Improve Food Access and Affordability

Question 1: What are you doing and where is there alignment?

- Gen ops support to 7 food banks serving our region
- Grant to New Hampshire Hunger Solutions to promote system changes and address community priorities such as improving access to SNAP, school meals and other food access
- Capacity building for food pantries and community gardens
- Seeding a participatory fund to support food policy councils (FNO Fund)

We have funded rural food access efforts, focusing on rural grocery stores (supporting nonprofits that support the stores in some ways)

- Double bucks at Farmers markets
- Gen ops to statewide advocacy org. Hunger Free NJ
- Gen ops to local community farms and markets
- Gen ops to urban farming/youth leadership programs.

- SNAP acceptance and match at farmers market
- Support to statewide advocacy organizations doing work to eliminate snap gap
- Food system leader incubation
- Market Match Incentives at farmers markets in LA.
Improve Food Access and Affordability

Question 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?

Supporting cooperatives, First Food initiatives, farmer training and certification access.

I didn’t see the WH Strategy mention Right to Food

Hmmm the two items that I put in the first jam board really belong here! #1 food policy councils #2 school food labor workforce crisis

Agreed, I did the same. Change statewide systems to make it easier to enroll in SNAP and remain in SNAP.

Complementing federal funding (SNAP, etc) to fill in the gaps; e.g., food for culturally competent full family meals at tribal SNAP-Ed programs (fed funds won’t pay for that)

Food policy councils not recognized in blueprint - for food & farm councils, whatever you want to call them - community led groups

How to work with bright red state legislatives around food issues (Kate’s example of farmers with strawberries at capitol)

I would add that food policy councils have an inside view as to what are the most salient food issues and look to develop policy solutions tailored to the specific location. It’s state funded

Focusing on the crisis among food service workers -- make sure schools are able to hire and support food service workers

more affordable community grocery stores that are ‘food rescue’ or donated yet still healthy, such as https://dailytable.org/
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE and FOOD SYSTEMS FUNDERS

GRANTMAKERS HEALTH

Improve Food Access and Affordability

Question 3: What do you see as next steps?

- It would be great if folks could note what's working in their states so that we could advocate for what works in our own locations, proven solutions for legislators.

- PSO's continue to bring "food funders" together in ways to learn from each other.

- Keep pushing for innovative strategies, I do not that the WH platform goes far enough. (because it is government)

- convene grantees or connect grantees doing similar work in coalition

- fund policy and advocacy!

- next steps for us: build positive bridges with legislators on key committees with strategic grassroots/grassroots advocacy

- Fund policy yes yes

- Fund federal nutrition policy orgs-- they can keep track of these key policy battles

- convening so we can share ongoing successes/challenges/lessons learned

- connecting to federal policy advocacy opps for our grantees

- Key follow up after universal school meal legislations ensure families are filling out waivers, kids are eating meals, etc.

- Get in touch if you want to join efforts related to school food labor crisis (FNO Fund)

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Integrate Nutrition and Health

Question 1: What are you funding and where is there alignment?

Produce Rx programs, more fresh local food

Food waste reduction from farmers markets, gets distributed to food pantries + redistributing packaged, catered foods, food-connection.org

Education and interest in fresh food programs - nutrition + culinary prep- cooking demos, recipie cards, cooking essentials kit, etc. more dignity in FIM programs
Question 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?

making it easier for institutions/FIM programs to buy from local farmers

food procurement problems - eat out of season- canning programs, fermenting

scalability for food rescue programs?
Critical mass of volunteers to deliver/ redistribute - need capital funding, cold storage, salaries, etc, multi year grants
Integrate Nutrition and Health

Question 3: What do you see as next steps?

food banks - only deliver to larger orgs, certain foods, removing barriers to that?

integrating hygiene items into food boxes

food distribution center/hubs/multipurpose food/community hub - space is a huge issue, philanthropy can help more with that, money to purchase food

More interaction between funders and state food bank federations (these orgs can help unite food banks around common goals such as health equity)
Empower all Consumers to Make and Have Access to Healthy Choices

Question 1: What are you funding and where is there alignment?

**Food Justice Initiative** - Equitable and resilient food systems. Transform food system away from industrialized system. Food choice in rural communities. (Katie, MFH)

**Missouri Foundation for Health Food Justice Strategy** will go to board for approval Nov. 17

**NY Health Foundation** is funding universal school lunch initiatives

**MFH** currently funding research on attitudes of individuals using WIC, elderly people’s access to SNAP during COVID, and college students access to SNAP

**We are funding 2 programs to reduce unhealthy marketing:** a pouring rights project w/ our city university & a planning grant to remove marketing on public transit

**We are funding 2 CFPP projects that would enable NY municipalities to serve healthier, environment-friendly, local food in public institutions.** --JM, NYHealth

All comes down to the food supply (Julia)
Empower all Consumers to Make and Have Access to Healthy Choices

Question 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?

Is the goal to get everyone eating universal school meals? Stigma issues. Personal choice. Do we need to renew efforts to educate and message to parents?

What about SNAP-Ed's role in this pillar? Involves lots of policies, systems, and environmental change not highlighted here.

Not enough support in Strategy for community food sovereignty and local foods--they are tons of USDA programs not highlighted!

Would it be possible to find out who the unsuccessful applicants to USDA grants are so that philanthropy could pick up those applications or future applications (MFH)?

We are beyond pilots, funders are funding real community-driven projects on the ground.

Helping community orgs ensure they have backend financial and compliance systems that will make it possible to implement USDA grants.

How to support capacity building and local control of food systems.

Supporting organizations to apply for USDA grants with a grant writing consultant. Would like to expand a food/ag focus from the Foundation (MFH).
Empower all Consumers to Make and Have Access to Healthy Choices

Question 3: What do you see as next steps?

Explore the policy solution to prison procurement policy?

- Put together a memo/letter to USDA of where philanthropy is funding and the connection to federal funding opportunities to expand the outcomes for this pillar.

- Reduce match for GusNIP program. Better collaboration/coordination with philanthropic community.

- Advising Congress that we cannot only insert one time funding streams. Philanthropy can step in but cannot alone fill the gap that will be left when one time funding expires.

Explore opportunities to partner with Food Banks and community organizations to fund SNAP outreach in prisons.

Work to support community food projects is one area/bucket we should look to build upon (Julia). We could all work around this issue potentially.

Ensure federal agencies making adjustments to food labeling are using an equity lens, considering racial bias in previous recommendations. (MFH)
Enhance Nutrition and Food Security Research

Question 1: What are you funding and where is there alignment?

Cross-cutting Themes:
Local Engagement/Control of food systems, strengthen procurement, support/strengthen incentive programs (e.g. Produce Rx)
Enhance Nutrition and Food Security Research

Question 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?
Enhance Nutrition and Food Security Research

Question 3: What do you see as next steps?