



GOOD FOOD PURCHASING PROGRAM

Chicago & Cook County



**CHICAGO
FOOD POLICY
ACTION COUNCIL**



CHICAGO FOOD POLICY ACTION COUNCIL

CFPAC co-develops, facilitates, advocates, and implements policies to advance food justice & sovereignty in Chicago and across Illinois.

We define food sovereignty as the right for Chicagoans, particularly BIPOC residents, to produce and access sustainable, culturally appropriate, healthy, local, fair, and humane food.



CFPAC Board Members & Staff with partners from Chi & Cook Depts of Public Health

CONTEXT FOR GFPP IN CHICAGO

- Inspired by early impact of GFPP in Los Angeles
- Built off of existing work in City & County to incorporate local, healthy, and sustainable foods
- January 2015: Introduced GFPP as a priority during the Chicago Food Policy Summit; collected organizational signatories & garnered support from mayoral candidates
- June 2016: Engaged Chicago Mayor's Office to organize Good Food Task Force comprised of departments & agencies; helped build buy-in & trust

LOCAL GFPP ADOPTION

- **June 2017** - Chicago Public Schools adopts Wellness Policy that commits to GFPP
- **September 2017** - Chicago Park District adopts GFPP
- **October 2017** - City of Chicago passes resolution to adopt GFPP
- **May 2018** - Cook County adopts GFPP resolution



LOCAL LEADERSHIP

- Chicago Food Policy Action Council
- Chicago Department of Public Health
- Cook County Department of Public Health
- MCERF (Midwest Consortium on Equity & Research in Food)

GOOD FOOD PURCHASING INITIATIVE

Recognition that GFPP implementation alone won't create desired impacts



GOOD FOOD PURCHASING INITIATIVE

GFPI KEY OBJECTIVES



Full GFPP implementation in City of Chicago & Cook County public depts/agencies



Foster a racially and socially equitable food system to meet increased good food demand



Advance a values-based procurement culture that supports demand & availability of good food

GFPI ACTIVITIES

- **Walk public depts & agencies through GFPP implementation**
- **Organize quarterly Good Food Task Force meetings**
- **Insert language into RFPs and contracts**
- **Outreach & training to local producers & food businesses w/ focus on BIPOC-owned firms**
- **Broader engagement of anchor institutions in Chicago region around good food purchasing**
- **Public stakeholder engagement**

**CHICAGO GOOD
FOOD TASK
FORCE**

- Chicago Department of Public Health*
- Chicago Public Schools
- Chicago Park District
- Chi Department of Family & Support Services
- City Colleges of Chicago
- Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events
- Chicago Department of Aviation
- Chicago Housing Authority
- Fleet & Facilities Management
- Chicago Department of Procurement



EX: CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Integrated GFPP into Wellness Policy
 - Put out RFP for new food service mgmt company with GFPP language
 - Conducted first baseline food purchasing assessment in 2017
 - Following action plan to achieve one star by 2020:
 - Increasing local food spend
 - Antibiotic-free chicken drumsticks from IN
 - Shifting to all compostable trays & cutlery
 - Working on contacting suppliers with reported labor violations
 - Moving to Meatless Mondays
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EX: CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

- Integrated GFPP into Wellness Policy
 - Collected data for Summer Meal Program from Open Kitchens in 2018
 - Baseline assessment completed in fall 2019
 - GFPP Action Plan in development
 - New solicitation being released with GFPP language in spring 2020
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COOK COUNTY GOOD FOOD TASK FORCE



- Cook Co. Department of Public Health*
- Cook County Health
- Cook County Office of the Chief Judge
- Cook County Sheriff's Office
- Cook County Bureau of Asset Management
- Cook Co. Department of Environment & Sustainability
- Cook Co. Department of Planning & Development
- Cook Co. Land Bank
- Cook Co. Office of the Chief Procurement Officer
- Forest Preserves of Cook County
- Housing Authority of Cook Co.
- 20+ Non-Profit Partners & Related Organizations

EX: COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

- ~8.7M contracts for county jails food service, vending, & commissary, + Recipe for Change & community programming
- Collected contract and programmatic information (>7.2M meals/yr)
- CCSO in process of working with food service mgmt (CBM Premier) to request purchasing data from suppliers



KEY LESSONS LEARNED

- Critical role of ongoing support & coordination
- Food system won't shift overnight; slow & iterative process
- Moving from "lowest-bidder" to values-based procurement is a paradigm shift
- Transparency is integral to change & difficult to achieve
- Need to build readiness & capacity for BIPOC food producers to meet GFPP demand; access/control of land & capital are key

THANK YOU



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