

CANDIDATE HUNGER ACTION CHALLENGE 2026



**Monthanus
Ratanapakdee**

Running for:
**San Francisco
Board of Supervisors,
District 2**



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

The root causes of hunger include the high cost of housing and food, low wages, job insecurity, and difficulty accessing assistance. Seniors, families, immigrants, people with disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness can face additional barriers. Government should help make sure people can access nutritious food by supporting food banks, CalFresh, school meals, senior meals, and community organizations. We should also make programs easier to understand and access, including information in different languages.

If elected, how would you ensure coordination between the multiple government departments that fund and administer food assistance programs?

As Supervisor, I would push for stronger coordination between City departments, SFUSD, the Food Security Task Force, food banks, and community organizations. I would support regular reporting so we know where services are available, where there are gaps, and whether residents are actually receiving help. I would also work to reduce duplication and make it easier for residents to connect with programs such as CalFresh, school meals, senior meals, and home-delivered groceries. The goal should be simple: people should not have to contact many different agencies just to find food assistance.

Studies have shown food can be medicine. If elected, how do you plan to use your position to improve food-related health disparities?

I would support programs that connect healthy food with healthcare and prevention. Seniors, children, people with disabilities, and people managing health conditions should have access to fresh and nutritious food that meets their medical and cultural needs. I would support healthy school meals, senior meal programs, medically appropriate meals, fresh produce programs, and home-delivered food for people who cannot easily leave their homes. I would also work with public health providers and community organizations so residents can receive nutrition support before poor nutrition becomes a larger health problem.

If elected, how would you support the implementation and success of the Community Market model? Would you support county funding?

I support the Community Market model because it gives people more choice, dignity, and access to fresh and culturally appropriate food.

If elected, I would work with the Food Bank, community organizations, and City departments to identify neighborhoods with the greatest need, help find appropriate locations, and make sure residents know these services are available.

I would also support City and County funding to help Community Markets stay stable and successful, with clear goals, accountability, and coordination with existing food assistance programs. These markets can also help connect residents with other important services, including healthcare, housing, employment, and benefits.