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School-Community Partnerships

A Blueprint to Improve Youth & Family Food Security

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLKIT DEVELOPED FROM MULTI-YEAR PILOT PROJECTS



Today's Session

1. Overview pilot project investment
2. Share learnings & recommendations
3. Preview Blueprint Implementation Toolkit

About Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. We are recognized as one of America's leading health care providers and nonprofit health plans. Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente has a mission to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. We currently serve nearly 12.6 million members in 9 states and the District of Columbia. Care for members and patients is focused on their total health and guided by their personal Permanente Medical Group physicians, specialists, and team of caregivers. Kaiser Permanente is dedicated to care innovations, clinical research, health education, and the support of community health.

As a nonprofit organization, Kaiser Permanente makes carefully selected investments each year to strengthen social and environmental factors that improve the health of our communities. Our 2022 and 2025 Community Health Needs Assessments highlight food insecurity as a top need in our Washington service area. To address this need, we invest in community-based solutions that improve food and nutrition security, and ultimately, health outcomes.

Learn more about our work to improve community health

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Original Blueprint Model

Where we started

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Background & Identified Needs

Communities disproportionately experience food insecurity

Evidence-based child nutrition solutions exist

Despite availability, participation gaps persist

2022 RFP: Addressing Service Delivery Challenges



School meal program participation barriers



SNAP enrollment challenges for families



Out-of-school-time household food needs

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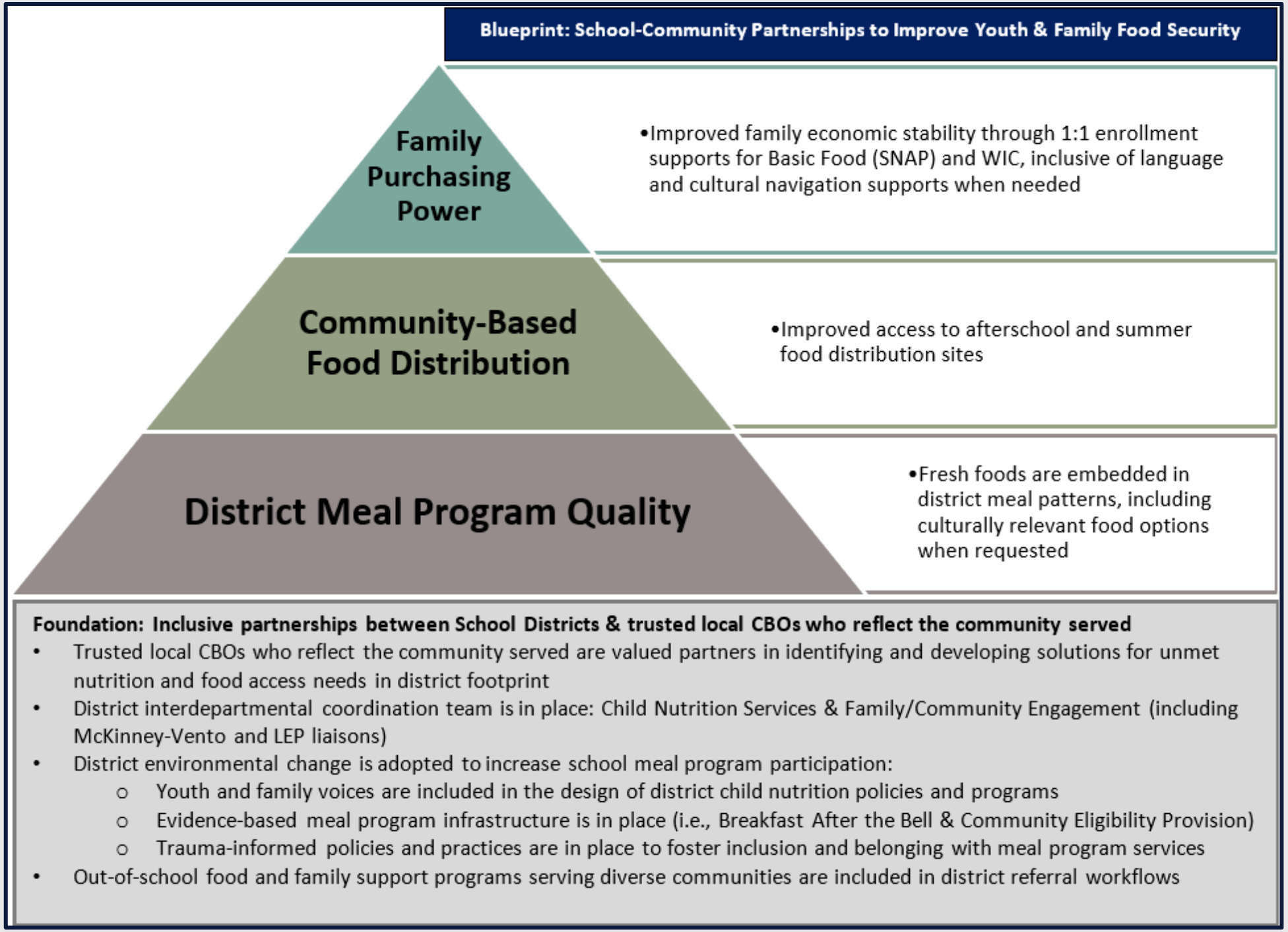
School-Community Partnerships as a Solution



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Original Blueprint Model

RFP awarding $1.78M for 4 pilot projects between 2022-2025



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Acknowledgements

Our Pilot Project Grantees

FEED SEVEN GENERATIONS

Erin Hoffman
Romajean Thomas
Valerie Segrest



THE FARM AT FRANKLIN PIERCE SCHOOLS

Benita Ki
Emily Strong
Joel Zylstra
Timothy Bremner

Bethel SCHOOLS

Caitlin McConnell
Cassandra Hurley
Darius Alexander
Leeda Beha

FEEDING FEASIBLE FEASTS

Angel Swanson
Pamela Swanson

Seattle Public Schools

Selamawit Misgano
Rivka Burstein-Stern
Theodore Howard

FamilyWorks
Nourishing • Connecting • Empowering

Hannah Daley
Kristin Granstrand
Marcia Wright-Soika
Renee Pierce
Ron Ketelhut
Theresa Williams

Technical Assistance Partners

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Elena Noon Kuo

We deeply appreciate our grantee partners and the numerous unlisted project support staff, for their wisdom, innovation, and dedication to our communities.

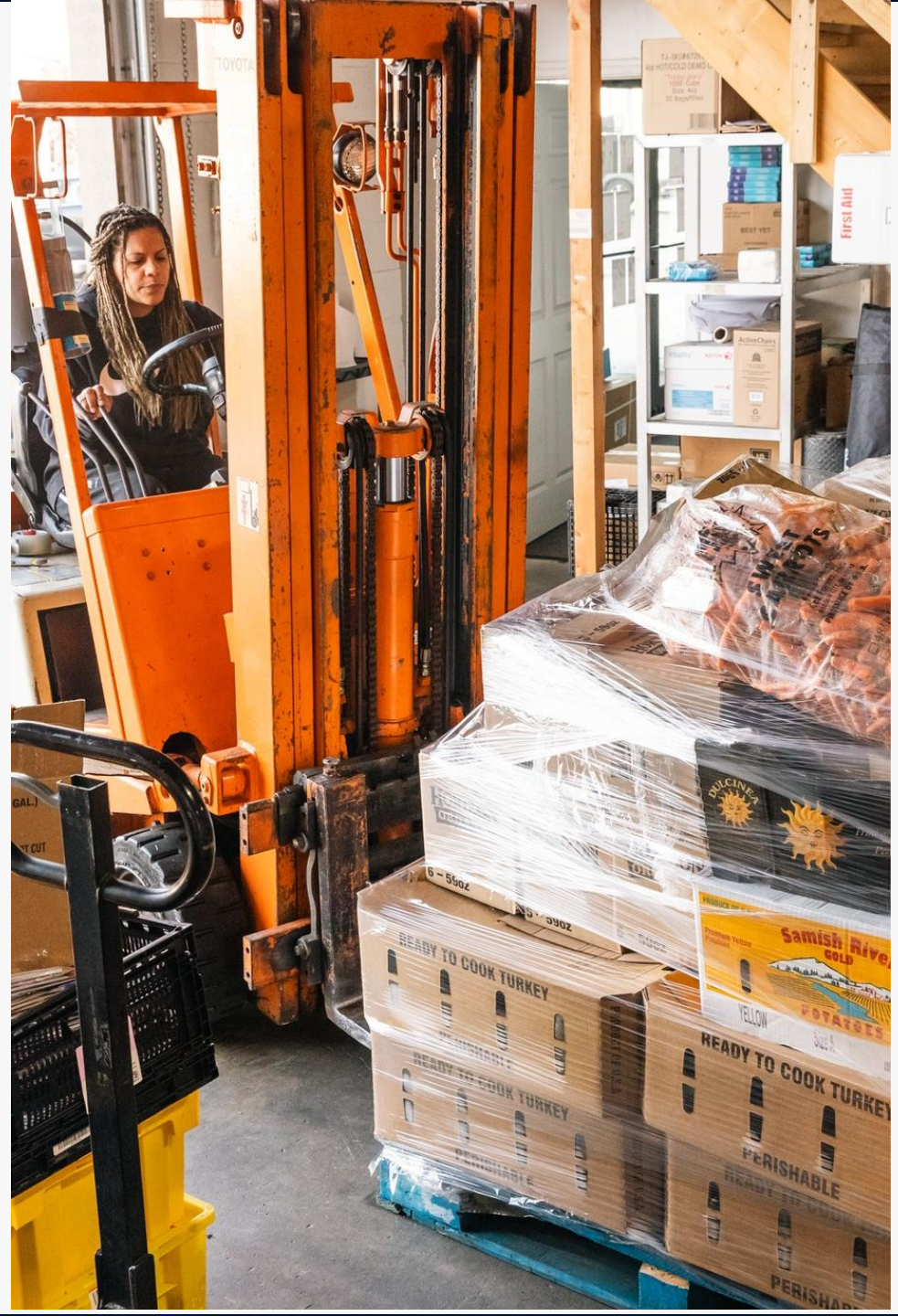
We also thank our technical assistance partners whose support through the lifespan of this project was essential to success.

Bethel SCHOOLS

Caitlin McConnell
Cassandra Hurley
Darius Alexander
Leeda Beha

Feeding Feasible Feasts
No One Lies About Being Hungry

Angel Swanson
Pamela Swanson





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THE TEND, GATHER & GROW

TEACHER GUIDE

An introduction to the Tend, Gather and Grow Teaching Toolkit:
a K–12 curriculum for cultivating healing relationships with
wild plants, local landscapes, and cultural traditions





Refined Blueprint Model

based on learnings from pilot projects

North star guide: tailor to your community

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Core Learnings

Youth & Family Co-Design

- reduced stigma
- culturally grounded
- program participation
- sense of belonging

School Sites = Access Points

- family resource centers
- mobile food distribution
- community fridges
- school-based care closets
- cafeteria food recovery

Multi-year funding for partnership infrastructure, strategy, and sustainability

- Improved access to nutritious food for 97,000 youth and families
- Program participation increased by 5x over 2.5 school years
- Durable infrastructure — procedures, referral systems, staffing models, communication tools

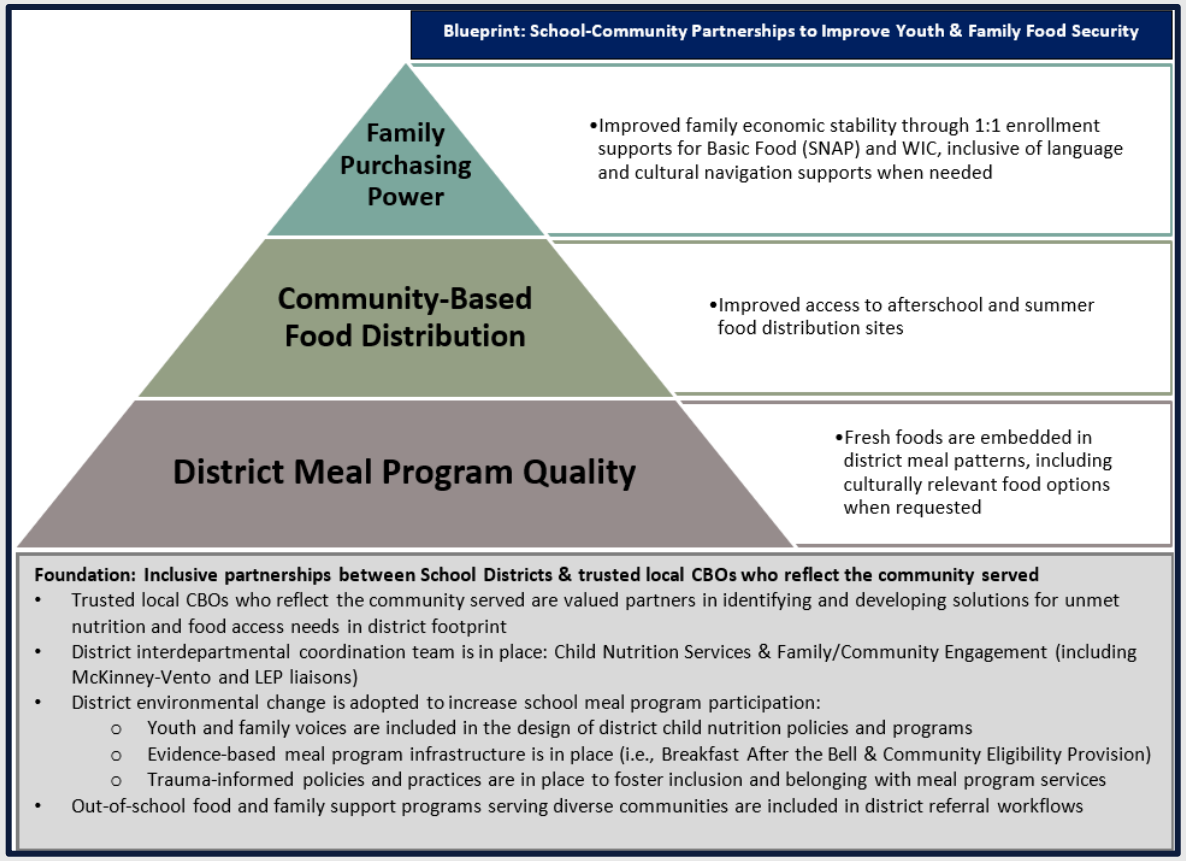
How the Blueprint Was Refined



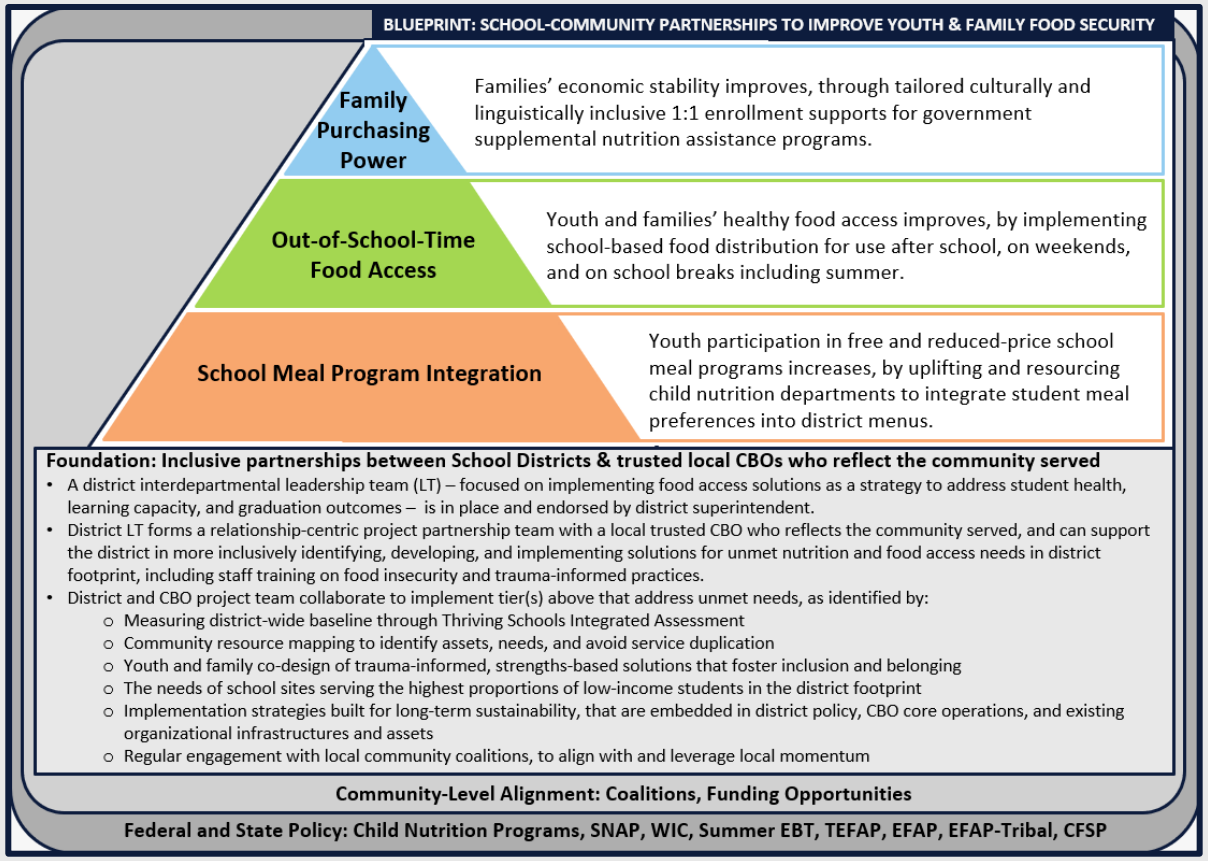
Common challenges:

- Child nutrition services infrastructure
- Families who were income-constrained yet ineligible for SNAP
- Sustainable partnership infrastructure

Original Blueprint Model



Refined Blueprint Model



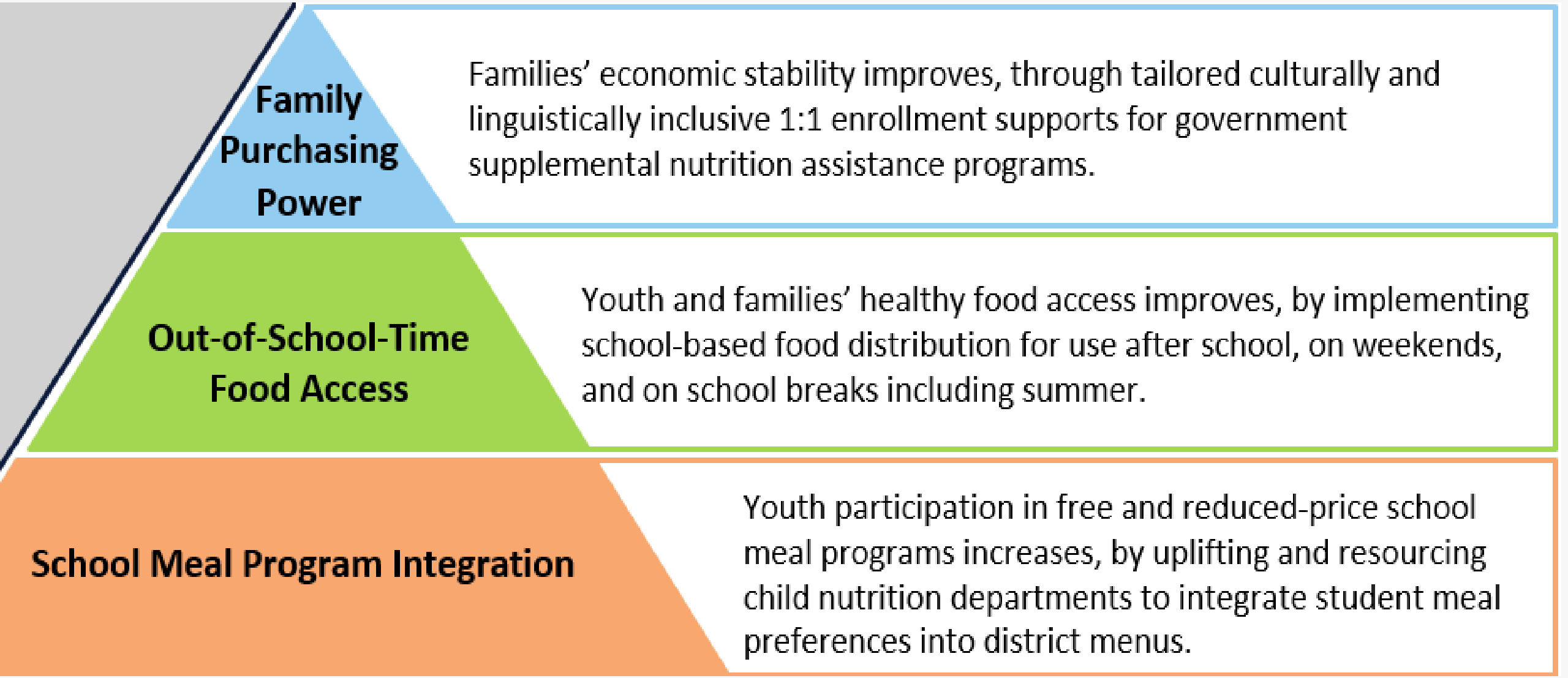
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Foundation: Inclusive partnerships – School Districts & trusted local CBOs who reflect community served

- A **district interdepartmental leadership team (LT)** – focused on implementing food access solutions as a strategy to address student health, learning capacity, and graduation outcomes – is in place and endorsed by district superintendent.

- District LT forms a **relationship-centric project partnership team with a local trusted CBO** who reflects the community served, and can support the district in more inclusively identifying, developing, and implementing solutions for unmet nutrition and food access needs in district footprint, including **staff training on food insecurity and trauma-informed practices**.

- Collaborate to **implement tier(s) above** that address unmet needs, as identified by:
  - Measuring **district-wide baseline** through Thriving Schools Integrated Assessment
  - **Community resource mapping** to identify assets, needs, and avoid service duplication
  - **Youth and family co-design** – trauma-informed, strengths-based, foster inclusion and belonging
  - Needs of **school sites serving the highest proportions of low-income students** in district footprint
  - Implementation strategies **built for long-term sustainability**, that are embedded in district policy, CBO core operations, and existing organizational infrastructures and assets
  - Regular **engagement with local community coalitions**, to leverage local momentum


Family Purchasing Power
Families' economic stability improves, through tailored culturally and linguistically inclusive 1:1 enrollment supports for government supplemental nutrition assistance programs.
Out-of-School-Time Food Access
Youth and families' healthy food access improves, by implementing school-based food distribution for use after school, on weekends, and on school breaks including summer.
School Meal Program Integration
Youth participation in free and reduced-price school meal programs increases, by uplifting and resourcing child nutrition departments to integrate student meal preferences into district menus.

BLUEPRINT: SCHOOL-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS TO IMPROVE YOUTH & FAMILY FOOD SECURITY

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- District and CBO project team collaborate to implement tier(s) above that address unmet needs, as identified by:
  - Measuring district-wide baseline through Thriving Schools Integrated Assessment
  - Community resource mapping to identify assets, needs, and avoid service duplication
  - Youth and family co-design of trauma-informed, strengths-based solutions that foster inclusion and belonging
  - The needs of school sites serving the highest proportions of low-income students in the district footprint
  - Implementation strategies built for long-term sustainability, that are embedded in district policy, CBO core operations, and existing organizational infrastructures and assets
  - Regular engagement with local community coalitions, to align with and leverage local momentum

Community-Level Alignment: Coalitions, Funding Opportunities

Federal and State Policy: Child Nutrition Programs, SNAP, WIC, Summer EBT, TEFAP, EFAP, EFAP-Tribal, CFSP

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The Refined Blueprint Intervention Model

Lessons for Public Health and Systems Stakeholders

1. Dedicated **staffing** makes innovation possible
2. Community voice strengthens **both** design and uptake
3. Sustainability requires **systems integration**
4. Solutions must fit **local context**
5. Improvement strategies are needed to address **systems barriers**

Lessons for Funders

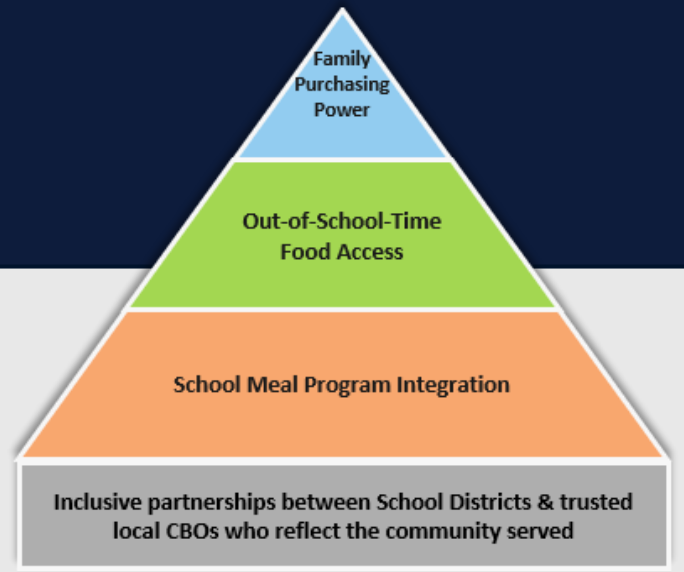
1. Funding the **District & CBO as individual grantees** was a benefit to the project partners yet was complex to monitor as a funder.

2. Providing funding for a **planning phase with community feedback** as a requirement was crucial to the project's success.

3. A **multi school-year implementation phase** was crucial for impact and sustainability.

4. Funding for **FTE was the most needed budget line item** – not food.

School-Community Partnerships: A Blueprint for Youth and Family Food Security



Toolkit for Implementation and Sustainability

Translates lessons from Kaiser Permanente's $1.78M pilot project investment into practical guidance to support replication in other communities.

Designed for:	*To help:*
School districts & trusted local community-based organizations	Build **inclusive partnerships** to strengthen youth and family food access in the district footprint through **community-informed solutions** that: • address gaps • reduce stigma • leverage community assets • and are built for sustainability within existing infrastructure
Funders & systems partners	**Shape investments** and **resource alignment** to replicate this model, supporting: • project management FTE • time for assessing needs, gathering community input, and aligning goals • technical assistance to support strategy, evaluation, and sustainability

Explore the Blueprint Here:

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Implementation Strategy

FOUNDATION: INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN SCHOOL DISTRICTS & TRUSTED LOCAL COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS (CBOs) WHO REFLECT THE COMMUNITY SERVED

Blueprint Goal:	Activities:	Key stakeholders:	How to sustain:	Resources:
District and CBO Core Team (CT) collaborate to implement tier(s) above that address unmet needs.	Community resource mapping to identify assets, needs, and avoid service duplication	• District-CBO CT • Students and families with lived experience • Local community coalitions	• Assign a map owner, and update regularly.	• *TSIA measure NFA-D6:* District resource mapping to support nutrition and food access • Hunger Free Washington's Find Food Portal (Food Banks, School Meals, Summer Food)
	Youth and family co-design of trauma-informed, strengths-based solutions that foster inclusion and belonging.	• District & CBO Project Managers recruit and engage (Counselors can help) • Students and families from diverse backgrounds who have lived experience with food insecurity, and may benefit from the solutions developed	• Establish a youth leadership team to help guide and implement the work. ○ *Take care to foster opportunities for youth from diverse backgrounds.* ○ *Youth who struggle with traditional learning settings may find a sense of belonging in projects like this.* ○ *When possible, compensate youth and families for their time.* ○ *Maintain involvement throughout project, not just du… will help with iterat…*	• *TSIA measure FCE-D1:* District coordination team for family & community engagement • *TSIA measure FCE*-D2: Trauma-informed approach to implement policies on family & community engagement • *TSIA measure FCE-D4:* District-level professional learning on family & community engagement • *TSIA measure NFA-D2:* Trauma-informed approach for district policies on nutrition and food access • *TSIA measure NFA-D8:* Gathering input on district …licies …h & Evaluation
	Schools with the highest proportions of low-income students are prioritized for the designed food and nutrition access intervention.	• District-CBO CT • District LT	• Prov… infrast… sites, the… within exis… • Leverage CP… program … and CBO… staffi…	

Toolkit Preview

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Implementation Strategy

OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME FOOD ACCESS

Blueprint Goal:	Activities:	Key stakeholders:	How to sustain:	Resources:
Youth and families' healthy food access improves, by implementing school-based food distribution for use after school, on weekends, and on school breaks including summer.	Provide non-perishable nutritious food options through School-based Food Pantry/Care Closets to meet needs during school day and/or stock weekend backpack programs.	• Family Engagement departments (Family Resource Center if existing) • School counselors/nurses • CBO/Food Bank sourcing partner	• Maximize all available federal and state funding streams: free food available from WSDA-contracted Food Assistance Providers (TEFAP, EFAP, CSFP, EFAP-Tribal). • Partner with a CBO who does food rescue from grocery stores (FFF).	• WSDA's Directory: Lead Agencies for Food Assistance • Bethel School District/Feeding Feasible Feasts Case Study: Care Closet Model • FEED 7 Generations Case Study: School Pantry Model

	Provide fresh produce for use after school, on weekends, and on school breaks. Innovative solutions:
	• Community fridge with donated produce
	• Fresh produce distribution at district summer meal sites
	• Mobile pop-up food pantries
		• Family Engagement/ Resource Departments
		• School counselors and nurses (identify students with a need, and attain produce from fridge in real-time)
		• Family Resource Center as an accessible hub
		• Rescued Produce: CNS staff buy-in and collaboration
		• CBO/Food Bank sourci… partner
			• Maximize all available federal and state funding streams: Afterschool & Summer Child Nutrition Programs.
			• Rescue produce and other nutritious food from school meal programs.
			  ○ Consult with local public health department on food safety standards.
			• Grow produ… and have st…
			• Partner wit…
				• Hunger Free Washington's Afterschool Meals and Summer Meals Guides.
				• United Way of King County statewide grant opportunities for Afterschool Meals and Summer Meals
				  ○ Bethel School District/Feeding Feasible Feasts Case Study: care closets, CNS food rescue
				…ed resource: how to …ment CNS Food Rescue …m
				…s

	Where unable to directly distribute, out-of-school-time food distribution programs serving diverse communities are included in district referral workflows.	• Family Engagement Departments • School counselors and nurses		…t …unity-

Toolkit Preview

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Happy to Connect!

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Explore the Blueprint Here:

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