

Candidate Hunger Action Challenge

Julian Bermudez



Running for:
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 9

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What do you think are the root causes of hunger, and what do you see as the government's role in addressing them?

In my opinion, the core causes of hunger are food accessibility, poor salaries, food deserts, and a lack of reliable transportation. San Francisco City Hall should stop funding big tech initiatives and start funding public transportation, raise taxes on the wealthy, mandate a grocery or market within walking distance, and find ways to reduce food waste in our city by mandating that unused foods be donated to local shelters, as well as whistleblower protection for employees to hold businesses accountable.

If elected, how would you ensure coordination between the multiple government departments that fund and administer food assistance programs?

I'd try my hardest to shorten the paper trail. That means removing departments and establishing a distinct group completely dedicated to food aid funding.

Studies have shown food can be medicine. If elected, how do you plan to use your position to improve food-related health disparities?

My proposal is to boost funding for free breakfast and lunch for students while also allowing a shopette-style place where students can buy snacks with stipends based on parental income. My dream proposal is to provide new parents with an EBT-type card for the first year or so. This would help with funds, given the escalating cost of infant supplies like formula and diapers.

The San Francisco-Marin Food Bank will be closing all Food Bank-run Pop-up Pantries by June 2025 due to cuts in government pandemic funding. This program currently serves 11,400 households, 75% of which are estimated to lose access to free weekly groceries when the funding ends. If elected, what would you do to ensure that all San Franciscans have access to nutritious foods?

Identifying pop-up pantries as a critical need in San Francisco and offering additional funds under a different name. I am committed to enacting a wealth tax to close the city's budget deficit and begin funding additional social programs to assist the working class in San Francisco.