



# SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida



The School Partnerships Program is one of many community facing programs operated by Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida. The School Partnerships Program offers a student-centered, stigma-reducing approach to increasing food access among students experiencing hunger.

## Program

*The School Partnerships Program directly serves 70+ school sites across our 7 county service area, kindergarten through college.*



**Second Harvest**  
**FOOD BANK**  
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

# ORIGINS

When a community needs assessment identified a critical lack of food resources available to students in middle and high school, the Second Harvest School Partnerships Program emerged to increase food access to this underserved demographic in our service area while reducing the stigma often attached to the utilization of such resources.



Our model is unique in its promotion of client choice and student engagement. Each school is required to identify a Student Market Manager and/or Management Team.

Some schools have even implemented a service-learning course to support this element of the program. When students are empowered to take ownership of the market, they build transferable skills in program coordination, marketing and communications, food safety and inventory/budget management.



## MODELS

*The School Partnerships program has continuously evolved each year since inception to provide a sustainable and quality resource. Now, the program operates two models: The School Market model and the Fresh Market model.*





# SCHOOL MARKETS



School Markets offer a twist on traditional in-school pantries. By including students in the operations of each market, students have the opportunity to gain hands-on, resume-building skills while reducing the stigma often associated with accessing such a resource.

Students may participate in:

- Naming the market
- Creating a logo
- Creating marketing materials (including social media posts)
- Inventory Management
- Budget Management
- Ordering
- Distribution
- & More

**Distribute AT LEAST 2x a week**

*Students should NOT act as a primary contact for the program*

School Markets are a resource for the entire student body. Students should have access to the market without question of need or eligibility. We believe that by creating an open and welcoming environment we are better able to reach students experiencing food insecurity.



**Offer choice wherever possible**

**Dismissal distributions seem most effective in providing opportunity to shop for groceries to take home**

**School Markets MUST include BOTH snacks and meal items. Snacks are an equalizer, but meal items make a deeper impact.**

**Create an atmosphere that you would feel proud to shop in**



# FRESH MARKETS

Fresh Markets are monthly produce distributions that offer fresh, healthful and nutritious foods that school markets otherwise don't have the capacity to store. Second Harvest delivers produce directly to each participating school site, and the produce must be distributed that same day.

**Must be able to commit to distributions monthly, September-May**

Fresh Markets are a resource for the entire student body. Students should have access to the market without question of need or eligibility, and distribution dates and times should be advertised in advance.

*Fresh Markets require additional statistics*

Students may participate in:

- Advertising fresh market dates
- Creating recipes for the produce
- Setting up the farmer's market style distribution
- Pre-packing produce bags
- Distribution
- Collecting data for stats during distribution
- Surveying peers for desired items
- & More



**Alert School Partnerships team immediately for any issues with produce**



**Dismissal distributions seem most effective in providing opportunity to shop for groceries to take home**

**You may pre-pack the produce, but we encourage you to try farmer's market style or an order ahead system so students and families can get what they want**





# SCHOOL SUPPORTS



## Where you come in!



School Supports are Partner Agencies who wish to serve schools in some capacity.

For many of you, this looks like weekend snack/meal bags distributed to the schools you serve. School Supports can also help to establish in-school pantries and keep them stocked.

The key difference between the School Partnerships Program and School Supports by Partner Agencies is funding. The School Partnerships program allocates grant funding directly to the schools we implement school markets at. The School Partnerships program does not provide funding to Partner Agencies who wish to serve schools.



- ✓ With a waitlist of 50 schools (and growing), there is a huge need to create more in-school pantries across our service area.
- ✓ If you have the capacity to serve schools, we welcome you to do so!
- ✓ Help us reach more students by joining the school supports pathway for partner agencies!





# LET'S DO THIS!!

## Important Notes:

- School Supports are NOT apart of the School Partnerships program, and operate under the Agency Relations team.
- School Supports must have an agreement in place between your agency and each school you serve (this accounts for food safety responsibility).
- School Supports are responsible for obtaining monthly stats for the schools you serve and including those numbers in your normal stats submission to AR.
- School Supports should NOT use TEFAP product to serve schools.
- School Supports should be transparent with the AR team about the schools they are serving so as an organization we have a better pulse of where there may be gaps in service.

*Thank you,*

*Briana Rebello*

**School Partnerships Program Manager**