

Healthy Eating King County Board or Health Subcommittee Recommendations for 2020 Workplan

Policy Areas	Potential Board of Health Action
<p><i>Importance of Food Access Resolution</i> There are opportunities for the BOH to advocate for addressing food accessibility, affordability, and appropriateness at the local, state and federal levels. This resolution can highlight the need for culturally appropriate food access, sustainable food production, and the need to close the food security gap—people who don't qualify for SNAP and other benefits but are not able to afford healthy food. This resolution can also speak to transportation or mobility justice as a piece of food access. Additionally, the resolution can direct the Board to advocate on:</p> <p><i>Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Advocacy</i> At the federal level, SNAP eligibility continues to be targeted and restricted, potentially impacting the 278,798 SNAP recipients in King County.</p> <p>Washington State budget 2021: <i>Funding for Fruit & Vegetable Incentive Program</i> State funding for fruit and vegetable incentives will allow thousands of low-income families outside of Seattle to continue to access fruits and vegetables in their diet and enhance their overall health. Funding also supports local farmers and ethnic markets</p> <p><i>State level food bank funding</i> State funding to support Farm to Food Pantry program for funding to expand capacity of food pantries to distribute perishable foods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Invite community organizations working on food access issues to speak to the BOH about their work and opportunities to address access in the County ● In conjunction with the above briefing, and aligned with the BOH focus on state budget advocacy in 2021, pass a resolution in summer 2020 for the BOH to advocate at the federal, state, and local level in 2020/2021 ● As follow-up to the resolution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Write a letter to federal representatives in support of SNAP ○ For 2021 WA State Leg Session: write letters around ensuring funding for Fruit and Vegetable Incentive Program and State Funding for Foodbanks ○ BOH members can consider opportunities at the local level for investments
<p><i>Healthy Beverages Access for Children</i> The BOH has several opportunities to advocate for improved access to healthy beverages in spaces frequented by children (e.g. schools, parks, restaurants).</p> <p><i>Healthy Kids Healthy Drinks Bill (HKHD)</i> This WA state bill makes a healthy beverage—water, unflavored milk, or specific non-dairy milk alternatives—the default beverage on every kid's menu instead of sugary drinks. This helps parents provide healthy drink options to their children when they eat out at restaurants or fast food establishments.</p> <p><i>State level funding for water access in schools</i> Advocate for funding to support installation of water bottle filling stations in schools at the state level and locally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Track HKHD bill in 2020 ● Write a letter and lobby in support ● Advocate for funding for water filling stations ● Consider local action on default kids meal beverages for 2021 as appropriate