

LA Food Equity Fund



Nutrition Promotion

Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
Active San Gabriel Valley	Active San Gabriel Valley will expand the CalFresh Healthy Living program, offering hands-on nutrition education classes and food preparation demonstrations, and promoting recipes and sustainability strategies such as composting via social media. They will also organize community fruit and vegetable "crop swaps" to promote nutrition education, empower participants with cooking skills, and foster a culture of sustainability, ultimately aiming to reduce food insecurity and promote equitable food access in the San Gabriel Valley.	\$250,000
Antelope Valley Partners for Health	Antelope Valley Partners for Health will provide ServSafe food handling certificate trainings to improve safety at 12 food pantries and in the broader community. They will also enhance food assistance programs for college students both through providing food and also by conducting CalFresh outreach and enrollment, focusing on priority youth populations such as foster youth, parenting students, and those involved with the justice system.	\$250,000
Breastfeeding Task Force of Greater Los Angeles: BreastfeedLA	BreastfeedLA, a grassroots coalition formed in 1994 and incorporated as a nonprofit in September 2021, will appoint a BreastfeedLA Infant Feeding Coordinator in collaboration with the Department of Public Health to tackle infant feeding disparities, aiming to reduce infant mortality and foster healthier environments. Through this initiative, BreastfeedLA aims to address systemic issues, provide lactation education, and promote breast/chestfeeding as a strategy to combat food insecurity. By supporting breast/chestfeeding, it is possible to improve the overall well-being of both infants and mothers, alleviate financial strain on families, and build stronger, more resilient communities.	\$200,000



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Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
Chinese Christian Herald Crusades Inc.	The Chinese Christian Health Crusade's LA chapter aims to address the needs of underserved Chinese immigrants in the San Gabriel Valley through their "Wellness 4 Everyone" program. By providing comprehensive community services, nutrition education, food access programs, and safe food handling education, they seek to empower communities with resources and knowledge to promote healthy eating habits and improve food equity.	\$250,000
Clínica Monseñor Oscar A. Romero	Clínica Monseñor Oscar A. Romero (CMOAR), a nonprofit Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), serves over 12,200 patients in southern Los Angeles County with primary medical, dental, and behavioral health services. With LA Food Equity Funding, CMOAR plans to enhance staffing with a Registered Dietitian and case managers, purchase outreach materials in Spanish, and develop a nutrition education course tailored to the dietary traditions of Latino populations.	\$250,000
ECO URBAN GARDENS	Eco Urban Gardens combats food insecurity by promoting urban agriculture and sustainable living practices, aiming to provide farm-fresh products to every household. They will develop outreach programs, conduct workshops, and establish a Community-Supported Agriculture farm-to-table program to engage new community members and efficiently distribute food, while also expanding their team to enhance outreach and education efforts for long-term sustainability.	\$100,000



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El Nido Family Centers	<p>El Nido Family Centers (ENFC) has been empowering families in low-income communities of Los Angeles County since 1925 through various programs aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty, violence, and academic failure. ENFC plans to expand their efforts by partnering with CSUN's Marilyn Magaram Center for Food Science, Nutrition, and Dietetics to provide nutrition education, cooking demonstrations, and gardening workshops, aiming to increase food literacy and promote healthy eating habits while supporting the development of a sustainable farmers market in Pacoima to foster community engagement and economic development.</p>	\$250,000
FEAST	<p>FEAST enhances wellness in underserved communities in South LA by providing healthy foods and fostering human connection. Through scholarships for health educator trainings and website development with a partner portal for organizations to access their comprehensive Wellness curriculum and training materials, FEAST seeks to expand its reach and effectiveness in combating food insecurity and dietary-related diseases.</p>	\$200,000
Hot and Cool Foundation	<p>The Hot and Cool Foundation, established as Hot and Cool Cafe in 2018, is a social enterprise that has been a vital source of healthy food and community support in Leimert Park for five years, offering employment and training to formerly incarcerated individuals and foster youth. With funding for their nutrition and food education program, they aim to conduct workshops, distribute educational materials, and continue their workforce development efforts by fostering employment opportunities and empowering underserved individuals to address food equity issues and improve nutrition in their communities.</p>	\$200,000



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Impact Justice	Impact Justice is committed to advancing safety, justice, and opportunity through innovative programs, focusing on training organizations serving individuals returning from incarceration in nutrition promotion, and estimating reaching 250 residents in Los Angeles County with nutrition education. Their train-the-trainer model equips organizations to offer practical nutrition education to address the needs of individuals transitioning from incarceration, promoting health and community engagement.	\$151,644
Mujeres Extraordinarias Foundation	The Mujeres Extraordinarias Foundation aims to empower underserved immigrant women through a culturally tailored nutrition education program called “La salud empieza en la cocina” (Health starts in the kitchen). Funding will support services for 300+ Latino families over two years, including interactive cooking sessions, nutritional education, and practical tips for accessing resources. Through partnerships with regional food banks and social media campaigns, they seek to raise awareness about healthy eating and increase participation in public programs like CalFresh and WIC among Latino families.	\$150,000
Northeast Valley Health Corporation	Northeast Valley Health Corporation, a federally qualified health center (FQHC) primarily serving residents of San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys, will implement the Food & Nutrition Security (FNS) Project, aiming to increase food insecurity screenings and connect high-risk residents of the West San Fernando Valley with healthier food options. Their staff will focus on screenings at the Canoga Park Health Center (CPHC), refer patients to the local Canoga Park Farmers Market with food vouchers, and facilitate education for pre-diabetic patients via nutrition classes, ultimately improving food equity among low-income Latinx residents and fostering partnerships with West Valley food resource organizations.	\$250,000



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Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
<p>ORALE (Organizing Rooted in Abolition, Liberation, and Empowerment)</p>	<p>ÓRALE will conduct culturally-informed nutrition workshops for Spanish-speaking immigrant and undocumented families in Long Beach, Wilmington, and the greater South Bay region. They'll collaborate with experts to educate on nutrition, enhance access to fresh foods, and create a community cookbook for long-term wellness and cultural preservation. Their goal is to empower these communities with the tools to make healthier food choices and improve overall health while honoring their culinary traditions.</p>	<p>\$200,000</p>
<p>The Shaw Community Transformation Corporation DBA Creating Justice LA</p>	<p>The Creating Justice LA Peace and Healing Center, in collaboration with various partners, serves as a hub for Skid Row residents, offering free programming, nutritious food, and job training in an inclusive space. Funds will be used to expand the Center's capacity, including kitchen upgrades for cooking and nutrition education programs, and to support equitable food procurement practices, job training, and workforce development initiatives. Through these efforts, the Center aims to provide essential resources to the Skid Row community, empower individuals to heal and thrive, and create a blueprint for food equity and social justice in an environment deeply impacted by homelessness.</p>	<p>\$151,567.50</p>



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Public Benefits Enrollment

Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
Armenian Relief Society of Western USA, Inc.	The Armenian Relief Society of Western USA, Social Services seeks to improve living standards of individuals and families and address societal needs in Hollywood and Glendale through public benefits enrollment. Their project will aim to better serve Limited English Proficient immigrants and low-income older adults, promoting food equity enrollment programs, with anticipated impacts including improved access to nutritious foods, reduced health disparities, and increased economic security.	\$246,497
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)	CHIRLA will use funding to provide in-language education and enrollment assistance to low-income immigrants, focusing on informing older immigrants about CalFresh benefits and the potential expansion of the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants. Through activities like in-person sessions and distributing educational materials they hope to build capacity to guide members through application processes and providing follow-up support to establish long-term assistance clinics, addressing barriers to accessing food assistance benefits for low-income communities.	\$225,000
Granada on Broadway Outreach Project	Granda on Broadway will conduct outreach and enrollment efforts in South LA to enroll clients in services like CalFresh, cash assistance, and medical aid, focusing on simple, culturally relevant communication. Their project will focus on connecting with youth, students, people of color, and the Latino population to navigate enrolling into essential food programs that address food insecurity and systemic health disparities.	\$100,000



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Public Benefits Enrollment

Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
Hunger Action Los Angeles	Hunger Action Los Angeles (HALA) aims to combat hunger and promote healthy eating in Los Angeles County through programs like Market Match and CalFresh outreach. They plan to expand efforts by hiring and training more Community CalFresh Enrollment Specialists. They'll conduct workshops for community organizations in areas like the Antelope Valley and Long Beach, with a goal of enrolling households in each area, and plan to update their publication "The Peoples Guide to Welfare, Health and Other Services" into a mobile app, creating a self-sustainable model for ongoing impact.	\$250,000
Maternal and Child Health Access Project	Maternal and Child Health Access (MCHA) supports women, pregnant individuals, and families, focusing on addressing food insecurity through programs like CalFresh enrollment. With funding, MCHA plans to broaden its target audience, implement strategies outlined in the LA County Food Equity Roundtable report, tackle online access barriers, and advocate for medically tailored meals that can be covered by Medi-Cal.	\$250,000
Mayor's Fund for Long Beach	The Mayor's Fund will expand the Long Beach Hub, an online platform for access to services and resources, to include more comprehensive connections to nutrition and food security. Through increased staff capacity, technology improvements, and collaboration with childcare partners, the project aims to streamline processes, improve outreach, and embed food security measures within the LB Hub platform, ultimately leading to increased efficiency, reduced barriers to benefits enrollment, and improved access to nutritious food for vulnerable communities in Long Beach.	\$225,000



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Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
National Health Foundation	The National Health Foundation's CalFresh Connection program addresses food insecurity in Los Angeles County by connecting individuals to CalFresh benefits and local food resources through experienced Community Health Workers/Promotores. Funds will expand staff capacity, allowing for more comprehensive outreach, education, and enrollment assistance to under-resourced communities.	\$160,000
Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County (NLSLA)	Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County (NLSLA) provides free legal aid to low-income individuals, focusing on various areas such as housing, immigration, healthcare access, and public benefits. Their BAILA Network assists eligible immigrants to enroll in CalFresh, supports "food as medicine" initiatives with health centers, and offers comprehensive support including coordination, outreach, advocacy, and legal representation, demonstrating effectiveness through increased referrals and partnership engagement.	\$250,000
United Parents and Students (UPAS)	United Parents and Students (UPAS) plans to enhance the accessibility of City and County public benefit applications and food distribution services for low-income residents by analyzing the current system, conducting research-actions, and advocating for improvements in the first year. In the second year, they will support the implementation of the new system through training sessions and stakeholder meetings, aiming to improve access to public benefits and address nutrition security and health outcomes for vulnerable communities, with the grant supporting additional staff and operational costs to enhance UPAS's capacity for this important work.	\$250,000



LA Food Equity Fund



Strengthening Food Systems

Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
ALMA Backyard Farms	ALMA Backyard Farms will enhance their urban agriculture programs, focusing on personnel expansion, site improvements, and community-building initiatives to address food equity and social justice issues. By investing in team development and infrastructure, ALMA seeks to establish long-term sustainability while continuing to offer affordable food options and expand educational programs for diverse communities in Compton, San Pedro and beyond.	\$406,000
Inclusive Action for the City	Inclusive Action for the City will focus on 1) expanding food handler certificate training workshops and developing street-vendor accessible commissary spaces and 2) pilot a street vendor cohort focused on technical support for street vendors who want to rent commissary space, receive food safety training, permits, etc. These efforts aim to better prepare street vendors to comply with new food policy regulations and enter the formal food economy successfully, ensuring they can operate their businesses with dignity.	\$406,000
LA Más, Inc.	LA Más, Inc. will anchor the Northeast LA Food Justice Hub, comprised of seven organizations leading food sovereignty efforts in Northeast LA. Funding will focus on leasehold improvements, equipment, storage, transportation, speaker, language interpretation, and childcare support for the Hub. The initiative aims to center care and cooperation in the community, supporting grassroots organizations and fostering sustainability while addressing systemic issues of resource extraction, profit prioritization, and exploitation of working-class people of color.	\$250,000



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Strengthening Food Systems

Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
Lancaster Homeless Group (DBA: Street Company)	Street Company will launch a social enterprise, Casters Farm, featuring an indoor vertical hydroponic farming unit, providing fresh produce to employees, program participants, and unhoused individuals in the Antelope Valley. The initiative will create employment opportunities for unhoused residents, ensure sustainable food production, and pave the way for future expansion to supply local restaurants, farmers markets, hospitals, and community kitchens.	\$250,000
Los Angeles Food Policy Council	The LA Food Policy Council will develop a blueprint for a communal food hub, an initiative that stands as a cornerstone of the Food Equity Roundtable Strategic Plan. Additionally, the Council will launch a new iteration of the Farm Fresh LA program, aimed at connecting local growers with retailers to enhance food equity and address community needs.	\$250,000
Occidental College, Urban & Environmental Policy Institute	The Farm to Classroom project, facilitated by SEE-LA's eat! platform, increases schools' capacity to provide fresh, locally-produced foods to high-need students and families in South and Northeast LA communities. Through partnerships with schools, the project will provide farmers' market produce to thousands of students and caregivers, offer educational resources through the eat! platform, and establish lasting connections between local farmers and school programs, benefiting both farmers and communities.	\$400,000



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Strengthening Food Systems

Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
Partnership for Growth Los Angeles	Partnership for Growth LA will expand its food equity efforts and "Freedom Farms" by hiring key staff and consultants to develop efficient supply chain systems, mirroring recommendations from recent research on alternative food networks. This includes investing in key staff such as a Freedom Farms Director, and Transportation Lead to oversee program development, create a new supply chain, manage transportation, and link farms to the labor force needed for sustainability, while also funding for staff certifications, permits, food packaging supplies, transportation vehicles, and legal support for developing a cooperative infrastructure.	\$400,000
Prosperity Market	Prosperity Market, a mobile farmers market in Los Angeles featuring Black farmers and food producers, aims to enhance food access and community partnerships in South LA and beyond with their mobile farmers market. Their project includes aggregating and distributing local produce, developing digital infrastructure, establishing more pickup locations, and providing technical assistance programs. This will stabilize organizations along the supply chain and ensure sustainable growth for under-resourced producers and retailers.	\$150,000
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments	The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, a regional planning agency, will use funds to bolster and expand its regional food recovery program. Activities include providing technical assistance and fostering lasting partnerships between cities, grocery stores, restaurants, schools, and food recovery organizations to increase efficiency of food recovery, prevent duplication of efforts, and support smaller organizations.	\$350,000



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Strengthening Food Systems

Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
Social Justice Learning Institute	Social Justice Learning Institute's health equity work will focus on expanding their Food for Thought (FFT) program, aimed at addressing food insecurity, reducing food waste, and empowering South Bay and South Los Angeles communities through sustainable agriculture practices and educational workshops. Anchored by their urban farm in Inglewood, they will utilize sustainable agricultural practices to provide access to healthy, culturally relevant, and affordable produce to community shops, markets, and restaurants.	\$300,000
Special Services for Groups/Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement	Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement, a division of SSG, focuses on community health, food, and environmental justice within the API community. Funds will be used to bolster their Food Roots Harvest community food hub working with local farmers and expanding their program infrastructure, and to develop a community garden in an underserved Asian Pacific Islander neighborhood with cooking demonstrations and food distribution.	\$406,000
SÜPRMARKT	SÜPRMARKT, a social enterprise in LA, is dedicated to making fresh food affordable, especially in South Central LA, by offering free and reduced-price organic groceries, educational materials, and community events. Their goal is to establish a new organic grocery store in South Central, providing community discounts on prepared foods, free health education, and activities for at least 100 community members monthly, fostering a holistic approach to combat food insecurity.	\$200,000
With Love Market and Cafe	With Love Market and Cafe, a community-owned social enterprise in South Los Angeles, prioritizes access to affordable healthy food, safe spaces, and local employment opportunities, emphasizing equality and inclusivity. Their project funding will support strategic initiatives to stabilize and expand their local food hub, aiming for self-sufficiency by 2026, reinforcing their commitment to serving the community and fostering a thriving and equitable food ecosystem in South LA.	\$300,000



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Distribution

Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
Asian Youth Center (AYC)	Asian Youth Center's (AYC) mission is to empower low-income, immigrant, and at-risk youth, of all communities, to overcome barriers to success through the provision of culturally and linguistically competent education, employment, and social services. Their Emergency Food Program (EFP) has operated for over a decade and in March 2023 the program expanded to Rowland Heights and Hacienda Heights and they will be conducting monthly distributions at both locations.	\$100,000
Black Women for Wellness	Black Women for Wellness (BWW) seeks to address food inequity and insecurity and advance the health and wellbeing of Black women and girls in South Los Angeles. They will distribute food, including recipe cards inspired by that week's produce, to Black families and individuals through a bi-weekly food distribution.	\$100,000
Food Finders Inc.	Serving Long Beach, Food Finders' mission is to eliminate hunger and food waste while improving nutrition in food insecure communities. Their main operation is food rescue and distribution, linking the food surplus from their network of food related business, clubs, school and hospitals, etc. to their nonprofit recipients who provide food and meal services directly to the food insecure households or individuals. Through this project they are utilizing a Food Hub/Community Marketplace model for food distribution.	\$100,000
Los Angeles LGBT Center	The Los Angeles LGBT Center brings 54 years of expertise in dismantling systemic barriers faced by LGBTQ+ people to live as healthy, equal, and complete members of society. Their focus is operating a Senior Pride Pantry in three locations: Triangle Square , Ariadne Getty Senior Housing, and their senior center.	\$100,000



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Distribution

Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
Lutheran Social Services of Southern California	Lutheran Social Services of Southern California – Long Beach (LSSSC Long Beach) has operated a large-scale community pantry program since 1983. Funds will support continued pantry access Monday through Thursday, sourcing culturally relevant produce and goods from local Hispanic and Cambodian markets in Long Beach and partners like Food Finders.	\$100,000
MEND - Meet Each Need with Dignity	Begun as a grassroots volunteer effort in 1971, MEND – Meet Each Need with Dignity - provides food, necessities, and other services to high-need communities in the San Fernando Valley. MEND's services include food distribution, community outreach, and case management. Funds will support MEND's Community Nourishment Programs, which distribute over 3 million pounds of food through a Food Pantry, Food Bank (supplying a network of SFV pantries), Buen Provecho Farmers Market, and Little Health Market, benefiting 269,000 food-insecure people. Onsite outreach includes diaper distribution and weekly First Step services for people experiencing homelessness, offering a meal, bag of food, clothing, hygiene products, and local service referrals to nearly 800 individuals.	\$100,000
NoHo Home Alliance	Founded in 2018, NoHo Home Alliance cultivates community solutions to homelessness by creating pathways of engagement and change for volunteers and clients to end homelessness in our community. NoHo Home Alliance operates a drop-in access center for unhoused individuals four days a week; funds will support serving hot meals to individuals experiencing homelessness and food insecurity.	\$100,000



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Organization Name	Project Description	Grant Award
SALVA	Located in Palmdale, California, SALVA is dedicated to empowering immigrants through a range of educational programs and support services. SALVA will conduct monthly food distributions in Lancaster and weekly in Palmdale.	\$100,000
SHIELDS For Families	SHIELDS for Families (SHIELDS) is a nonprofit community-based organization serving low-income individuals and families residing in South Los Angeles communities. Funds will support their Food Bank program, which has been distributing perishable and non-perishable food and basic needs items in the community for over 20 years, serving over 32,000 households (94,500 individuals) since March 2020.	\$100,000
St. Francis Center	Since 1972, St. Francis Center (SFC) has provided hunger relief to homeless and extremely low-income families and individuals in Los Angeles. Funds will support their weekly food pantry services for families, youth, disabled adults, seniors, veterans, and those living in supportive housing through an on-site pantry, six satellite pantries, and pop-up pantries organized on an 'as needed' basis in food deserts throughout Los Angeles.	\$100,000

