

Vote to End Hunger Candidate Survey

Gordon Mar



Running For:
Supervisor District 4

"With hard work and solidarity there is no reason we can't go from the state with the highest effective poverty rate in the nation to the state with the lowest."



What do you think are the root causes of hunger and what do you see as government's role in addressing them?

We have it in our power to end hunger in California and we can dramatically lower our poverty rate. We have the highest effective poverty rate in the nation, in part because of our high housing costs. I will fight for a true living wage, job training, investments in middle-class-job-creating infrastructure as well as dramatically increased funding for affordable housing so we can lower our poverty rates. With hard work and solidarity there is no reason we can't go from the state with the highest effective poverty rate in the nation to the state with the lowest.

The Food Bank believes that access to nourishing food will ensure our communities thrive. If elected, what policies will you pursue to improve food access, especially within communities of color and those with the highest rates of food insecurity?

I see daily how systemic racism has denied the most basic needs to families and communities of color, including access to affordable, healthy food, and how such inequities have reverberated generational effects on people of color. We need immediate food distribution in food insecure communities. As Supervisor, I would follow the example set by organizations like yours by working with District 4's community organizations, your organization, and other city and regional efforts to get healthy food, including produce and protein, into the hands of communities of color those who need it most. I would also work on legislation to fund more food access opportunities in our communities that have been hit hardest by COVID.

SF and Marin remain in the bottom third of counties in enrolling eligible people in the CalFresh program. If elected, what actions will you take to improve CalFresh program access and utilization?

I would partner with local organizations to conduct in language outreach and promote CalFresh to food insecure communities throughout the City. I would advocate for and work with our state leaders to expand access to CalFresh to students and integrate our free school meals program into our CalFresh program.

In SF and Marin, 1 in 5 people experience food insecurity. What other steps or legislative actions would you take to address poverty and hunger in your community?

I support providing another direct stimulus payment to individuals, as well as increased and expanded unemployment benefits. In addition, I would support the creation of more community gardens, co-ops, and farmers' markets within the Sunset and San Francisco, as well as support existing ones so they can grow like the Outer Sunset Farmer's Market and Mercantile, which supports small businesses and brings our community together weekly for fresh produce and mercantile.