

FSTF Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2025
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

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Task Force Members Present: Jeimil Belamide (HSA/CalFresh); Priti Rane (DPH/Nutrition Services); Tiffany Kearney (DAS); Michelle Kim (DCYF); Marion Sanders (HSH); Mei Ling Hui (SF Park & Rec); Jennifer LeBarre (SFUSD); Cissie Bonini (UCSF/Vouchers 4 Veggies – EatSF); Chester Williams (Community Living Campaign); Katie Jackson (Project Open Hand); Guillermo Reece (SFAAFBC); Jade Quizon (FAACTS); Noriko Lim-Tepper (SFMFB); Raegan Sales (Children’s Council of SF); Lura Jones (Leah’s Pantry)

Task Force Members Not Present: Anne Quaintance (Conard House); Hannah Grant (Meals on Wheels SF); Geoffrey Grier (SF Recovery Theatre)

Also Present: Brittni Chichuata; Cathy Huang (HSA); Cindy Lin (SFHSA Food Access); Danielle Lundstrom (SFDPH/SNAP-Ed); Eric Chan (SFDPH – Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Fiona McBride (SF HSA Food Access); Marianne Szeto (SFDPH); Marina Kan (HSA); Priscilla Rodriguez (SFDPH – Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Susie Smith (SFHSA); Tommy McClain (SF HSA Food Access); Janna Cordeiro (Food as Medicine Collaborative); Kaela Plank (SFDPH – CDS); Kimberly Jower (SFDPD Shelter Health); Laura Urban (Children’s Council of SF); Lea Treoh (UCSF); Leah Walton (SFDAS); Linda Huerta (Homelessness Prenatal Program)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Next Steps
1. Call order to order 1:30 p.m.	Call to order at 1:30 p.m.	None.
2. Land acknowledgment 1:30 p.m.	Priscilla Rodriguez recited the Land Acknowledgement.	None.
3. Welcome, member roll call, introductions, Cissie Bonini (Chair, Eat SF/Vouchers 4 Veggies) 1:35 p.m.	Cissie Bonini did roll call and introduced the agenda. Public Comment: None.	None.
4. Approval of minutes from November 5, 2025 1:40 p.m.	Chester Williams makes motion to approve meeting minutes. Michelle Kim seconds the motion. 9 approved. 0 opposed. 2 abstained. Motion is passed.	None.

	Public Comment: None.	
5. General public comment 1:45 p.m.	None.	None.
6. Citywide Food Access Team and Department of Disability and Aging Services update, Cindy Lin (HSA), Tiffany Kearney (DAS), and Mike Zaugg (DAS) 1:50 p.m.	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 5:15 minute mark and ends at the 41:15 minute mark.</p> <p>Cindy Lin with the Human services Agency's (SFHSA) Citywide Food Access Team (CFAT), Tiffany Kearney with the Department of Disability and Aging Services (DAS), and Mike Zaugg (DAS) provided updates on the summary of HSA's role and current context when addressing food insecurity.</p> <p>Cindy began the conversation by sharing SFHSA's role in addressing food insecurity in San Francisco (SF). HSA is tasked by federal and state government to administer primary safety net resources including CalFresh and Older Americans Act senior meals. HSA manages nearly 75% of the City's food funding and provides a major amount of food resources including 97% of groceries and 32% of meals. With over 40 years of partnership with community on food programs, HSA currently contracts with 40 community-based organizations (CBOs) to provide 12 programs to strategically and equitably address unmet food needs. Much of the agency's funding is backed by state and federal revenue streams. In SF, 110,000 individuals in 82,000 households are recipients of CalFresh. This service reaches about 82% of San Franciscans who are eligible. HSA receives 4,800 applications each month. \$225 million is disbursed in benefits annually (approximately \$19 million monthly) and the average monthly benefit per household is \$240.</p> <p>In November 2025, HSA disbursed CalFresh Emergency Grocery Cards to ensure San Franciscans were able to purchase groceries during the federal government shutdown. Since then, HSA has passed 70% in activation of cards. Community members who are recipients of the card were reminded to activate their cards by 12/31/25 and use the funds by 3/31/26.</p> <p>Mike Zaugg discussed SFHSA's community-based food security strategies. HSA's goals are to reach diverse, high need communities via partnerships; contract with organizations that have</p>	None.

<p>demonstrated ability to leverage bulk buying power while providing culturally relevant and high-quality food; and provide high quality and tailored resources that offer choice. Strategies include providing fresh groceries, offering prepared meals for those facing barriers, flexible purchasing power, and hybrid options that blend groceries, meals, and other resources to meet unique population needs.</p> <p>Tiffany Keatney provided an overview of grocery strategies for CFAT, DAS, and Economic Support and Self-Sufficiency (ESSS). CFAT's grocery programs include grocery access and the D10 Market (pilot). DAS' grocery programs include food pantries and home-delivered groceries. ESSS' grocery program includes immigrant food pantry assistance and food pantry assistance. For strategy relating to meals, CFAT offers meal support and DAS offers home-delivered meals and communal dining. For purchasing power strategies, CFAT offers grocery vouchers that help low-income individuals and families select and purchase food to prepare. For hybrid strategies that blend groceries, meals, and other resources, CFAT funds invest in food production while DAS offers culturally responsive nutrition and nutrition as health.</p> <p>Cindy Lin shared updates for CFAT's fiscal years (FY) 2025-2029. They released request for proposal (RFP) opportunities and as a result, the grantees are different. There is more investment via more providers in D11 to meet the needs of the community. There are some budget constraints such as increased cost of food and labor, however, relatively stagnant levels of funding are available. There has been a decrease in their budget from the height of COVID, but the needs persist. As a result, they are currently providing less frequent services without disenrolling participants.</p> <p>Tiffany provided DAS updates for FY 2025-2026. DAS released multiple RFPs for existing nutrition support programs. Currently, there are: 9 contractors for congregate nutrition services (communal dining); 2 contractors for culturally responsive supplemental grocery programs; 1 contractor for culturally responsive nutrition support and outreach; 1 contractor for a food assistance program; 4 contractors for home delivered grocery (HDG) programs; 8 contractors for home delivered nutrition (HDM) services; and 6 contractors for to-go nutrition services. Regarding DAS' budget constraints and cost challenges, they did not receive the \$3 million</p>	
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Dignity Fund increase for FY 2025-2026, a portion that would have supported nutrition services. Rising food and labor costs have increased contractor pricing. DAS is experiencing decreased purchasing power due to rising service costs. Tiffany discussed the current impacts on DAS' nutrition programs. There are fewer congregate and to-go meals available daily at communal dining sites. There is a reduced number of daily meals for HDM clients. There is also an increased number of consumers waiting for HDM services, limited or no weekend meal service, closure of some dining sites, and the elimination of nutrition counseling services.

DAS has planned and ongoing efforts to address service impacts. They are utilizing the Dignity Fund savings to bridge funding gaps and sustain core nutrition services, such as HDM and grocery programs. DAS is working in partnership with DAS nutrition providers to track service levels and waitlists. DAS is also exploring strategies with partners to maximize service reach without compromising quality.

A discussion/Q&A followed with additional notes below.

Cissie Bonini: I'm hearing the challenges around the increased costs and constricting budgets. How do you make tough choices regarding food access issues, particularly waitlists, for vulnerable populations?

Tiffany Kearney: We issued contracts knowing that we were going to have reduced buying power. The other thing is with the Dignity Fund savings; we used it to prioritize home delivered meal services. First and foremost, we wanted to make sure that nobody was disenrolled or had to stop services. Our home delivered meal waitlist has grown and how our system works is that folks are prioritized. They're given a priority score and our nutrition partners pick off that list, but they pick off based on the highest priority. So, if someone has a priority score of let's say 80 and then there's someone with a priority score of 20 that score of 80 will be picked up first. DAS also has emergency services. If folks call into the hub and a referral is made, it's determined by our social workers in the hub that this really is an emergency service. We do have an emergency provider that is Meals on Wheels, and they are able to pick those clients up very quickly.

	<p>Cissie Bonini: It is interesting in terms of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) work around food is medicine. There's a real effort to enroll folks in medically supportive food interventions. Is there any communication or overlap between Department of Public Health (DPH) efforts in those areas and folks who might have medical needs corresponding with those interventions and eligibility?</p> <p>Mike Zaugg: DAS is not directly involved in CalAIM food work. We are doing a couple of the community supports and enhanced case management. Executive leadership at DAS has had some crossovers with DPH. I don't think there's any ongoing coordination regarding nutrition programs. What I know in how we do our enhanced case management and things like that is enrollment in that program typically has to be a referral out of the health plans. I don't have a good sense of how you kind of push below that level.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p> <p>[Chat]: Are there other plans for a community market similar to the D10 Market?</p> <p>Cindy Lin: We're in day two of the budget season. We have to get our budget instructions to see what we can propose. I cannot say that there are either firm plans or no plans. We have to figure out what our resources are.</p>	
<p>7. CalFresh changes and updates, (HSA/CalFresh), Food Security Task Force, CBOs 2:20 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 41:15 minute mark and ends at the 57:32 minute mark.</p> <p>Jeimil Belamide provided updates on ongoing and future CalFresh changes. Since the HR.1 updates he provided in August, there are not many changes at this time. Cissie Bonini also provided updates on the impacts of HR.1 and the State FY 2025-2026 budget.</p> <p>A discussion/Q&A followed with additional notes below.</p> <p>Jeimil Belamide: A couple of policy changes that we're really keeping a close eye on are the return of work requirements, including able-bodied adults without independents (ABAWD) and the change in lawful permanent residents (LPR) eligibility. We have yet to receive official</p>	<p>None.</p>

guidance from the State in terms of an implementation date. Right now, we're running programs for those two components in the pre-HR. 1 criteria. As of now, in terms of the work requirement, we haven't discontinued anybody or removed anyone from the program for non-compliance with work requirements. We're still in a holding pattern and waiting for implementation dates from the State.

Cissie Bonini: Is December or January the potential deadline date that things could start?

Jeimil Belamide: Prior to HR. 1, January 31st, 2026 was the date that the waiver was tagged as ready to expire. Because of HR. 1, we're not sure if that is still in effect or not or what criteria to implement. HR. 1 increases the age limit for people that need to meet the work requirement. At this point we're just not sure when to apply those rules to our programming.

Cissie Bonini: Before the Emergency Grocery Cards were distributed, though they are very helpful, so many folks were at the doors of these CBOs and neighborhood organizations really worried about their funds. There is also a lot of anxiety around other issues such as immigration. What can we do to have a bit of a deeper impact on what we expect might happen? Right now, what is the communication that you all are giving to your SNAP participants in preparation?

Jeimil Belamide: There hasn't been any official information on when changes are going to be implemented. Continue to engage or apply for CalFresh if you need it. Continue to meet all of your requirements including your reporting requirements, your recertification, and your semiannual reporting requirements as is. At this point, we haven't officially communicated start dates to people. I think we updated our sfhsa.org website to let people know that things are changing but because we don't have the official guidance, it makes communication a little difficult.

Cissie Bonini: HSA produced a public document that discusses the impacts of HR.1 and the State FY 2025-2026 budget. This was presented on November 17th to the Health Commission. The presentation includes key provisions of HR. 1 and the State FY 2025-2026 budget. This includes

	<p>eligibility/access requirements, financial restrictions and penalties, immigrant coverage limitations, and abortion provider bans.</p> <p>Cissie Bonini: Based on the presentation's high level projections, DPH's reimbursement cut estimates \$315 million in FY 2027-2028 and increasing to \$400 million when fully implemented by 2038. SFHSA projects revenue losses and workload impacts totaling as much as \$81 million annually.</p> <p>Cissie Bonini: Please use the FSTF and its platform to share information and upcoming changes. I want to make sure everyone has access to food security updates.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	
8. Status of Food Security Task Force and next steps, Cissie Bonini (Chair, Eat SF/Vouchers 4 Veggies) 2:30 p.m.	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 57:32 minute mark and ends at the 1:06:12 minute mark.</p> <p>Cissie Bonini provided an update on the status of the FSTF and next steps. A few members of the FSTF, along with staff from the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank (SFMFB) and San Francisco Environment (SFE), have been meeting with Board of Supervisor offices to discuss a new structure for food security in SF which includes an Office of Citywide Food Coordination (OCFC) and a Community Advisory Council. The group met with the offices of Supervisors Chen, Mahmood, Fielder, Walton, Dorsey. They have an upcoming meeting scheduled with Supervisor Chan's office. One office has expressed interest in moving legislation forward. The group has been tasked with working to produce an outline of what that will look like.</p> <p>There is interest in knowing more about the future of the FSTF. The FSTF is slated to sunset on July 1, 2026. The goal is to have this new food structure, or another replace the work of the FSTF. If there is no replacement, another supervisor's office has expressed interest in reauthorizing the FSTF. The next step is to bring the outlined proposal to the FSTF for feedback.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	None.

9. Updates and Emerging Issues 2:45 p.m.	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 1:06:12 minute mark and ends at the 1:09:52 minute mark.</p> <p>Michelle Kim with the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (DCYF) provided an update on what the department is currently doing to assist families during this difficult time. Since her update last month regarding their interest survey, DCYF has launched a pilot program to provide supplemental meals for families. When families pick up their child at the after school program, they can also take meals home that they can supplement with whatever else they have. Currently, we have 9 sites doing that. Most of the sites that signed up are in our Tenderloin and Mission sites. This is only a pilot program so it's going to conclude at the end of January 2026. I can provide more details about feedback at a later date once the pilot program has ended.</p> <p>Jennifer LeBarre with the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) asked Michelle what funding they are using to fund the program. Michelle responded by saying that DCYF is using their own general funds. They are not using SFUSD funds.</p> <p>Cissie noted that the next FSTF will either be postponed for later in January or moved to February.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	None.
10. Adjournment 3:00 p.m.	Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.	None.