



Healthy Food for Denver: Youth Food Access

November 16, 2020

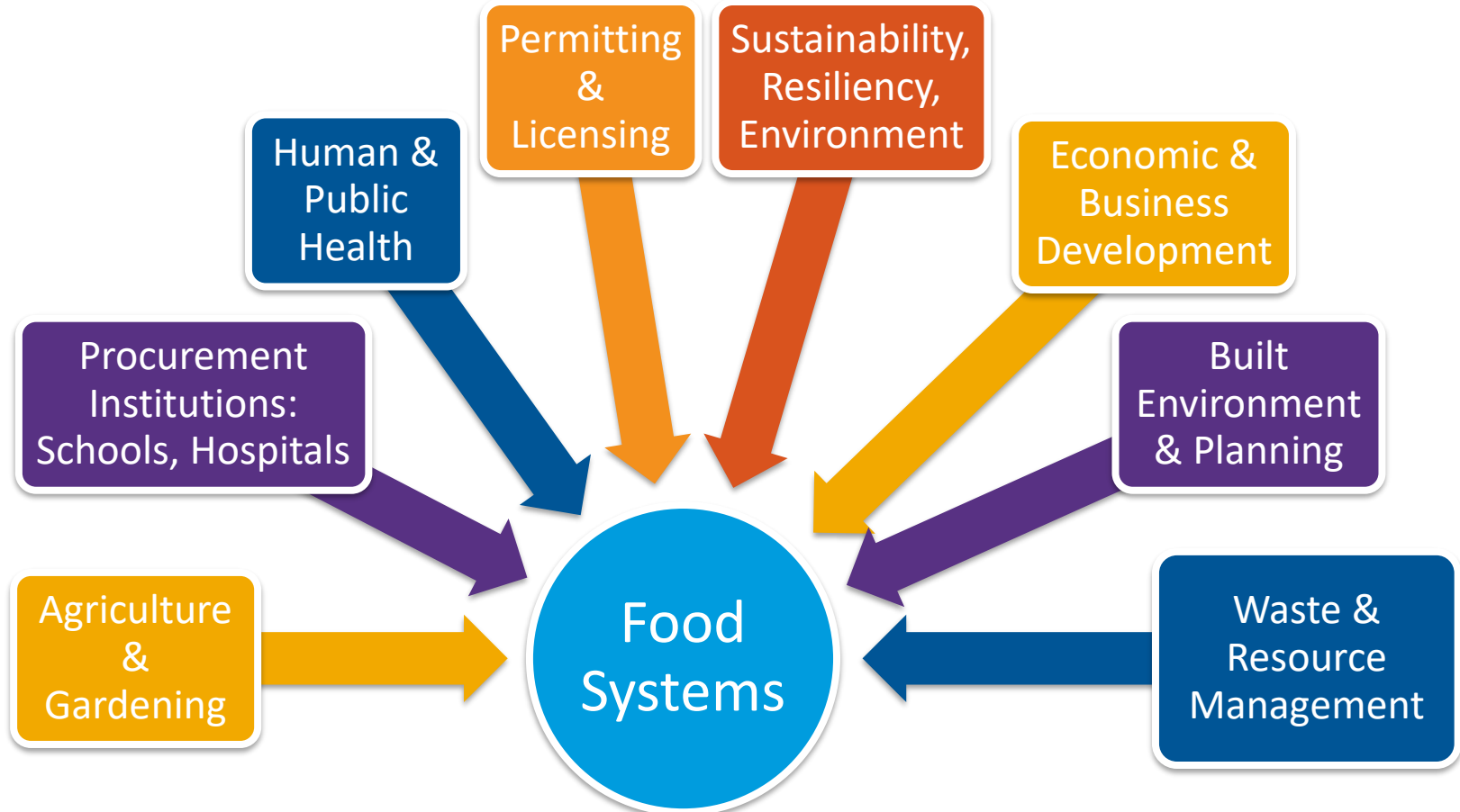
**HEALTHY
FOOD FOR
DENVER'S** Kids

Empowering Denver's communities to live better, longer

DDPHE Food Systems Staff

- Laine Cidlowski, Food Systems Administrator
- Lesly Baesens, Food Waste Recovery Program Administrator
- Marion Kalb, Institutional Food Purchasing Program Administrator
- Mondie Mason, Food Policy Program Administrator
- Lauren Howe, Healthy Food for Kids Program Administrator

Overlap with other Policy Practice Areas



Denver Food Vision

INCLUSIVE

HEALTHY

VIBRANT

RESILIENT

13 Goals

46 Strategies

388 residents, 216 businesses, 22 focus groups

2,000 unique ideas

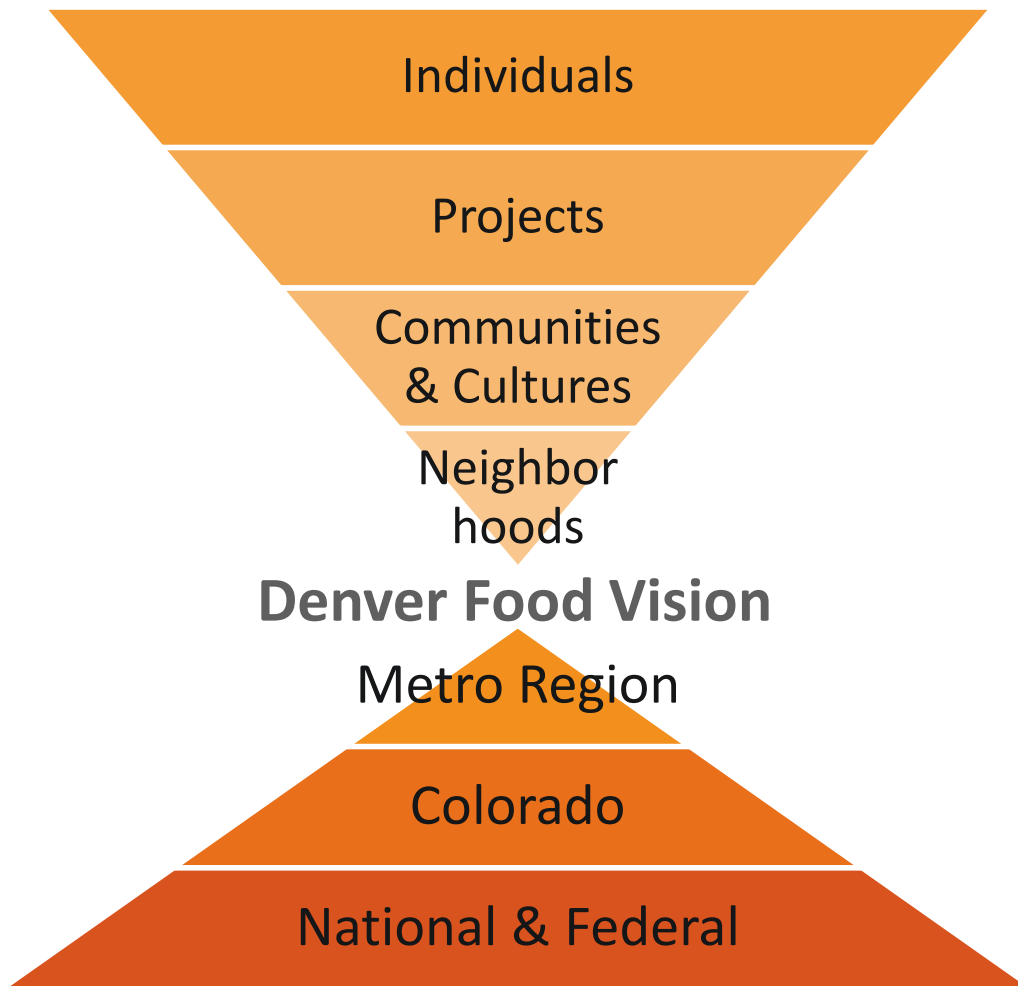
Denver Food Baseline Report 2015

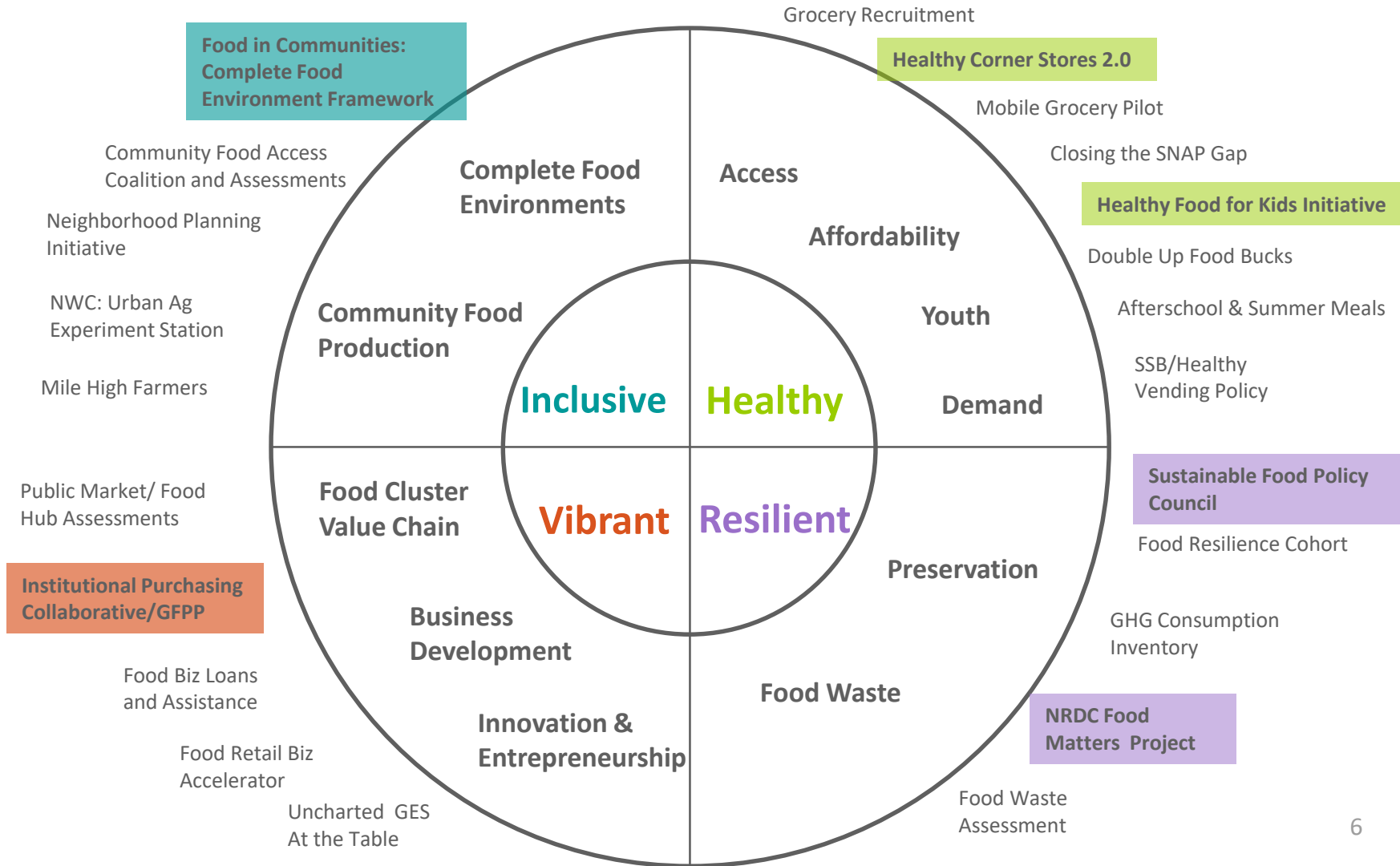


Released December 2016
Updated December 7, 2017



Denver Food Vision: Shifting Policy, Systems & Environments







Key DFV & Local Food System Metrics

25% food bought produced or manufactured in CO by local institutions

55% reduction of food insecure population

of communities reaching goals as “Complete Food Neighborhoods”

75% of youth eating at least 1 serving of fruits and vegetables/day

59% increase in local Denver food economy

Preserve 99 acres of Denver in active agricultural production

57% reduction in tons of food waste collected by City

Sustainable Food Policy Council

Our mission is to influence policy that fosters food security for all community members and promotes a healthy, equitable, and sustainable local food system with consideration for economic vitality and environmental impact.

1. Promote and Oversee Progress on the Denver Food Vision and Action Plan
2. Advise City on Food-Related Plans, Reports, and Programs
3. Provide Recommendations to the City on Regulations and Policies
4. Build public and political will to support innovation and positive policy changes within the food system.



HEALTHY FOOD FOR DENVER'S Kids



DENVER
PUBLIC HEALTH &
ENVIRONMENT

The background of the slide is a collage of various fresh vegetables. In the top left, there are baskets filled with green okra. In the top center, a basket contains a mix of colorful carrots (orange, purple, and yellow). In the bottom left, there are baskets of yellow and red potatoes. The entire image is slightly blurred and has a dark, semi-transparent overlay in the center where the text is located.

Need for the HFDK Initiative

- Pre-COVID-19 pandemic, 1 in 7 Denver kids was food insecure
- During the pandemic, ~25-36% of the Denver population is now food insecure
- Nearly 1 in 3 Denver youth has too much weight for health
- 33.2% of Denver families eat less than one serving of fruits and vegetables per day

HFDK Background

- **Citizen-led ballot measure approved by 59% of Denver voters in November 2018**
- **Tax increase to establish a fund for healthy food access and food-based education for Denver's youth**
 - 0.08% general sales and use tax (certain categories that have special tax rates are not included in general sales and use, e.g. marijuana, food and beverage, auto rentals and fuel for aviation)
 - Expected to generate ~\$11 million/year
 - Term: January 1, 2019-December 31, 2028
- **Funds distributed through grants to Denver non-profits, schools/DPS, and local government agencies**
- **Aimed primarily at low-income and at-risk youth**

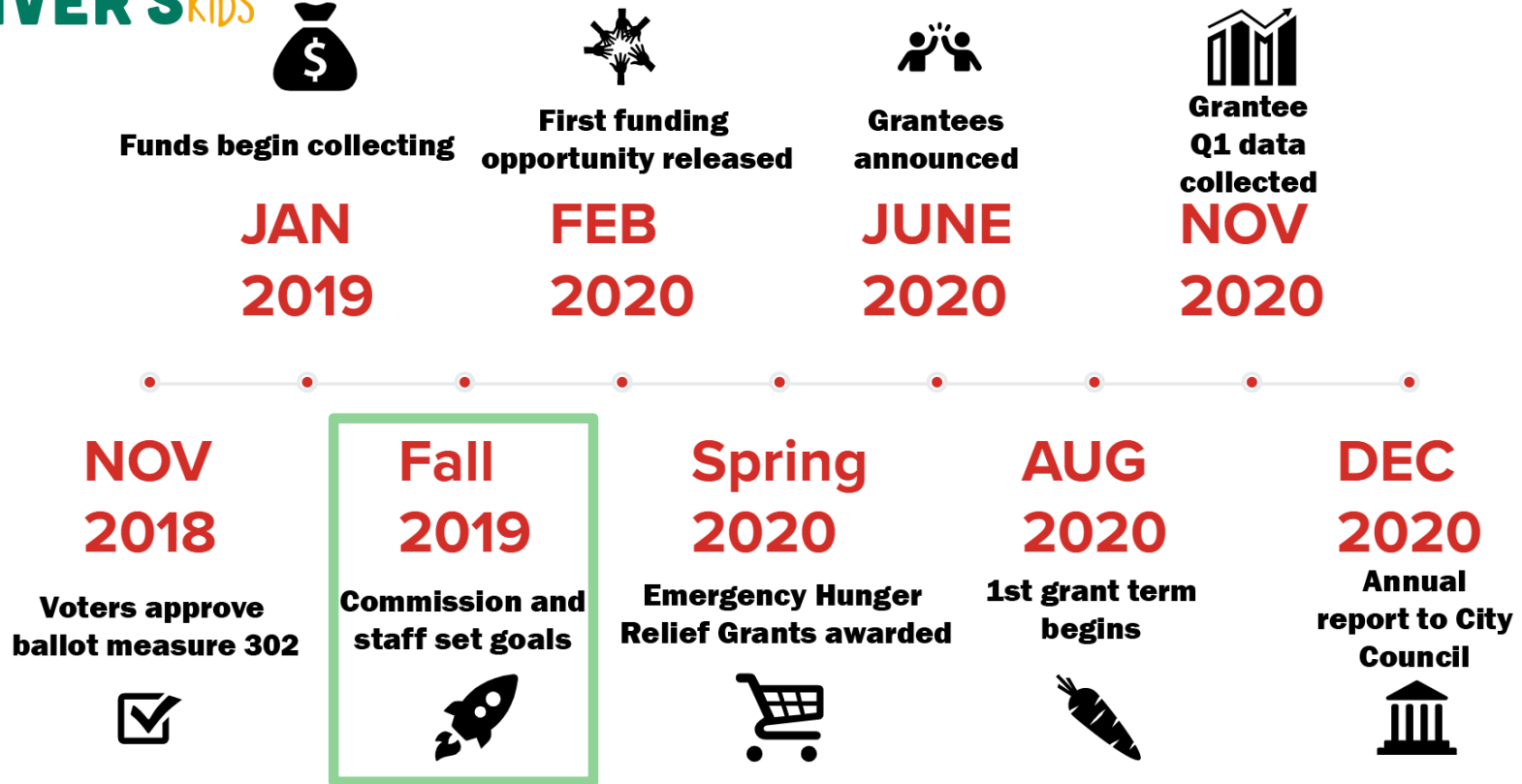


Purpose of the Funds

- Year-round access to healthy food, meals and snacks
- Hands-on education about farming, gardening, cooking, nutrition and healthy eating
- Preferential procurement of food from Colorado farms, ranches, and food manufacturers (up to 10%)
- Funds & organizations must principally benefit Denver and its residents
- No more than 10% for city administration costs

HEALTHY FOOD FOR DENVER'S Kids

HEALTHY FOOD FOR DENVER'S KIDS TIMELINE



HFDK Commission

13 member Commission

- 3 City staff
- 2 members of City Council
- 4 residents of the city
- 4 representatives of city-wide organizations or institutions involved in food
- **Nonprofit, government, community member appointees**
- **Diverse representation**
- **Sub-committees**
- **Staffed by DDPHE**



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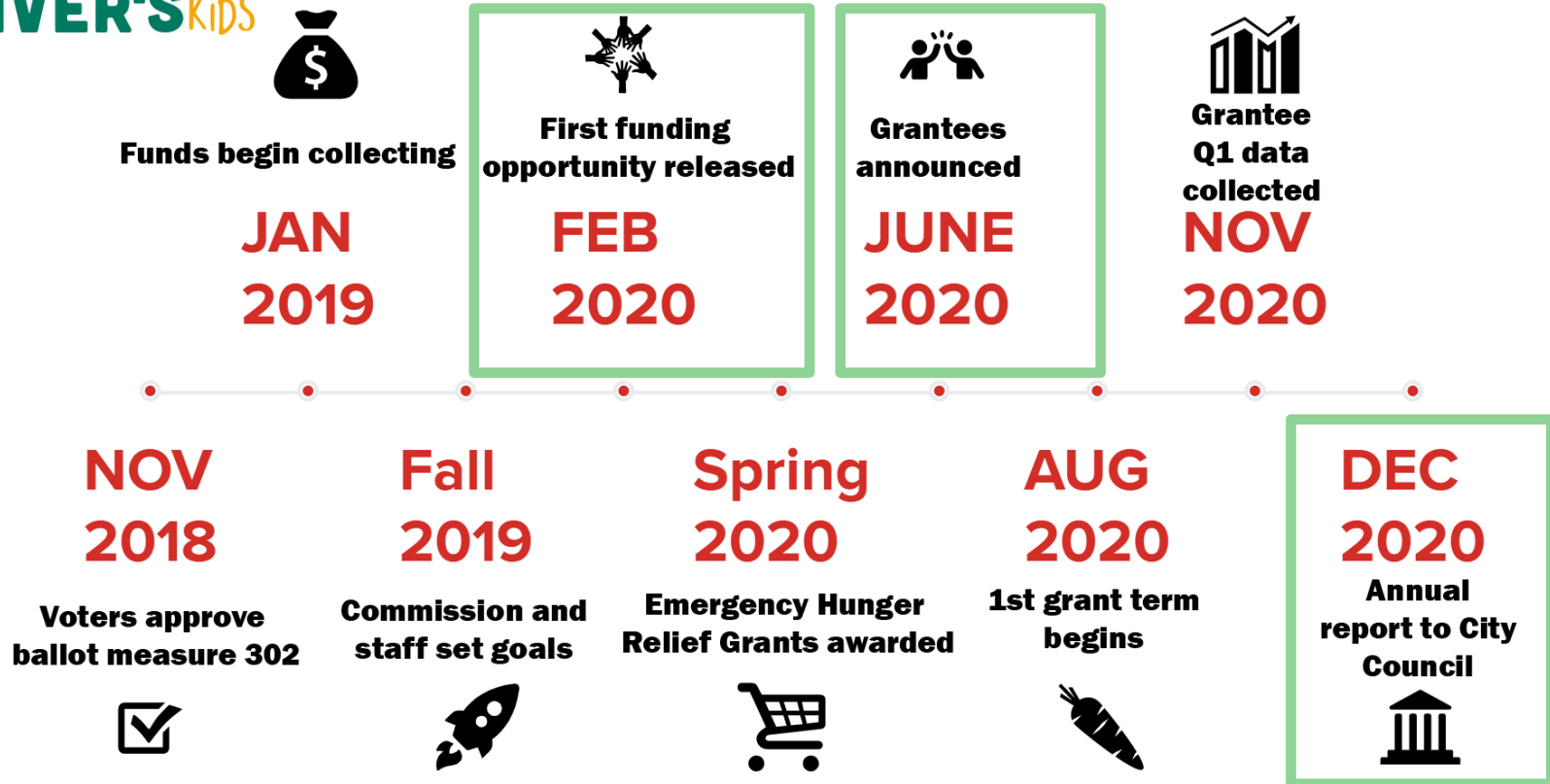


Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Public Engagement

- Spanish language interpretation & Facebook Livestreaming of monthly meetings
- EDI training and equitable grantmaking
- 107 monthly meeting guests, 1200 listserv subscribers

HEALTHY FOOD FOR DENVER'S Kids

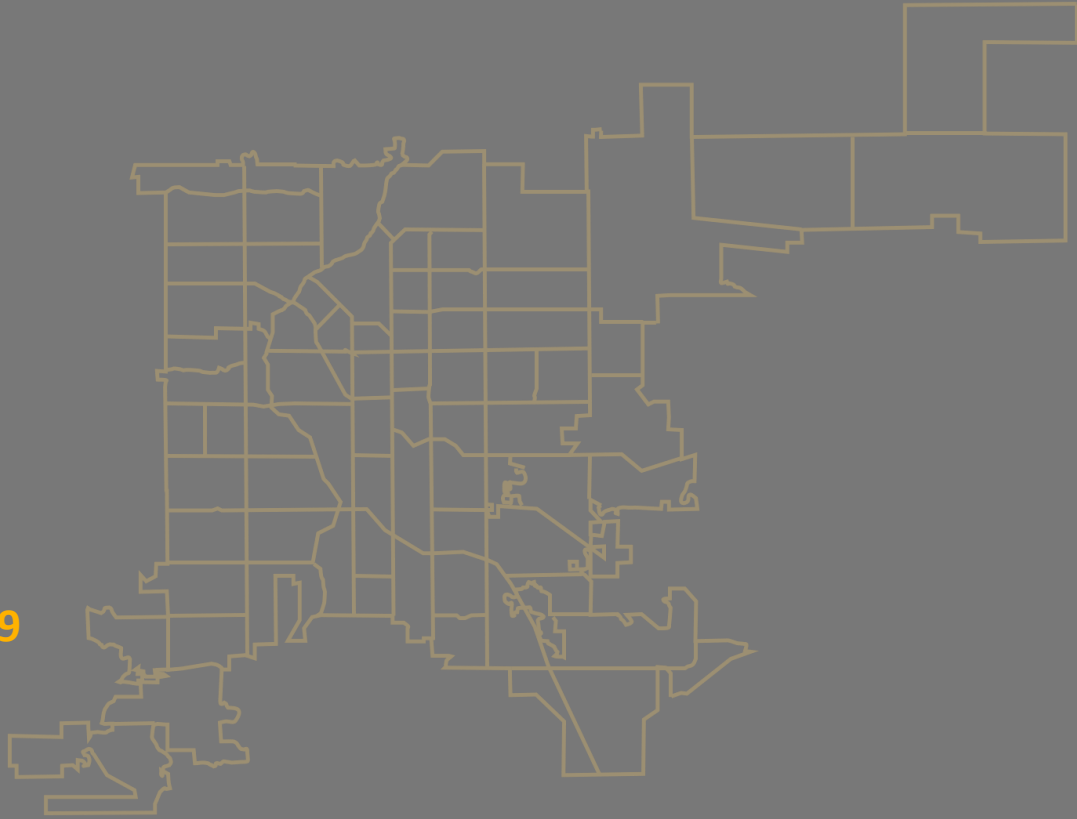
HEALTHY FOOD FOR DENVER'S KIDS TIMELINE



HFDK

First Funding Opportunity

- **First Request for Proposals (RFP) opened February 13, 2020 (in English and Spanish)**
- **Application deadline extended to April 30, 2020 due to COVID-19**
- **\$10,000-\$1,000,000 grants available for food access or education**
- **One year grant term, option for two additional one year renewals**





RFP by the Numbers

- **38 applications received**
- **25 organizations funded**
 - 16 nonprofits
 - 8 schools or DPS affiliates
 - 1 city agency (Denver Public library)

2020 Grants Awarded

Number of grantees:

25 orgs

Total:

\$5.96 million

Average grant size:

\$238,013



Grantee photo
from Montbello
Organizing
Committee

HEALTHY FOOD FOR DENVER'S KIDS

2020 Grantees



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

METRO DENVER



WE DON'T WASTE

SAVING FOOD • PROTECTING THE PLANET • FEEDING PEOPLE



METRO CARING
ENDING HUNGER AT ITS ROOT



Career and College Success



DENVER SCHOOL
of INNOVATION
and SUSTAINABLE
DESIGN



Discover a World of Opportunity™



DENVERFOODRESCUE.ORG



DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY



Transforming
Youth & Communities



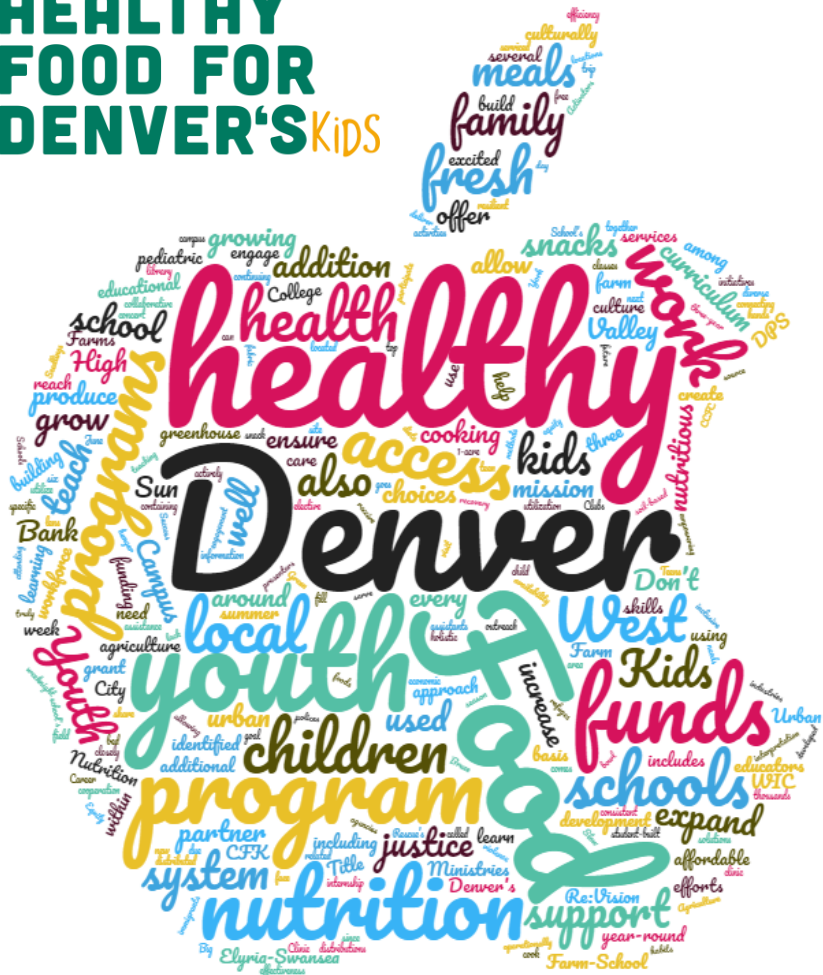
Food & Nutrition Services
Feeding healthy futures



STRIVE Prep



HEALTHY FOOD FOR DENVER'S Kids



Overview of 2020 Projects

- **Food access:**
 - School food pantries, snack programs, no cost grocery distribution
- **Food education:**
 - Food justice curriculum, cooking classes, and building and teaching in school gardens greenhouses, and hydroponic classrooms
- **Located across the entire city**
- **Adapting to the challenges of COVID-19**

2020 Grants: Who will be served?

For the 25 2020 grantees:

~129,500 youth

**will be impacted by programs providing healthy food
access and food-based education**

HEALTHY FOOD FOR DENVER'S KIDS TIMELINE



COVID-19 Emergency Hunger Relief Grants

- In March 2020, the HFDK Commission approved \$1.11 million dollars, including \$135k to DPS, to support emergency hunger relief needs, including in partnership with the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger
- Funds awarded to feed youth in Denver during the pandemic, supporting food procurement, distribution, PPE, sanitation supplies, payroll, and communications
- Grantees are located across Denver, including in communities of color and areas of high poverty and food insecurity

Emergency Hunger Relief

Number of grantees:

52 orgs

Total:

\$880,903

Average grant size:

\$16,940



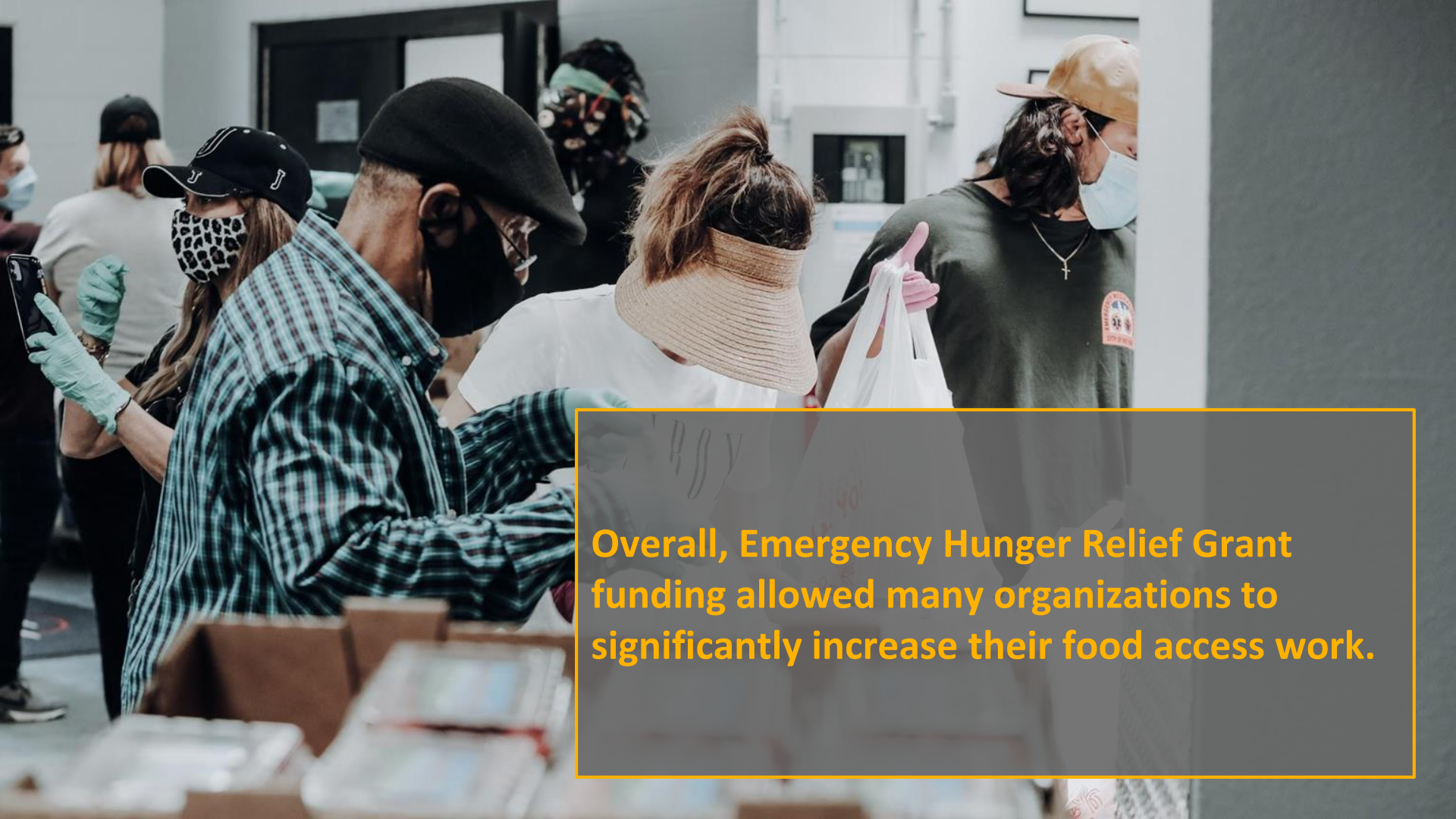
Emergency Hunger Relief Grants: Who was served?

125,543 youth



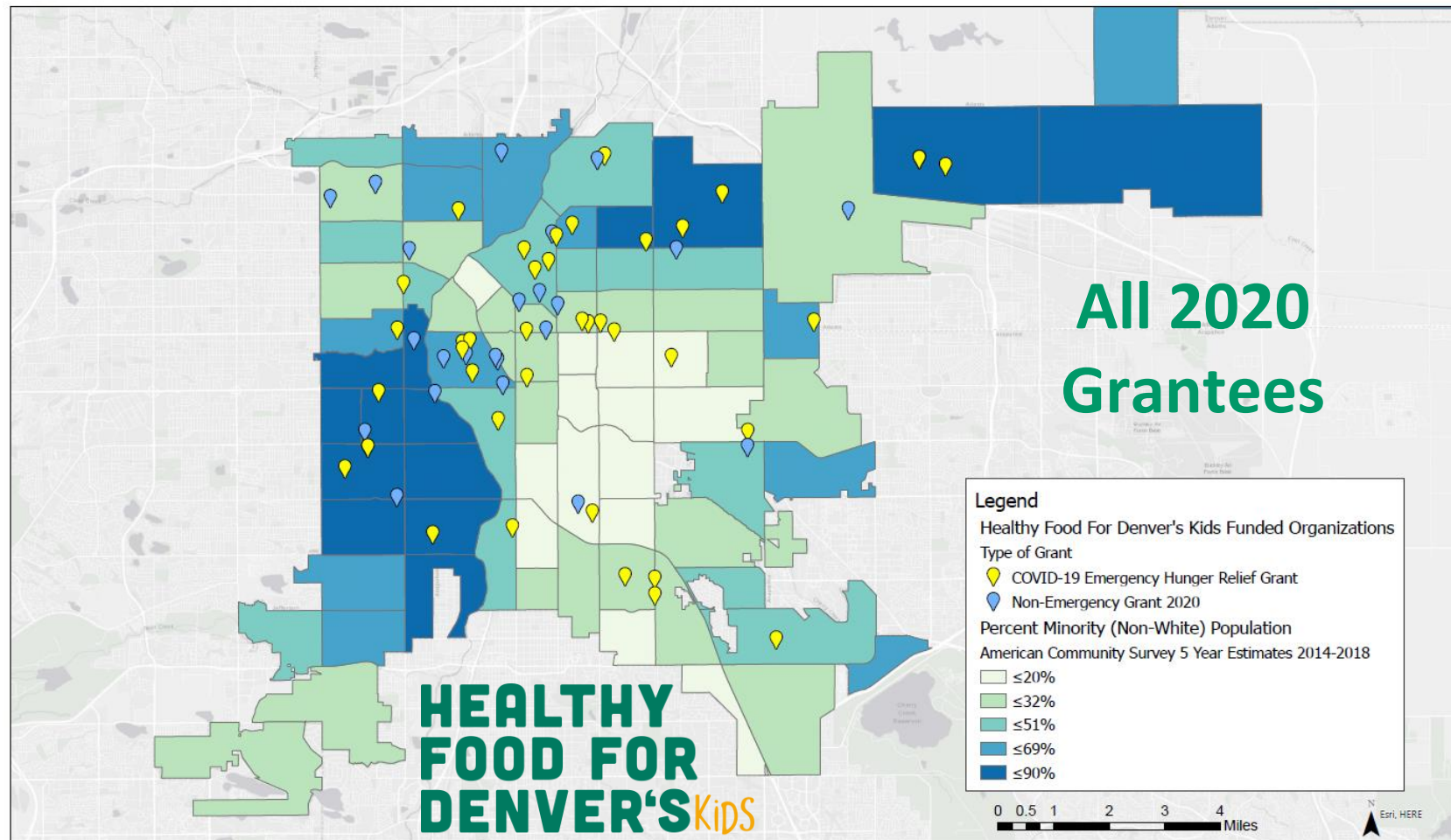
3,886,201 meals

served through the emergency grants



Overall, Emergency Hunger Relief Grant funding allowed many organizations to significantly increase their food access work.

Healthy Food for Denver's Kids 2020 Funded Organizations and Percent Minority (Non-White) Population



- **Public Request for Proposals → Change Matrix evaluation partner brought on in February 2020**
- **Adaptive, participatory, culturally-responsive and equitable approaches**
- **Deliverables:**
 - Baseline Assessment
 - Social Network/Systems Map
 - Theory of Change
 - Macro-Evaluation Plan
 - Grantee/cohort-level indicators and quarterly dashboards

External Evaluation

Grantee Technical Assistance

Meeting grantees where they're at

- Customized evaluation plans
- Relationship-based approach: 1:1 learning partner for each grantee

Learning opportunities

- Four webinars so far:
 - 1) Pandemic-EBT
 - 2) Food Procurement & Distribution
 - 3) Hunger Free Colorado Food Pantry Network
 - 4) Collecting Demographic Data

Grantee engagement

- 59 grantee-affiliated staff/individuals
- 22 grantees
- Cohort community building

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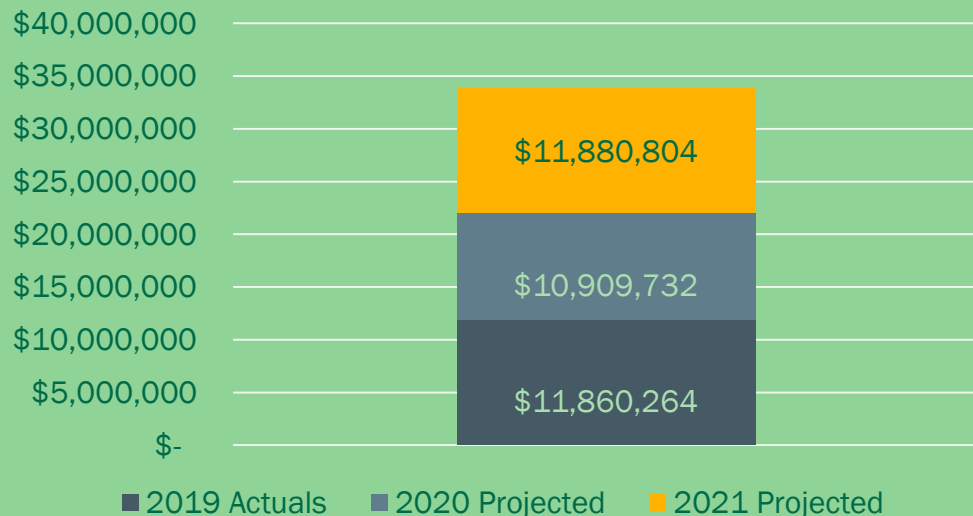
Partnerships

Internal and external organizations assist with technical assistance, leveraging resources, and thought partnership



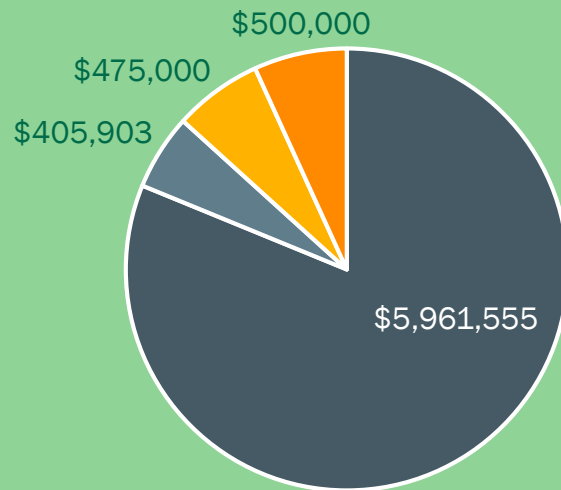
Vendors and food distributors are serving as key partners to many grantees.

HFDK Projected Revenue



A note about the revenue: 2019 revenues were slightly higher than originally expected. 2020 revenues are expected to decrease by about (-)8% and 2021 revenues are expected to slowly rebound back by about (+)9% (so getting back to pre-pandemic levels by the end of 2021).

HFDK Encumbrances 2020



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Budget Update

- HFDK Round 1 Funding
- COVID-19 Emergency Funding - Direct Funding
- COVID-19 Emergency Funding - Trailhead/Blueprint to End Hunger
- Budgeted Administrative Spend

Upcoming Potential Funding Activities *(currently being discussed by the HFDK Commission)*

\$10,000 or less grant requests,
reviewed and approved on a
monthly basis



Rolling Micro-Grants

For extraordinary requests
that arise between regular
RFPs



Two RFPs per year



Exceptional/
Emergency Grants

Regular funding cadence of winter and
summer opportunities

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Thank you!

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contact:

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