

Reopen, Reimagine, Recommit: RFP FAQs



What is the Food Bank doing differently?

Together, with our community, we are launching several initiatives that are focused on reopening food pantries, reimagining how we serve our community, and recommitting to advancing lasting policy solutions.

Why is the Food Bank doing this?

Together with our partners, and guided by the principles of co-design and co-leadership, we are working to create lasting solutions to address both the hunger we see today, and the root causes that perpetuate food insecurity in our society.

What opportunities are available this year?

Community Market Planning Grants

Community Markets are large-scale, multi-day pantries that are equity centered and community led. They feel similar to a grocery store with community residents able to browse, touch, and choose products. Planning grants provide partners with the resources to design, with support and in community, their personalized plan to launch a market.

The Food Bank plans to award 5 planning grants at a \$5,000 award level.

Capacity Seed Funding

Capacity Seed Funding is an opportunity for existing partner organizations to accelerate their efforts and increase the number of households served at their pantry. The Food Bank will provide a one-time funding resources to partners, who lead their own work to grow their capacity and receive participant transfers from the Food Bank to fill that capacity. Partners lead. We support! The Food Bank will make awards based on a formula of how much UOS the partner is able to increase to, in combination with how much UOS the Food Bank will be able to fulfill.

Foodways Collaborative

The Foodways Collaborative will work hand-in-hand with community partners and stakeholders to collect participant feedback through surveys and interviews, ensuring significant amounts of direct participant voice is discovered and heard on food preferences. Community food preferences will help inform menu choices for all and identify where we might be able to collaborate on leveraging purchasing power to meet community cultural needs for food. Partners will be able select what types of activities they wish to lead with this grant.

The Food Bank will make up to 15 awards ranging from \$3,500 to \$6,000, based on the activities the partner will lead.

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How can I access the RFP documents and application materials?

- You can access the RFP for Community Market Planning and Capacity Seed Funding [here](#)
- You can access the RFP for the Foodways Collaborative [here](#)

What are the key dates and deadlines associated with these RFPs?

- Opening of RFPs: **Thursday September 28**
- Closing of RFPs: **Thursday October 12**
- Announcement of Awards: **Early November**

Can I apply to multiple Pilots? Are all pilots open to everyone?

Organizations can apply to either the Community Market Planning Grant or Capacity Seed Funding, but not both. They may also apply to the Foodways Collaborative.

Capacity Seed Funding is only available to current Food Bank partners. Community Market Planning Grants and the Foodways Collaborative is open to any organization.

Is there opportunity for collaborative proposals involving multiple organizations?

If an organization is interested in applying, but feel that they'd be better suited to participate as a collaborative than alone, we encourage them to reach out to us. You can use either of the contact emails below.

Can I contact someone if I have questions about the RFP or application process? Who should I reach out to for assistance?

You can reach out to Irene Garcia (igarcia@sfmfoodbank.org) or Sean Reynolds (sreynolds@sfmfoodbank.org) if you have questions.