

Good Food Purchasing Policy Task Force

Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2024

1:00 pm- 2:00 pm

**Locations:**

Illinois Department of Agriculture  
John R. Block Building  
801 E. Sangamon Ave.  
Springfield, IL 62702

Webex Video Conference Service:

Join by Video:

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=mb67caf7f2a11f758bc118b94b3d3465e>

Meeting recording:

<https://illinois.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/illinois/recording/2cc318fa2504103db6fdc6079b795489/playback>

- I. Welcome/Call to order: 1:04 pm
- II. Membership/Roll Call
  - A. 19 Task Force members present: Rob Baren, Kathryn Bernstein, Eliot Clay, Rodger Cooley, Jose Oliva, Kara Shannon, Representative Sonya Harper, Senator David Koehler, Representative Dan Swanson, Mackenzie Hess, Ciara Wagoner, Gerrin Cheek Butler, Ellen Daley, Marcos Cenicerros, Bridget McHatton, Katherine Tople, Dakarai Howard, Jacenta Wilson, and Ron Wilson.
  - B. 3 Task Force members absent: Rena Cotsones, Chris Young, and Jean Sandstrom.
  - C. 7 IDOA staff present: Director Jerry Costello II, Kristi Jones, Jeremy Flynn, Clay Norsiek, Dakarai Howard, Tyler Bohannon, and Patty Mabe.
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - A. 1st motion: Rob Baren
  - B. 2nd: Eliot Clay

#### **IV. Required State Trainings**

- A.** Announced by Deputy General Counsel regarding Ethics Training, Harassment & Discrimination Prevention Training, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Training and Open Meetings Act Training. A reminder email will be sent to members. Please contact Clay Nordsiek with questions.

#### **V. Good Food Purchasing Program & Policy, Education and Fundamentals.**

- A.** Molly Riordan, Director of Institutional Impact at the Center for Good Food Purchasing

1. Uses the power of procurement to create a transparent and equitable food system that prioritizes the health and well-being of people, animals, and the environment.
2. 5 Priorities
  - a) Equity, accountability, and transparency
  - b) Environmental sustainability
  - c) Community health and nutrition
  - d) Local and community-based economies
  - e) Valued workforce
  - f) Animal welfare
3. Where the work is happening
  - a) Over 70 institutions
  - b) In 27 cities and counties
  - c) More than \$1.1 Billion annual food spend.
  - d) National & Local partnerships
4. How the Program works
  - a) Transparency + Accountability = Market shifts to support equity
    - (1) Assess Baseline
    - (2) Set goals and take action.
    - (3) Track progress.
    - (4) Celebrate success.
5. Measuring good food purchasing
  - a) How much money a participant spends on good food.
  - b) How strongly the food purchased aligns with each value.
  - c) The actions a participant takes to support good food values.
6. Measuring Investment in Good Food
  - a) Assessment & Analytics
    - (1) Data normalization
    - (2) Supply chain research.
    - (3) Annual reports with trend analysis
    - (4) Aggregate trends by sector and custom analytics
  - b) Training & Technical Assistance
    - (1) Support for institutions & vendors with action planning.
    - (2) Guidance on bids, solicitations, supply chain development, and procurement process improvements

- c) On-line tools & resources
    - (1) Supplier and product research tool
    - (2) Resource library
    - (3) Impact modeling and decision support tool
  - d) Communities of purpose
    - (1) Access to peer-learning and strategy networks within and across cities for institutions, coalitions, and policymakers.
7. Reporting on good food purchasing
- a) Looks at performance across 5 valued categories.
  - b) Stories & strategies (where things are going well and where things can use improvement)

**B. Amy O'Rourke, Director of Chronic Disease and Control at the Cook County Department of Public Health.**

- 1. Cook County Implementation
  - a) National and local advocates along with the Chicago and Cook County government recognized an opportunity to invest dollars into a system that promotes a thriving local economy, increases transparency, and advances racial and social equity.
  - b) Cook County's public meal program spends more than \$100 million annually on food.
  - c) Cook County GFPPP resolution approved in 2018 which established a Cook County Good Food Task Force.
    - (1) Discuss challenges.
    - (2) Share solutions.
    - (3) Celebrate success.
    - (4) Identify collective opportunities to advance GFPP implementation.
  - d) Since 2018, County departments are
    - (1) Completing GFPP Baseline assessments/reassessments
    - (2) Implementing good food action plans based on assessments.
    - (3) Integrating GFPP goals & compliance into food services contracts and solicitations
    - (4) Implementing menu changes like plant-based proteins, soliciting vendors for organic sustainable items
    - (5) Increasing local purchases through connection with local BIPOC food producers and businesses.
- 2. Equitable Supply Chain Development. Investing in local, GFPP-aligned food producers and businesses.
  - a) Awarded \$234K in microgrants to 6 small farms, prepared meal providers to supply local, healthy food to emergency food access sites in suburban Cook between 2022-2023

- b) \$1 Million+ to be awarded through GFPI Community Fund to support local producers in supplying GFPP aligned food.

C. Adam Peterson, Chicago Good Food purchasing Program Manager for the Chicago Food Policy Action Council.

1. Chicago GFPP Adoption Timeline

- a) June 2017- Chicago Public Schools adopts Wellness Policy that commits to GFPP.
- b) September 2017- Chicago Park District adopts GFPP.
- c) October 2017- City of Chicago passes a city-wide resolution to adopt GFPP.
- d) May 2018 - Cook County adopts GFPP resolution.

2. GFPP Implementation: Chicago Public Schools and Phoenix Bean Tofu case study

- a) Food Business: Phoenix Bean
  - (1) Woman & Minority owned business.
  - (2) Soy based products from sustainable IL farms.
  - (3) 35 assorted soy-based products
  - (4) Simple packaging and minimal processing of products with increased nutritional value
- b) buyer/FSMC: Open Kitchens, Inc
  - (1) Previously, utilizing commercial tofu products with lots of plastic packaging
  - (2) Commercial tofu required cutting open, draining, and pressing, which was labor intensive and produced a lot of plastic waste.
  - (3) Commercial tofu also needed to be cooked after pressing prior to serving.
- c) Meal program: Chicago Public Schools
  - (1) Labor saving product, less waste, and less yield loss
  - (2) Phoenix Bean tofu has 14g protein/serving (compared to 8/9 grams per competitor)
  - (3) CPS can use less tofu per meal.

3. Collaborative and Creative Community Partnerships

- a) Established in 2022 by Executive Order the Chicago Food Equity Council created 4 workgroups convening city staff and community stakeholders.
- b) Institutional procurement (GFPP) was seen as an important piece for leveraging city procurement for economic development, increased transparency, and nutritional support.
- c) The Institutional procurement work group collaborated on city RFP & contract language, mapping contracting pathways, and developing nutrition standards.

**VI.** Representative Harper joins the group.

**VII.** Questions from the group

**A.** Senator Koehler asked, “The criteria that you mentioned, and I liked some of the things being talked about, but are you aware that there are some places in the country where the workers have been trying to get labor contracts with certain growers”? “I’m thinking particularly of the mushroom growers in Washington State.” “My background is that I spent six years with the United Farm Workers Union back when I came out of the seminary and so, but I’m still in touch with a lot of the groups on these issues, so I’m just asking about ...is that part of the criteria”?

1. Molly Riordan answers: “Thank you for the question. Working on issues like that is part of the solution and so when we are looking for opportunities, we are trying to identify ones exactly like that. That said, Center for good food purchasing is not the expert on some of those labor issues. We developed our standards in collaboration with organizations that work directly on those issues because we want to make sure that we are including their best knowledge and their best recommendations when we’re making these recommendations to jurisdictions like Cook County or the City of Chicago.”

**B.** Question from Rob Baron: “So I appreciate the presentations. I think that one of the challenges that we note is on state procurement and how our state procurement system can sort of meet this mandate”? “I know we have some procurement officers, Ellen Daley on the call. How can we integrate this type of purchasing program so that our procurement officers can sort of meet this mandate that we have to do the purchasing”?

1. Amy O’Rourke answers: “I’m happy just to share that while Cook County Department of Public Health is leading implementation, we’ve been directly, you know, aligned with and working closely with the office of the chief procurement officer because that office oversees all food related contracts, all contracts. So, they needed to better understand, you know, fully understand the GFPP resolution and, and how it applies especially as we’re working with procuring departments and their procurement teams to craft contracts. So, we’ve been engaging and working with both the procuring departments as well as the office of the chief procurement officer. We’re currently evaluating as well our local procurement policies, so our cook County procurement code, to understand you know, where there may be places where it is supportive to GFPP and where it may be inhibiting GFPP. We’re also assessing our processes and practices related to procurement locally to identify those areas where we could perhaps make some changes to better fulfill GFPP’s goals and uphold its values. So, that’s work that’s underway, but again, we’ve directly engaged and have been working with the office of the Chief Procurement Officer from the onset of the program.”

2. Ellen Daley answers: “I would be very anxious to hear and participate in any communications that we have regarding this and be thoughtful about it, see

lessons learned that you may have had at the county or at the city. I think we also need to be mindful of the folks on this phone call who are at the agencies who are doing these procurements and be thoughtful about what they see. They would like to see how it would be implemented best for them. I'm full in on this, and I'm happy to participate and do whatever I can to learn more about it."

- C.** Question from Representative Dan Swanson: "Does the Center work with other Counties other than Cook County or are you focused only on Cook County with the Good Food Purchasing Program"?
1. Molly Riordan answers: "We do work with other counties, other municipalities, and other school districts around the country. In Illinois right now we are only working with the city of Chicago and Cook County". "We are happy to share the list of where we're working if there's some comparisons that you're looking to make".
  2. Ellen Daley adds: "We do have the governmental joint purchasing act in the state of Illinois, which there's been some changes that were made through legislation this past session, which may, if the Governor chooses to sign it, will allow some more flexibility for the local municipalities to buy off state procured contracts. So we are invested and also looking at the Government Joint Purchasing Act to help the small organizations and governmental units be able to purchase and use State resources that have already procured these contracts and may have already taken into consideration hopefully, some of the things that we're trying to do here and that it can filter down in that manner to the local municipalities by us doing the work at the State level".
- D.** Question from Ron Wilson, Deputy Director of CMS: "I feel like there is going to be a lot of emphasis on local producers for the facilities that are nearby". "I'm curious with the State of Illinois being 55,500 square miles and the City of Chicago being 234, it seems like this is going to transition, if this is implemented, into an RFP scenario because we have to take in many other factors besides price in order to accomplish this". "I'm just curious if there's a thought process, how do you take this process in a statewide format where really Northern Wisconsin is as close to Chicago as Southern Illinois is and focus on the locality or the local aspect of food to the actual institution"?
1. Molly Riordan answers: "let's work together to figure that out".
  2. Adam Peterson answers: The example I gave, Phoenix Bean Tofu, Chicago Public Schools serves roughly 323,000 students, so it's a pretty massive scale, that example was only with a Food Service Management Company that had a portion of the CPS contract. Phoenix Bean is currently not in every school on every plate, it is in roughly 30% of the schools on 30% of the plates. So, it's really just understanding scale logistics and manpower around that and making those efforts, so it isn't like an all or nothing situation. That's something we've learned here at the City and County level of just like any step toward value-based purchases, toward menu transformation are really the wins and that with continuing to build supply chain networks and additional funding to support our value chain set-ups this will be easier and

hopefully put less effort on procurement officers as they might have to implement this.”

- VIII.** House Bill 5052 - Rodger Cooley
  - A.** Happy that Rep. Harper was able to introduce the Bill this Legislative Session
  - B.** There are still pieces and parts that need looked at and more work to do
  - C.** Essential that the City of Chicago and Cook County passed it as policy
  - D.** Local food infrastructure grant provides \$2M to producers and suppliers
  - E.** \$25M going to local farmers
  - F.** Medicare 1115 waiver
  
- IX.** Member Updates
  - A.** None
  
- X.** Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 meeting dates
  - A.** Monday, September 16, 2024
  - B.** Monday, December 9, 2024
  
- XI.** Public Comment
  - A.** None
  
- XII.** Adjournment 2:02 pm
  - A.** 1st motion - Eliot Clay
  - B.** 2nd - Rob Baren



# Implementing the Good Food Purchasing Program in Illinois

Good Food Purchasing Task Force  
Speakers and Content:

Center for Good Food Purchasing (Molly Riordan)  
Chicago Policy Action Council (Adam Peterson)

Cook County Department of Public Health (Amy O'Rourke and Keith Winn)

Organizer:

Illinois Food Justice Alliance



# **Good Food Purchasing Program**

Mission &  
Strategy

# THE CENTER FOR GOOD FOOD PURCHASING

uses the **power of procurement** to create a **transparent** and **equitable** food system that prioritizes the health and well-being of people, animals and the environment.



# Good Food Purchasing Values



REACH



OVER 70  
INSTITUTIONS

27 CITIES &  
COUNTIES

19 POLICIES

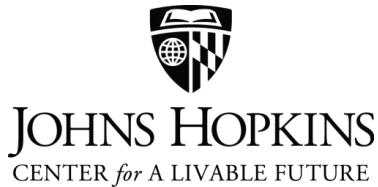
MORE THAN  
\$1.1 BILLION  
ANNUAL FOOD  
SPEND



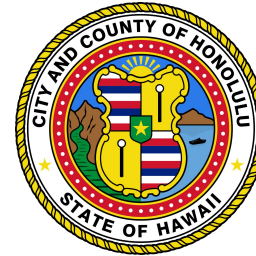
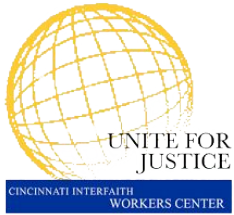
-  Enrolled Institution
-  Plus Policy Adopted



NATIONAL PARTNERS



# OUR LOCAL PARTNERS



Fullwell



HOW THE  
PROGRAM  
WORKS

TRANSPARENCY +  
ACCOUNTABILITY = MARKET  
SHIFTS TO SUPPORT EQUITY

- 1 Assess Baseline
- 2 Set Goals + Take Action
- 3 Track Progress
- 4 Celebrate Success



# MEASURING GOOD FOOD PURCHASING

The Good Food Purchasing Program measures:



**How much money** a participant spends on good food



**How strongly** the good food purchased aligns with each value



The **actions** a participant takes to support good food values





# Measuring Investment in Good Food

## ASSESSMENT & ANALYTICS

- ❖ Data normalization
- ❖ Supply chain research
- ❖ Annual reports with trend analysis
- ❖ Aggregate trends by sector and custom analytics

## TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ❖ Support for institutions & vendors with action planning
- ❖ Guidance on bids, solicitations, supply chain development, and procurement process improvements

## ONLINE TOOLS & RESOURCES


- ❖ Supplier and product search tool
- ❖ Resource library
- ❖ Impact modeling and decision support tool

## COMMUNITIES OF PURPOSE

- ❖ Access to peer-learning and strategy networks within and across cities for institutions, coalitions, and policymakers



# Reporting on Good Food Purchasing




**GOOD FOOD PURCHASING PROGRAM**

**GOOD FOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BASELINE ASSESSMENT**  
**SCHOOL YEAR 2017-2018**

**CENTER**  
GOOD FOOD PURCHASING

v.1  
April 25, 2019



### Executive Summary

Institution  
 Baseline Assessment School Year 2018-2019

<b>\$10,000,000</b> In Total Food Spend	Enrolled since 2018 100,000 meals served Self-Operated	<b>3 out of 5</b> Baseline Standards Met	<b>Total Points Earned</b> <b>14</b>
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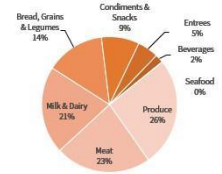
#### Progress Toward Baseline Goal and Qualifying Purchases

Category	Progress	Baseline Goal	Add'l Rqmts <sup>2</sup>	Baseline Met	Standard Points	Extra Points
Local Economies	16% or \$160k	15% (\$150k)	n/a	✓	1	2
Environmental Sustainability	3.7% or \$37k	5% (\$50k)	IP	○	0	2
Valued Workforce	5.2% or \$52k	5% (\$50k)	✓	✓	3	0
Animal Welfare	9% or \$28k	15% (\$52k)	n/a	○	0	0
Nutrition	51% of applicable items met	51% met	n/a	✓	3	5
<b>Total</b>					<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

#### Additional Baseline Requirements

Requirement	Baseline Met
<b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	
1 At least 25% of animal products are produced without routine use of antibiotics	IP
2 No seafood purchased should be listed as "Avoid" by Seafood Watch	✓
<b>Valued Workforce</b>	
1 Take requested follow up steps with suppliers	IP

#### Purchasing Summary By Product Type



<sup>1</sup>The Environmental Sustainability and Valued Workforce categories have additional baseline requirements. See the Five Value Analysis section of this report.  
 IP denotes in progress.



# Cook County Implementation

# Cook County & Chicago Community-Meal Landscape

Together our public meal programs spend \$100+ million annually on food

Jurisdiction	Institution / Meal Environment	Individuals Served
Cook County	Cook County Health	Hospital Patients, Visitors, Staff
Cook County	Juvenile Temporary Detention Center	Justice involved youth, Visitors, Staff
Cook County	Cook County Sheriff's Office Jail	Justice involved individuals, Visitors, Staff
Cook County	Forest Preserve District	Concessions Environments
Chicago	Chicago Public Schools	Students, Staff
Chicago	Department of Family & Support Services	Seniors, Emergency Meal Recipients, New Arrivals
Chicago	Chicago Park District	Students (summer meal program)
Chicago	Parks, Museums, Stadiums, Airports, City-Operated Tourist Destinations	Concessions Environments

# Cook County Good Food Task Force

CCDPH and CFPAC launched the Task Force in 2018 to:

- discuss challenges
- share solutions
- celebrate successes
- identify collective opportunities to advance GFPP implementation

## Task Force Members

### Cook County Gov. Entities

- Cook County Dept of Public Health
- Cook County Health
- Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center
- Cook County Dept of Environment & Sustainability
- Cook County Land Bank
- Cook County Office of the President
- Cook County Commissioner Alma Anaya
- Cook County Sheriff's Office
- Forest Preserve of Cook County

### Food System Stakeholders

- Real Foods Collective
- Proviso Partners for Health
- IFF
- University of IL Extension - Cook County
- Local Food & Small Farms
- West 40 (Intermediate Service Center)
- Illinois Public Health Institute, Alliance for Health Equity
- Illinois Tech, Food Systems Lab
- South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association
- Illinois Stewardship Alliance



# Cook County GFPP Progress



Cook County DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**

# Implementing GFPP in Cook County

Since 2018, County departments are:

- Completing GFPP Baseline Assessments/Reassessments
- Implementing Good Food action plans based on assessments
- Integrating GFPP goals & compliance into food services contracts and solicitations
- Implementing menu changes like plant-based proteins, soliciting vendors for organic, sustainable items
- Increasing local purchases through connection with local, BIPOC food producers and businesses



**COOK COUNTY**  
**HEALTH**



Cook County DEPT.  
Public Health

**BUILDING**  
**HEALTHIER**  
**COMMUNITIES**

# GFPP Implementation: Cook County Sheriff's Office

Cook County GFPP resolution garnered institutional buy-in but internal champions moved the work forward



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**



Cook County  
DEPT. of  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**



# Equitable Supply Chain Development

## Investing in local, GFPP-aligned food producers and businesses

- Awarded \$234K in microgrants to 6 small farms/prepared meal providers to supply local, healthy food to emergency food access sites in suburban Cook between 2022-2023:
  - Centro de Trabajadores Unidos
  - Food Hero L3C
  - Grace United /It Takes A Village Farm
  - Health Policy Institute/Mother Carr's Farm
  - Roots, Eggs, and Greens/ CoGro Biodynamic Farm
  - Street Vendors Association of Chicago
- \$1 Million+ to be awarded through [GFPI Community Fund](#) to support local producers in supplying GFPP-aligned food



Between 9/2022-10/2023:

- 45,000+ local, healthy emergency meals delivered/distributed
- 12,000+ individuals reached with nutrition education content

Photo from It Takes a Village Community Farm (Grace United Church), microgrant recipient, located in Sauk Village



COOK COUNTY  
**HEALTH**



Cook County  
DEPT. OF  
Public Health

**BUILDING  
HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITIES**

# City of Chicago Good Food Purchasing Implementation

# Chicago GFPP Adoption Timeline

- **June 2017** - Chicago Public Schools adopts Wellness Policy that commits to GFPP
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- **May 2018** – Cook County adopts GFPP resolution



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# GFPP Implementation: Chicago Public Schools and Phoenix Bean Tofu Case Study

## Food Business: Phoenix Bean

- Woman & Minority Owned Business
- Soy based products from sustainable IL farms
- 35 assorted soy-based products
- Simple packaging and minimal processing of products with increased nutritional value

## Buyer/FSMC: Open Kitchens, Inc

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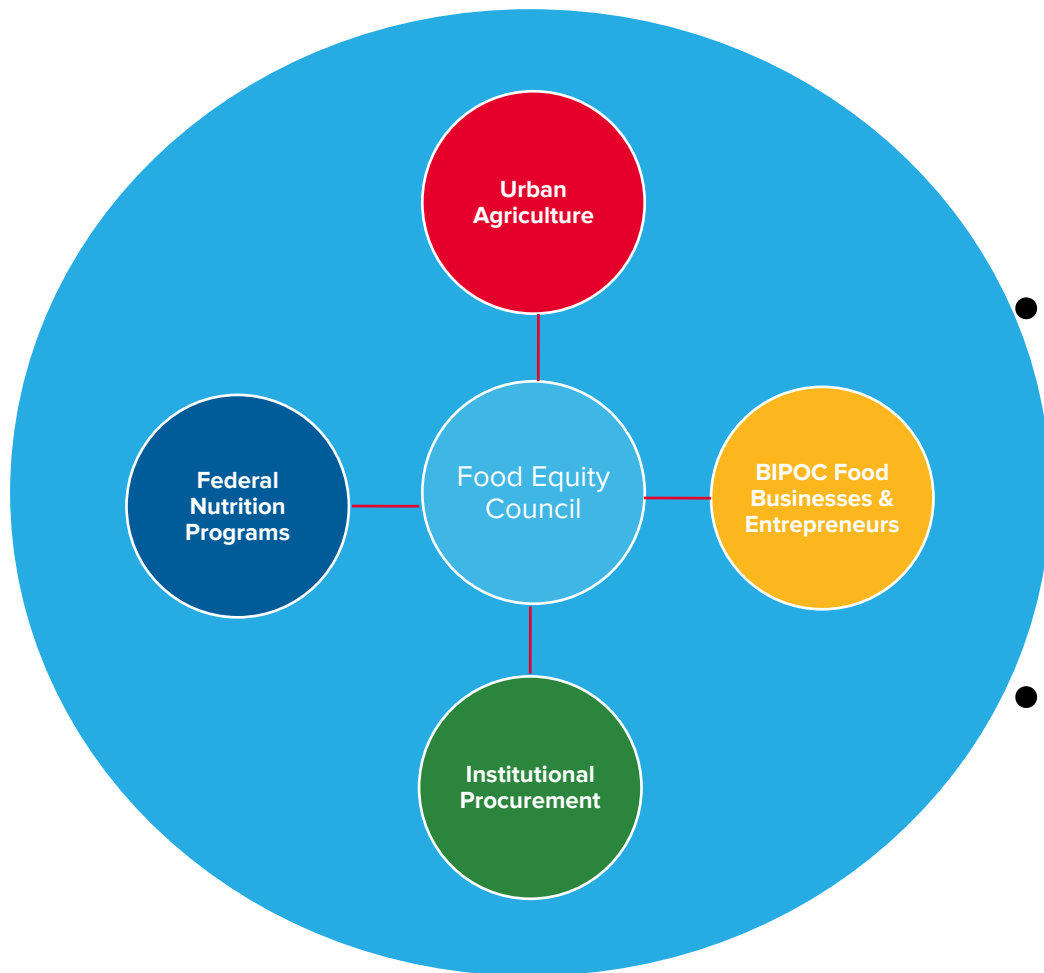
## Meal Program: Chicago Public School

- Labor saving product, less plastic waste, and less yield loss
- Phoenix Bean tofu has 14g protein/serving (compared to 8/9 grams per competitor)
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# GFPP Implementation: Collaborative and Creative Community Partnerships

## Chicago Food Equity Council



- Established in 2022 by Executive Order the Chicago Food Equity Council created 4 workgroups convening city staff and community stakeholders
- Institutional procurement (GFPP) was seen as an important piece for leveraging city procurement for economic development, increased transparency, and nutritional support
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**Questions?**