Funder Debrief: White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health

November 9, 3:00- 4:30 PM ET
Land Acknowledgement

As funders and advocates working to create a more equitable U.S. agriculture and food system, SAFSF believes it is imperative for us to acknowledge that the roots of today’s inequities lie deep in the history of land theft and dispossession from Indigenous peoples.

As you introduce yourselves in the chat, we encourage you to acknowledge the traditional Indigenous inhabitants of the land you are on and to learn more about that history.

You can find maps and more resources about the land you’re on at the links in the chat.
Speaker Highlight: Julia McCarthy

Julia is a Senior Program Officer with the New York Health Foundation (NYHealth) in the Healthy Food, Healthy Lives program.

NYHealth is a private, independent foundation that works to improve the health of all New Yorkers. The Healthy Food, Healthy Lives program seeks to advance policies and programs that connect New Yorkers with the food they need to thrive.
Today’s Call Structure

• Julia McCarthy will present key takeaways from the White House National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health
• Breakout discussions focused on philanthropy’s role in advancing the Strategy’s key pillars
• Summary of breakout discussions
• Discussion of next steps and how GIH and SAFSF can support
National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health

In September, elected officials, advocates, business leaders and funders gathered to mobilize around a key goal: end hunger in America and increase healthy eating and physical activity by 2030 so fewer Americans experience diet-related diseases – while reducing related health disparities.

To achieve this goal, the White House released a National Strategy Blueprint that will be pursued across five key pillars, four of which we will discuss today.

1. Improving Food Access and Affordability
2. Integrating Nutrition and Health
3. Empowering All Consumers to Make and Have Access to Healthy Choices
4. Supporting Physical Activity for All
5. Enhancing Nutrition and Food Security Research
Pillar 1: Improve Food Access and Affordability

Purpose

• End hunger by making it easier for all Americans to access and afford nutritious food.

Key strategies

• Help more individuals experiencing food insecurity benefit from federal assistance programs.
• Invest in community and economic development to increase access to food.

Role for philanthropy

• Support the coordination of food systems planning, transportation planning, and capacity-building.
• Support projects that make it easier to enroll in and use nutrition benefits, and/or scale pilot USDA programs that help non-chain grocery stores to accept SNAP.
Pillar 2: Integrate Nutrition and Health

Purpose
• Prioritize the role of nutrition and food security in overall health and ensure that the health care system addresses nutrition needs.

Key strategies
• Provide greater access to nutrition services to better prevent, manage and treat diet-related diseases.
• Screen for food insecurity in health care settings and connect people to the services they need.

Role for philanthropy
• Support research and build the business case for health care providers and payers to support Food Is Medicine interventions.
Pillar 3: Empower All Consumers to Make and Have Access to Healthy Choices

Purpose
• Foster environments that enable all people to easily make informed healthy choices and invest in public education campaigns that are culturally appropriate.

Key strategies
• Create healthier food environments and a healthier food supply so the healthier choice is the easier choice.

Role for philanthropy
• Support policies to ensure unhealthy options are less affordable, less accessible, and less heavily marketed. For example, pouring rights on college campuses, the SSB tax, and banning unhealthy food marketing on public transport.
• Support a healthier, culturally responsive public plate: Implementation of the Good Food Purchasing Program; Universal School Meals Campaigns; and Farm to school/pre-k.
• Support food policy councils and food hubs that empower local communities to have more ownership over local food systems.
Pillar 4: Enhance Nutrition Education and Food Security Research

Purpose

• Improve nutrition education metrics, data collection, and research to inform nutrition and food security policy.

Key strategies

• Ensure diversity and inclusion in nutrition, health, and food security research.

• Invest in creative new approaches to advance research regarding the prevention and treatment of diet-related diseases.

• Better understand Social Determinants of Health to help achieve health equity.

Role for philanthropy

• Support research and build the business case for health care providers and payers to support Food Is Medicine interventions.
Philanthropy’s Role in the National Strategy

Philanthropy continues to advance key outcomes in each strategic pillar as well as lay the groundwork for the transformative change necessary to achieve the goal outlined in the National Strategy.

We will now break into discussion groups according to each of the four key pillars. The questions each group will discuss are as follows:

1. What are you funding and where is there alignment?
2. Are there places that philanthropy is showing up/funding that were not recognized in the blueprint? If so, how can we promote these as solutions that could also inform policy?
3. What do you see as next steps?
Breakout Groups

Discussion groups will meet for approximately 40 minutes and use the Jamboard link in the chat to share ideas. Please prepare to share discussion highlights with the full group.

1: Improve Food Access and Affordability (Jamboard slides 1-3)

2: Integrate Nutrition and Health (Jamboard slides 4-6)

3: Empower all Consumers to Make and Have Access to Healthy Choices (Jamboard slides 7-9)

4: Enhance nutrition and food security research (Jamboard slides 10-12)
Where do we go from here?

• Report out from each breakout group
• What do you see as next steps?
• What can GIH and SAFSF do to support your work?