

Food Access Community Input Meeting Format

This project examines hunger by looking at food access and the supply of nutritious affordable food in Avondale/Glen Elder. The way a community is set up can hinder or help an individuals' ability to maintain a stable, nutritious diet. Our goal is to increase the awareness of possible barriers to food security and help facilitate improved access to nutritious food.

Purpose of meeting: This meeting is one part of the CFA. (Explain other elements-org chart). We are going to talk about some of the issues that you face in getting food. We are going to look at all of the surrounding issues that it takes in getting food beyond income. We have five to six general questions, but the desire to focus on a specific topic dealing with food access is your choice. We encourage you to share your opinions about the topics we discuss. Working in a group like this gives us the benefit of getting collaborative responses.

Explanation of what will happen to information after meeting:

With the information we collect today, we will organize it into a report on food access issues within Avondale/Glen Elder, and show it to community leaders and organizations, as well as you. We hope to hone in on a couple of key issues and conduct more surveys and interviews to validate these findings. From there, should the information point to an issue that the community desires to work on, then we will begin to focus on implementing a strategy.

Meeting Ground Rules:

Everyone is respected Everyone's opinion is important Only one person speaks at a time (allow person finish before giving comments) Focus on the subject (lots to cover in limited time) Confidentiality (stress confidentiality and freedom to express opinions) Leave outside issues outside

Discussion Process Guidelines

Think of as many things as you can Get ideas out quickly Don't discuss ideas with each other at first Be creative Think of as many things as you can It's okay to repeat ideas

- 1) **Where do you do currently do your food shopping and why do you choose to shop there? (20 minutes)**
 - a) Are there other stores you use besides your main food store?
 - b) What are the reasons you shop at these other stores?
 - c) How do different stores compare in terms of price, quality, service, selection, convenience (try to draw specific examples from people, make sure alternate recorder knows to write down these stories with as much detail as possible)
 - d) When do you shop (time of day/time of month), who does the shopping?
 - e) Is there anything else that influences where you shop?
 - f) **Is there anything else that we need to record about shopping in this area?**

- 2) **Is there any other way you get food? (10 minutes)**
 - a) For instance, do you garden at home or have fruit trees? Do you participate in the SHARE program? (for those of you who are not familiar with SHARE, it is a COOP buying program where you pay \$15 at the beginning of the month and receive a bag of food worth \$30-45 at the end of the month. If you are interested we have more information that we can give you tonight)
 - b) Do you go to the Florin Mall Farmers Market, or other Farmers Markets?
 - c) Do you buy from produce stands?

- 3) **Are there foods you find difficult to get? Why? (10 minutes)**
 - a) Do you sometimes not buy certain foods because they are too expensive or the quality is bad?
 - b) Do you find there are some foods that you can't find in the stores even when they are in season (referring to perishable items)?
 - c) Is there not enough selection of some product to let you make the most nutritious choice?

- 4) **In general, what kind of transportation do you use to get your groceries and get home? (10 minutes)**
 - a) How far do you have to go to shop? (how far away from your home is the nearest grocery store- do you have to use a car or bus or is it close enough to walk?)
 - b) Do you have difficulty getting transportation to get to the store?
 - c) If transportation wasn't an issue, where would you shop? (where there is babysitting, major grocery outlets such as Costco)

- 5) **What changes in the community would make it easier to get food? (10 minutes)**
 - a) What small things could be changed to make it easier to get food?
 - b) Are there some system changes (bus routes, location of food sources) that need to be addressed?
 - c) What do you feel are the most important issues that the community needs to discuss?