



THANK YOU

Earlier this year we asked about the issues affecting you, your community, and California at large. We wanted to better understand the changes you want to see & how we should work together to make those changes a reality. Through site visits, engagement sessions, focus groups, one-on-one discussions, and an online survey, you shared your insights. We listened & we're grateful.

WHAT WE HEARD

Hundreds of you shared your thoughts and experiences with us. These are some of the common threads.

When it comes to Californians having the food we need, what are the challenges?

- Food costs: prices are rising and healthy food is not affordable
- Geographic access for urban and rural communities: a lack of transportation options, scarcity of healthy food retailers, and poor food quality in existing stores
- Competing expenses: the high cost of living in California, especially the high cost of housing, means households have fewer and fewer resources available for food
- Food swamps: unhealthy foods are cheap, convenient, and abundant



As we fight to end hunger, poor nutrition, and their root causes, what do you want to see?

- Defend the federal safety net
- Make it easier to get much-needed help: build connections between health care, food assistance, and other essential sources of support
- Push back against policies that harm immigrant Californians
- Protect children from hunger in schools and child care
- Ensure that older adults have the food they need to age with dignity
- Make public programs responsive to the true level of poverty & cost of living in CA

"People have to work really hard to make some money, and it takes a lot of work and time to eat healthy." Survey respondent, Orange County, CA

MOVING FORWARD

While California cultivates great economic power—poverty, hunger, and racial inequities remain deeply entrenched throughout the state. Millions of Californians are being left behind.

We must must take action to break the harmful cycle of hunger, poverty, and poor health.



Today CFPA released the first of our four policy agendas for 2019. These agendas include priorities for state legislation, administrative advocacy, federal policy, and policy research to carry out our vision of a hunger-free California.

Our intent is for these agendas to honor the insights you shared with us. We call upon state leaders to honor the promises they've made to fight for Californians and California values.

As we translate these agendas into action, we will also pursue:

- Opportunities to support the work of partners in the shared movement toward social justice;
- More & different ways to engage with Californians who are affected by food insecurity;
- Meaningful changes to dismantle the structures that perpetuate poverty, hunger, and inequity throughout California; and
- New solutions to persistent & emerging problems.



Millions of Californians are struggling to get by. Countless Californians are working to make things better. We'll be honored to fight alongside you in 2019.

“ Having this peace of mind that the children are well fed you can really focus on your mission and get your goals straight. That has really affected me and that is why I [am] so passionate to affect others.
- Parent & child care provider, Los Angeles, CA

“ I am raising my grandchildren and I am disabled. I do what I have to do to make ends meet, going to churches and food pantries. We need more benefits from CalFresh. That would really help people.
- Veteran, Marina, CA