

**Philanthropy Network Call with
City of Philadelphia Office of Children and Families**

April 7, 2020
1:00 - 1:15 PM

NOTES

re: Partnership between the

City of Philadelphia Office of Children and Families, Philabundance, Share Food Program

On the Call

- Cynthia Figueroa, Deputy Mayor, City of Philadelphia Office of Children and Families
- Robin Rifkin, Meeting Intentions
- Cathy Fong, Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia

Background Info

- City's core concerns
 - Food, housing, and health
- City of Philadelphia Office of Children and Families
 - Office created Jan 6, 2020
 - Relationship with Philadelphia School District
 - OCF had logistics expertise with PSD, which led to natural progression to overseeing food distribution in partnership with Philabundance and Share Food Program
- Early on, there was a food security group that convened
 - Broke off a group to partner with the City: Philabundance and SHARE
 - Growing sense of urgent need to centralize food distribution (at some point, food distribution will be problematic)
 - If individual pantries fail, then the City and its nonprofit partners can continue distribution at centralized sites
 - City running an independent warehouse to add to the available resources and food pantries

Distribution

- 140 total sites (as of 4/7/20)
 - 80 youth sites, with 49 of the sites being at district schools
 - 6 meals per bag
 - Youth meals are supported through federal funding
 - Parents of children are being directed to youth meal sites; all other parties are encouraged to go to general distribution super sites
 - 40 super sites (at existing food pantries) for general distribution
 - Supplied by Philabundance and Share Food Program
 - Warehouse staffed and managed by City, located in Roxborough
 - 16,000 boxes per distribution day x 2 days per week = 32,000 boxes per week
 - 10am-12pm - recommended by Philabundance and Share Food Program
 - One box per household
 - Most sites are done giving out food by 11am
 - Only 3-4 sites had boxes left over
 - There is consistency in what recipients are receiving at each site
 - 20 senior sites
 - Any senior can go to one of the grab and go sites at one of the 20 senior centers
 - Philadelphia Corporation for Aging (PCA) has been delivering meals but there is an increasing demand in delivering senior meals
- No income eligibility or ID required

- Allows for immigrants and undocumented persons (the City will not designate certain sites as immigrant-only, as this may attract the attention of ICE)
 - Info available in multiple languages
- Disability community
 - Liberty Resources - also a demand for disability community

Challenges to Food Access and Timing of Access

- The ability to buy is not the issue; the issue is having enough stock that is shelf-stable and appropriate for distribution
 - Philabundance recently put in a big order but it could be 3-6 weeks before receiving
 - City is relying on wholesale distributors and donations for the types of food that are appropriate for distribution
 - Individual citizens are hoarding product, creating pressure on supply chain
- Not enough personnel (staff and volunteers)
 - Distribution, packing, delivery
- Supply chain is greatest concern
 - Daily calls with state officials and governor's office to see what other resources can be accessed
 - Private sector relationship currently limited to order placement