

FSTF Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2026
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

[View the meeting recording](#)

Task Force Members Present: Jeimil Belamide (HSA/CalFresh); Michelle Kim (DCYF); Marion Sanders (HSH); Mei Ling Hui (SF Park & Rec); Jennifer LeBarre (SFUSD); Cissie Bonini (UCSF/Vouchers 4 Veggies – EatSF); Anne Quaintance (Conard House); Chester Williams (Community Living Campaign); Katie Jackson (Project Open Hand); Jade Quizon (FAACTS); Noriko Lim-Tepper (SFMFB); Lura Jones (Leah’s Pantry)

Task Force Members Not Present: Priti Rane (DPH/Nutrition Services); Tiffany Kearney (DAS); Guillermo Reece (SFAAFBC); Raegan Sales (Children’s Council of SF); Hannah Grant (Meals on Wheels SF); Geoffrey Grier (SF Recovery Theatre)

Also Present: Abby Cabrera (SDDTAC); Beth Bodner (SF Environment); Clara Obstfeld (DCYF); Danielle Lundstrom, (SFDPH – CHEP); Eric Chan (SFDPH – Community Health Equity & Promotion); Fiona McBride (SFHSA Food Access); Jessica Rubio; Kaela Plank (SFDPH – CDS); Lauren Wolfer (Cook Alliance); Leah Walton (SFDAS); Linda Huerta (Homeless Prenatal Program); Marianne Szeto (SFDPH – Community Health Equity & Promotion/ShapeUp SF); Melinda Martin (SFDPH – CHEP); Naomi Maisel; Priscilla Rodriguez (SFDPH – Community Health Equity & Promotion); Saeeda Hafiz; Tiffany Dang (SFDAS); Zimmi Ndlovu; Kimberly Jower (SFDPD – Shelter Health Consultant)

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 March 4 th , 2026 1:40 p.m.	Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here . This agenda item starts at the 2:25 minute mark and ends at the 5:33 minute mark.	None.

	<p>Chester Williams makes motion to approve meeting minutes. Katie Jackson seconds the motion.</p> <p>8 approved. 0 opposed. 1 abstained. Motion is passed.</p> <p>Public Comment: None.</p>	
<p>5. General public comment 1:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 5:33 minute mark and ends at the 10:45 minute mark.</p> <p>Jessica Rubio is with Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA). She requested support for the MicroEnterprise Home Kitchen Operation (MEHKO) campaign. A discussion/Q&A followed with additional notes below.</p> <p>Jessica Rubio: Establishing this program in San Francisco would provide food vendors, immigrants and entrepreneurs an opportunity to be part of our permanent system and also reduce some potential health risks for the community in general. I wanted to mention similarly how we currently recognize cottage food operations; we can also use this program to unlock a vital resource for our community. Something to take into consideration is that we're not reinventing the wheel. We're simply asking the City of San Francisco to join Los Angeles, San Diego, Berkeley, and San Mateo in adopting this proven state framework. The Food Security Task Force (FSTF) understands better than anyone that access to affordable, culturally relevant food is a cornerstone of health. MEHKO directly addresses that by allowing home cooks to provide fresh hot and cold meals within their own neighborhoods. This is also a matter of economic equity for our immigrants and low-income residents. The barriers to the traditional food industry such as the cost of commercial kitchen rentals are present but MEHKO provides accessible financial independence. By supporting this you would be supporting the street food vendors and any aspiring chefs who are already the backbone of our City's culinary identity. You would be providing them a legally regulated pathway to support their families in one of the most expensive cities in the world. We also recognize that food security is inseparable from food safety and currently many homebased operations access in the shadows. So, adopting MEHKO legislation will bring these kitchens into light, and it ensures that they adhere to</p>	<p>None.</p>

	<p>rigorous code sanitation standards and food handling certification. Overall, it protects the consumers while empowering the entrepreneurs. Our coalition has been backed up by expertise from Cameo and Cook Alliance and is ready to guide this implementation. We're here today to ask the Task Force to recommend to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) that they move forward with this legislation in order for us to make San Francisco a place where cultural preservation and economic empowerment happen in the right of our homes.</p>	
<p>6. Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Advisory Committee (SDDTAC) recommendations and updates, Laura Urban (Co-Chair, SDDTAC) and Abby Cabrera (Co-Chair, SDDTAC) 1:50 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 10:45 minute mark and ends at the 50:15 minute mark.</p> <p>Abby Cabera, Co-Chair for the Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Advisory Committee (SDDTAC) presented the committee’s annual recommendations to the BOS. A discussion/Q&A followed with additional notes below.</p> <p>In 2016, SF voters passed the Sugary Drink Distributor Tax (SDDT) which levies the 1 penny per ounce on the distributor making the initial distribution of a bottled sugar-sweetened beverage, syrup, or powder in the City. This tax revenue is deposited in the General Fund. The ordinance established the 16 member SDDTAC to make recommendations on how the tax should be allocated.</p> <p>\$95.5 million has been collected through the tax since 2018. The FY 26-27 and FY 27-28 SDDT revenue for recommendations totaled \$11,372,000. Abby shared an SDDTAC recommendations timeline for FY 26-27 beginning with the co-chairs meeting with Department of Public Health (DPH) Director Daniel Tsai in September 2025 and ending with SDDTAC and co-chairs meeting with policymakers and stakeholders in February 2026. SDDTAC submitted their recommendation on March 1, 2026 voting in two set of recommendations which include their North Star and Bridge Plan. The bridge Plan includes \$320,000 add back funds for direct service community-based grants and \$950,000 for total oral health and water for community well-being. The SDDTAC’s bridge plan allocates \$7,000,000 to Human Services Agency (HSA) Citywide Food Access programs but their North Star recommendation is \$0. The total recommendation for type 2 diabetes and heart disease prevention and management is</p>	<p>None.</p>

	<p>\$2,811,605. Abby is interested in finding a strong alignment and collaboration between SDDTAC and the Food Security Task Force.</p> <p>Anne Quaintance asked a question regarding the staffing of the SDDTAC and its structure. Abby responded with the current SDDTAC DPH staff and their roles and responsibilities to ensure that SDDTAC is active and transparent.</p> <p>Katie Jackson asked a question about direct service community-based grants and what those entail. Abby and Marianne Szeto responded by mentioning a request for grant applications (RFGA) that is now closed to pilot a community health worker (CHW) pathway program to draw down CalAIM benefits.</p> <p>Abby is interested in having some FSTF members join their next call with the Mayor’s office. Anne recommended a motion to submit a letter of support for SDDTAC’s recommendations.</p> <p>In the next couple of years, there will be opportunities for tax coalition building to explore a dedicated soda tax.</p> <p>Katie was interested in learning more about the Bridge Plan’s allocation of \$7,000,000 to HSA Citywide Food Access programs and how distribution is determined. Abby responded by saying that those funds go into HSA’s baseline budget and are not set aside for any specific programs.</p> <p>As ideas form, the SDDTAC and FSTF will strategize opportunities to partner.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	
<p>7. 2026 Food Security Task Force annual recommendations update, Cissie Bonini (Chair, Eat SF/Vouchers 4 Veggies) 2:20 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 50:15 minute mark and ends at the 1:00:00 minute mark.</p> <p>Cissie Bonini provided an update on the FSTF 2026 annual recommendations. The report is being graphically designed, and the chosen design has been shared with FSTF members. The 2026 FSTF recommendations were shared at a previous FSTF meeting and feedback was provided. P has incorporated the feedback into the latest version of the report. The next step is</p>	<p>None.</p>

	<p>tightening up the PowerPoint presentation to be succinct and reflect the current food security landscape.</p> <p>One thing that came up previously was aligning the FSTF recommendations with the Mayor’s priorities such as the “break the cycle” plan. Cissie suggested adding the MicroEnterprise Home Kitchen Operations (MEHKO) in SF to the opportunities section of the report. Other counties have this, but SF currently does not.</p> <p>Eric shared the graphic design that will be used for the 2026 recommendations report.</p> <p>A discussion/Q&A followed with additional notes below.</p> <p>Chester Williams asked how many pages are included in the report. Eric said they are aiming for the same amount as last year, which is 6 pages of content and 8 pages including the title page and member page.</p> <p>Jade Quizon asked when quotes for the report are needed. P asked FSTF members to share quotes as soon as possible.</p> <p>The next step is to finish packaging the recommendations and take the same approach as last year, which includes meeting with Board of Supervisors (BOS) staff and scheduling in groups based on district. FSTF members will meet with Supervisors following these discussions.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	
<p>8. Status of the Food Security Task Force, Cissie Bonini (Chair, Eat SF/Vouchers 4 Veggies) 2:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 1:00:00 minute mark and ends at the 1:09:50 minute mark.</p> <p>Cissie provided an update on the status of the FSTF. Cissie and members of the San Francisco Marin Food Bank (SFMFB) were able to meet with Peggy Moriarty with the Mayor’s office to discuss centralized food coordination and a strong community advisory body. A few Task Force members also met with Supervisor Walton and his staff. Both agreed that there currently is not an appetite for this approach given the City’s focus to decrease the number of committees. He was supportive of reauthorizing the FSTF. When meeting with Peggy, she shared that this was</p>	<p>None.</p>

	<p>something they are interested in and want to house under HSA. There is great support from a number of Supervisors to support the reauthorizing of the Task Force.</p> <p>At the 2026 SF Food Action Summit, Susie Smith reiterated the Mayor’s Office interest in creating a new coordinated entity around food security. Cissie has not had a chance to follow up at this point.</p> <p>A discussion/Q&A followed with additional notes below.</p> <p>Jade noted that based on HSA’s slide it sounds like a revamp of the Office of Citywide Food Coordination legislation that they presented over a year ago.</p> <p>The draft food coordination legislation outline that was created by a few members of the Task Force and community was shared at a previous FSTF meeting.</p> <p>When looking at a new food community advisory body, Cissie asked if it is worth changing seats or having seats that reflect the same structure as the FSTF.</p> <p>The group will continue to follow up with Walton and Chen’s office regarding the reauthorization of the FSTF.</p> <p>*Amended by HSA</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	
<p>9. Updates from the SF Food Action Summit, Jade Quizon (FAACTS) 2:40 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 1:09:50 minute mark and ends at the 1:21:35 minute mark.</p> <p>Jade provided updates from the 2026 SF Food Action Summit. She is working on collecting and reviewing feedback from attendees for a post-analysis report.</p> <p>This was the third annual SF Food Action Summit, and the theme was “Growing Connections to Feed Action.” The first summit focused on building a good food vision for SF collectively. The second summit focused on creating the building blocks for what can go into a long-term food</p>	<p>None.</p>

	<p>system plan. The third one continued down this road but also focused on creating a strong network.</p> <p>It was a two day event from March 25th-26th. The day one keynote speaker was Raj Patel, and the day two keynote speaker was Pierre Thiam. A number of City leaders presented throughout the two-day event including SF Environment’s (SFE) Tyrone Jue, City Attorney David Chiu, SF Unified School District’s (SFUSD) Jennifer LeBarre, and HSA’s Susie Smith.</p> <p>There were 9 breakout sessions throughout the two days and an advocacy hour. There was also a mapping SF activity where participants could add their organizations and draw connections to other organizations working on food security.</p> <p>There was a Strength, Challenges, opportunities, Risks, and Energy (SCORE) analysis created using story circles. Everyone was given two prompts to speak to their work using a story telling format.</p> <p>All breakout sessions were recorded and will be posted. A post-event analysis report will be shared soon.</p> <p>A discussion/Q&A followed with additional notes below.</p> <p>Chester found the event meaningful and encouraged others to attend future events.</p> <p>Cissie reiterated that there was a lot of good information sharing and energy.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	
<p>10. CalFresh work requirements update, Jeimil Belamide, (HSA/CalFresh) 2:50 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 1:21:35 minute mark and ends at the 1:36:00 minute mark.</p> <p>Jeimil presented on the CalFresh Work Requirements: Population Estimates. The implementation date for CalFresh expanded work requirements is June 1, 2026. California’s waiver of the CalFresh work reequipments has ended. Starting June 1, 2026, many CalFresh recipients are required to meet federal work requirements under new expanded definitions. People subject to these requirements can only get 3 months of benefits in a 3-year period</p>	<p>None.</p>

	<p>unless they meet certain work reequipments or qualify for an exemption. Starting June 2026, applicants will be subject to HR 1 screening and work rules while existing clients will be subject at their next renewal.</p> <p>If a person is not exempt, they can meet work requirements by doing one or more of the following: 1) working 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month, 2) volunteering or performing community services 20 hours per week, at least 80 hours per month, 3) participating in a qualifying employment training program 20 hours per week, at least 80 hours per month, and 4) participating in SFHSA workfare.</p> <p>Approximately 19,300 clients are likely subject to work requirements and unlikely to qualify for an exemption. The represent about 18% of San Francisco’s CalFresh caseload. 58,000 (54%) are estimated clients not affected, 50,600 (46%) are estimated clients subject to new work rules, 31,300 (62%) are estimated clients with potential exemptions, and 19,300 (38%) are estimated clients with no exemptions.</p> <p>The CalFresh able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) were broken down by age: age 18-49, 12,000 (62%), age 50-54, 1,500 (8%), age 55-59, 1,800 (9%), age 60-64, 4,000 (21%).</p> <p>CalFresh ABAWDs were broken down by race/ethnicity: API, 3,700 (21%), White, 3,100 (17%), Black or African American, 2,400 (13%), Latinx or Hispanic, 1,700 (10%), additional groups, 1,600 (9%), unknown, 5,300 (30%).</p> <p>CalFresh ABAWDs were broken down by language: English, 15,400 (80%), Cantonese, 2,300 (12%), Spanish, 900 (5%), other languages, 700 (3%).</p> <p>With these changes, HSA wants to make the process as easy as possible. They plan to do this by supporting clients with applying and keeping benefits, offering volunteer opportunities to help clients meet requirements, and sharing accurate information.</p> <p>A discussion/Q&A followed with additional notes below.</p>	
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	<p>Anne asked what the interview is like for individuals with mental health disorders. Jeimil responded by saying everyone goes through the interview process and each person will be evaluated accordingly.</p> <p>Katie asked if volunteer opportunities will be posted on the HSA website. Jeimil said anyone can reach out to him and he will connect them with the right person.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	
<p>11. Biennial Food Security and Equity Report, Eric Chan (DPH – CHEP) 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 1:36:00 minute mark and ends at the 1:38:55 minute mark.</p> <p>Eric provided an update of the status of the Biennial Food Security and Equity Report (BFSEER). The Department of Public Health (DPH) hosted two data collection trainings. These were recorded and sent out. Optional office hours are hosted every Tuesday from 1 -2 pm until June 3rd. If anyone has any questions they can reach out to Eric of Kaela Plank with the Center for Data Science (CDS).</p> <p>The community engagement process will involve in-person meetings to review the data. Dates will be announced as soon as possible. CDS will be presenting on the preliminary dataset at the May FSTF meeting.</p> <p>BFSEER updates will be provided monthly at the FSTF meetings.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	None.
<p>12. Updates and emerging issues 3:10 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this presentation, linked here. This agenda item starts at the 1:38:55 minute mark and ends at the 1:43:13 minute mark.</p> <p>Cissie shared that there have been many townhalls and updates about DPH’s community-based organization (CBO) budget cuts. The next one is scheduled for April 16th.</p> <p>Jade shared information about California’s save Market Match call to action.</p> <p>Public Comment: None</p>	None.

13. Adjournment 3:30 p.m.	Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.	
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