change. [93]
- Implement universal health care to ensure that families and individuals are not choosing between health care, food, and housing.
- Increase flexibility of local service providers to help clients overcome benefit loss.

Benefits Cliff Defined:

Benefit cliffs occur when a small increase in earnings means a family no longer can receive a public benefit which was helping them to feed their families, afford medical care, access quality child care or otherwise balance their budget. [94]

[89] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

[90] Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Dietary Guidelines for Americans Website. <https://www.dietaryguidelines.gov>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[91] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

[92] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

[93] Houston National Urban League. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52253/official-feedback-52253-en.pdf?t=1664241039>. 27 September 2022.

[94] Campbell, Emily. “Policy Change Can Reduce Benefit Cliffs and Incentivize Work.” The Center for Community Solutions, 18 Feb. 2022, <https://www.communitysolutions.com/research/policy-change-can-reduce-benefit-cliffs-incentivize-work/#:~:text=Benefit%20cliffs%20occur%20when%20a,or%20otherwise%20balance%20their%20budget.>

B. Integrate Nutrition and Health

Objective: Prioritize the role of nutrition and food security in overall health, including disease prevention and management, and ensure that the United States' healthcare system addresses the nutrition needs of all people.

Participant Identified Barriers and Proposed Solutions

Participant-Identified Barrier: "Patients may assume that medical professionals are knowledgeable about nutrition, but many doctors in the United States currently receive minimal nutrition education." [95] Some doctors self-report that they "do not feel qualified to counsel patients on food choices." [96]

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Require medical schools and training hospitals to report on how much nutrition information health care providers are receiving and ensure that access to nutrition education is inclusive and equitable for medical students and future patients.
 - The Administration should require federally employed physicians to complete continuing education courses in diet, nutrition, and the relation of both to health. [97]
- "Providing doctors with nutrition education will empower them to provide patients with accurate, culturally relevant diet-related advice and to better make referrals to nutrition professionals where appropriate." [98]
- Health care providers should be able to "prescribe" foods like fruit and vegetables to patients, in conjunction with programs that make fresh foods affordable and accessible through insurance. "Medically supported food and nutrition refers to food-based interventions prescribed by a medical provider designed to manage certain health conditions. These prescriptions should be covered by healthcare, as food can be medicine." [99]
 - Example: New York City's Pharmacy to Farm Prescriptions [100] enabled the Health Department to give low-income New Yorkers diagnosed with high blood pressure 30 dollars a month in Health Bucks [101] to purchase fresh produce at local farmer's markets.
- The costs associated with medically tailored meals should be covered in Medicaid. (see California MTM Pilot Program [102])

Participant-Identified Barrier: "The application process to access SNAP benefits is burdensome on people who rely on the benefits;" [103] food and benefit access need to be holistically integrated with nutrition education at every touchpoint of physical health, mental health, and social services.

[95] Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic: Recommendations to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Harvard-FLPC-Recommendations48.pdf>. 15 September 2022.

[96] Strengthening National Nutrition Research: How the US Can Advance Nutrition Research and Protect the Health and Security of the Nation. Good Food Dialogues Website. Center for Health Law and Policy Innovations and Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, June 2021. <https://chlpi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Strengthening-National-Nutrition-FINAL-June-15-2021.pdf>.

[97] Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic: Recommendations to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Harvard-FLPC-Recommendations48.pdf>. 15 September 2022.

[98] Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic: Recommendations to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Harvard-FLPC-Recommendations48.pdf>. 15 September 2022.

[99] Food Deserts: Challenges and Innovations. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51688/official-feedback-51688-en.pdf?t=1660537695>. 12 August 2022.

[100] Pharmacies Partner with Health Department to "Prescribe" Fruits and Vegetables to Low-income New Yorkers with High Blood Pressure. NYC Department of Health Website, 17 July 2019. <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/about/press/pr2019/pharmacy-to-farm.page>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[101] Health Bucks. NYC Department of Health Website. <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/health-bucks.page>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[102] Medically Tailored Meals Pilot Program. California Department of Health Care Services Website, 30 December 2021.

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ltc/Pages/Medically-Tailored-Meals-Pilot-Program.aspx>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[103] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Those living with diabetes or other diet-related diseases should automatically qualify for programs like SNAP, making it easier to purchase healthy foods.
- Coordinate food distribution with wrap around support services such as housing and employment support. For example, a social worker should be available on site at food pantries to help people enroll in SNAP, WIC, or other benefit programs.
- Doctors' offices and health centers should be considered supportive food distribution locations and offer nutrition education to patients.[104]
- Further integrate nutrition into schools' health curriculum. This can be paired with increased education about agriculture and food systems, through school trips to farmers markets and community gardens. [105]

Participant-Identified Barrier: Nutrition plays a key role in maternal, infant, and toddler health outcomes. However, programs like WIC and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program are only offered to low-income families. Additionally, people who do qualify for these benefits may struggle to get the most value out of the available resources due to time and transportation constraints.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- "When we consider young mothers who may not have the support system they need in place to answer crucial questions about the nutrition their baby needs, they may be less likely to reach out to others – whether that's to family, friends or professionals – due to fear of judgment. A safe space in a community-based social media channel could allow them to share experiences and advice with other mothers who may be experiencing similar thoughts or have recently overcome these challenges." [106]
- Technology-based solutions such as personalized apps may help moms navigate the programs and benefits that are available to them. [107] Developments like this must work within the technological infrastructure of the local communities.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, many people found that remote or telehealth appointments made it easier to connect to care. "The idea of using technology to provide a nurturing environment for vulnerable populations extends to pregnant and breastfeeding mothers in a similar way. Submitting questions, hopping on a video consultation and connecting with a local community can all contribute to ensuring new mothers are not facing their concerns alone." [108]

C. Empower All Consumers to Make and Have Access to Healthy Choices

Objective: To foster environments that enable all people to make informed healthy choices and increase access to healthy food, to encourage healthy workplace and school policies, and to invest in public messaging and education campaigns that are culturally appropriate and resonate with local communities.

Participant Identified Barriers and Proposed Solutions

[104] Nutritious Food Access in Pittsburgh Feedback Session. Good Food Dialogues Website.

<https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51922/official-feedback-51922-en.pdf?t=1662642801>. 8 September 2022.

[105] Bellevue Farmers Market. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52239/official-feedback-52239-en.pdf?t=1664217978>. 26 September 2022.

[106] Technology & Nutrition: Equalizing Maternal & Infant Health. Good Food Dialogues Website.

<https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51490/official-feedback-51490-en.pdf?t=1657915493>. 15 July 2022.

[107] Technology & Nutrition: Equalizing Maternal & Infant Health. Good Food Dialogues Website.

<https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51490/official-feedback-51490-en.pdf?t=1657915493>. 15 July 2022.

[108] Technology & Nutrition: Equalizing Maternal & Infant Health. Good Food Dialogues Website.

<https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51490/official-feedback-51490-en.pdf?t=1657915493>. 15 July 2022.

Participant-Identified Barrier: Communities with limited access to healthy foods such as fresh produce and whole grains may be unfamiliar with recipes and cooking methods for these foods. Limited ability to cook at home is further compounded by time restraints from caregiving and employment. [109] A Local Dialogue composed of farmers who participate in the Bellevue (Pennsylvania) Farmers' Market reported that some customers "are unaware of what the foods [at the market] are and how to prepare them. This also puts farmers in a difficult position as they are federally prohibited from cutting into produce and offering samples to the market attendants." [110]

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Offer more nutritional and culinary programming in schools and community settings, including food pantries and senior centers. [111]
 - Programs should be adaptable to the community and inclusive of all religious, cultural, and health-based diet types including kosher, halal, plant-based, vegan, and more.
- Leverage place-based food justice initiatives that connect food, culture, and health. Engage with diverse communities when building policies to promote healthy eating and healing practices. Fund the construction and operation of community spaces that center food production, entrepreneurship, and health as a way of engaging communities. [112]

"Support nutrition education that extends beyond the benefits of a healthy diet and promotes empowerment and advocacy through learning our food system's history and current state." [113]

- Prioritize programs that build trust in local communities and embrace local cultures and traditions around food. "This means being less prescriptive in policies, resources, and recommendations and allowing communities to solve for themselves." [114]

- Incentivize healthy eating for families and expecting mothers. "This solution could include an activity center where daily activities are logged for points and rewards. Smart scales could track weight loss, and this data could be shared with WIC clinics for monitoring improvements. This technology solution could also allow a partnership to overcome barriers to accessing food with existing structures like online platforms and meal delivery companies for recipes, nutrition tips and easy snacks." [115]
- Integrate "nutrition and health education into the curriculum of all K-12 schools. The curriculum should include awareness of chronic health conditions, link physical activity with nutrition, and promote incentives for children to perform physical activity." [116]

Participant-Identified Barrier: Existing food assistance programs have restrictions in eligibility. Additionally, participants report the benefits are insufficient and do not allow for consistent purchasing of nutrient-dense foods.

[109] Lorain County Food Forward. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51998/local-voice-51998-en-1663012367.pdf>. 12 September 2022.

[110] Bellevue Farmers Market. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52239/official-feedback-52239-en.pdf?t=1664217978>. 26 September 2022.

[111] Houston National Urban League. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52253/official-feedback-52253-en.pdf?t=1664241039>. 27 September 2022.

[112] Houston National Urban League. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52253/official-feedback-52253-en.pdf?t=1664241039>. 27 September 2022.

[113] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

[114] Dismantling Silos to Strengthen Nutrition and Food Security Research. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52144/local-voice-52144-en-1663853412.pdf>. 22 September 2022.

[115] Technology & Nutrition: Equalizing Maternal & Infant Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51490/official-feedback-51490-en.pdf?t=1657915493>. 15 July 2022.

[116] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- “Increase SNAP. Today, the US government's most powerful tool for helping prevent Americans from falling into food insecurity is increasing SNAP.” [117]
- People who rely on SNAP benefits often feel constricted in what they can and cannot buy with benefits. It is difficult to make healthy choices when the benefits are not sufficient to cover a family's needs. Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic recommends calculating SNAP benefit amounts based on the Moderate or Low-Cost Food Plan as opposed to the Thrifty Food Plan which is currently in use. [118]
- Adult non-citizens must wait five years before they are eligible for SNAP. People may be the most vulnerable during these first few years in the country, yet they are forced to resort to faith-based and community-supported assistance programs which may not be able to provide reliable access to nutrient dense and balanced meals for their families.[119]
- Expand the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP)[120] which allows localities to offer double SNAP benefits for qualified healthy purchases of fruits and vegetables. Prioritize expanding access to farmers' markets and community supported agriculture in underserved areas.
- Find ways to integrate fresh, perishable foods into food distribution models, such as supplementing “food pantries” with “food fridges.”
 - Example: In 2021, Food Finders converted a refrigerated shipping container into a cold storage food access location in West Long Beach so that the local Food Hub could also offer dairy, meat, and produce. [121]
- Support community-led campaigns to reduce the stigma associated with receiving food assistance. Celebrate public and private assistance programs as dynamic tools to support building strong communities.
- Allow more flexible funding for local-level support organizations and nonprofits to greater invest in effective food programs—like local gift cards that allow clients to shop for foods specific to their diet and culture. Historically, clients are unable to adhere to prescribed diets solely through local food banks. [122]

“The issue of food insecurity, malnutrition, and hunger is deeply entrenched. My culture goes all the way back to the days when Black people didn't have the right to own land, read, or write—slavery, post-slavery, then Jim Crow. Black people have to make do because we didn't have access to higher education, to wealth. My family, the families I know, have to make do. The lifestyle does not allow for living a healthy life. Folks have to make do with food that is saturated with fat and sugar and is highly processed. If they can even afford anything healthy, they don't know how to sustain an entire family on something that is nutritious. Just a plain salad will not cut it in a Black family. We incorporate what we know into our lifestyle ... It's so much deeper than food.” [123]

[117] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[118] Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic: Recommendations to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Harvard-FLPC-Recommendations48.pdf>. 15 September 2022.

[119] Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic: Recommendations to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Harvard-FLPC-Recommendations48.pdf>. 15 September 2022.

[120] Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program. USDA Food and Nutrition Service Website, November 2021. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/gusnip-grant-program>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[121] Long Beach Community Marketplace. Food Finders Website. <https://foodfinders.org/food-hub>. Accessed 27 September 2022.

[122] Houston National Urban League. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52253/official-feedback-52253-en.pdf?t=1664241039>. 27 September 2022.

[123] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

Participant-Identified Barrier: People, particularly young people and people living in urban environments, feel more disconnected from the land and the origins of food and “want the White House to Address ... a sustainable, circular food economy that connects Americans more deeply to the land, rather than estranging them from it.” [124]

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Multiple Dialogue participants suggested more support of and subsidies to individuals and communities that seek to grow their own food, at any scale.
- Support more community development initiatives like the Bronx River Foodway Project [125] “a series of edible gardens on the Bronx River which provide free, healthy produce for local residents and serves as an educational tool to connect communities and share knowledge around food and health.” [126]
- “Support Americans’ reconnection with land. Eliminate barriers for Black and Indigenous and other farmers of color. Support urban farming initiatives, particularly BIPOC-led initiatives incorporating food justice experiential education for youth.” [127] We must acknowledge how People of Color have been excluded from participating in the natural environment, “first through segregation and racist narratives, and more modernly through redlining and issues of affordability [gentrification].” [128]
- Fund Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) [129] to provide loans to food businesses acting in low-income communities, particularly Black and Brown and BIPOC-owned businesses, and businesses operating in these communities. [130]

D. Support Physical Activity for All

Objective: Make it easier for people to be more physically active, increase awareness of the benefits of physical activity, and conduct research on and measure physical activity.

Participant Identified Barriers and Proposed Solutions

“Our generation is much less connected [to the land] than previous generations. We need a food system that stewards land, and helps us reconnect with the sources of our food and the hands that grow it.” [131]

Participant-Identified Barrier: Many people do not have access to safe places to exercise and experience physical activity in nature.

[124] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[125] The Bronx River Foodway. Bronx River Alliance Website. <https://bronxriver.org/about/foodway>. Accessed 27 September 2022.

[126] Youth Ministries for Peace & Justice. Whole Cities Foundation Newsletter. https://wholecitiesfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/MaryannYoung_ComboPosters.pdf September 2020.

[127] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[128] Activity as Activism. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51527/official-feedback-51527-en.pdf?t=1657927707>. 14 July 2022.

[129] What Does the CDFI Fund Do? U.S. Department of the Treasury Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Website. <https://www.cdfifund.gov>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

[130] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[131] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Multiple Dialogues suggested that health insurance should incentivize physical activity by subsidizing the costs of gym memberships, exercise programs, and/or home equipment.
- Build and fund community recreation centers with accessible community fitness programs. [132] Additionally, locate community recreation centers on accessible walking and public transportation routes.
- Fund initiatives to enhance community environments with paths, equipment, and safety measures that support outdoor activity. “We acknowledge that there are racist histories and policies that have separated Black people, and other people of color, from activities in nature; which is why the federal government should provide funding specifically for these people.” [133]
- Link “physical activity and nutrition to focus on and teach the mind and body connection regarding how we feel when we consume certain foods and how that impacts our physical activity.” [134]
- The Monday Campaigns [135] including the DeStress Campaign [136] and the Move It Monday Campaign [137] “have been successful for students.” [138]

E. Enhance Nutrition and Food Security Research

Objective: Improve nutrition metrics, data collection, and research to inform nutrition and food security policy, particularly on issues of equity, access, and disparities.

Participant Identified Barriers and Proposed Solutions

Participant-Identified Barrier: Federal investment in nutrition and food security research has remained flat or declined [139] and the fragmentation and lack of coordination around funded research ensures we will continue clouding the complete picture—particularly as it relates to understanding root causes and social/environmental factors.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- Create a new cabinet-level Office of the National Director of Food and Nutrition. “The urgent need for leadership, coordination, and investment in nutrition research requires establishing a new authority for cross-governmental action on nutrition research and policy—a Congressionally authorized and funded agency led by a new, cabinet-level National Director of Food and Nutrition.” [140]
 - Create and fund a National Institute of Nutrition within the National Institutes of Health. “NIH, as the nation’s largest funder of health research, is an essential home for increased authority, coordination, and funding for nutrition science.” [141]
 - The Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation at Harvard Law School and the Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University has also called for President Biden to establish as Associate Director for Nutrition Science in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. [142]

[139] Strengthening National Nutrition Research: How the US Can Advance Nutrition Research and Protect the Health and Security of the Nation. Good Food Dialogues Website. Center for Health Law and Policy Innovations and Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, June 2021. <https://chlp.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Strengthening-National-Nutrition-FINAL-June-15-2021.pdf>.

[140] Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic: Recommendations to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Harvard-FLPC-Recommendations48.pdf>. 15 September 2022.

[141] Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic: Recommendations to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Harvard-FLPC-Recommendations48.pdf>. 15 September 2022.

[142] Strengthening National Nutrition Research: How the US Can Advance Nutrition Research and Protect the Health and Security of the Nation. Good Food Dialogues Website. Center for Health Law and Policy Innovations and Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, June 2021. <https://chlp.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Strengthening-National-Nutrition-FINAL-June-15-2021.pdf>.

[143] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

- Increase data collection to accurately represent social determinants related to food access, poverty, and diet-related illnesses. “We need to show more than diet-based disease statistics to understand why food insecurity and health disparities remain so entrenched in our communities.” [143]
- Increase research into mechanisms for preventing food loss and waste at every stage of the food supply chain. Research is needed to provide a more complete picture of why food goes to waste, how much food is lost and wasted, and where there are opportunities for expanded food rescue. [144]
- Map neighborhood food environments. “Based on data from food environment maps and consumer surveys, identify gaps that need to be filled; work on policy and zoning incentives to encourage healthier food businesses. Maps would also include food pantries, food boxes, farmer’s markets/stands, community fridges, bodegas, grocery stores, and more.” [145]
- Research projects must engage diverse populations to understand the breadth and depth of lived experiences with food insecurity. “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.” [146]
- Multiple Dialogues affirmed that research efforts must also capture cultural attitudes, traditions, and behaviors to shape food policy that will truly meet the needs of all people.

Participant-Identified Barrier: There is consumer confusion around what “healthy” actually means; one Pittsburgh Local Dialogue convener noted that the definitions of healthy foods and behaviors “seem to be subjective and shifts based on who is describing it.” [147] Just as mainstream, fringe, and social media has rapidly spread misinformation about scientifically established topics like vaccination and climate change, there is a raft of dubious nutrition education circulating through the population about supplements, fad diets, calorie restriction, and more.

Participant-Suggested Solutions:

- “Family culture, Diet culture and Food advertisements,” [148] also contribute to confusion and misunderstanding about best practices for a healthy lifestyle. Governments at every level should invest in publishing scientifically-proven, easy-to-understand guides that can be socialized through the communities.
- Issue guidance to clarify date labeling standards including the difference between safety-based and quality-based standards with an emphasis on which foods can still be consumed past expiration dates. [149]
- Transition nutrition standards regulation from the USDA to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to increase the health focus of the recommendations and decrease the overlap of interests with industry. [150]

[143] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

[144] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[145] BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BHR-Bronx-White-House-Conference-Submission_7.15.22-1.pdf. 14 July 2022.

[146] Dismantling Silos to Strengthen Nutrition and Food Security Research. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52144/local-voice-52144-en-1663853412.pdf>. 22 September 2022.

[147] Nutritious Food Access in Pittsburgh Feedback Session. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51922/official-feedback-51922-en.pdf?t=1662642801>. 8 September 2022.

[148] Nutritious Food Access in Pittsburgh Feedback Session. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51922/official-feedback-51922-en.pdf?t=1662642801>. 8 September 2022.

[149] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF_WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[150] Faith Dialogue Informing the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51960/official-feedback-51960-en.pdf?t=1664201125>. 26 September 2022.

V. Discussion & Conclusion

Overwhelmingly, participants in the Good Food Dialogues (GFD) “agreed that food security is national security and the federal government should allocate the appropriate resources to reflect that.” [151]

Participants acknowledged that we cannot predict when external factors will aggravate existing conditions, but we can prepare by “ensuring resources and funds are on standby for ‘slow-moving crises’ like food insecurity instead of seeking funding only during emergencies, when food access issues are further exacerbated.” [152] However, participants agreed that even mild food insecurity levels are unacceptable, as food is a basic human right and healthy, nutritious food should be universally accessible, regardless of geography or income. One participant who works in direct service lamented, “This is a country with so many billionaires, while other people are dying earlier because they don’t have access to affordable, nutritious, available food.” [153] Multiple Dialogues reflected that “access to high-quality food [should be] a human right.” [154]

Strengthening and expanding economic equity and opportunities were critical actions repeated throughout the Dialogues as solutions for addressing the root causes of hunger in the United States. One convener noted that “the power of universal basic income to address poverty was noted multiple times throughout the discussion.” [155] Participants also agreed that it will take bold action at the highest levels of government to make a radical impact on systemic poverty at the root of food insecurity. One student-led Dialogue stated, “We need a stronger social safety net.” [156] Increasing benefits eligibility and amounts, subsidizing transportation, and investing in community level infrastructure to support the storage and distribution of fresh food were all recurring suggestions, while outlying solutions like universal basic income [157][158] and providing living-wage jobs in the food system for formerly incarcerated people [159] also arose in conversations.

While participants agreed that it is up to federal and state governments to enact policy, they were adamant that the solutions to address hunger, nutrition, and health disparities require community input and involvement—“Operating in underserved communities, partnership with the community is key; creating a connection with the community is critical; as one mother said, I know no one here who looks like me owns this but I support it and protect it because this is where my daughter’s Girl Scout troop meets and that matters to me.” [160]

[151] Dismantling Silos to Strengthen Nutrition and Food Security Research. Good Food Dialogues Website.

<https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52144/local-voice-52144-en-1663853412.pdf>. 22 September 2022.

[152] Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation, and Food Recovery. Good Food Dialogues Website. https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FLPC-NRDC-ReFED-WWF-WH-Listening-Session-Write-Up_FINAL.pdf. 22 June 2022.

[153] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

[154] Increasing Nutritious and Affordable Food Access Webinar. Good Food Dialogues Website.

<https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51907/official-feedback-51907-en.pdf?t=1663976667>. 28 August 2022.

[155] Dismantling Silos to Strengthen Nutrition and Food Security Research. Good Food Dialogues Website.

<https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52144/local-voice-52144-en-1663853412.pdf>. 22 September 2022.

[156] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

[157] What is Basic Income? Stanford Basic Income Lab Website. <https://basicincome.stanford.edu/about/what-is-ubi>. Accessed 27 September 2022.

[158] Dismantling Silos to Strengthen Nutrition and Food Security Research. Good Food Dialogues Website.

<https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/52144/local-voice-52144-en-1663853412.pdf>. 22 September 2022.

[159] Uprooting Institutionalized Racism as a Driving Force of Food Apartheid in America. Good Food Dialogues Website.

https://goodfooddialogues.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/UnBox-Presentation-08_17_22-FINAL.pdf. 27 September 2022.

[160] Increasing Nutritious and Affordable Food Access Webinar. Good Food Dialogues Website.

<https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51907/official-feedback-51907-en.pdf?t=1663976667>. 28 August 2022.

Participants routinely highlighted grassroots organizations, like Fresh Truck [161], that are making a difference in the areas they serve [162], but underscored that small organizations are running at capacity and it will require public and private investment to help them scale services. One stakeholder reports, “Inflation and the costs of acquiring good food are making it harder to do this work.”[163] Regardless of their origin, solutions should take an empathic, human-centered approach to ensure that no one needs to “trade their dignity for food access.” [164]

Given the areas of divergence that arose in Local Dialogues, it is imperative that we continue to bring together multi-sectoral actors, whether in conversation or activity, to work towards cross-functional solutions.

Participants frequently referenced the urgency of the situation: “Our Dialogue was grounded in urgency; our messaging and publicity around the event emphasized how young people are critically underrepresented and unheard in policymaking.” [165] Rather than discouraging participation, the current moment and the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health will further catalyze action and momentum. Together, we can realize a malnutrition-free world where environmentally and economically sustainable food systems provide regular access to affordable, healthy food for all people, everywhere.

Food Systems for the Future and GFD would like to thank the convening organizations, lead conveners and facilitators, and participants for their robust participation in this project.

“Reflecting on the ways our disjointed system disconnects people from the sources of their food, while generating waste and also leaving millions food insecure, one student summarized: “Ideally there would be better systems for this.”
[166]

[161] Fresh Truck. About Fresh Website. <https://www.aboutfresh.org/fresh-truck>. Accessed 27 September 2022.

[162] Fresh Truck & Friends. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51820/official-feedback-51820-en.pdf?t=1662580894>. 24 August 2022.

[163] Increasing Nutritious and Affordable Food Access Webinar. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51907/official-feedback-51907-en.pdf?t=1663976667>. 28 August 2022.

[164] Nutritious Food Access in Pittsburgh Feedback Session. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51922/official-feedback-51922-en.pdf?t=1662642801>. 8 September 2022.

[165] Youth. Fed Up. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51482/official-feedback-51482-en.pdf?t=1657765013>. 14 July 2022.

[166] Hungry for a Just Food System. Good Food Dialogues Website. <https://goodfooddialogues.com/dialogue/51164/official-feedback-51164-en.pdf?t=1657730258>. 13 July 2022.

Appendix A: About the Participating Organizations

The success of the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health depends on the engagement of citizens nationwide, representing diverse viewpoints and sectors. Food Systems for the Future and our partners are grateful for the participating organizations that convened Local Dialogues and submitted Local Voices. The views, opinions, and recommendations in this report do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions, or positions of Food Systems for the Future or any given participating organization. The organizations identified below should not be construed as approvers of nor endorsers of the report.

AF About Fresh



gainwell



GLOBAL CITIZEN.

BRONXIMPACT



Farm Plug



Food and Faith Coalition



Appendix B: List of Local Dialogues, Listening Sessions, and Local Voices

All Local Dialogue conveners were encouraged to return official feedback forms. Food Systems for the Future has published all the returned forms on the Good Food Dialogues website. Some conveners have not yet returned their official feedback forms at the time of the publication of this report.

Local Dialogues

Partner-Led Convening on the Hunger and Public Health Implications of Food Loss and Waste, Food Donation and Food Recovery

(Cambridge, MA)

Event Date: June 22, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- ReFED
- World Wildlife Fund

Hunger and Housing in Rural Minnesota

(Grand Marais, MN)

Event Date: June 23, 2022

Convening Organization:

- Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA)

Hungry for a Just Food System

(Cambridge, MA)

Event Date: June 28, 2022

- UnBox

Englewood Nature Trail Community Dialogue

(Chicago, IL)

Event Date: July 7, 2022

Convening Organization:

- Grow Greater Englewood

Youth. Fed Up.

(San Francisco, CA)

Event Date: July 12, 2022

Convening Organization:

- UnBox

Technology & Nutrition: Equalizing Maternal & Infant Health

(Port Orchard, WA)

Event Date: July 13, 2022

Convening Organizations:

Gainwell Technologies

Listening Session on Ending Hunger in America

(Washington, DC)

Event Date: July 13, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- [Food Systems for the Future](#)
- [Global Citizen](#)
- [Hunger Free America](#)

Activity as Activism

(Austin, TX)

Event Date: July 14, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [Farm Plug](#)

Decolonizing Our Survival Instincts: Survival Programs

(New Orleans, LA)

Event Date: July 15, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [People's Oracle](#)

National Urban League Affiliate CEOs Dialogue on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health

(Washington, DC)

Event Date: July 22, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [National Urban League](#)

Hunger, Nutrition and Health on Campus Dialogue

(Radford, VA)

Event Date: July 30, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [The Walker Marchant Group](#)

Chicago Food Justice Rhizome Network

(Chicago, IL)

Event Date: Aug 9, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [Chicago Food Policy Action Council](#)

Food Deserts: Challenges and Innovations

(San Jose, CA)

Event Date Aug 13, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [The Giving Cupcakes](#)

Uprooting Insitutionalized Racim as a Driving Force of Food Apartheid in America

Event Date: August 17, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [UnBox](#)

Fresh Truck & Friends

(Boston, MA)

Event Date: Aug 24, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [About Fresh](#)

Increasing Nutritious and Affordable Food Access

(Chicago, IL)

Event Date: Aug 29, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [Food Systems for the Future](#)
- [Mari Gallagher Research & Consulting Group](#)
- [Partnership for a Healthier America](#)
- [Yellow Banana](#)
- [Black Community Food Security Network](#)

Nutritious Food Access in Pittsburgh

(Pittsburgh, PA)

Event Date: Sep 7, 2022

Convening Organization:

- [Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh](#)

Bellevue Farmers Market

(Bellevue, PA)

Event Date: Sep 20, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- [Bellevue Farmers Market](#)

Faith Dialogue Informing White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health

(New York, NY)

Event Date: Sep 21, 2022

Convening Organizations:~

- [Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation](#)
- [Food and Faith Coalition](#)
- [Bronx Health Reach](#)
- [Interfaith Public Health Network](#)

Houston Area Urban League

(Houston, Texas)

Event Date: Sep 23, 2022

Convening Organizations:

[Houston Area Urban League](#)

Listening Sessions

Good Food Dialogues: Listening Session #1 (Online/National)

Event Date: Aug 19, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- [Food Systems for the Future](#)
- [Global Citizen](#)

Good Food Dialogues: Listening Session #2 (Online/National)

Event Date: Aug 25, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- [Food Systems for the Future](#)
- [Global Citizen](#)

Good Food Dialogues: Listening Session #3 (Online/National)

Event Date: Sep 2, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- [Food Systems for the Future](#)
- [Global Citizen](#)

Good Food Dialogues: Listening Session #4 (Online/National)

Event Date: Sep 8, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- [Food Systems for the Future](#)
- [Global Citizen](#)

Good Food Dialogues: Listening Session #5 (Online/National)

Event Date: Sep 16, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- [Food Systems for the Future](#)
- [Global Citizen](#)

Good Food Dialogues: Listening Session #6 (Online/National)

Event Date: Sep 22, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- [Food Systems for the Future](#)
- [Global Citizen](#)

Good Food Dialogues: Listening Session #7 (Online/National)

Event Date: Sep 26, 2022

Convening Organizations:

- [Food Systems for the Future](#)
- [Global Citizen](#)

Local Voices

Local Voice Submission: Lorain County Food Forward

Submission Date: Sep 12, 2022

Submitting Organization:

- [Lorain County Public Health](#)
- [Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio](#)

Local Voice Submission: Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic: Recommendations to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health

Submission Date: Sep 14, 2022

Submitting Organization:

- [Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic](#)

Local Voice Submission: BIFAC and Bronx Health REACH: Submission to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health

Submission Date: Sep 20, 2022

Submitting Organizations:

- [Bronx Health Reach](#)
- [Bronx Impact Food Access Collective](#)

Local Voice Submission: To End U.S. Hunger, We Must Cut Poverty, Boost Economic Opportunity, Reduce Inflation, and Bolster the Middle Class

Submission Date: Sep 22, 2022

Submitting Organization:

- [Hunger Free America](#)

Local Voice Submission: Dismantling Silos to Strengthen Nutrition and Food Security Research

Submission Date: Sep 23, 2022

Submitting Organization:

- [Food Tank](#)

Appendix C: Good Food Dialogues Principles of Engagement

Good Food Dialogues creates opportunities for diverse, purposeful and respectful exchanges among stakeholders connected to hunger, health, and nutrition issues in the United States. In alignment with this goal, the process we rely on to create safe, respectful communication includes the following principles of engagement:

Principle 1: Act with Urgency

We recognize the utmost urgency of sustained and meaningful action at all levels.

Principle 2: Be Respectful

Within our respective capacities and circumstances, we will promote food production, consumption policies, and practices that strive to protect and improve the health and well-being of individuals; enhance resilient livelihoods and communities; and promote good stewardship of natural resources, while respecting local cultures and contexts.

Principle 3: Embrace Multi-stakeholder Inclusivity

We support inclusive multi-stakeholder processes and approaches, within governments and communities, that reflect diverse perspectives (including indigenous knowledge, cultural insights, and science-based evidence) and enable stakeholders to design policy options that more equitably serve communities and improve the systems we rely on to end hunger and improve nutrition and health outcomes.

Principle 4: Complement the Work of Others

Recognizing that the challenges related to hunger, nutrition, and diet-related disease we are addressing are complex, we will seek to ensure that Good Food Dialogues amplify and accelerate existing efforts, where practicable, and avoid unnecessary duplication, all the while encouraging bold and innovative thinking and approaches that deliver systems-level transformation.

Principle 5: Build Trust

Good Food Dialogues prioritizes building trust with the communities and stakeholders we work with. The information shared during Good Food Dialogues events will be rooted in evidence-based, transparent data and our organization will remain accessible in our governance, decision-making, planning, engagement, and implementation.

Appendix D: Structure and Standard Run of Show for a Local Dialogue

The purpose of a Local Dialogue is to initiate a multi-perspective exploration of critical issues related to food access, hunger, nutrition, and diet-related diseases; illicit innovative ideas and solutions; and evaluate the multi-sector engagement and collaboration required to transform the nation's food system. Good Food Dialogues were launched to inform the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health on September 28 and build momentum for a renewed national food policy strategy.

Standard Run of Show

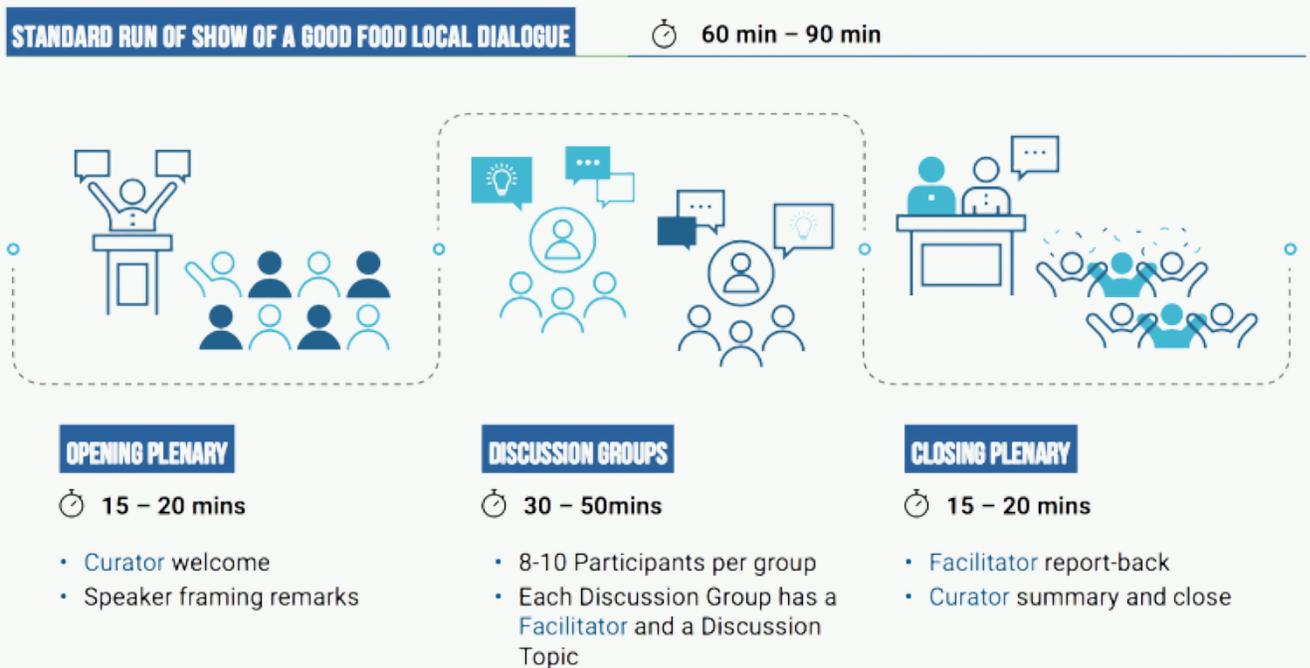
The standard run-of-show of a Local Dialogue includes three core elements:

1. Opening remarks to frame the focus of the Local Dialogue.
2. Discussion – either as a full-group or in smaller break-out groups.
3. Closing remarks to highlight the overall themes resulting from the discussion.

The recommended duration of a Local Dialogue was 60 – 90 minutes (with at least 30 minutes for the discussion session). Between 15 and 50 participants were recommended, but the number of participants could be higher for virtual/national Local Dialogues.

If break-out discussion groups were used, 8-10 participants were recommended for each group (not including a facilitator or note-taker).

Additional Resources for Local Dialogue Conveners



These Good Food Dialogues Principles are adapted from the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit Principles of Engagement.

Appendix E: About Food Systems for the Future

Food Systems for the Future (FSF) invests in and provides services to innovative, market-driven food and agriculture enterprises to sustainably, measurably, and profitably improve nutrition outcomes for targeted underserved and low income communities. At FSF, we envision a malnutrition-free world where environmentally and economically sustainable food systems provide regular access to affordable, healthy food for all people, everywhere.

Founded and guided by Ertharin Cousin, FSF's core work includes business acceleration, public policy & education, partnerships & community engagement, nutrition knowledge, and investment capital & advisory services. We recognize that malnutrition is a global problem, not confined to one community, country, or region. FSF currently operates in both the United States and Sub-Saharan Africa. Both teams are grounded by the same mission and have taken context specific approaches to addressing nutritious food access.

Our Guiding Principles

1. Everyone should be able to access, afford, and consume nutritious food regardless of their financial circumstances or geographic location.
2. There is opportunity to shape markets to improve access, affordability, and consumption of nutritious food, particularly among low income and underserved communities.
3. Technological, business, and social innovation can create new pathways to improve access and demand for nutritious food.
4. Cross-sector coordination and partnerships are required to support the transformative change we seek on existing food systems.
5. We have the power to enable impactful reductions in the triple burden of malnutrition in low income and underserved communities.
6. Increased understanding of the needs and wants of low income and underserved communities can spur more impactful innovation and investment.
7. Startups, SMEs, and large businesses can generate profit and create impact by tapping into the business potential of low income and underserved markets.
8. A systemic view of the food system and the underserved markets they can and do operate in is critical to drive sustainable impact, now and in the future.

Thank you to the Good Food Dialogues partner and sponsor organizations!

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