



URBAN SCHOOL FOOD ALLIANCE

2021 ANNUAL REPORT





ANNUAL REPORT

Letter from the Executive Director	1
About the Urban School Food Alliance	2
Our Members	3
New Members	4
New Faces	5
New Spaces	7
Thought Leaders	8
In the News	9
Product Releases	11
Social Media	13
Data-Driven Solutions	14
District Highlights	15
Classroom Connections	19
With Gratitude	20
Financial Summary	21



So much has changed in the world since I wrote my last annual letter, and much has also remained the same. Over the past year, we have settled into many not-so-new normal routines, confidently navigating Zoom meetings and Google Drive, and celebrating masked reunions with friends and colleagues. And yet, even as we approach two years since the pandemic began, it continues to surprise us.

School nutrition programs experienced many new challenges in 2021. We saw the impact of global supply chain disruptions in our cafeterias, as schools were left scrambling to find food and equipment to feed millions of students. We saw delivery models change, as programs constantly adapted to be responsive to the pandemic and safely serve children regardless of whether they were in the classroom or engaged in virtual learning. And through it all, we saw dedicated school nutrition professionals

doing whatever it took to ensure that students and, in some cases, their families, did not go hungry. Within the Urban School Food Alliance, members requested emergency membership calls to discuss challenges, developed mobile operations, and forged new partnerships with growers and manufacturers in their communities. Their eagerness to share the success and lessons of these efforts with others and co-create solutions is evident in our work and offers an encouraging look at the future of school nutrition.

And though we have adapted our routines and risen to new challenges, I am proud to see that the school nutrition community has not grown comfortable or fatigued by cracks in our food system that were exposed and deepened by the pandemic. The Urban School Food Alliance remains committed to advancing equity in school nutrition and I have been energized by the action our members have taken this year to operationalize that commitment to their students, workforce, and supply chain. Similarly, we have worked to sustain momentum for federal policy changes that school food leaders have long advocated, including support for universal free school meals and a renewed call for Child Nutrition Reauthorization. I look forward to reflecting on the continued work in these areas in another year's time.

During a period in which it is easy to feel life is on pause while exhausting ourselves by the work we are committed to do, please join me in celebrating the progress and persistence of the last year.

Dr. Katie Wilson, SNS

DR. KATIE WILSON

Executive Director



ABOUT THE URBAN SCHOOL FOOD ALLIANCE

The Urban School Food Alliance (USFA) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization created by school food service professionals in 2012 to address the unique needs of the nation's largest school districts. Our members collaborate to share best practices, push for systems change in the school nutrition marketplace, and advocate for the health and wellness of students. Its combination of national scope and local expertise allows USFA to lead the way through hands-on action that proves how new ideas can be implemented on a large scale.



17

DISTRICTS
PARTICIPATING



6,187

SCHOOLS
SERVED



4

MILLION
STUDENTS



690

MILLION
MEALS SERVED



\$876

MILLION
SPENT ON
PROCUREMENT



OUR MEMBERS

01 AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Member since 2021

03 BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Member since 2017

05 DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Founding member

07 BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Member since 2017

09 MEMPHIS-SHELBY COUNTY SCHOOLS
Member since 2021

11 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Founding member

13 ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Founding member

15 THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
Member since 2017

17 SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Member since 2021

02 BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Member since 2017

04 CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Founding member

06 DEKALB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Member since 2019

08 LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Founding member

10 NYC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Founding member

12 SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY
Member since 2019

14 PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Member since 2021

16 SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Member since 2021

NEW MEMBERS

The challenges of the last year have continued to strengthen the role of the Urban School Food Alliance among members. As school nutrition programs navigated many firsts and an ever-changing policy landscape, members relied heavily on one another for best practice sharing and peer support. In 2021, USFA welcomed five new members and grew to 17 school districts nationwide. The new members brought a breadth of expertise and experience to the organization and share a commitment to building an efficient and equitable food system.

"Portland Public Schools has historically been a proactive and progressive district and our nutrition services team has remained focused on getting fresh and healthy meals to our students. We look forward to continuing our efforts as members of USFA to better serve our students."



Whitney Ellerick
Senior Director of Nutrition Services
Portland Public Schools

"We're proud to join USFA because it's a mission that everyone in service to students should embrace. I'm looking forward to learning from the other USFA members' experiences and best practices, and sharing what our great team in Seattle does day in and day out as we serve our students."



Aaron Smith
Nutrition Services Director
Seattle Public Schools

"We are honored to join USFA. In Austin ISD, we are committed to redefining the student dining experience while positively impacting the food system. We look forward to collaborating with USFA partners to further our mission and collectively bring better food to students across the country."



Christine Steenport
Director of Operations
Austin Independent School District

"San Diego Unified Food & Nutrition is very excited to join the Urban School Food Alliance. Joining the Alliance will supply another valuable source of resources for us to utilize to help steer our program and reach our goal of providing healthy food to support successful students."



Frederick Espinosa
Interim Food Service Director
San Diego Unified School District

"USFA's mission and vision align seamlessly with our efforts. As we reimagine our district, our work would not be complete without taking additional steps to support the health and wellness of our students. We look forward to partnering with our member districts to strategize, advocate, and share best practices."



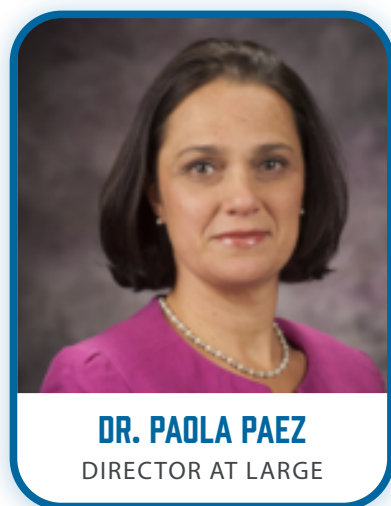
Eugene Bradford
Executive Director of Nutrition Services
Memphis-Shelby County Schools

NEW FACES

The Urban School Food Alliance operates under the leadership of an executive director and board of directors, and is supported by a dedicated team of employees, as well as an independent advisory council of professionals and community experts who help guide the work and priorities of the Alliance. In 2021, the Alliance welcomed several new staff and leadership members whose background and expertise have grown its capacity to serve members and the greater school nutrition community.



Carletta Sweeney, MBA serves as the Operations and Office Manager for the Urban School Food Alliance to assess existing internal processes, identify areas of improvement, and oversee implementation in the best interest of the organization. Prior to USFA, Carletta served as Executive Assistant/Chief of Staff for the Family and Community Engagement Office for Baltimore City Public Schools and Site Coordinator/Program Director for Lake Elkhorn Middle School in Howard County Public Schools. Additionally, she served as Safety Chair for the Executive Council of Howard County PTSA, President of Lake Elkhorn Middle School PTSA, and Education Chair while a member of Changing Destinations: Journey to Excellence Board of Directors. Carletta holds an MBA from University of Maryland University College. She is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success and the National Black MBA Association, DC Chapter.



Dr. Paola Paez is a Research Associate Professor for the Center for Food Safety in Child Nutrition Programs at Kansas State University. Dr. Paez received her doctorate from Iowa State University in Foodservice and Lodging Management. She has taught in the areas of food, nutrition, foodservice management, and food safety. Her research has focused on food safety in child nutrition programs and training and motivating foodservice employees to follow safe food handling practices. She has worked with food safety in child nutrition programs for several years and enjoys conducting research on topics that meet the needs of these programs. Her publications include the Journal of Food Protection, Food Protection Trends, the Journal of Child Nutrition and Management, and the International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management. She is a member of the School Nutrition Association and the Foodservice Management Education Council.



ADRIAN TROELS

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Adrian Troels serves as the VP of Business Development with a focus on foreign direct investment and support of the Greater Sacramento region's burgeoning mobility ecosystem. He has more than a decade's worth of experience in major markets. Prior to joining the Greater Sacramento Economic Council, Adrian led the Business & Industry Team at Prosper Portland, the economic development agency for the City of Portland, Oregon. During his three-year tenure, the Business & Industry team supported the creation of 4,400 net new jobs. Prior to his time in Portland, Adrian spent time at the Metro Atlanta Chamber, where he led the Atlanta region's work in developing its globally competitive supply chain and mobility ecosystems. He has graduate degrees in City and Regional Planning from Georgia Tech, and in Public Administration from Baruch College in New York City.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The advisory council consists of a diverse group of leaders and professionals who bring their unique knowledge, skill set, and experience in guiding the Urban School Food Alliance and its mission. Advisory council members meet several times a year in-person and via phone conference to provide fresh perspective and technical expertise. They serve as an independent, unbiased sounding board to assist the Alliance in championing important initiatives.

KYRA TIRANA BARRY | CHAIRPERSON
President, Beat the Streets

LISA DAVIS | COUNCIL MEMBER
Senior Vice President, Share Our Strength | No Kid Hungry

ANDREW KAPLAN | COUNCIL MEMBER
Director, Rachael Ray's Yum-o! Organization and The Rachael Ray Foundation

DEVON KLATELL | COUNCIL MEMBER
Managing Director, Food Initiative, The Rockefeller Foundation

BENJAMIN BINSWANGER | COUNCIL MEMBER
Executive Director, Joyce and Irving Goldman Family Foundation

TANYA KHOTIN | COUNCIL MEMBER
Principal, Khotin Impact Strategies

JOHN EDELMAN | COUNCIL MEMBER
Managing Director, Global Engagement and Corporate Responsibility, Edelman

RUTHANNE BEVIER | COUNCIL MEMBER
Senior Information Security Advisor, California Institute of Technology

JAN POPPENDIECK | EMERITUS COUNCIL MEMBER
Professor Emerita of Sociology, Hunter College, City University of New York

NEW SPACES

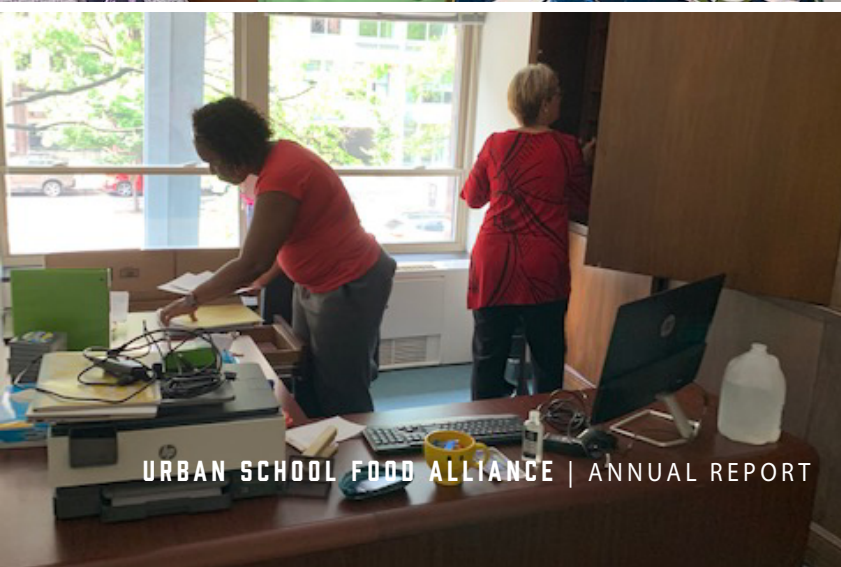
This year marked an important milestone for the Urban School Food Alliance with the sub-leasing of its new office space in Washington, D.C. The Alliance is excited to have permanent office space to serve as a central hub for its growing network. The office is located on famed K Street in downtown D.C. and led by Operations and Office Manager, Carletta Sweeney.

Establishing roots in D.C. also lends the collective voice of the Alliance to federal issues that impact school meals. The new proximity to policymakers and partners means Alliance members and leadership can strengthen efforts to educate policy members and the public on the challenges school nutrition programs experience every day in their work.



WE MOVED!

1612 K ST NW
SUITE 200
WASHINGTON, DC
20006



THOUGHT LEADERS

Since its inception, the Urban School Food Alliance has strived to use its collective voice to share expertise and uplift school nutrition programs nationwide. The scale and platform of USFA members also uniquely position them to speak to the challenges of school nutrition professionals at the federal level and advocate for policy changes. In 2021, the Alliance had several opportunities to speak with legislators and federal partners to share priorities and offer an inside look at how policy decisions impact families and school nutrition programs.

In June 2021 Chicago Public Schools Director of Nutrition Services, Crystal Cooper, testified before the House Education and Labor Committee's Civil Rights and Human Services Subcommittee in a hearing on Child Nutrition Reauthorization. Every five years, Child Nutrition Reauthorization provides Congress an opportunity to improve and strength child nutrition programs, including school meals. However, the last Child Nutrition Reauthorization occurred in 2015. Crystal's testimony made a powerful case for the value of school meals to



children, families, and communities and the need for healthy, free school meals for all as a tool to reduce childhood hunger, eliminate barriers for families and administrators, support student learning, and reduce stigma that may prevent participation. Though Congress has yet to move forward with Child Nutrition Reauthorization, continued conversation with policymakers helps ensure the voice of school nutrition operators are considered in possible solutions.

In July 2021, the Alliance was invited to virtually meet with the White House to discuss applications for school food leaders to support pandemic recovery efforts. In addition to providing nutrition assistance, the Administration recognizes the role of school nutrition programs as community centers and trusted sources of information, especially when many services and resources closed or moved online during the pandemic, and opportunities to leverage resources and support vaccination outreach efforts. This partnership has strengthened as school nutrition programs continue to face new challenges related to supply chain shortages and emergency waivers, and the Alliance is grateful to the White House for its commitment to learning from the experiences of school food leaders and celebrating their creativity and resilience during uncertain times.



IN THE NEWS

The Urban School Food Alliance continues to serve as a leading voice in the public conversation on school meals. In 2021, USFA staff, leadership, and members appeared in numerous national and local publications to provide updates and perspective on issues affecting school nutrition programs, such as recent supply chain disruptions and the impact of universal free school meals.

2021 MEDIA APPEARANCES

CBS News

Civil Eats

CNN

The FERN

Food Management

FoodService Director

KCBS Radio

KCRG

The Nation

NBC News

The New York Times

News Nation Now

Perishable News

Politico

Real Clear Education

SmartBrief

The Washington Post

WBAL-TV



Congress Must Provide Healthy School Meals for All Kids in COVID Relief Bill



By Katie Wilson
February 01, 2021



SUPPLY CHAIN WOES HIT SCHOOL CAFETERIAS; ADMINISTRATORS SCRAMBLING TO MAKE MEALS

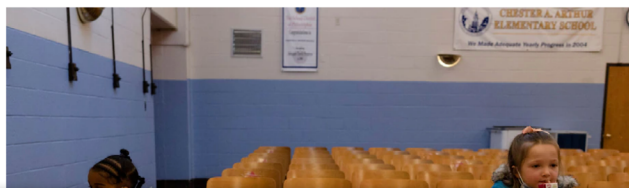
The Washington Post

USDA announces free school meals for youths through summer

Measure is aimed at feeding the country's 12 million hungry children, but meal providers say they still need increased reimbursements

By Laura Relley

March 9, 2021 at 6:01 p.m. EST



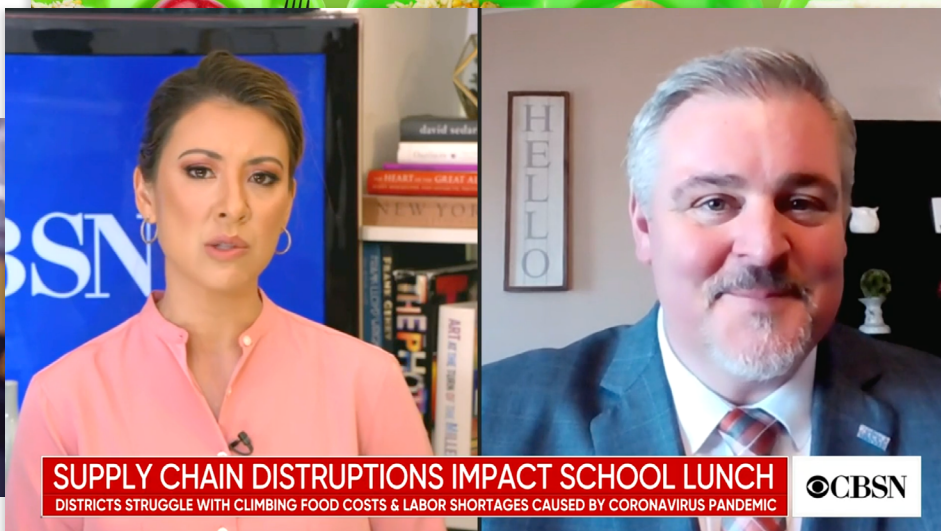
THE FUTURE OF FOOD

OPERATIONS

The meaning of universal free meals

A future where every student can receive a free meal at school could have lasting implications not only for the nation's children, but for the food industry as a whole.

By Benita Gingerella on Feb. 26, 2021



'We are struggling every day': Supply chain crunch threatens to leave some of the neediest Americans without enough to eat

By Gabe Cohen, CNN

Updated 10:57 AM ET, Fri October 29, 2021

How Public Schools Became America's Social Safety Net

Even without sufficient resources, schools serve as a critical source of support for disadvantaged kids.

By Karina Piser

FEBRUARY 19, 2021



THE Nation.



income. For eight profit that provides Philadelphia.

enlee said. "God

s, they say, and by -- maybe hundreds

PRODUCT RELEASES



INGREDIENT GUIDE FOR BETTER SCHOOL FOOD PURCHASING

The Urban School Food Alliance, in collaboration with the Center for Science in Public Interest and more than 10 school nutrition professionals and groups from across the country, released the latest updates to the Ingredient Guide for Better School Food Purchasing in July 2021. The Ingredient Guide is a science-based tool that highlights unwanted ingredients to eliminate, and those to watch out for as new food products are developed and others are modified.

COMPOSTABLE PLATE CASE STUDY

One of the Urban School Food Alliance's earliest accomplishments was its work to replace polystyrene trays in school cafeterias with a more sustainable solution. In 2015, USFA announced its six founding members had created a new compostable round plate for cafeterias, a move that would remove 225 million polystyrene trays a year from landfills. The recent case study profiles several of the founding members and reflects on the challenges they overcame in designing, testing, purchasing, and implementing the new plates.



In March 2021, the Urban School Food Alliance issued a standard for responsible antibiotic use in turkey products in partnerships with the Natural Resources Defense Council and the George Washington University Antibiotic Resistance Action Center. Turkey is the second most served protein in USFA schools, after chicken, for which USFA issued an even more robust standard in 2014. The turkey industry is also the most intensive user of medically important antibiotics, dispensing more drugs per kilogram of animal than any other sector. The new standard has been adopted by several USFA members and is available for public use.



In 2021, the Urban School Food Alliance partnered with the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health to explore how 12 USFA districts responded to the pandemic and identify opportunities to better support school nutrition programs in transitioning to financially viable community distribution in future crises. Researchers interviewed members and reviewed financial data. The results of the mixed methods study were published in *Nutrients* in July 2021.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The past year has seen exciting social media growth for the Urban School Food Alliance. The pandemic has increased public interest in school nutrition issues and provided opportunities to reach new audiences with recommendations and resources. In 2021, USFA launched an Instagram account to better reach parents, family leaders, and students with USFA resources and news. Additionally, USFA participated in several Twitter events hosted by family-led and community-based organizations throughout the year to connect with new parents and partners on school nutrition priorities.

2021 SOCIAL MEDIA REPORTING

7,960

TOTAL
FOLLOWERS

1,128

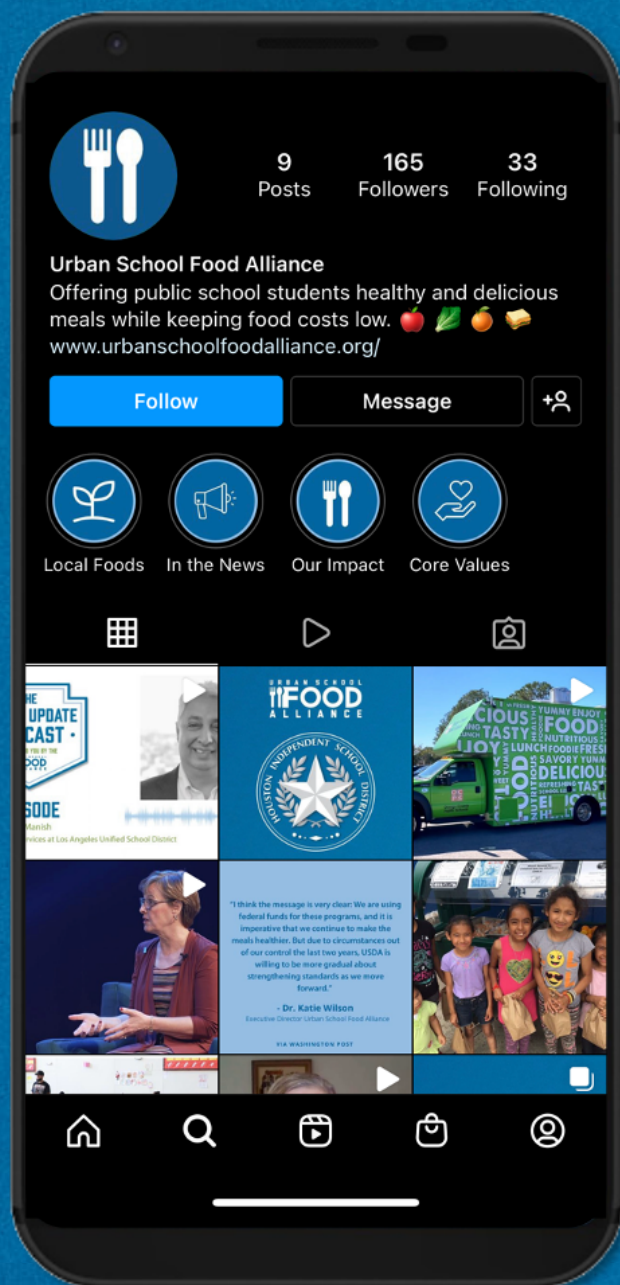
NEW
FOLLOWERS

375,816

POST
IMPRESSIONS

12,462

POST
ENGAGEMENTS



DATA-DRIVEN DECISIONS

The Urban School Food Alliance furthered its commitment to growing the school nutrition evidence base and translating research into action with three new academic partnerships in 2021. The projects use the unique environment of the large, urban districts in the Alliance to explore the impact of internal processes and external regulations on school nutrition outcomes. The findings aim to support data-driven decision-making in districts of all sizes and settings.

TUFTS UNIVERSITY

The Economics of School Food Procurement

The goal of this project is to describe the decision-making strategies for school food procurement among large, urban school districts in the United States and examine the cost and nutrition tradeoffs of sourcing products from USDA foods.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

School Food Procurement: Comparing Costs Across Procurement Programs

The purpose of the research is to identify non-value-added regulations and processes, quantify the cost and utilize that information to work with USDA, states, and local school districts to create a more efficient way to access USDA Foods entitlement.

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

Investigating Determinants of Acceptability, Feasibility, and Penetration of Universal School Meals through a Health Equity Lens

The purpose of this research seeks to develop appropriate, stakeholder-driven implementation measurement tools to be used within a long-term project with the School District of Philadelphia and Urban School Food Alliance to gather contextual information on participation in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP).



DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

In spite of the many changes and challenges of the past year, the school nutrition community continued to find creative solutions and move the needle towards more efficient and equitable operations. Here are a few of the successes our members shared this year. More information and additional best practices can be found online at the USFA Resource Center.

Austin Independent School District

Leaning on Local Vendors

As the food industry began experiencing the impact of nationwide supply chain shortages, Austin Independent School District (AISD) found opportunities to expand local vendor relationships. New World Bakery, located just outside Austin in Kyle, Texas, is one of nearly 80 vendors supplying 112 kitchens across the district. As a direct delivery vendor, New World

Bakery remained a reliable supplier, regularly delivering without interruption to each campus.

AISD initially partnered with the local bakery to provide whole wheat bread, as well as burger and hot dog buns. As the district dealt with canceled orders and inconsistent deliveries from other vendors, New World Bakery developed whole grain dinner rolls, English muffins, and a variety of muffins and pastries upon the request of AISD.

In addition to positively impacting the local economy, increasing the products purchased through New World Bakery also benefited district operations and students throughout Central Texas. Transitioning more products to a direct delivery vendor provided more control on inventory and helped free up much-needed cold storage space in the district's warehouse. These new products also helped other districts in the area offer more locally sourced, whole grain products to their students.

Chicago Public Schools

CPS Chef Council

In 2019, Chicago Public Schools (CPS) developed



the CPS Chef Council in partnership with their food service provider, Aramark, with the idea to partner with local Chicago chefs to advise on menu development for the CPS meal program. The goal of the Chef Council includes tapping into local top culinary talents to assist with recipe development that exceeds USDA nutrition guidelines for the district's 340,000 students.

Chef Council members' contributions go beyond endorsing new school recipes, they also provide ongoing insight on trends, flavor palates and host monthly instructional sessions for 1,500 culinary students. While students were learning at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chef Council went virtual; providing online sessions through a monthly e-learning series.



CPS Chef Council members, while contributing their collective experiences, passion, and creativity to school lunches and breakfasts are able to share their career paths and professional challenges when they join students online and in the lunchroom where their recipes are served.

Dallas Independent School District

On-Site Reviews: Key to AR Success

Following a perfect score on its Administrative Review in 2019, Dallas ISD Food & Child Nutrition Services has updated on-site review protocol for the pandemic.

FCNS puts an emphasis on doing more than is required by the Texas Department of Agriculture

(TDA) to prepare staff and support compliance in school kitchens and cafeterias. Prior to the pandemic, FCNS performed 12 on-site reviews per campus per year, across breakfast, lunch, supper, and summer meal operations, compared to the required 6 reviews. During COVID-19 service, FCNS has continued to perform 10 on-site reviews per campus per year, compared to the 5 reviews required by TDA during the pandemic. The on-site reviews are performed using required TDA forms and evaluate sites on a variety of functions, including menu compliance, cashier procedures, production records, and food safety.

DeKalb County School District

Fostering Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Among School Nutrition Managers

DeKalb County School District fostered diversity, equity, and inclusion among school nutrition managers through a collaborative initiative designed to leverage employee expertise and ensure that managers feel empowered to share their ideas and experiences with central office and leadership.

The program includes a council of managers from across the district that regularly hold meetings with SNS leadership, without the presence of regional supervisors, to discuss concerns and work towards resolutions. Administrators also utilize an electronic polling tool to collect feedback from managers anonymously on their experiences within the department.

Orange County Public Schools

Environmentally Friendly Pandemic Practices

At one time, Styrofoam was an economical way to keep food hot and carry meals from the serving line to the dining room. However, the negative environmental impacts of foam products had Food & Nutrition Services (FNS) re-thinking the

need of these disposable products. In 2018, OCPS moved away from foam trays and conventional plastic cutlery for compostable options. The positive feedback and success of this launch led FNS to continue its search for other sustainable products for use in school food operations. In March 2020, OCPS was the first school district in Central Florida to eliminate all Styrofoam. This effort equates to saving an incredible 15 million pieces of foam from landfills.

"The changes we made were expensive but with volume and purchasing power, FNS was able to save \$177k on our new eco-friendly cafeteria supplies."

Returning to school during the pandemic posed another challenge and required safety controls for face-to-face learning and student meals. After a review and analysis of paper goods, a hinged eco-friendly container with a lid that locked into place was selected to protect meals as students traveled to the classroom or other locations. Again, the FNS program team selected an environmentally safe product even though the cost was higher than Styrofoam.

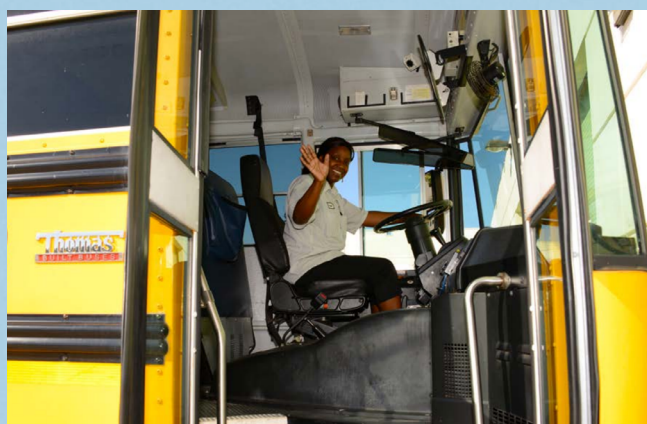


FNS further reduced its carbon footprint by increasing local purchases by 100% in produce, milk, and bread. FNS administrative office was also equipped with a water fountain designed to refill, reusable water bottles. In a period of ten months, FNS saved 3,000 water bottles from

being used and discarded in the landfill.

The School District of Palm Beach County *Kids First Mobile Meals*

In order to reach distance learners with meals during COVID-19, School Food Service partnered with Transportation and School Police to deliver meals to children at home via their Kids First Mobile Meals initiative.



Parents were notified when the buses were arriving at the designated community stops. They met the bus, where staff greeted them to deliver their weekly meals for each child. Each child received a total of seven nutritious breakfasts, lunches, snacks and suppers.

The pilot began by servicing the Riviera Beach area on January 5th 2021, with one bus out of a high school. After seeing its success, the program was expanded to Belle Glade in March, serving from a different high school. In May, the need grew stronger in Riviera Beach so a second bus was added at the high school location.

The program ran for 23 weeks. In the end, the team provided 14,896 meals to students and the program netted \$14,872.81.

The School District of Philadelphia

Ten Million Meals Milestone

Despite the unprecedented challenges that school nutrition professionals faced during the pandemic, the School District of Philadelphia ended the year on a high note, celebrating the ten-millionth meal milestone. Similar to districts across the country, Philadelphia opened the 2020-21 SY 100% virtually with plans to return to in-person learning in late November. Due to the everchanging situation related to COVID-19, district plans were evaluated and changed on an ongoing basis, and ultimately in-person learning didn't resume until March 2021. As such, the Division of Food Services remained flexible in its operation in order to feed as much of the community as possible.

After many months of last-minute changes, problem-solving, and pivots, the division wrapped up the year by celebrating this accomplishment and recognizing the team that made it possible.

San Diego Unified School District

Farm to School Education & Promotion

San Diego Unified School District's Food & Nutrition Services has a robust Farm to School Program that not only includes sourcing and serving fruits, vegetables and other meal component from local farmers, producers and purveyors, but also incorporating nutrition education as a key component of the program. The department has long viewed nutrition education as an important piece of the school meal program, adopting a 'promotion through education' model. During the pandemic, a unique program change was implemented to keep students engaged in the nutrition education aspects of the Farm to School program even through virtual learning.

The Farm to School Specialist at San Diego Unified met the moment and transitioned traditional

in-class nutrition lessons and taste testing opportunities into virtual events. Monthly 15-min nutrition classes with the focus on the Harvest of the Month reached hundreds of students at one time, encouraging students to pick up a school meal bag and try out the new fruit or vegetable of the month while learning about its nutritional benefits and the local farm it came from. These Harvest of the Month lessons have led to other virtual events like Farm to School Network Gatherings and Cooking Classes using components of the take-home school meals, which have been equally successful in teaching students important skills in making healthy choices, allowing students to learn about where their food comes from, and increasing student participation in the school meal program.



Monthly
15-MIN NUTRITION PRESENTATION VIA ZOOM

Janelle Manzano
Farm to School Specialist

Harvest Month
of the
Healthy food.
Successful students.
Farm & Nutrition Services

Join our district Farm to School Specialist in a quick 15-min nutrition presentation about the school cafe's Harvest of the Month.

Students will learn about the nutritional benefits of the HOTM fruit and about the farmer(s) who grew the fruit just for SDUSD students!

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH STARTS AT 10:30AM

- February 2, 2022
- March 2, 2022
- April 6, 2022

ZOOM MEETING ID
854 8088 8236
[click here to enter zoom](#)

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



This year, the Urban School Food Alliance strengthened its partnership with Pilot Light, a Chicago-based nonprofit that provides Common Core-aligned food education curriculum to teachers, by implementing a year-long, intensive program designed to build teacher leadership in Pilot Light's model of integrated food education in two Alliance member districts.

"I HAVE REALLY ENJOYED THE CHALLENGE OF TRYING TO THINK ABOUT TALKING ABOUT FOOD SOMEWHERE IN ONE OF MY CLASSES EACH WEEK. I THINK IT'S VALUABLE AND I THINK I WOULD LIKELY KEEP TRYING TO HAVE IT AS A GOAL."

SY 21-22 Fellow

Through the Food Education Fellowship, Pilot Light provides training to a cohort of teachers in Chicago Public Schools and Baltimore City Public Schools in delivering classroom lessons focused on seasonality and local foods that reinforce the local foods procured and served in cafeterias. Participating teachers receive virtual professional development and coaching from Pilot Light staff on how to integrate food education into lesson plans and modify lessons to address the unique cultural and developmental needs of their students.

"I WILL CONTINUE TO USE THE PILOT LIGHT LESSONS AT LEAST THREE TIMES A MONTH NEXT SCHOOL YEAR. THIS PROGRAM HAS BROUGHT SO MUCH JOY AND EDUCATIONAL VALUE TO MY STUDENTS, COLLEAGUES, AND ADMINISTRATION."

SY 21-22 Fellow

Fellows also survey students at the beginning and end of the school year to analyze behavior change data and develop case studies to share with Pilot Light, the Alliance, and district administration.

WITH GRATITUDE

The Urban School Food Alliance deeply appreciates the organizations that help make the work on the Alliance possible. From capacity building, sharing of expertise, and ongoing staff support, the Alliance is grateful to funding partners and organizations who have helped further our mission.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Joyce and Irving Goldman
Family Foundation



Michael & Susan Dell
FOUNDATION

 **Nielsen**
Foundation

 **NO KID
HUNGRY**

THE
RACHAELRAY
FOUNDATION

Rachael Ray's
yum-o!
COOK. FEED. FUND.

 The
ROCKEFELLER
FOUNDATION

 **AMERICA'S
FOOD FUND**
FEEDING NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Thank you also to the numerous individuals and organizations who have offered support in important ways, including through direct donations.



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2021

ASSETS	2020	2021*
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts	\$1,219,917	\$1,882,949
Accounts Receivable	\$9,500	\$49,084
Other Current Assets	\$3,131.00	\$4,271
Total Assets	\$1,232,548	\$1,936,304
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$27,668	\$53,102
Deferred Revenue	\$13,458	\$161,500
Total Liabilities	\$41,126	\$214,602
EQUITY		
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$736,971	\$1,190,162
Net Revenue	\$454,451	\$531,540
Total Equity	\$1,191,422	\$1,721,702
Total Equity & Liabilities	\$1,232,548	\$1,936,304

*Unaudited



JOIN THE
CONVERSATION



WWW.URBANSCHOOLFOODALLIANCE.ORG