



Southeast Food Access Working Group

Community Based Partners

African American Health Disparities Project
 BVHP Foundation
 BVHP YMCA
 CPMC Bayview Child Health Center
 Hunters Point Family Literacy for Environmental Justice
 Network for Elders
 Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Alliance
 Quesada Gardens Initiative
 Reachout for the Rainbow AfterSchool
 Renaissance Bayview
 SF Food Bank
 SF Wholesale Produce Market
 UCSF

CCSF Partners

Department of Public Health
 Southeast Health Center
 Department of Public Works
 Mayor's Office of Community Development
 Mayor's Office of Economic & Workforce Development
 SF Environment
 SF Redevelopment Agency

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Southeast Food Access (SEFA) Working Group

About SEFA

The Southeast Food Access Working Group is a collaborative of residents, community based organizations, city agencies, and others working on food access and food systems. SEFA's goal is to leverage similar efforts and encourage partnerships and collaboration in order to achieve a vibrant and robust food system for all in Bayview Hunters Point (BVHP). This coordination is critical given the diminishing resources available in BVHP.



Health Disparities in the BVHP

In the Bayview Hunters Point, rates of type II diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease are higher than in any other neighborhood in San Francisco. One significant contributing factor to these nutrition-related diseases is Bayview's food system which has a lack of fresh produce and healthy foods, but an abundance of cheap, non nutritious, processed and packaged foods.

SEFA's Pillars: Food Access, Awareness/Education, Urban Agriculture

SEFA identified three pillars to promote a robust food system. They are:

Food Access: SEFA has been involved in a variety of activities to improve food access at the retail level, works to reawaken BVHP's historic role as a foodshed and helps to create a healthy, fresh, affordable, sustainable, and locally-based food system there.

Awareness/Education: SEFA helps promote health literacy and awareness-raising around food justice issues and food systems, pairing the increased access to healthy food with related cooking and nutrition education.

Urban Agriculture: SEFA works to strengthen local urban agriculture infrastructure by supporting communication and collaboration between different urban agriculture-related organizations, and by facilitating conversations about urban agriculture issues.

SEFA Accomplishments

- In 2007 SEFA members surveyed over 600 community members in 3 languages to assess access to healthy, fresh foods and perceptions regarding existing food choices. Survey results were instrumental in attracting a new full service grocery store to the BVHP.
- SEFA members advocate and continue to work collaboratively with existing retail stores (Foodsco and SuperSave) to improve fresh, healthy and sustainable foods as well as the overall shopping experience. Recently this has resulted in a partnership with the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency that is providing consultant expertise and services to the owners of SuperSave to implement a repositioning of this store.



- To help combat the contribution of food insecurity to infant mortality, SEFA partnered with the San Francisco Women Infants and Children (WIC) program to add two new WIC-authorized vendors to those already serving the BVHP area. SEFA plans to create user-friendly, multilingual information cards with the names and locations of BVHP WIC vendors to distribute to low-income mothers in BVHP.
- Creation of the Food Guardian and SEVA projects (below)

Current SEFA projects

The **Food Guardian** program is a group of BHVP residents trained to educate, advocate, and mobilize in order to promote nutrition education and awareness, support urban agriculture, and address community food security and justice. Funded by San Francisco Environment, this program is tailored upon best practices in community health worker/*promoter de la salud* models. The Food Guardians recently drafted a set of healthy food standards for food retailers, which the Redevelopment Agency plans to use with any food retail store in the BVHP that receives SFRA funds. This effort is a critical step in ensuring that healthy food will become a prominent offering in City stores. Food Guardians have also surveyed customers at local food retail and distributed fresh produce from a local school garden at a YMCA in the neighborhood.



SEVA (“Selfless Service”), a community driven policy identification process and partnership with UCSF was also born out of SEFA. SEVA utilized a community process to develop health policy recommendations. SEVA will release the health policy brief in Summer 2010.

Where can I get more information?

Visit our webpage at: www.shapeupsf.org/SEFA, call 415-581-2400 or email shapeupsf@gmail.com

SEFA History

The Southeast Food Access (SEFA) Working Group evolved out of the April 2006 Mayor’s Challenge: Shape Up San Francisco Summit where community food justice organizations and city agencies met in a work group and identified the need for regular communication among all entities working on food issues in the BVHP. In January 2007, the first SEFA meeting was held and the group has met monthly since to address food systems in the Southeast sector. SEFA co chairs are Mark Ghaly, Director of the Southeast Health Center and Michael Janis, General Manager, SF Wholesale Produce Market. SEFA is staffed by the Department of Public Health Community Health Promotion and Prevention Branch’s Christina Goette and Susana Hennessey Lavery. SEFA receives private and public funding (SF Environment, UCSF, and RWJ) to support its work on the 3 pillars and to implement the SEVA and Food Guardian projects.