

#### **Building Healthier More Equitable Communities Through PSE: Role of Physicians and Dentists as Change Agents**

#### Hilary Seligman, MD MAS

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**Disclosures:** I have no commercial conflicts of interest to disclose.

Opinions expressed in this presentation are my own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of any of my funders, including Feeding America, CDC, USDA and NIH.

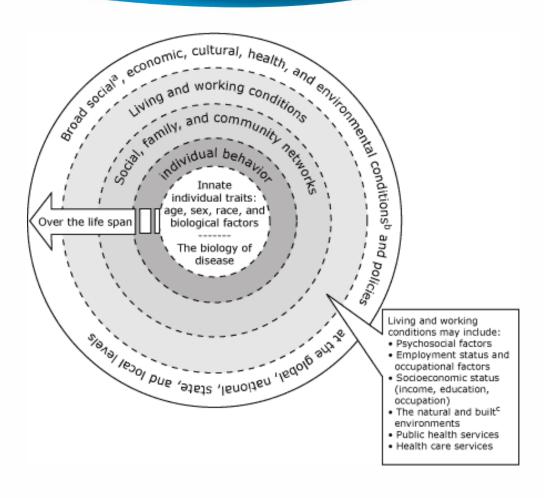


### **Learning Objectives**

- Highlight the importance of a PSE approach
- Describe one example of taking a PSE approach to a SDH: food insecurity
- Define two models of community engagement
- Lessons learned from working in community settings



### Social-Ecological Model





#### **Fundamental Causes**

#### Fundamental causes

Global economic forces

Macro socio-political environment

Political priorities and decisions

Societal values to equity and fairness

Undo

Unequal distribution of income, power and wealth

Poverty, marginalisation and discrimination

#### Wider environmental influences

Fconomic and work

Physical

Learning

Services

Social and cultural

#### Individual experience

Economic and work

Physical

Learning

Services

Social and interpersonal

#### Inequalities in:

Wellbeing

**Effects** 

Healthy life expectancy

Morbidity

Mortality

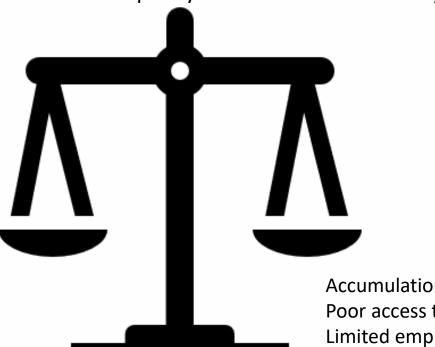
Prevent

Mitigate



### Where do we intervene?

Deterioration in diet quality due to food insufficiency



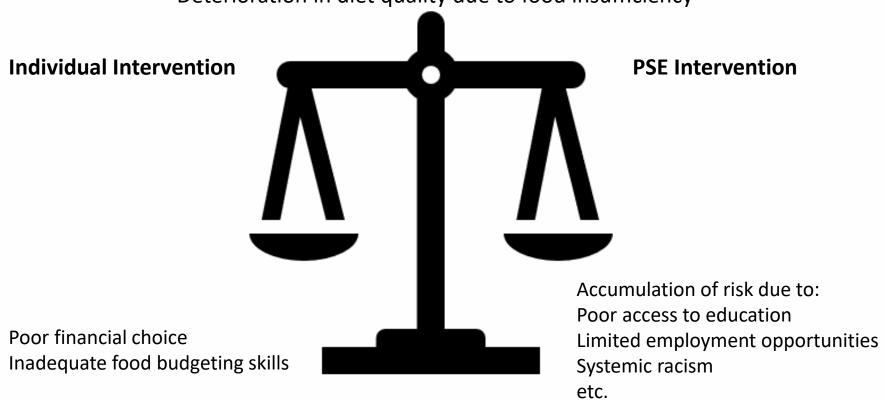
Poor financial choice Inadequate food budgeting skills

Accumulation of risk due to:
Poor access to education
Limited employment opportunities
Systemic racism
etc.



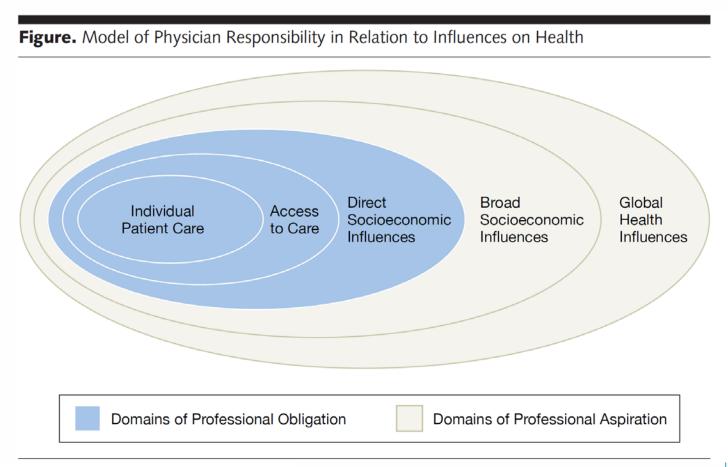
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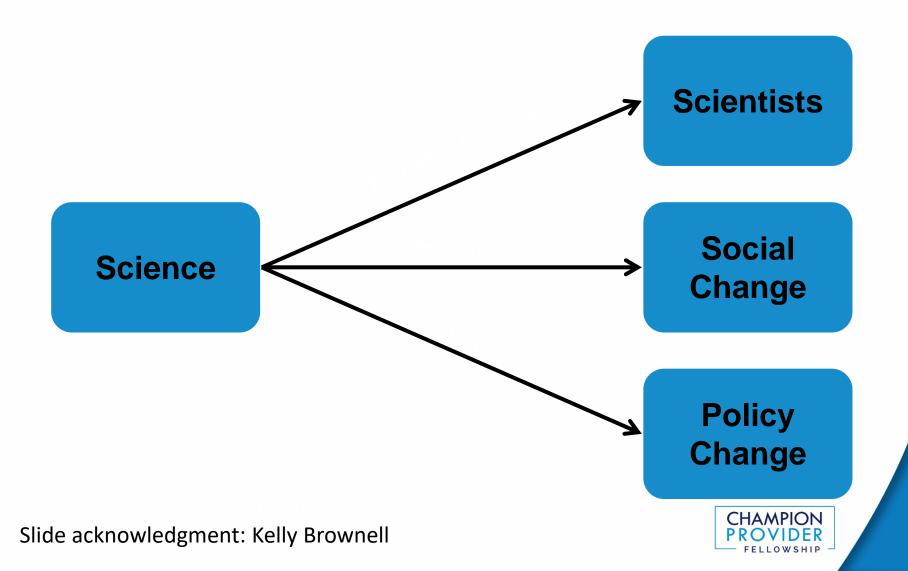


# What is our professional obligation?

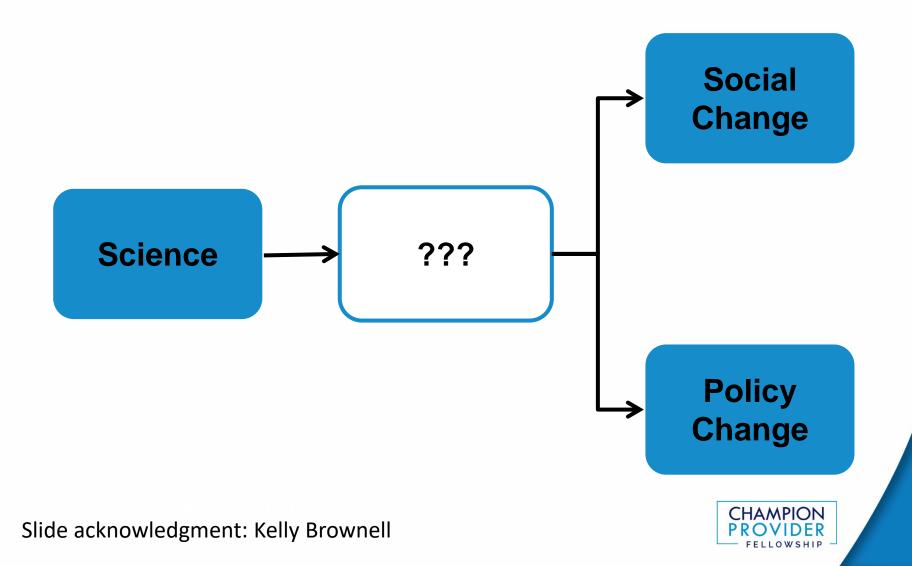


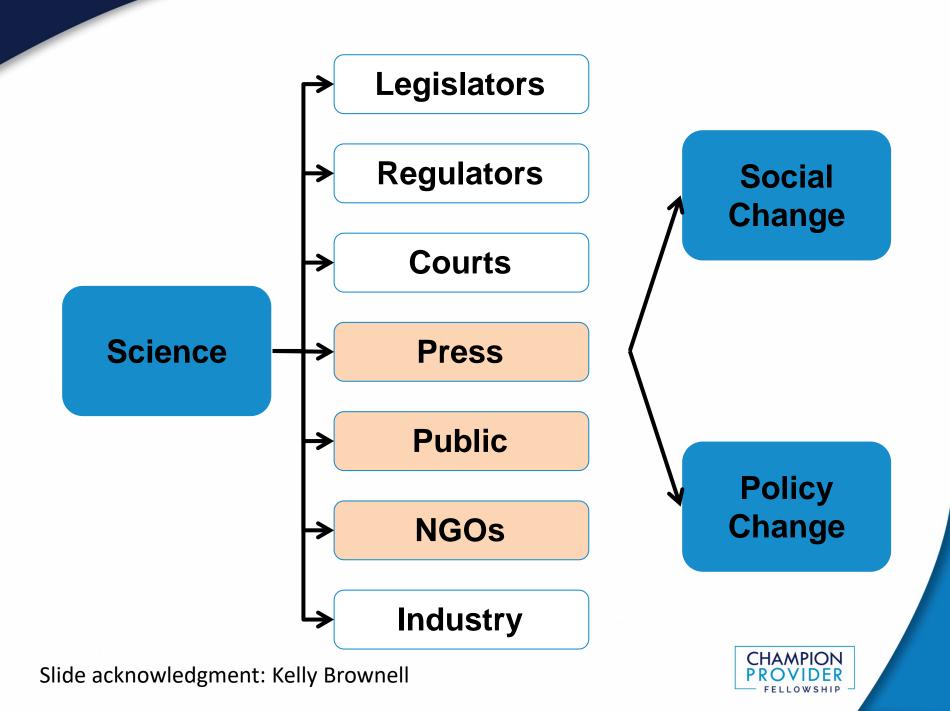


### What is Science Trying to Achieve

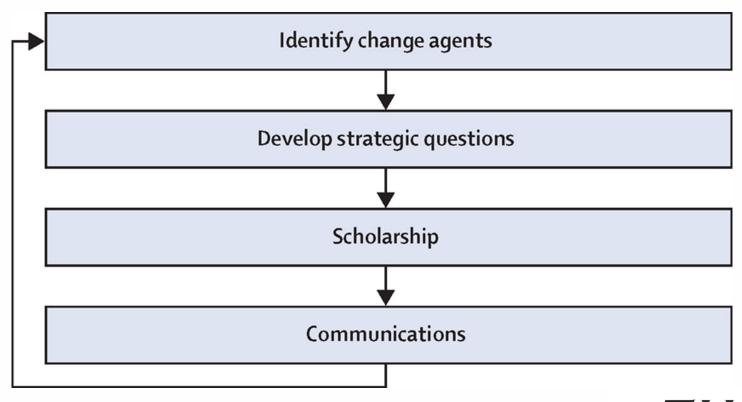


### **Making Our Work Matter**

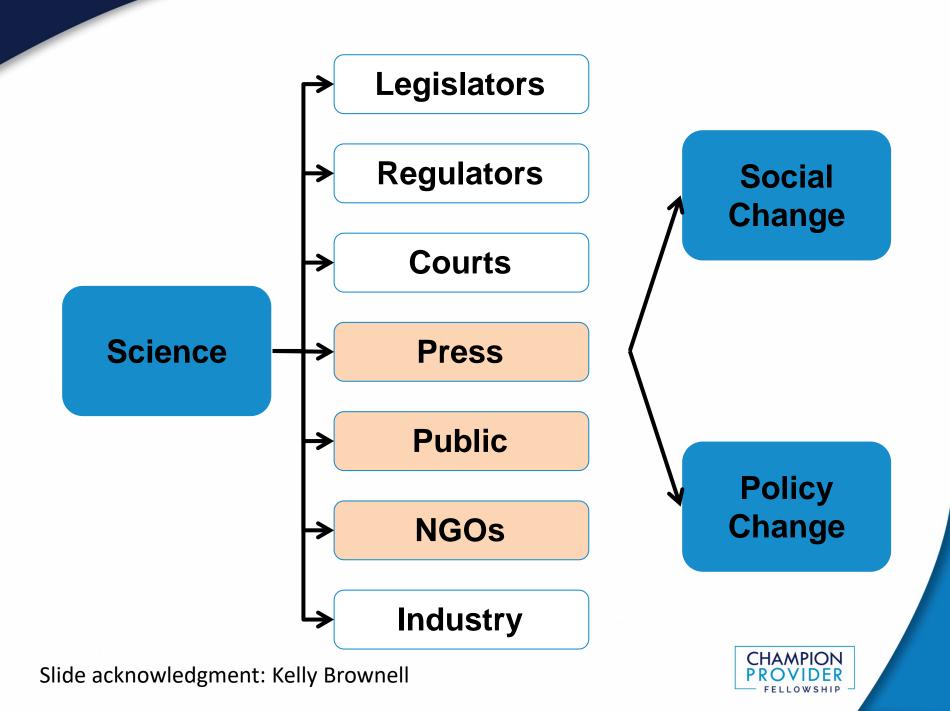




### **Strategic Science with Policy Impact**







## **Evolution of Research on Health and Socioeconomic Status**

**Disparities Exist** 

The Problem is a Big One





# **Evolution of Research on Health and Food Insecurity**

Food Insecurity & Health are Related

The Problem is a Big One





### Where are we in early 2021?

- Food insecurity is DEFINITIVELY linked with poor health and higher health care utilization.
- Some of this relationship is poor health causing food insecurity; some of this relationship is food insecurity causing poor health.

Food Insecurity & Health are Related

The Problem is a Big One



### Where are we in early 2021?

- Food insecurity more than doubles diabetes risk.
- Food insecurity is associated with ER use and hospitalizations.
- Annual health care expenditures associated with food insecurity are enormous.

Food Insecurity & Health are Related

The Problem is a Big One



### Where are we in early 2021?

- SNAP works
- WIC works
- Home delivered meals work

Food Insecurity & Health are Related

The Problem is a Big One



#### Clinical Models: Screen and Intervene

Identification of food insecurity by positive clinical screen

Referral to entity managing connection to federal or community program

Enrollment in federal or community food program

Improved diet quality, food security, and clinical satisfaction

Improvement of health and utilization outcomes



## Resources for Food Insecure Households

Federal Nutrition Programs

**SNAP** 

**WIC** 

NSLP, SBP, TEFAP, CSFP, etc Charitable Food
System

Food banks & food pantries

Home delivered meals & medically tailored meals

Free dining rooms (soup kitchens)

Vouchers (local programs or part of SNAP)

Informal Social Support

Friends & family

Community resources, eg religious institutions

Personal Income/ Budget Shifts

Tradeoffs
between food
and personal
hygiene products,
utilities,
medications, gas,
rent, etc.



### Two Models of Community Engagement

## Leveraging an Existing CBO Infrastructure

 Partner with a CBO, add your unique skills to their unique skills



## Developing Your Own Infrastructure

Creating your own program





### **The Feeding America Network**

200 MEMBER FOOD BANKS

NATIONAL OFFICE

FOOD PANTRIES AND MEAL PROGRAMS

46 VI
AMERICANS
SERVED ANNUALLY

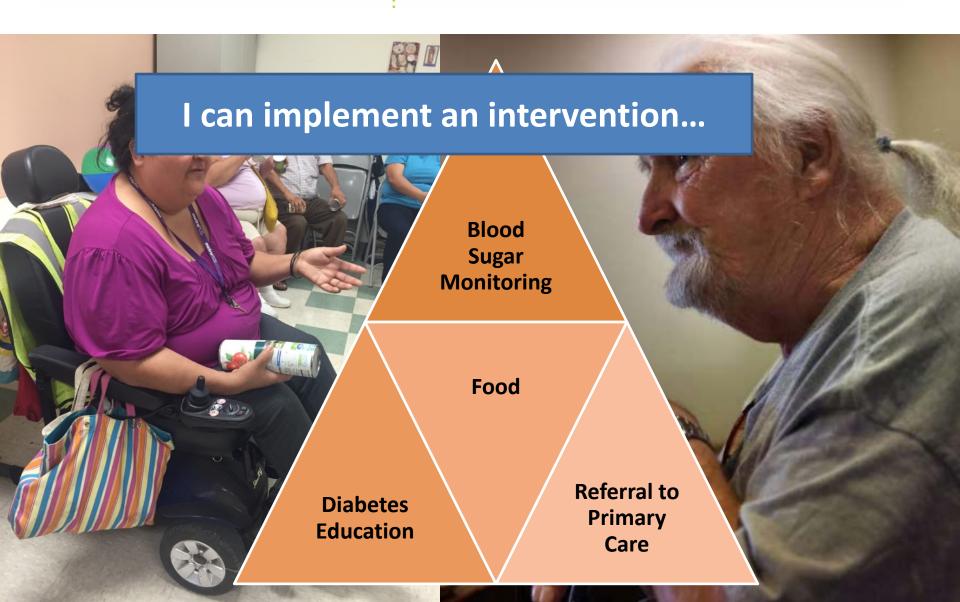






#### **Feeding America Intervention Trial For Health**

Diabetes Mellitus



#### ...and I can write about it.

### Comprehensive Diabetes Self-Management Support From Food Banks: A Randomized Controlled Trial

Hilary K. Seligman, MD, MAS, Morgan Smith, RN, PHN, CNS, CDE, Sophie Rosenmoss, BA, Michelle Berger Marshall, MS, RD, and Elaine Waxman, PhD

Objectives. To determine whether food bank provision of self-management support and diabetes-appropriate food improves glycemic control among clients with diabetes. Methods. We screened 5329 adults for diabetes at food pantries (n = 27) affiliated with

Methods. We screened 5329 adults for diabetes at food pantries (n = 27) affiliated with food banks in Oakland, California; Detroit, Michigan; and Houston, Texas, between October 2015 and September 2016. We individually randomized 568 participants with hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) 7.5% or greater to waitlist control or 6-month intervention including food, diabetes education, health care referral, and glucose monitoring. The primary outcome was HbA1c at 6 months.

Results. Food security (relative risk [RR] = 0.85; 95% confidence interval [CI] = 0.73, 0.98), food stability (RR = 0.77; 95% CI = 0.64, 0.93), and fruit and vegetable intake (risk difference

often financially out of reach for food-insecure households. In addition, adults with diabetes living in food-insecure households face other significant barriers to self-management, including cost-related medication nonadherence, poor clinical follow-up because of competing time demands, depression, and increased hypoglycemia risk. Such challenges likely contribute to the poor glycemic control observed among patients with diabetes living in food-insecure, com-



### The New York Times

**HEALTH** 

#### Food Banks Take On a Contributor to Diabetes: Themselves

By CATHERINE SAINT LOUIS JUNE 17, 2016



Ah...Strategic Science! Reaching the Public



Congressional Briefings on Hunger and Diabetes December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Thank you for joining the Congressional briefings on Friday December 4<sup>th</sup>. Below is the day, the briefing order of show, and the invitation that we will circulate among part and Hill staff.

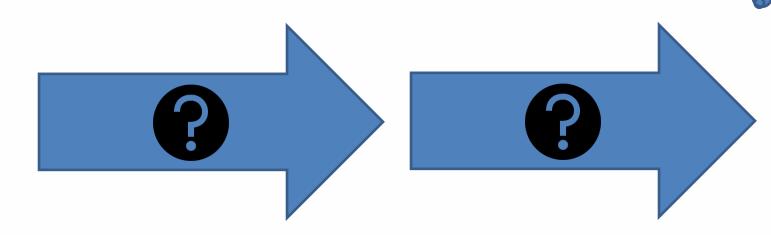
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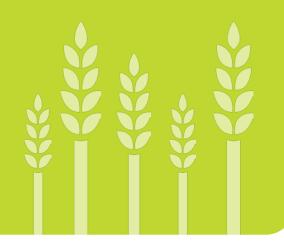
Potential
Policy
Change:
Medicare/
Medicaid
funding for
nutrition
interventions



#### Feeding America's 2025 Goal

Ah...Strategic Science! Reaching the NGO's

By 2025, Feeding America, in collaboration with our network and our partners, will ensure access to enough nutritious food for people struggling with hunger and make meaningful progress toward ending hunger.



#### Reminder...

You don't have to be the person *implementing* the intervention to be the right person to communicate the message



# Advantages to Working with an Existing CBO

- Leverages infrastructure of an entire organization
  - Established reputation
  - Communications expertise, especially helpful for framing your issue
  - Infrastructure for advocacy, grant-writing, interventions, & dissemination of findings
  - Meeting the right people
- Working "on the inside" may be more effective than exerting external pressure
- Expansion of your personal network is important



# Challenges Working with an Existing CBO

- Navigating the line between advocacy & science—what is your role as a physician?
- Negotiating who owns the content
- Justifying your effort to your home institution



### **Two Models of Community Engagement**

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## Developing Your Own Infrastructure

Creating your own program

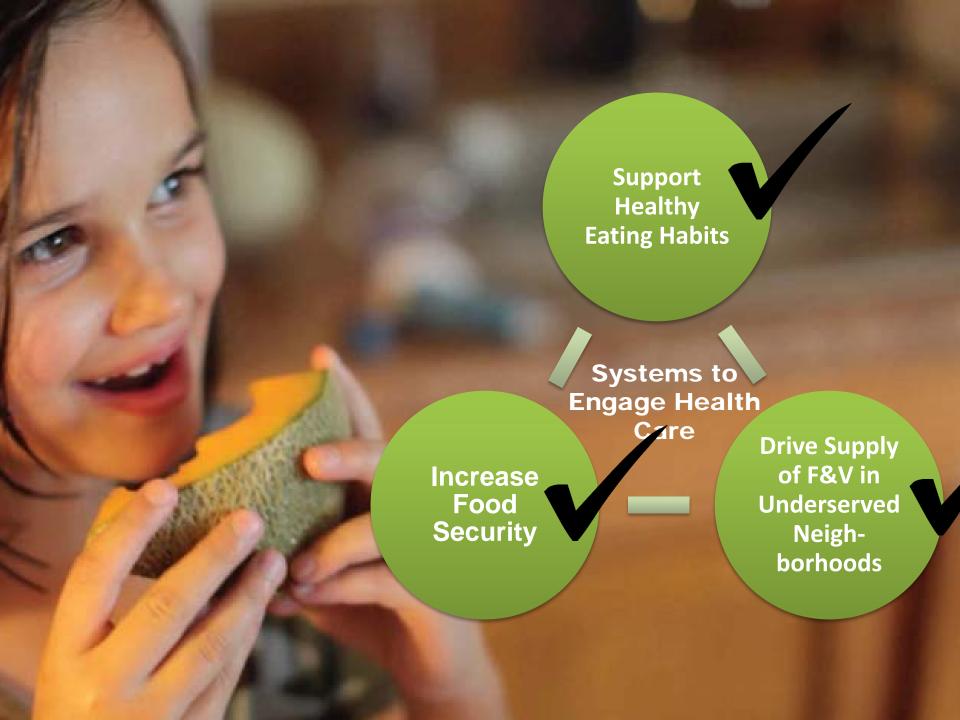












#### **Vouchers 4 Veggies – EatSF**

Primary Location: San Francisco, CA

#### Program Structure

#### Partner with 100+ Communitybased Distribution Sites

 Clinics, Hospitals, Housing Sites, Senior Centers, WIC clinics, etc.

#### **30+ Vendor Locations**

- Corner stores, grocery stores, farmer's markets
- Focus on food deserts &

#### Reach

- 5,000 households annually (9,000+ individuals)
- \$20 \$40/month for 6+ months

#### Eligibility

- Food insecure PLUS
- Pregnant, older adult, dietrelated disease, other

#### **Funding Sources**

- San Francisco Department of Public Health
- Grants and Philanthropy
- Soda Tax

UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations
Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital







WE ENVISION A SAN FRANCISCO WHERE ALL PEOPLE IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS CAN ACCESS AND AFFORD FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Fresh Produce for all San Franciscans | www.eatsfvoucher.org

- Advantage: We make all of the decisions
  - Values: maximally efficient, client-centered, no reproduction of existing community resources
  - We have had HUGE impact in a short period of time
- Challenges
  - My team has to do all the work and learn many, many new skills
  - We are responsible for keeping the program running
    - Logistics of a network of stakeholders, CBO's, food vendors, and financial personnel.
  - We need ongoing funding—don't underestimate this!



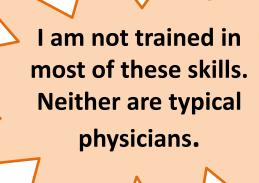
## WE ENVISION A SAN FRANCISCO WHERE ALL PEOPLE IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS CAN ACCESS AND AFFORD FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Fresh Produce for all San Franciscans | www.eatsfvoucher.org

#### Skills Learned in this Process

- Running a non-profit
- Communications/media externally and internally
- Political savvy
- How to be a service provider for a government entity
- Strategic planning process
- Program scaling
- Establishing and running a Board
- University reimbursement systems
- Program QI processes outside of academic research
- Complex budgeting processes
- Navigating gaps in funding for a program
- Fundraising strategies: individual & corporate focus
- Technology of debit cards
- Working with food vendors

•







### City offers vouchers for fruits, veggies



Radman's Produce Market manager Marwan Omar stocks his store in the Tenderloin with fresh fruits and vegetables. (Mike Koozmin/S.F. Examiner)

By Joshua Sabatini on September 7, 2015 2:00 am









San Francisco is booming with soaring rents and flourishing technology companies, but economic challenges persist for hundreds of thousands of residents who do not have the means to afford adequate nutritious

food, putting them at risk for chronic diseases.

#### **Trending Articles**

BART approves 'Gator Pass' discount for SFSU students

Proposed SF sales tax hike would reduce consumer spending by \$154M, report finds

A tale of three cities

Pokemon Go craze sweeps San Francisco

Muni buses to get air conditioning for first time

SEE ALSO

1 Wholesale Grocery

2 Organic Food Products

3 Printable Snack Coupons

Community engagement is not traditionally rewarded at academic institutions, health systems, or other physician employers.

Highlight for your employer the ways your advocacy benefits them.



It is easy to overstretch.

Focus on what you are most interested in; there will be more opportunities than you will have the bandwidth to participate in once you start engaging deeply.



There WILL BE more false starts than true starts; this is not easy work (but it may be the most rewarding!).

Find the low-hanging fruit wherever you can.



I have developed tremendous skills, made essential connections, and created impact from community work that was *not* officially part of my job.

Food Security Task Force

**Board of Directors** 

Policy/advocacy engagement



### **Local Politics**

- Real change happens at the local level
- San Francisco Board of Supervisors: Food Security Task Force
  - Member of the public → voting member representing hospitals & health care





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