

FMI THE FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION COMMITMENTS TO ADDRESS HUNGER AND IMPROVE FOOD ACCESS, NUTRITION, AND HEALTH SEPTEMBER 2022

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In the months leading up to the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health on September 28, FMI convened with members to outline a set of commitments the food industry could support that address food and nutrition insecurity and provide Americans with resources to make informed choices about their eating patterns and overall health. The commitments that follow align with the pillars the White House has identified as priorities for the Conference and beyond to improve food access, reduce diet-related disease, and empower consumers to make healthy choices. Though these commitments are focused on 2023, they serve as a starting point to launch future efforts and help achieve the goals of the Conference by 2030.

Commitment 1: Food Donations

FMI members will donate more than 2 billion meals in 2023 with the goal of increasing food donations to food banks and other organizations that support nourishing communities.

Examples include:

- Providing total pounds donated annually (~1.2 lbs = 1 meal)
- Providing number of meals donated annually
- Providing direct funds donated to organizations

Future goals include exploring how to sustain or increase donation numbers and may include exploring nutrition quality.

Commitment 2: Improve Food Access to Underserved Communities

FMI members will commit to robust investment in programs, initiatives, infrastructure enhancements and partnerships to improve food availability in areas of limited food access. FMI members commit to 2023 benchmarking and annual reporting on these numbers.

Examples may include:

- Mobile food pantries
- Refrigerated grocery delivery
- Community partnerships to expand access (financial support, equipment, training)
- Infrastructure and transportation investments to improve access (fridge/ freezer or space improvements for a food bank, bus stop changes, food safety training, etc.)
- Solidifying local partnerships with small farms to increase local sourcing in urban, rural or tribal areas

Future goals include exploring additional partnerships and solutions to expand access in underserved communities.

Commitment 3: Leverage Federal Feeding and Food as Medicine Programs

FMI members will expand access to and leverage federal feeding programs and Food as Medicine programs in the food retail setting that include nutrient-dense foods. FMI members commit to 2023 benchmarking and annual reporting on these numbers.

Examples may include:

- Implementing online SNAP and WIC pilots
- Establishing mobile payments for SNAP / WIC
- Solidifying partnerships with additional federal feeding programs such as in schools, with summer feeding programs, community food access sites, etc.
- Implementing nutrition incentive programs
- Implementing Food as Medicine programs produce prescription programs and medically tailored nutrition

Future goals include FMI convening members to discuss best practices, efficiencies, opportunities and challenges while gathering critical partners.

Commitment 4: Promote Consumer Education and Transparency

FMI members across the food industry will share evidence-based messages and educational tools for consumers in 2023 to support healthy eating patterns that align with the Dietary Guidelines and federal nutrition guidance. FMI members commit to 100 million impressions/consumers in 2023.

Examples may include providing consumers with existing resources related to:

- Dietary Guidelines, USDA MyPlate, ShopSimple, FDA labeling info
- Partnership for Food Safety Education (PFSE) safe food handling practices
- Family Meals Movement[™] and more
- Omnichannel opportunities: on-package, in-store and online
- Impressions gathered from emails, social media, etc.

Future goals include increased use of education messages and tools to inform consumers and continued expansion.

