

# Survey Overview and Instructions

## BACKGROUND

Feeding America is soliciting network input to develop our policy priorities for the next child nutrition reauthorization (CNR). The survey asks questions to identify which child nutrition programs and policy changes the network views as most important to strengthening their efforts to combat child hunger. The survey seeks to identify which organizations you are working with to operate and/or advocate for child programs in order to inform our CNR partner engagement and advocacy mobilization strategy. Finally, the survey will provide valuable statistics about program gaps that we will use to make the case for our policy priorities.

## INSTRUCTIONS

We encourage food bank policy and programs staff to work together to complete the survey. Answers must be inputted all at once – you cannot start the survey and log on later to finish it. As such, you may wish to print the PDF of the survey to collect answers from other colleagues before you begin entering your responses. The estimated completion time for the survey is about 15 minutes. This survey will be open for responses from Thursday April 24 until 6pm ET on Friday May 9.

## QUESTIONS

If you have any questions about this study or any technical problems completing the survey, please contact Sophie Milam (312-641-6630 or [smilam@feedingamerica.org](mailto:smilam@feedingamerica.org)) or Eleni Towns (312-629-7277 or [etowns@feedingamerica.org](mailto:etowns@feedingamerica.org)).

# Food Bank Demographics

## \* 1. Contact Information

Name:

State:

Email Address:

## 2. Title

## \* 3. With which food bank do you work?

## Section One: Child Program Operations

Feeding America is interested in understanding which federally- and privately-funded child feeding programs you operate so that we can best articulate the impact of Child Nutrition Reauthorization policy discussions on network hunger-relief efforts.

### **\*4. What programs do you operate? (select all that apply)**

- Afterschool
- Backpack
- Farm to School/Farm to Summer/Farm to Day Care
- Nutrition education programming for kids
- School Pantry
- Summer
- Other

## Section Two: Mapping Partner Relationships

To help Feeding America better align our national partnership strategy to match your state and local level partner relationships on the ground, we are interested in learning more about which organizations you work with to operate, support, and advocate for child nutrition programs in your community.

### \*5. Which community based organizations do you partner with locally to **ADVOCATE** for child nutrition programs?

	n/a	Afterschool Alliance	Boys & Girls Clubs	Catholic Charities	Libraries	Parks & Rec	PTA	School Board	School Food Authority	Teachers Group (NEA, AFT, etc)	United Way	YMCA
Afterschool Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Backpack Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farm to Institution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nutrition Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Pantry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Summer Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federal Advocacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Advocacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

### \*6. Which community based organizations do you partner with locally to **SPONSOR OR OPERATE** child nutrition program sites?

	n/a	Afterschool Alliance	Boys & Girls Clubs	Catholic Charities	Libraries	Parks & Rec	PTA	School Board	School Food Authority	Teachers Group (NEA, AFT, etc)	United Way	YMCA
Afterschool Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Backpack Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farm to Institution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nutrition Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Pantry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Summer Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

**\*7. Which national anti-hunger organizations do you rely on to support your advocacy on child nutrition programs?**

	None	Center on Budget and Policy Priorities	Bread for the World	Feeding America	Food Research and Action Center	School Nutrition Association	Share Our Strength
Federal Advocacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Advocacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

**\*8. Which national anti-hunger organizations do you rely on to support your child nutrition program operations (best practices, training, technical assistance, etc)?**

	None	Center on Budget and Policy Priorities	Bread for the World	Feeding America	Food Research and Action Center	School Nutrition Association	Share Our Strength
Afterschool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Backpack	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farm to Institution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nutrition Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Pantry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Summer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

## Section Three: Identifying Policy Priorities

There are many policy ideas that would strengthen federal child nutrition programs. While Feeding America supports a broad range of programs and policies to reduce child hunger, we will focus our advocacy efforts on a narrower set of legislative goals. As we develop our list of legislative priorities for the next reauthorization, our criteria include:

- policies that address areas of greatest need;
- policies that would have the greatest impact on hungry children;
- policies that would most strengthen network efforts to address child hunger; and,
- policies that are possible within the current political and budgetary landscape.

As we engage in this process, we would value your input on the programs and policies that you believe Feeding America should most focus on in the upcoming reauthorization.

**\*9. Feeding America's CNR strategy has been to focus on out of school programs that the network operates (summer, afterschool, weekend) rather than school-based programs and WIC. Generally speaking, do you support this strategy?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Optional Comment

**\*10. Thinking about the impact on our network's child hunger efforts and the unique role that Feeding America plays compared to other organizations advocating on child nutrition programs, where would you like to see Feeding America focus its legislative efforts in the 2015 child nutrition reauthorization? (please rank)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Child and Adult Care Food Program/At-Risk Afterschool
<input type="checkbox"/>	Farm to Institution (Farm to School/Summer/Day Care)
<input type="checkbox"/>	National School Lunch Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	School Breakfast Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	School Pantry Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	Summer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Weekend BackPack

**\*11. On which of these policy areas would you most like to see Feeding America focus its legislative efforts in the 2015 child nutrition reauthorization? (please rank)**

a. Increase Flexibility in Operating Summer Meal Programs – allow states to waive the congregate requirement that children eat meals on-site to enable children to take meals home with them; allow states to provide children with an EBT card for groceries if summer food sites are not available in their community

b. Streamline Program Administration for Sponsors of Both CACFP and SFSP – allow community based providers to operate one out of school program year-round; reduce duplication between programs (multiple audits of same program site, etc); align program rules (one set of paperwork, meal patterns, etc)

c. Improve Access to Summer Meal Sites – reduce area eligibility for open sites from 50% of children eligible for free/reduced price lunch to 40%; fund transportation grants to get children to program sites; fund start up grants to help sponsors establish more summer feeding sites

d. Secure Federal Resources for Backpack and School Pantry Programs - waive the congregate requirement in CACFP to allow meal reimbursements for weekend backpack programs; provide USDA commodities for weekend backpack and school pantry programs; secure federal resources to support the operation of weekend backpack and school pantry programs

e. Improve Coordination With School Facilities for Out of School Program Providers – incentivize schools to open up their kitchens/gyms/libraries for community based sponsors to operate summer/afterschool/weekend/pantry programs; encourage schools to assign a designated staff person to support weekend/school pantry distributions; provide equipment grants/loans for schools to upgrade refrigerated storage and other infrastructure to support pantry/backpack programs

f. Improve Participation in School Meal Programs – eliminate the reduced price meal category; expand universal free breakfast; expand breakfast in the classroom; expand Medicaid direct certification for school meal eligibility

g. Improve Nutrition Quality in School Meals – strengthen the nutritional quality of meals provided in school; increase reimbursement rates for school meals

**12. Please provide any additional thoughts you have about policy priorities and advocacy strategy for the upcoming child nutrition reauthorization.**

## Section Four: Understanding Gaps and Challenges

We are seeking your input about gaps in programs that make it difficult for children to access the food they need, as well as the policy ideas for resolving those gaps. We will take the results of this network perspective to elected officials to make the case for program needs.

### \*13. Is having sufficient access to summer feeding programs a problem for hungry children in your community?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

### \*14. What would most strengthen your community's ability to provide summer meals to children? (select up to 6)

- a. Reduce area eligibility from 50 to 40 percent
- b. Waive congregate feeding requirement that children eat meals on-site
- c. Provide groceries via EBT card
- d. Provide transportation grants to get children to sites
- e. Increase reimbursement rates
- f. Provide start up grants to help sponsors open more sites
- g. Improve enrichment resources to provide higher-quality learning/enrichment/physical activities
- h. Allow community based providers to operate one program year round and/or streamline operations of SFSP and CACFP
- i. Better access to school kitchen/playground/library facilities to prepare and serve meals
- j. Require programs to operate for a longer number of weeks during the summer

Optional Comment

### 15. What ideas do you have for reducing the amount and complexity of paperwork and administrative burden in SFSP?

### \*16. Is access to afterschool programs a problem for children in your community?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure



**\*17. What would most strengthen your community's ability to provide afterschool meals to children? (select up to 3)**

- a. Increase reimbursement rates
- b. Allow community based providers to operate one program year round and/or streamline operations of SFSP and CACFP
- c. Provide start up grants to help sponsors open more sites
- d. Better access to school kitchen/playground/library facilities to prepare and serve meals
- e. Improve enrichment resources to provide higher-quality learning/enrichment/physical activities

Optional Comment

**18. What ideas do you have for reducing the amount and complexity of paperwork and administrative burden in CACFP?**

**19. What ideas do you have for better aligning paperwork and administrative requirements in SFSP and CACFP? Please consider ways to reduce duplicative processes as well as areas where program requirements/processes are different but could be made identical.**

**\*20. Is having sufficient access to weekend feeding a problem for hungry children in your community?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

**\*21. What would most strengthen your community's ability to expand weekend meals to children? (select up to 2)**

- a. Secure federal resources to support the operation of weekend Backpack programs (including but not limited to commodities)
- b. Waive the CACFP congregate requirement that children eat meals on-site to allow community based organizations to be reimbursed for meals children take home with them (e.g. Backpack program)
- c. Improved infrastructure at the school to operate/expand weekend Backpack programs (e.g. more storage/refrigerated space)
- d. Designated staff person at the school to operate weekend Backpack programs (e.g. school staff person to distribute Backpacks)

Optional Comment

**\*22. What would most strengthen your community's ability to expand School Pantry programs? (select up to 2)**

- a. Improved infrastructure at the school to operate/expand School Pantry programs (e.g. more storage/refrigerated space)
- b. Secure federal resources to support the operation of School Pantry programs
- c. Designated staff person at the school to distribute groceries

Optional Comment

## Thank you!

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey. Your input is incredibly valuable. The results of this survey will be used with Members of Congress and the media to advocate for Feeding America policy priorities.

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Sophie Milam (312-641-6630 or [smilam@feedingamerica.org](mailto:smilam@feedingamerica.org)) or Eleni Towns (312-629-7277 or [etowns@feedingamerica.org](mailto:etowns@feedingamerica.org)).

Thank you again!

Sincerely,  
FANO Public Policy Team