

Advocacy Priorities



Priority 1: Relieving Hunger

Centering Client Choice in Food Assistance

We know households experiencing hunger frequently lack access to the foods they want and need most: healthy, high-quality, and culturally appropriate produce and proteins. We flip the script on the traditional, supply-driven model of hunger relief by centering client choice in our services. We champion the following advocacy issues because they enable us to provide healthy, high-quality, and culturally appropriate foods in our daily operations.

Food Waste & Recovery

We believe excess food that would normally go to waste is a missed opportunity for producers and consumers alike. By scaling a network to recover, prepare, and deliver excess food, we push a circular and adaptable distribution model that expands options for healthy eating. Our services and advocacy follow the EPA food recovery hierarchy to maximize capacity, for BFN and its partner organizations, to reduce food waste and feed people.

Sustainable & Regenerative Agriculture

We believe food should be grown in ways that nourish ecologies and people. By purchasing from producers who use sustainable or regenerative practices, we source wholesome food for today while helping to seed tomorrow's harvest. Our services and advocacy seek to promote seasonal, regional food to better meet the nutritional needs of our clients.

Worker Justice & Ownership

We believe our food systems have historically disenfranchised those closest to the land--farmworkers and small farmers--especially Black, indigenous, and other peoples of color. By seeking out partners and initiatives that empower marginalized farmers, laborers, service workers, and business owners, we support worker justice and land ownership. Our services and advocacy promote alternatives to today's status quo of top-down, capital-intensive industrial agriculture.

Food as Medicine

We believe food is foundational to individual and community health. By centering fresh produce in our services as well as cooking and nutrition resources, we provide healthy food along with opportunities to connect food and healthcare services. Our services and advocacy promote education, awareness, and access for consumers and healthcare providers alike.

Advocacy Priorities

Priority 2: Eliminating Hunger

Achieving Economic Equity

We know food insecurity is the result of embedded social disparities. We flip the script on the traditional, top-down model of hunger relief by partnering with grassroots organizations with the knowledge and trust to serve specific communities in need. While keeping our operational focus on improving the quality of hunger relief through client choice, we support the following advocacy issues as deeper interventions to eliminate economic inequity--the root cause of hunger.

Affordable Housing

We support a Bay Area housing landscape that minimizes rent burdens for low-income people by promoting deeply affordable housing and tenants rights.

Labor Power

We support an economic system that values, dignifies, respects, and celebrates all labor, especially at different points along the food value chain.

Racial Justice

We support a future that is anti-racist, anti-oppressive, and anti-exploitative: one that celebrates America's diverse heritage while seeking to repair harms caused.

Education

We support holistic learning and development as a long-term investment in our children--the leaders of tomorrow.