

Fair Food for All DC Coalition
FY24 Budget Update and Call to Action – Revised and Final

The Fair Food for All DC Coalition respectfully calls for the Council’s support in protecting the important investments made in the Mayor’s FY24 proposed budget and harnessing the additional resources needed to address the budgets’ remaining gaps that, left unmet, will leave many DC residents without the healthy, dignified food they need in the year ahead. Our coalition is comprised of respected local organizations with deep expertise in food access and food security programming, and we can speak to the urgency of addressing these remaining concerns. The below tables reflect recent and proposed funding levels for our essential programs and partnerships with DC Government. The combined efforts of these programs can be fully funded with an additional investment of **\$2,305,000**. On page two, we detail three targeted, time-sensitive investments in local legislation and system-wide initiatives totaling another **\$1,042,000**. These measures were previously supported by the DC Council precisely due to their power to reduce hunger and health inequities in DC, and now is the time to ensure we fulfill their promise.

Produce Plus (FRESHFARM)

FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	FY23 Budget	FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need	Funding Gap
\$1,200,000	\$1,401,934	\$1,500,000	\$1,290,000	\$1,960,000	\$670,000

Home-Delivered Meals (Food & Friends)

FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	FY23 Budget	FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need	Funding Gap
\$825,000	\$825,000	\$1,025,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,335,000	\$335,000

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (Capital Area Food Bank)

FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	FY23 Budget	FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need	Funding Gap
\$410,000	\$309,232	\$410,000	\$410,000	\$460,000	\$50,000

Distribution Efforts (Capital Area Food Bank)

FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	FY23 Budget	FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need	Funding Gap
\$0	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$750,000	\$750,000

The Well at Oxon Run (DC Greens)

FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need	Funding Gap
\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000

Joyful Food Markets (Martha’s Table)

FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	FY23 Budget	FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need	Funding Gap
\$1,500,934	\$1,825,000	\$1,825,000	\$1,825,000	\$1,825,000	\$0

Healthy Corners (DC Central Kitchen)

FY21 Budget	FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	FY23 Draft Budget	FY24 Need	Funding Gap
\$500,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$0

Produce Rx (DC Greens)

FY21 Budget	FY22 Budget	FY23 Budget	FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need	Funding Gap
\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0



Targeted Requests in Support of Critical Legislative and Local Initiatives

Kickstarting the impact of No Senior Hungry

FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need (Updated)	Funding Gap
\$0	\$632,000	\$632,000

- Updated Comment: According to the Fiscal Impact Statement compiled by the Office the Chief Financial Officer, this figure represents the additional DAFL staff and administrative costs associated with its responsibilities under the No Senior Hungry Legislation to convene and lead the Senior Food Security Interagency Task Force, to coordinate implementation of the Senior Nutrition Services Communications Plan, and to prepare a Senior Food Security Plan. Funding these activities is foundational to the effort to develop a comprehensive District-wide approach to combat senior food insecurity.

Advancing the implementation of the Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP)

FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need (Updated)	Funding Gap
\$0	\$110,000	\$110,000

- Updated Comment: Thanks to the 2018 Healthy Students Amendment Act, GFPP is already part of DC Public Schools' foodservice model – but implementation has lagged since the pandemic. If alignment with GFPP were re-prioritized by DCPS – and subsequently expanded to all District agencies – the Council could better leverage the \$80 million the District spends on food each year to create local jobs, improve our air and water, and build a more resilient and equitable food system. Given the restraints of this year's budget, we request that the Council, at minimum, prioritize funding for 1 FTE at DCPS who will oversee the program and help get GFPP back on track.

Giving SNAP a Raise

FY24 Draft Budget	FY24 Need (Updated)	Funding Gap
\$0	\$300,000	\$300,000

- Updated Comment: This focused investment in needed technological upgrades by the Department of Human Services will lay the foundation for increased, locally-funded benefits stipulated by this legislation to flow to the households who need them most when those funds are available. These funds will also assist with the needed transition to an electronic, simplified SNAP application process and help the District stay ahead of looming Federal changes aimed at simplifying and modifying that process nationally.

With your support, DC's innovative homegrown hunger solutions and powerful legislative efforts can have a transformative impact in reducing food insecurity and addressing deep-rooted health disparities. Thank you for your continued partnership and leadership in the fight against hunger and chronic disease in our community.