

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida

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



About School Partnerships

The program 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.



Program Models

The School Partnerships program continues to evolve in order to provide a sustainable and quality resource. Currently, the program operates two models: The School Market and the Fresh Market.

School Markets

School Markets are a resource for the entire student body. Students should have access to the market without question of need or eligibility. By creating an open and welcoming environment more students experiencing food insecurity will have the food resources they need.

By including students in the operations of each market, they 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



Tips for Success

- Distribute AT LEAST 2x per week
- Offer choice wherever possible
- Dismissal distributions are 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 greater 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.

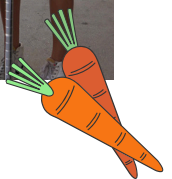
What to Know

- 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.
- Must be able to commit to distributions monthly, September-May.
- Alert School Partnerships team immediately for any issues with produce.
- Dismissal distributions are 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 choose or select what they want.



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





School Supports: Where You Come In

There is a huge need in the community to create more in-school pantries. If you have the capacity to serve schools, we welcome you to do so! By joining the School Supports Pathway for Partner Agencies, you can help us reach even more students.

- School Supports are Partner Agencies who wish to serve schools in some capacity.
- For many agencies, this looks like weekend snack/meal bags distributed to the schools you serve. School Supports can also help establish and/or stock in-school pantries.
- 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.



LET'S GO

Important Notes:

- School Supports and the schools they serve are NOT part of the School Partnerships program. Rather, they operate under the Agency Relations team.
- School Supports must have an agreement in place between your agency and each school you serve (this agreement is available through your AR coordinator)
- Keep accurate records - School Supports are responsible for collecting monthly stats for the schools serves. This data should be included in your normal stats submissions to AR.
- School Supports may NOT use TEFAP product to serve schools.
- Keep communications open - transparency around the schools you serve provides a better understanding of where gaps exist in our service.

Thank you,

Briana Rebello

School Partnerships Program Manager