



Healthy Food for Denver's Kids 2022 Annual Report to City Council

December 2022

Introduction

Background:

Through the 2018 Denver Ballot Measure 302, the Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK) Initiative increased taxes to establish a fund for healthy food and food-based education for Denver's youth. The ballot measure was approved by 59% of Denver voters on November 6, 2018 and went into effect in January 2019. The 0.08% increase in the sales and use tax within the City and County of Denver is expected to generate approximately \$11 million dollars annually and will sunset after 10 years. Funds will be collected from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2028 and distributed by December 31, 2029.

The funds are distributed through competitive grants to agencies of local government, public schools in Denver (including Denver Public Schools or DPS), and non-profit organizations, with an emphasis on serving low-income youth. Funding decisions are determined by a Commission made up of 13 non-profit, government, and community member volunteer appointees. The Commission is staffed and supported by the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE).

Report:

This report serves as the annual requirement to share funding distribution information and key changes to policies or procedures of the HFDK initiative to Denver City Council.

Additionally, on September 21, 2022, HFDK staff presented an update on the current state of child food insecurity in Denver, background on the HFDK initiative, a financial summary, and the 2022 contract processes to the City Council Safety, Housing, Education & Homelessness Committee. Committee members were also presented with 24 resolution requests for new and renewed contracts requiring City Council approval. See the attached appendix A for a copy of the presentation.

In early 2023, HFDK's external evaluation contractor will send HFDK staff a full annual impact report about the results of HFDK's program from 2022, which will then be shared with City Council. Previous annual reports can be found on [DDPHE's website](#).

Key Developments in 2022

Since the passage of [the enabling legislation for HFDK](#), significant progress has been made towards improving healthy food access and food education for Denver's youth. HFDK has now awarded nearly \$38 million dollars to over 90 organizations, including 12 new contracts (HFDK03 cohort) in 2022, focused on early childhood and federal nutrition assistance programs. The Commission welcomed eight new members, including two new City Council representatives (Councilpersons Candi CdeBaca and Stacie Gilmore) and three City Agency

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executive directors from the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment, Denver Human Services, and the Office of Children’s Affairs.

An externally-facilitated Commission strategy retreat occurred in October 2022 to begin to better align funding, evaluation, and technical assistance priorities. A grantee workshop was held in November 2022 to gather input on HFDK’s next funding opportunity. The Commission voted to approve a series of changes to the HFDK bylaws, including removing language that is duplicative to the DRMC, clarifying the meeting attendance policy, updating designee language, and decreasing quorum to one half of members. The HFDK Governance subcommittee also reconvened to begin to discuss proposed DRMC changes in support of an equitable HFDK program. Lastly, HFDK revised its program nutrition policy that is set to be piloted in 2023.

2022 HFDK Grants Awarded

In 2022, the HFDK Commission awarded a total of \$19.8 million in grant funding to 49 organizations. This includes 12 new projects funded as part of HFDK03 (\$6.6 million over 2 years), 21 continuing/extended projects from HFDK01 (\$6.1 million), and 20 continuing/extended projects from HFDK02 (\$7.1 million). See the attached appendix B for a list of all grantees funded in 2022 and their project summaries.

For the HFDK03 RFP, the initial grant term is two years (August 2022-July 2024), with the possibility for grantees to apply for a one-year extension. Overall, for the 2022 round of funding, the Commission received 24 applications and selected 12 to fund, including: nine nonprofits, one college/university, one city agency, and one licensed child care provider. The average grant size for the HFDK03 cohort for two years is around \$550,000.



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Annual Report to City Council:
Appendix A



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HEALTHY
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City Council
Safety Committee
Presentation

September 21, 2022



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Presentation Overview

- Background on Healthy Food for Denver's Kids (HFDK)
- Overview of Current Grants requiring Approval
- Financial Overview of HFDK
- Request 24 Bills/Resolutions for Approval from City Council



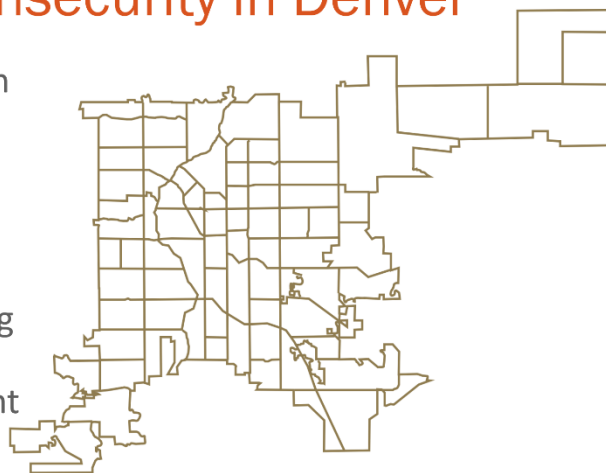
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State of Child Food Insecurity in Denver

- Child food insecurity at 16.8% in 2020 (about 1 in 6 kids) [1]
- Diet quality and food access varies by race, age and neighborhood
- Federal food assistance programs are not often reaching children who need it most
- Crucial growth and development is happening during a child's earliest years



[1] [Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap](#)



HFDK Background

- Citizen-led ballot measure (302) approved by Denver voters in November of 2018
- Tax increase to establish a fund for healthy food access and food-based education for Denver's youth
 - 0.08% sales and use tax increase, expected to generate ~\$11 million/year
 - Term: Jan. 1, 2019 – Dec. 31, 2028
- Funds granted out to non-profits, public schools (including DPS) and Denver City agencies through competitive grantmaking processes
- Aimed at helping Denver's low-income youth

Examples of Types of Programs Funded

- Healthy meals and snacks
- Classes on nutrition, cooking, wellness, gardening, and food justice
- Free food distribution, including mobile food markets
- School food pantries
- Enrollment in Federal Nutrition Assistance programs
- School and community gardens
- Urban agriculture and hydroponics
- Local food procurement
- Youth leadership development and employment
- Promotoras, culturally responsive foods, and multi-lingual education
- Food programs focused on early childhood

HFDK Commission

- 13-members
 - 3 City staff
 - 2 members of City Council
 - 4 residents of the city
 - 4 representatives of city-wide orgs or institutions involved in food
- Nonprofit, government, community member appointees
- Diverse representation
- Sub-committees
- Staffed by DDPHE

Commission meetings are monthly, open to public (currently virtual) with Spanish interpretation



HFDK Chronology

November 2018	Voters approve ballot measure 302
Summer/fall 2019	HFDK Commission seated & meeting, hiring staff, set first funding goals
Spring-summer 2020	First RFP released (“HFDK01”) and 25 grantees selected, plus COVID-19 emergency hunger relief grants
Spring-Summer 2021	Second RFP released (“HFDK02”) and 20 new projects approved
Summer 2021	City Council approves proposed DRMC changes for expanded funding eligibility criteria and greater commission inclusion
January 2022	Third RFP released (“HFDK03”) focused on early childhood and federal nutrition programs
May-June 2022	Commission approves HFDK03 new contracts and extensions for HFDK01 & HFDK02 contracts

Grantee Accomplishments (HFDK01 Cohort: 2020-2021)



2022 Contract Process

Request for Proposal (RFP) for New Contracts (HFDK03)

- January 2022: HFDK03 RFP posted
 - Two-year Grant Term (August 1, 2022- July 31, 2024), with up to one year of extension
 - *Changed to two-year term based on HFDK01 & HFDK02 experience and grantee feedback*
- Scope of Work focused on:
 - 1) Improving healthy food access and nutrition quality for children ages 5 and under in early childhood education (ECE) settings
 - 2) Improving nutrition education, food skills and healthy eating environments in ECE settings
 - 3) Increasing access to and participation in Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs
- May 31, 2022; HFDK Commission approved new contracts



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2022 Contract Process

Amended Contracts (HFDK01 & HFDK02)

- HFDK01 & HFDK02 contracts are 1-year terms, with up to two additional years of extension
- March 2022: current grantees submitted a revised Scope of Work (SOW) and Budget
- April–May 2022: one-on-one calls with each grantee to review SOW and budget, revisions made and recommended to the Commission
- June 17, 2022: HFDK Commission approved amendments to the current contracts



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Grantee Cohort Breakdown

New contracts:

- HFDK03 Cohort
(08/2022-07/2024)
 - \$3,240,090.17

Contract amendments/extensions:

- HFDK02 Cohort
(08/2021-07/2023)
 - \$7,430,945.50

- HFDK01 Cohort
(08/2020-07/2023)
 - \$11,496,505.44

\$22,745,428.11 Total requested in contracts



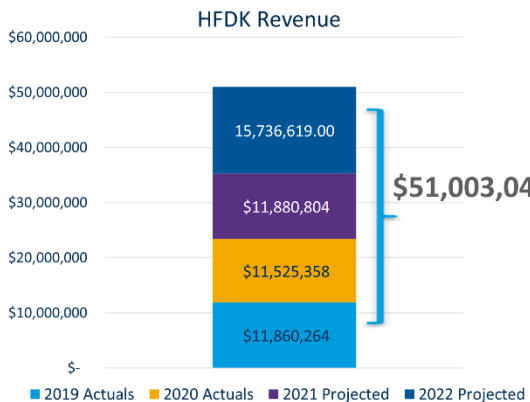
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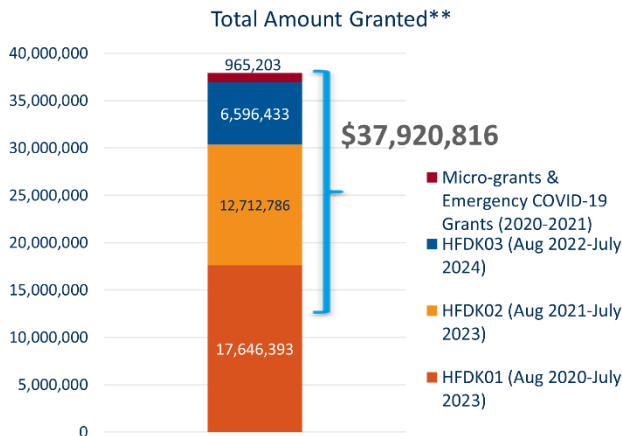
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Cohort	Name of Organization	Resolution #	Total Amount	New/Amend	Council District
HFDK03	Clayton Early Learning Trustee, George W. Clayton Trust	RR22-1105	\$1,181,108.17	03-NEW	9
	Frontline Farming	RR22-1107	\$517,057.00	03-NEW	1, 6*
	Lifespan Local	RR22-1108	\$918,038.00	03-NEW	2,3,7*
	Metro Caring (HFDK03)	RR22-1109	\$623,887.00	03-NEW	9*
HFDK02	Barton Institute for Community Action (Commun)	RR22-1110	\$577,887.00	02-Amend	2*
	Boys and Girls Club of Metro Denver	RR22-1106	\$765,165.07	02-Amend	1,2,3,8,9,11
	Denver Food Rescue (HFDK02)	RR22-1112	\$626,744.00	02-Amend	2,3,7,8,10,11*
	Denver Inner City Parish	RR22-1113	\$1,028,254.82	02-Amend	3
	Denver Public School Food and Nutrition Services	BR22-1127	\$2,000,000.00	02-Amend	All*
	Denver Public Schools Career Connection	BR22-1114	\$717,127.00	02-Amend	9
	Housing Authority of the City and County of Denver, CO	BR22-1126	\$698,899.00	02-Amend	3
	Sewall Child Development Center	RR22-1120	\$713,593.61	02-Amend	10
	Stone Soup dba Stigma	RR22-1121	\$881,162.00	02-Amend	2,6,9,10
HFDK01	Denver Food Rescue (HFDK01)	RR22-1111	\$894,167.00	01-Amend	1,3,6,7,8,9,11*
	Denver Public Schools West Campus Food Bank	BR22-1115	\$847,595.04	01-Amend	3
	Denver Urban Gardens	RR22-1116	\$1,235,225.00	01-Amend	1,2,3,5,6,7,9,11
	Food for Thought	RR22-1117	\$792,875.00	01-Amend	All*
	Metro Caring (HFDK01)	RR22-1118	\$664,411.80	01-Amend	9*
	Mile High 360	RR22-1119	\$982,930.30	01-Amend	1
	Montbello Organizing Committee	RR22-1123	\$999,080.30	01-Amend	8
	ReVision, Inc.	RR22-1124	\$1,415,074.00	01-Amend	3
	The GrowHaus	RR22-1125	\$1,417,967.00	01-Amend	6,8,9
	The Urban Farm	RR22-1122	\$522,180.00	01-Amend	8
	Vive Wellness	RR22-1128	\$1,725,000.00	01-Amend	9, All*

HFDK Financials



*2021 and 2022 are projected figures and subject to change



**Does not include \$3.7M available for Administration (2019-2022), \$1.3M in Contingency (2021-2022), or \$12.14M in reserves for 2023-2024 RFP

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Thank you and Q+A

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Appendix B. 2022 Grantees

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED IN 2022	GRANT SUMMARY
Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver	\$458,991	2021-2023 Project: Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver (BGCMD) will improve and increase food-related services for their Denver Club members. Of their kids, 87% qualify for free or reduced lunch and half come from homes earning less than \$22,000/year. BGCMD will help overcome these inequities by offering targeted and robust healthy food supports including daily meals and snacks, take-home healthy food boxes, nutrition education, and support enrolling families in public food benefits like SNAP and WIC. This will be achieved through hiring a Health Coordinator, expanding support staff salaries, purchasing food and equipment, training staff, paying for partner provided programming, and more.
Bright by Text	\$341,000	2022-2024 Project: Support from HFDK enables Bright by Text to increase Denver families' awareness, knowledge, and connection to healthy food resources and educational programs. Through partnerships with organizations providing food distribution, nutrition education, and enrollment in federal nutrition assistance programs, Bright by Text connects over 3,000 caregivers of young children subscribed to the free texting service with information about programs available in their community. This grant funds the scaling of the texting service for Denver community food and nutrition focused organizations and expanding reach to more families.
Clayton Early Learning	\$1,181,108	2022-2024 Project: Clayton Early Learning is proud to partner with HFDK in three critical areas that promote health and wellness through good nutrition for young children and their families. Their Seed to Stomach initiative will develop, implement, and market an innovative and interactive curriculum that will immerse children and families in the practice of urban gardening as a sustainable source of healthy food, instilling lifelong wellbeing practices for optimal health through good nutrition. The Clayton Cares Market – their innovative approach to addressing food insecurity with dignity and choice, will be expanded to serve more families at Clayton and in the community. Clayton Early Learning will also increase their existing partnership with Denver Health WIC to offer enhanced enrollment resources and maximize nutrition support for women and young children in the community.
Colorado Circles for Change	\$208,926	2020-2023 Project: HFDK funds will be used to provide nutritious meals on site and for delivery of food packages to youth impacted by violence and the criminal justice system in under resourced communities. Colorado Circles for Change is committed to feeding Denver's most vulnerable youth including youth of color, immigrants, and refugees.
Commún	\$343,742	2021-2023 Project: In partnership with HFDK, Commún receives funding for three food programs: community food share, gardens, and trainings and power building. They are in the middle of a three-year process to transition multiple community food banks to combine into a community-led food hub designed and directed by residents who experience food insecurity. Their garden program is led by a community leader and expert and supports 23 gardeners and their families in accessing land, securing seeds and seedlings, and maintaining their gardens. All of the food grown goes directly to the gardeners' families and neighbors. HFDK funding increases access to healthy food for Denver's kids by providing food, local urban gardening opportunities, and training in conjunction with a collective process to address the whole person and the root causes of hunger. This funding allows small food shares in Southwest Denver to work with people experiencing food insecurity to co-design a long-term food system for our community that achieves food sovereignty.

Denver Juvenile Services Center / Denver Public Safety	\$126,003	2021-2023 Project: Denver Public Safety Youth Programs provides educational and vocational support services to Denver's justice-involved youth between the ages of 14-18. The goal of this specific project is to provide meaningful work experience and education in partnership with The Urban Farm in topics including healthy eating, cooking, farm business planning, horticultural skills, greenhouse management, and livestock care. The participating youth would be enrolled in 4 days of education and hands-on skill building per week for a minimum of 10 weeks from 9-4 pm each day; there would be 4-5 youth cohorts served per year. The youth would be directly involved in the development and management of small-scale livestock (poultry, goats, and sheep) and horticultural production in the City of Denver. The produce and animal products would be distributed to the local community on a sliding scale basis, further participants of the program would also receive a share of the food produced on a weekly basis. This program aims to provide critical and meaningful life skills through farm education, access to healthy food, and opportunities for restorative justice for some of Denver's most at-risk youth, while positively impacting the larger community through healthy food distribution.
Denver Public Library	\$226,535 \$1,118,481	2020-2023 Project: The HFDK grant will allow the Denver Public Library (DPL) to provide over 65,000 healthy snacks to youth at fourteen branch locations. In addition, it provides the opportunity to hire youth assistants from the communities where snacks will be distributed. 2021-2023 Project: DPL will be using the HFDK funds to distribute food boxes with healthy foods to youth and their families. To reduce food insecurity in households with children in Denver, DPL will distribute over 15,000 food boxes by the end of July 2023 at fourteen branch locations.
Denver Public Schools Career and College Success / CareerConnect	\$187,777	2020-2023 Project: The Denver Public Schools Career and College Success (CCS) team will use the HFDK funds to fill a gap in programs that focus on the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources industries. They partner with Teens for Food Justice (TFFJ), a New York City-based nonprofit, to create a student-built and operated classroom hydroponic farm at Bruce Randolph School. The hydroponic farm will ensure students recognize food justice and insecurity, understand health and nutrition, actively engage in STEM education and build a pathway to future income – all while providing fresh and affordable produce to both students and their community through urban farming, food preparation and food preservation.
Denver Public Schools Food and Nutrition Services	\$1,000,000	2021-2023 Project: To increase the number of daily lunches served to DPS students, Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) needs to improve the quality of meals made at school. To improve the meal quality, FNS must train all (850) kitchen employees and managers in basic culinary skills to serve consistent, high-quality, tasty and nutritious school meals. This proposal will help to fund the professional training program created and executed by a national organization, Brigaid, for all Food and Nutrition Services kitchen workers and managers.
Denver School of Innovation and Sustainable Design	\$84,191	2020-2023 Project: The funding will be used to implement a nutrition education program embedded into the physical education curriculum and a Youth Food Leadership program in the school's elective. The program will incorporate a field trip to a variety of community presenters with the goal of providing students with the opportunity to learn the interdependence of physical health, nutrition, and healthy choices, in addition to empowering students with leadership opportunities to teach about access to healthy food.
Denver Urban Gardens	\$445,453	2020-2023 Project: Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) will be using the funds to expand their Growing Gardeners Initiative, working primarily in Title 1 schools in DPS and within the larger Denver community. The initiative focuses on providing teacher training, programming, and garden support for two key audience segments: early childhood and high school. DUG is building its capacity in working with early childhood educators to promote and encourage the integration of garden education as well as healthy eating and cooking in the classroom in partnership with Slow Food Denver. At the high school level, DUG's focus shifts towards educating teens about food justice and community action through urban gardening in partnership with An Ounce of Nutrition. DUG's Grow-a-Garden program and the network of DUG Community Gardens

		help to expand DUG's reach out to Denver families, lowering barriers to growing healthy food and making it more accessible with the support of resources, seeds and seedlings, continuing education, and community outreach.
Early Excellence Program of Denver	\$162,481	2021-2023 Project: Early Excellence Program (EEP) will continue to implement a new food-based educational program for its 80 under-served students, ages 2.5 - 5 years old and their families. EEP is looking forward to this new grant opportunity with HFDK that will allow for a fresh new start to implementing a family-friendly health and nutrition educational program that incorporates healthy activities, healthy foods and teaching young children and their families the life-long benefits of eating healthy and personal fitness for not only today, but for years to come.
Ekar Farm	\$110,914	2021-2023 Project: Ekar Farm is focused on growing and distributing farm fresh produce, and experiential education, to Denver's youth and families. Receiving HFDK funds means Ekar can ensure that tens of thousands of pounds of fresh, local, nutrient-dense food can be grown and distributed to the most vulnerable youth. These funds put farm-food systems-school partnerships to work building capacity for local schools and other service providers to reach more families than ever with produce, nutrition information, and hands-on food and food system education.
Focus Points Family Resource Center	\$430,297	2022-2024 Project: Huerta Urbana 2Gen Farm Incubator is a community-built social enterprise at Focus Points Family Resource Center providing economic opportunity through urban agriculture. The program opens opportunities for participants to get better-paying jobs and start their own businesses in the industry while earning stipends to support their families. In partnership with their Early Childhood Programs, PAT and HIPPY, Huerta will be distributing weekly, CACFP-guided 'Bounty Boxes' to each of the 234 children aged 0-5 in those programs by growing produce on their farm at Focus Points and aggregating other food items from co-operatively owned and operated farms around Colorado. In addition to the nutrition, they will be providing education and resources for parents on how to prepare and enjoy the produce provided.
Food for Thought Denver	\$375,375	2020-2023 Project: Food for Thought (FFT) will provide PowerSacks to children in Title 1 schools in Denver to eliminate weekend childhood hunger. FFT will order food from Food Bank of the Rockies in order to provide enough food to feed two meals to a family of four. Each PowerSack includes between 9-13 nonperishable items, including foods that children can prepare themselves if no adult is able to cook.
Frontline Farming	\$517,057	2022-2024 Project: HFDK's support will allow Frontline Farming to create expanded educational opportunities to youth in their target areas. The expanded programming activities will include a minimum of 20 educational presentations for youth with a focus on ages 0-5, monthly on-site garden classes, the creation of a community garden with programming at an anchor institution for the Black community in Denver, and additional staffing to enroll and directly connect families to Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs. They will also be able to engage small children with nutritious food by providing healthy snacks and meals at their youth classes.
Hunger Free Colorado	\$135,572	2022-2024 Project: HFDK funds will support Hunger Free Colorado's (HFC) outreach to connect families and children to food assistance such as SNAP, WIC, school meals, summer meals and more. These efforts include HFC's Food Resource Hotline, Mobile Outreach to provide face-to-face support and assistance in partnership with other community organizations, and supporting SNAP PEAS (Partners Engaging in Application Services) partners including community-based organizations and government agencies in assisting families to apply for SNAP.
Jovial Concepts	\$156,987	2021-2023 Project: Jovial's primary purpose with this funding is to educate Denver's kids on how to avert hunger, reduce waste and eat healthy through 1) garden programs, 2) cooking and nutrition classes, 3) sustainable food education classes, 4) outreach and sign up for federal food assistance programs and 5) school youth garden clubs. In addition, Jovial distributes food directly to Denver's kids through summer meals, and organic garden produce. They will increase food distribution for families with continuing needs through providing a meal subscription Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) food

		Denver Metro area, increase nutritional food security in Denver. Students who take their classes get a weekly meal with fresh local produce and learn healthy eating habits. They then bring their knowledge into their homes, inspiring siblings and family members to learn about their food systems and cook more nutritious food. Their interactive and multi-faceted classes transform children from passive food consumers to creators. They have increased the number of students served, schools served, and the amount of meals provided. As they continue to expand the program, they are able to reach more Denver youth.
Sprout City Farms	\$149,366	2020-2023 Project: Sprout City Farms is partnering with Denver Health to leverage the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and pediatric care network to couple food access solutions and healthy food education with medical care. They have established a program to offer fresh, organically grown food from local farms to refugee families enrolled in WIC, as well as pediatric patients screened for food insecurity, throughout the Colorado harvest season (June through October). Lowry Clinic is the most diverse clinic in Denver, and families will receive interpretation and translation of nutrition education materials in their preferred languages in addition to fresh produce each week.
Stedman Elementary	\$114,886	2020-2023 Project: HFDK funds will be used to provide a healthy snack to every student every day at school and to conduct activities in the garden related to health and nutrition education.
Stigma (Stone Soup, Inc., dba Stigma)	\$481,500	2021-2023 Project: Stigma procures meat, dairy, produce and other healthy food from Colorado farmers, ranchers, and distributors. They provide the healthy food to food pantries supporting Denver Public Schools. They are connecting Colorado's farmers and ranchers directly to the students in Denver Public Schools who need help with food security and nutrition the most. The HFDK grant supports their work and allows them to create community and provide food with dignity. "If we hope to break the cycle of hunger, we must first crush the stigma."
STRIVE Prep	\$59,945	2020-2023 Project: Strive Prep will install a Learning Garden at their Sunnyside school location to implement food literacy programs. They want to increase students' knowledge around healthy food choices and develop skills to grow, harvest, and cook those healthy foods. Students will have opportunities to learn health and nutrition information, practice skills, and share what they learned through the Learning Garden curriculum.
Sun Valley Kitchen and Community Center	\$180,489	2020-2023 Project: The HFDK funds will provide support for their Youth Employment Professional Development, Youth Enrichment, and No-Cost Grocery Programs. The funding will allow them to expand and deepen the impact and reach of each of those programs. The HFDK funds will also support the weeknight dinners they prepare and serve for youth in the Sun Valley neighborhood, in partnership with Sun Valley Youth Center.
The GrowHaus	\$489,116	2020-2023 Project: Funding from HFDK will provide immediate hunger relief to youth and families living in Globeville and Elyria-Swansea, while supporting long-term, community-led solutions to food justice. Families are able to access a no-cost or low-cost food box depending on their needs and connect with programming related to growing and cooking healthy food. Importantly, they are also providing SNAP / WIC outreach and enrollment support to ensure long-term food access.
The Urban Farm	\$135,191	2020-2023 Project: The Urban Grown Incubator Farm takes a three-pronged approach to promoting a resilient local food system in Denver by addressing workforce development, youth education, and fresh food access through urban agriculture. Urban Grown will utilize soil-based and hydroponic growing methods, allowing for healthy food production and education year-round.
Thriving Families	\$200,000	2022-2024 Project: Thriving Families provides programs to women and families during pregnancy and postpartum. Their HFDK program integrates healthy nutrition education as well as food resources (e.g., community food pantries, WIC, SNAP) into their core program, MotherWise. It provides parents with the information they need for healthy pregnancies and babies.
University of Colorado – Rocky Mountain Prevention	\$467,792	2022-2024 Project: The overarching goal of the Culture of Wellness in Preschools (COWP) program is to provide hands-on, developmentally appropriate, and innovative nutrition education programming for children and youth attending the four largest Denver Public Schools (DPS) Early Childhood Education (ECE) centers and 100 Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) refugee

Research Center		providers, reaching approximately 2,280 children and caregivers in the City and County of Denver. Specifically, COWP program activities will include: nutrition education lessons for children, parent wellness workshop series, nutrition education texting program, and making health-promoting policy, system and environment changes.
Vista Academy	\$140,708	2021-2023 Project: Vista Academy is proposing a comprehensive program that will provide the Far Northeast community with equitable access of healthful snacks and provide food education to their students and community. The overall proposal has four key aspects: a 1,000 square foot community garden, an aquaponics system, healthful snack student initiative, and an educational program through their Culinary Department that provides monthly cooking lessons for students' families. This will be a multi-year keystone project that the school and community can rally behind. The HFDK grant will provide Vista Academy and its community with opportunities to offer healthful food options and teach how to cultivate healthful foods sustainably. Partnerships with other Community Non-Profit organizations will expand their abilities to serve the far northeast Denver community through educational opportunities and access to healthful food.
ViVe Wellness	\$750,000	2020-2023 Project: ViVe will be providing healthy food and snacks to their participating kids, as well as hands-on growing of food, nutrition education, and healthy cooking for the family. All activities will be done in Spanish and English.
We Don't Waste	\$216,721	2020-2023 Project: In partnership with HFDK, We Don't Waste is excited to offer healthy food and education to children through a variety of programs. This includes providing free, nutritious food through distribution to nonprofit partner agencies that work with Denver's youth and their families (including food distribution and recovery with schools) and sustaining/expanding We Don't Waste's Mobile Food Markets (free farmers market-style distributions in neighborhoods with limited access to fresh foods). We Don't Waste will also provide nutrition and cooking education to families at these Mobile Food Markets through live cooking demonstrations and tastings. Additionally, We Don't Waste will partner with schools and other education providers to share nutrition, food waste, and cooking lessons through a variety of experiential learning opportunities.
WeeCycle	\$495,499	2022-2024 Project: WeeCycle serves infants and toddlers in need with healthy age-appropriate meals of baby food and formula through their Mobile Baby Essentials program. They also will be developing programming to instill the joys of healthy eating in Denver toddlers.
West Campus Food Bank	\$356,190	2020-2023 Project: Denver West Campus Food Bank (WCFB)'s mission is to provide healthy food for the students and families of students attending West Middle and West High Schools, the two schools are located on the West High Campus. West Campus Food Bank, developed to address food insecurity among West campus students, has been in operation since April 6, 2018, and has serviced over 500 individuals, students and their families, a week. WCFB is 100 % volunteer operated.
Wildwood Child and Adult Care Food Program, Inc.	\$226,402	2022-2024 Project: Wildwood sponsors licensed childcare homes, day care centers, Head Start, At-Risk After School and the Summer Food Service Program for USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program. They are involved with those who care for children - whether they are childcare providers, parents, teachers or others involved with the growth, development, welfare and nutritional needs of children. Children are our most valuable resource, and they are proud to contribute to the efforts of those who enrich children's lives.