

SWEETENED BEVERAGE TAX
COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

20
23

SBT
ANNUAL
REPORT



Seattle

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Message from the Board

Dear Seattle,

On behalf of the Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, we are pleased to release our **2023 Annual Report**. It's hard to believe, but 2023 marked the *sixth* year of Sweetened Beverage Tax (SBT) implementation. For 6+ years, Seattle has benefitted from dedicated SBT funding and investments that address food security, increase access to healthy food, and support children's health and early learning. Meanwhile, the Board has been steadfast in monitoring SBT investments and [advising the Mayor and City Council](#) on the use of SBT revenues to ensure they serve communities and residents most affected by inequities in health and educational outcomes.

Today, the SBT funds hallmark programs like [Fresh Bucks](#), [Food Equity Fund](#), [Farm to Preschool](#), [Healthy Food in Schools](#), and [Child Care Assistance Program](#) – investments and programs that make our city more affordable and livable for everyone as well as foster an equitable, sustainable, and resilient local food system. The SBT Fund also supports food banks and meal programs—essential services for food insecure folks.

All of the work featured in this report hinges on dozens of community-based organizations and community leaders who partner with the City of Seattle to design and deliver food and early learning programs and services. To these organizations and their staff – **thank you** for all you do for our communities. Seattle is a better city for your efforts.

Sincerely,



Tanika Thompson
Bird, CAB Co-Chair



Jen Moss, CAB Co-
Chair

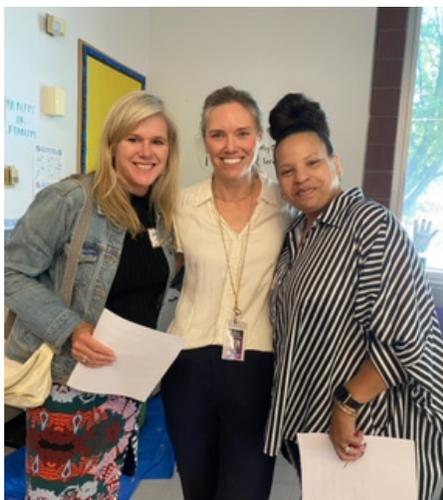


Photo (left to right): Jen Moss, CAB Co-Chair; Bridget Igoe, City of Seattle Food Policy Advisor; and Tanika Thompson Bird, CAB Co-Chair.

SBT investments
and programs
make Seattle
more affordable,
livable, and
equitable.

2023 Board

Listed in numerical position order.

Jaimée Marsh, FEEST

Barbara Baquero, University of Washington School of Public Health

Rebecca Finkel, Puget Sound Educational Service District

Bilan Aden, African Community Housing & Development

Tanika Thompson Bird, Got Green

Christina Wong, Northwest Harvest

Kristin Sukys, Food is Medicine Consultant

Jen Moss, Washington State University Extension - SNAP-Ed Program

Barbara Rockey, Treehouse

Munira Mohamed, East African Community Services

Dan Torres, Bezos Family Foundation

2023 Board Actions

The Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board was established by the City Council ([Ordinance 125324](#)) to advise and make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on programs and services supported by the SBT.

In 2023, the Board issued the following [recommendations](#) to City officials:

[2024 Budget Recommendations \(June 20, 2023\)](#): The Board addressed a potential shortfall in the SBT Fund and advised the City to avoid any cuts to SBT-funded programs and services.

[Letter to Mayor Harrell and Councilmember Mosqueda regarding the need for new and stable revenue for programs/services supported by the SBT \(September 15, 2023\)](#): The Board articulated the need for new and stable revenue sources for food security and child development programs supported by SBT revenue.

[Letter to City Council regarding the Mayor's 2024 Proposed Budget \(October 25, 2023\)](#): The Board endorsed the Mayor's 2024 Proposed Budget and called for diverse revenue streams to support food security and child development programs.

In February 2023, the Board gave a [Five Years in Review presentation](#) to the City Council Finance and Housing Committee about the SBT.



SBT Collections

SEATTLE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (FAS), FINANCE DIVISION

The Sweetened Beverage Tax (SBT) is a tax on the distribution of sugary beverages in the city of Seattle. Information for SBT taxpayers (distributors of sugary beverages) is available on the [tax webpage](#).

This chapter provides a summary of SBT collections in 2023, including the number of taxpayers, 2023 tax revenue collected, and reported ounces of sugary beverages. It also provides a historical comparison of tax revenues and reported ounces for 2018-2023. Overall, 2023 saw continued but small growth in revenue and volumes consumed over 2022, but with fewer tax filers. Although 2023 revenue and consumption has still not quite equaled the pre-pandemic levels of 2018-2019, they are in nominal terms roughly comparable for the first time since 2020.

Tax Rate

The standard tax rate for the SBT is \$.0175 per ounce. There is a reduced tax rate for certified manufacturers. That rate is \$.01 per ounce.

Taxpayers

There were 183 total 2023 tax filers, of which 24 were annual filers. This is the lowest number of filers since the inception of the tax. Tax filers have slowly declined over time from a high of 220 filers in 2019, 204 filers in 2020, and 192 filers in 2022.

There were only 3 firms, down from a high of 5 firms in 2020, that have received certification for the reduced tax rate. These are firms which manufacture sugary beverages and have worldwide gross income of greater than \$2 million and less than \$5 million. Beverages from these manufacturers are taxed at the reduced rate of \$0.01 per ounce.

Of the 183 total tax filers in 2023, 62 are retailers that have issued redistribution certificates to 39 distributors. Under certain circumstances, determining the correct number of taxable ounces is better managed by the retailer receiving distribution of the beverages or concentrates. In these cases, retailers may issue a redistribution certificate to a distributor, which transfers the liability for making tax payments to the retailer from the distributors on those ounces of product that are taxable.

SBT Collections (continued)

SEATTLE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (FAS), FINANCE DIVISION

The City has also issued 5 exempt certificates, which exempt from taxation beverages manufactured by businesses with worldwide gross income of \$2 million or less. The City issued 20 exempt certificates in 2020.

2023 Tax Revenues

Total 2023 tax revenues increased by \$0.54 million (2.6%) from 2022 levels to \$21,579,326. This growth followed on the 10.9% growth in 2022 coming out of the pandemic low-water mark of \$17.25 million in 2020 (**Figure 1**). As would perhaps be expected, the robust growth of 2021-22 appears to be slowing and it remains to be seen over the next year or two whether revenues will plateau in the \$21 to \$22 million dollar range or continue to grow toward and beyond the \$22.9 million high of 2018.

Collections by quarter are shown in **Figure 2** indicating the seasonal pattern of consumption.

Figure 1: SBT Tax Collections, 2018-2023 (\$ Millions)

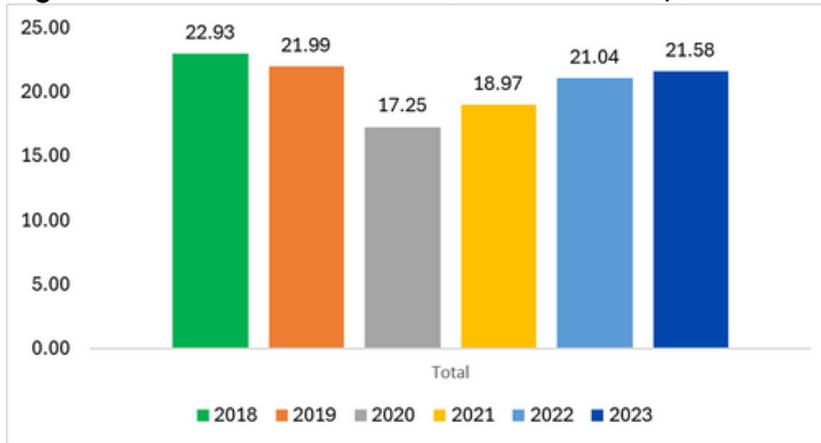
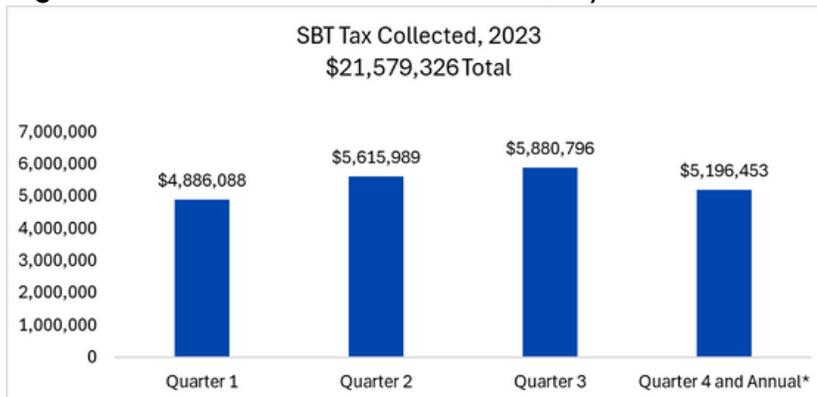


Figure 2: 2023 SBT Tax Collections, by Quarter



SBT Collections (continued)

SEATTLE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (FAS), FINANCE DIVISION

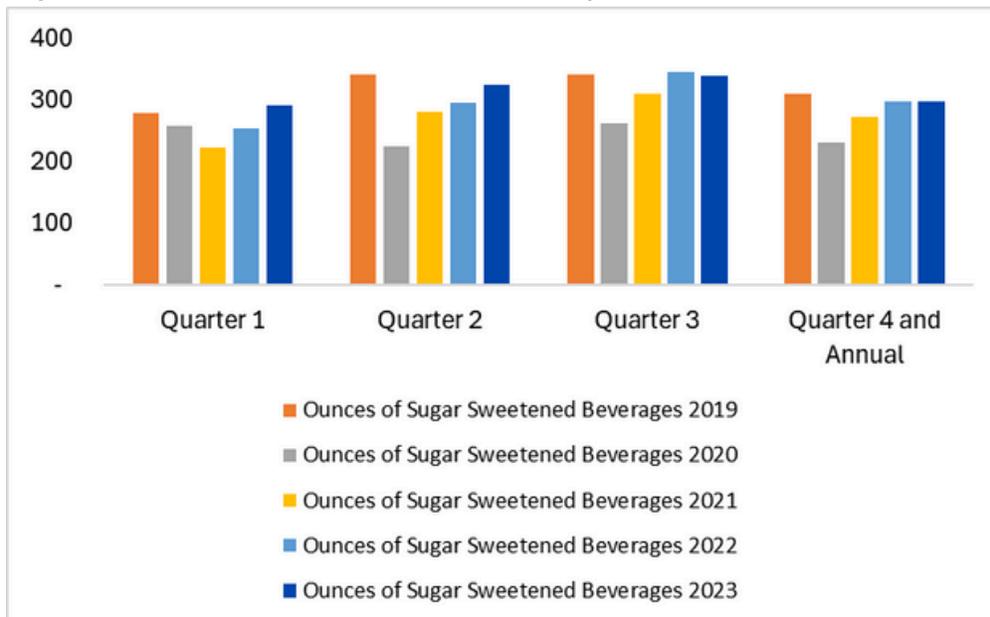
Reported Ounces of Sugary Beverages

Taxpayers reported over 1.25 billion ounces (approximately 9.8 million gallons) of sugary beverages distributed into the city of Seattle in 2023. That is over 1,600 ounces per person in Seattle, though many of those ounces are consumed by non-Seattle residents. Total reported ounces are now just 1.2% below the 1.27 billion ounces in 2019 but have increased 29% over 2020 consumption and 5.1% over 2022 consumption.

Reported ounces by quarter and year are shown in **Figure 3**. The first quarter grouping captures elements of both the onset of the pandemic in March of 2020, thus depressing consumption relative to 2019 and the reality that Q1 2021 was at the trough of consumption. This illustrates both the underlying seasonality of sugary beverage consumption behavior within the years but also overall sugary beverage consumption pre-Covid to current.

Note: These figures are calculated by the City based on taxes reported. They should not be considered a complete or accurate measure of actual beverage consumption.

Figure 3: 2023 SBT Tax Collections, by Quarter



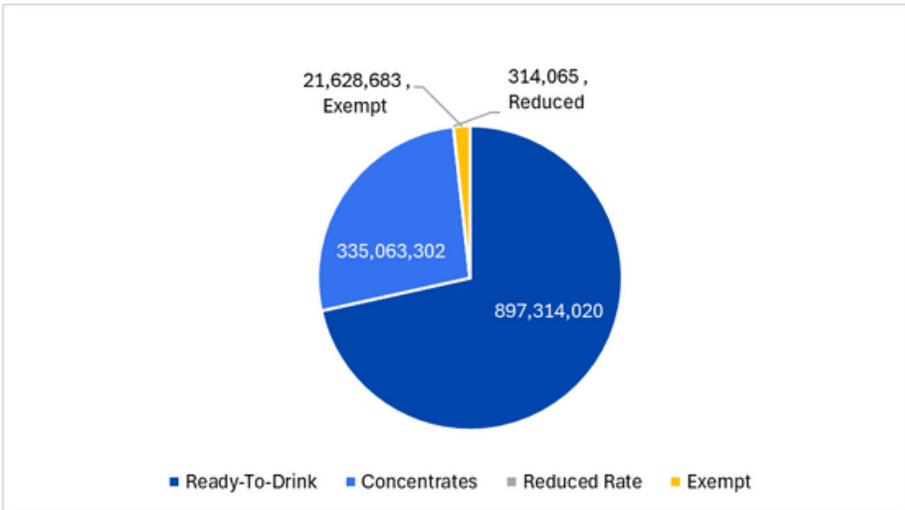
SBT Collections (continued)

SEATTLE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (FAS), FINANCE DIVISION

Reported Ounces by Category

Of the total ounces reported, approximately 314,000 (0.03% of total) were taxed at the reduced rate of \$0.01 per ounce. This represents a decrease of 19.9% or approximately 78,000 ounces from 2022. It is approximately 167% of 2019 levels. Approximately 21.6 million ounces of beverages were reported but exempt from taxation – an all-time high. This is a significant increase of approximately 21.1 million reported ounces from 495,000 ounces reported in 2022 – an all-time low. Taxpayers are not required to report exempt ounces, which may explain at least some of the annual variation.

Figure 4: Ounces Reported by Category, 2023

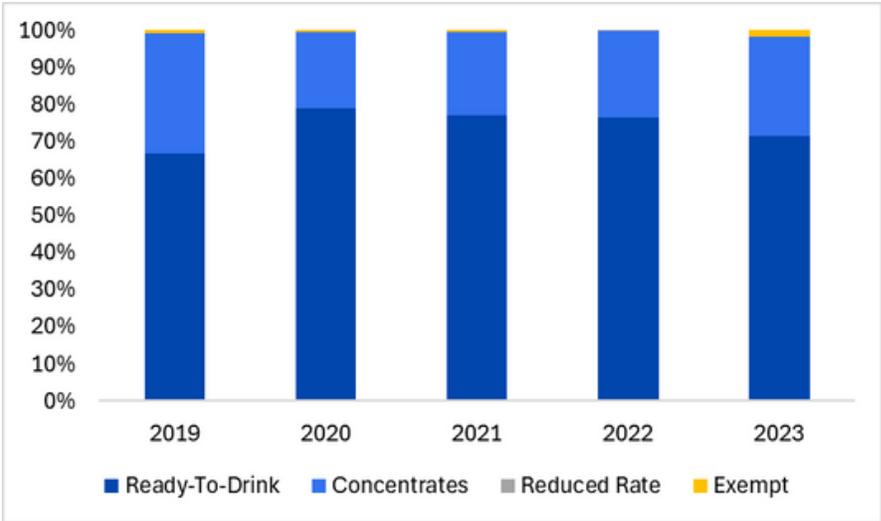


SBT Collections (continued)

SEATTLE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (FAS), FINANCE DIVISION

Due to restaurant and other venue closures, reported concentrate ounces fell approximately 52% in 2020 to 200.5 million ounces from 414.1 million ounces in 2019. In 2023, concentrate ounces are 67.1% greater than 2020 levels, at a total 335.1 million ounces. This is an increase of 19.0% over 2022 but are still just 81% of 2019 levels. Ready-to-Drink ounces, in contrast, also decreased in 2020, but 2021 growth made up the losses of 2020. In 2023, Ready-to-Drink ounces have decreased slightly 1.2 % to 897.3 million ounces, which continues to exceed the 2019 level of 845.8 million ounces. Ready-to-drink consumption made up about 67% of total ounces consumed in 2019. With the decline of consumption of fountain beverages made from concentrates in 2020, this share grew to approximately 77% in 2021 and has decreased to 71% in 2023. At the same time, the share of concentrate ounces has increased from a low of 20.6% in 2020 to 26.7% in 2023. The relatively stable base of store-bought, ready-to-drink consumption explains to a large degree why total consumption and revenues didn't fall even further during 2020.

Figure 5: Share of Total Consumption, 2019-2023



SBT Investments

COMPILED BY THE SEATTLE OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT (OSE)

Seattle's Sweetened Beverage Tax (SBT) was designed to improve the health of Seattle residents by reducing the sales and consumption of sugary drinks. SBT also raises revenue for important programs that increase access to healthy food and support child health and early learning.

Proceeds from the SBT are spent in accordance with City of Seattle ordinances (Ord. 125995, § 1, 2019; Ord. 125886, § 2, 2019; Ord. 125718, § 1, 2018; Ord. 125324, § 3, 2017). For more information, see the [Seattle Municipal Code 5.53.055 - Sweetened beverage tax-Allocation of proceeds](#).

In 2023, approximately **\$22 million** SBT revenue was allocated to programs and services:

- **65%** went to Food Security & Access programming and
- **35%** went to Early Learning & Child Development programming.

The table on the next page lists the programs and services supported by SBT revenue in 2023. Budgets are based on the 2023 Adopted Budget; the budget numbers do not include one-time budget adjustments such as legislated budget adds or budget carryforward from the previous year.

*Department key for the following table:

- DEEL: Department of Early Learning
- HSD: Human Services Department
- OSE: Office of Sustainability & Environment
- SPR: Seattle Parks & Recreation

Table of SBT Investments

SBT-funded Program or Service	Department	2023 Adopted SBT Budget (\$)	Page
Food Security & Access		14,222,328	<u>13</u>
Fresh Bucks	OSE	5,302,653	<u>14</u>
Food Equity Fund	DON	2,888,547	<u>17</u>
Food banks and home delivery	HSD	2,341,907	<u>25</u>
Community and older adult meal programs	HSD	1,317,588	<u>28</u>
Farm to Preschool	HSD	1,200,659	<u>31</u>
Healthy Food in Schools	OSE	485,607	<u>34</u>
Recreational programming	SPR	302,531	<u>38</u>
Food Policy & Program supports	OSE	302,433	-
Food Access Administration	HSD	80,403	-
Early Learning & Child Development		7,735,162	<u>41</u>
Child Care Assistance Program	DEEL	3,075,371	<u>42</u>
Prenatal-to-Three Grant Program	DEEL	1,500,000	<u>44</u>
Health & Developmental Supports	DEEL	1,471,848	<u>47</u>
Coaching & Training	DEEL	479,596	<u>50</u>
Home Visiting	DEEL	606,227	<u>52</u>
SBT Central Administration	DEEL	602,120	-

Food Security & Access Program Highlights



Section Contents:

- **Impact Snapshot**
- **Program Summaries**
 - ➔ Fresh Bucks
 - ➔ Food Equity Fund
 - ➔ Food Banks
 - ➔ Meal Programs
 - ➔ Farm to Preschool
 - ➔ Healthy Food in Schools
 - ➔ Food & Recreation

Food Security & Access

2023 Impact Snapshot

Fresh Bucks

Provided **\$4.8 million** in fruit and vegetable benefits to **12,000** income-eligible households.

Food Equity Fund

Awarded **\$2.3 million** in grants to community projects that contribute to a more equitable and sustainable food system.

Food Banks

Served **756,000+** food bank visitors (includes duplicates) and made **115,000+** home deliveries to low-income Seattle residents facing hunger.

Meal Programs

Served **3.2 million** meals to those facing food insecurity, older adults (ages 60+), and individuals with a chronic medical condition.

Farm to Preschool

Delivered **32,400+** farm-fresh food bags to **45** Seattle Preschool Program sites, provided **102** nutrition education classes, and **16** farm fieldtrips.

Healthy Food in Schools

Provided **283,00+** fresh fruit and vegetable snacks two to three times weekly to an average of **6,678** students across **34** school sites.

Fresh Bucks

SEATTLE OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT (OSE)

Fresh Bucks is a healthy food program that helps approximately 12,000 Seattle households afford fruits and vegetables.

The program provides income-eligible and enrolled households \$40 each month to buy fruits and vegetables at any participating retailer. By increasing the purchasing power of lower-income households, Fresh Bucks directly addresses a top food access barrier consistently cited by food-insecure communities—the cost of buying nutritious food. Meanwhile, Fresh Bucks spending is good for the local economy: every \$1 spent in Fresh Bucks is estimated to generate \$1.58 in the local economy, based on the [Local Food Impact Calculator](#).

Fresh Bucks benefits are currently accepted at [41 Seattle retailers](#), including supermarkets, locally-owned independent grocers, farmers markets, and farm stands.



2023 Outcomes

- Fresh Bucks served **12,000** income-eligible households
 - **85%** screened as food insecure
 - **71%** self-identified as households of color
 - **47%** reported to prefer a language other than English
- Fresh Bucks households spent **\$4.8 million** in fruit and vegetable benefits, generating **\$7.6 million** in the local economy (source: [Local Food Impact Calculator](#)).
- Expanded access in underserved neighborhoods by adding Lee’s Produce to the Fresh Bucks retailer network, a women- and minority-owned business (WMBE) that offers a wide variety of produce from their storefront in southwest Seattle.

Fresh Bucks (continued)



“We have long-time customers that use Fresh Bucks, and we have welcomed new customers who visit because we are a Fresh Bucks partner. Our customers love to stop in regularly for fresh, quality produce that we stock daily. The increased revenue from Fresh Bucks sales helps our business reliably meet our community’s needs,” said Linda Oczkewecz, Manager of Lee’s Produce.

Oczkewecz is pictured here with Nam Suk Nasatka, Owner of Lee’s Produce.

Enrollment Partners

- Atlantic Street Center
- Casa Latina
- Children’s Home Society of Washington dba Akin
- Chinese Information and Service Center
- Got Green
- Harborview Medical Center
- Horn of Africa Services
- Interim Community Development Association
- Kaiser Permanente
- Lake City Collective
- Latino Community Fund
- Neighborcare Health Systems
- Neighborhood House
- Odessa Brown Children’s Clinic
- Public Health Seattle & King County
- Seattle Indian Health Board
- Somali Health Board
- United Indians of All Tribes
- Villa Comunitaria

Enrollment Partners

- African Community Housing & Development/Delridge Farmers Market
- Ammana Warehouse & Grocer*
- Central Co-op
- Delridge Grocery Co-op
- Fruteria Sandoval*
- Harameyn Halal Grocer*
- Lee’s Produce*
- Local Yokels*
- Mendoza’s Mexican Mercado*
- Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance
- Pike Place Market Foundation
- Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority
- Queen Anne Farmers Market
- Safeway Corporation
- Seattle Farmers Market Association
- Tilth Alliance

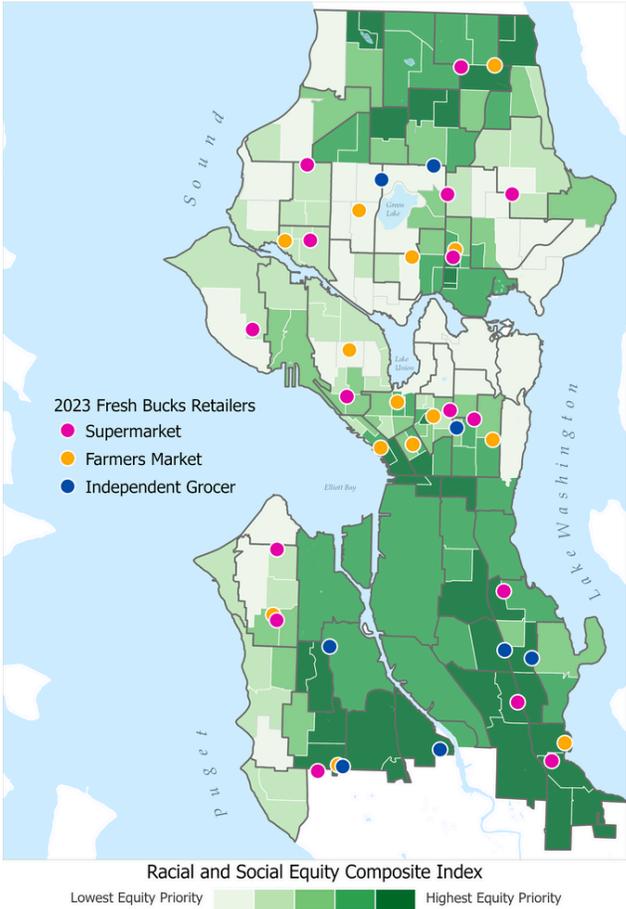
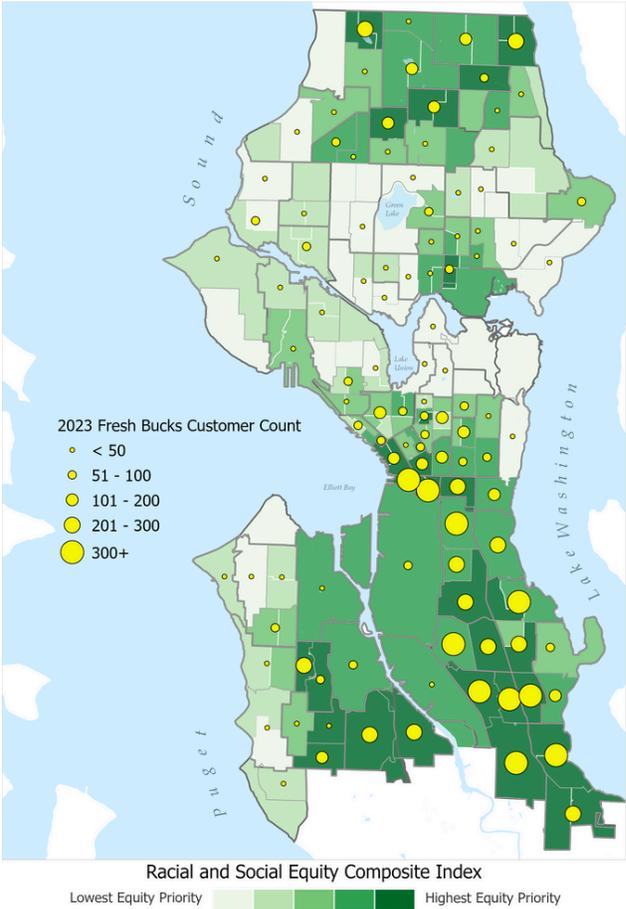
**Indicates a BIPOC-owned retailer*

Fresh Bucks Maps

These maps show the **2023 Fresh Bucks Customer Count** by census tract (map on the left) and the **Fresh Bucks Retailers** (map on the right).

This information is displayed over the City's [2023 Race and Social Equity Index](#). The index combines data on race, ethnicity, English learner status, immigrant status, socioeconomic disadvantages, health disadvantages, and disability to identify the areas of Seattle that generally experience higher levels of race-based disparity. The darker green the area, the higher the equity priority.

Fresh Bucks serves residents throughout Seattle and especially in communities of highest equity priority. Meanwhile, there are a variety of Fresh Bucks retailers throughout the city where customers can use their benefits.



Food Equity Fund

SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS (DON)

The Food Equity Fund invests in community-led work that contributes to an equitable and sustainable local food system.

Created in 2021, the Food Equity Fund supports work led by those who experience the most food and health inequities: Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), immigrants, refugees, people with low incomes, youth, and/or elders.

In 2023, **\$2.3 million** was awarded in funding through two grant cycles: The Food Equity Fund General Grant and the Capacity Building Grant:

- **The General Grant** awarded \$2 million to 21 organizations in a highly competitive process that involved a community review panel. The review panel was made up of community leaders with expertise in health equity, racial justice and/or local food systems.
- In its inaugural year, the **Capacity Building Grant** awarded \$300k to 16 small, grassroots organizations. Grant sizes were up to \$20k and applications were processed on an ongoing basis.

2023 General Grant Recipients

\$100,000 to **Basilica Bio** to sustain and expand programming that supports education around food and environmental justice in schools; connects students and community members to experiential learning opportunities; and delivers accessible food and environmental justice workshops in a STEM context.

\$100,000 to **Black Dollar Days Task Force** to support the Clean Greens Youth programs at South Shore Community Center and behind the Amy Yee Tennis Center. Funding also supported the implementation of the Community Herb Bank, organic honey processing, environmental trainings, workshops, and community gatherings.

\$100,000 to **Black Farmers Collective** to support long-term sustainability and community programs at the organization's farms. Funding also supported staff in building community, running educational programs, and growing food for and by BIPOC folks with a focus on uplifting and distributing resources within the Black community.

Food Equity Fund (continued)

2023 General Grant Recipients (continued)

\$100,000 to **Casa Latina** for 60 Latino immigrant workers to participate in a cohort-based program based in the organization's community kitchen. Cohort members developed their food service skills and prepared and shared cultural meals with their fellow workers each week.

\$100,000 to **Cham Refugees Community** to educate and train youth interns and empower individuals to take leadership roles in advancing Cham Refugees Community's mission of increasing equitable food access through community identified solutions and access to healthy, local foods for all community members.

\$100,000 to **Eritrean Community in Seattle and Vicinity** to create a cultural and traditional gardening co-op at their community center. Farming is a large part of the Eritrean legacy, and this project will allow for generations of farming history and gardening techniques to live on in the following generations.

\$100,000 to **FEEST** to engage up to 25 students per year to increase their understanding of food justice and develop their organizing and leadership skills. FEEST promotes access to fresh, free, culturally relevant food for low-income youth and youth of color in South Seattle through food justice trainings and food provision, embodying the type of food access they want to see in schools.

\$100,000 to **InterIm CDA** to support the Intergenerational Food Equity and Food Access Project in the Danny Woo Garden in Chinatown International District (CID). This project increases and exchanges knowledge between youth and elder Asian and Pacific Islander generations about growing and eating culturally relevant produce, creating infrastructure that supports ongoing food security, and growing produce that supports the nutritional and food accessibility needs of low-income elders in the CID.



FEEST Youth Leaders

Food Equity Fund (continued)

2023 General Grant Recipients (continued)

\$100,000 to **Lake City Collective** for the creation of a “Cook It Yourself” recipe kit that includes community gatherings around family recipes and a youth-led zine to capture their recipes and stories. Funding also supports *Si se puede Foodpreneurship Cohort* on starting a food business and renovation to the Collective’s Garden which produces culturally relevant vegetables and is used to teach community how to grow traditional produce in an urban environment.

\$100,000 to **Na’ah Illahee Fund** to advance food security and food sovereignty in Seattle’s urban Indigenous community. Working with the Native Youth Trails Program, funding supports community events on the Indigenous lands of the Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center in Discovery Park as well as increasing community knowledge and skills in traditional harvesting practices. Activities include planting parties of native traditional foods and medicinal plants, community traditional foods workshops, annual Indigenous Food Sovereignty gatherings, Buffalo harvesting, and honoring luncheons for the community.

\$100,000 to **Rainier Beach Action Coalition** to expand the services offered by an existing Farm Stand to better support BIPOC farm partners in collecting and distributing their produce to Rainier Beach residents. The organization plans to complete tenant improvements to their Food Hub and will make available dry and cold storage, a washing and packing station, and transportation to farmers in order to increase access to free, fresh, and culturally relevant fruits and vegetables.

\$100,000 to **yəhaw’ Indigenous Creatives Collective** to steward a South Seattle site on the ancestral homelands of the Duwamish, Muckleshoot, and Suquamish peoples, in Coast Salish territories. Funding supports a series of seasonal Creative Residencies, where interdisciplinary Indigenous artists and thinkers are invited to complete a self-determined project on site. They will also partner with the University of Washington to understand the best locations and formats for food plant growth and build an Indigenous community garden with Native plants.



A weekend work party at yəhaw’s land in South Seattle. The collective is removing invasive plants and getting to know the space.

Food Equity Fund (continued)

2023 General Grant Recipients (continued)

\$100,000 to **Union Cultural Center** to pilot the Nourishian Training Program, which will provide life skills and job skills to young adults ages 17 – 25 in the Rainier Beach area. Life skills include meal planning, shopping on a budget, basic cooking skills, and nutrition knowledge.

\$97,969 to **Young Women-Empowered (Y-WE)** Y-WE Grow's mentorship-based empowerment programs focus on environmental justice and healthy food systems in BIPOC communities, serving diverse young women ages 13-24 through a lens of healing and belonging. Through urban farming and food justice activities, participants gain knowledge, skills, and resources around growing and eating healthy, culturally relevant food.

\$99,650 to **Wa Na Wari** for *Love Offering: Community Meal Program*. The program provides free-of-cost African diasporic food and Native American-inspired soul food made by Black/Indigenous chefs every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at Wa Na Wari from 4-6pm. Love Offering promotes economic stability for BIPOC caterers, increases access to nourishing meals, and cultivates community and a sense of belonging around cultural dishes.

\$99,532 to **Look, Listen, & Learn TV** for the production and distribution of the cooking segments for upcoming seasons of our Black-led children's TV show. With this Food Equity Fund grant, they will film local children and adults collaboratively preparing and enjoying healthy snacks and tasty treats for up to three seasons of *Look, Listen and Learn*.

\$96,066 to **Ethiopian Community in Seattle** to address food inequities in the Ethiopian community by offering increased access to Ethiopian cultural food through cooking demonstrations, sharing of meals, provision of bags of ingredients from ethnic shops, and storytelling. The program especially focuses on youth and young adults who have expressed their need to learn more about Ethiopian food and the rich culture that surrounds it.

\$99,000 to **Queer the Land** to empower the QT2BIPOC (Queer, Trans, Two Spirit, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) community through stewardship and sustainability. Funding supports managing a community garden and greenhouse where community members can volunteer and actively participate. Through partnerships, Queer the Land offers workshops on plant care, nutrition, and herbal remedies. They create a thriving, inclusive space where the community can learn, grow, and celebrate together while fostering a deeper connection with the land.

Food Equity Fund (continued)

2023 General Grant Recipients (continued)

\$88,595 to **It Takes a Village** for monthly events where participants learn about food economics, creative development, food service job skills, and growing food in small spaces. Funding also supports delivery of 300 hot meals to community members and host six cultural events focused on food, storytelling, and creative arts that engage and feed community members.

\$69,500 to **First Tongan Senior Nutrition Association** to support over 80 seniors a week with food distribution and community meals for Pacific Islander and other low-income seniors near the Highland Park neighborhood. They are a place for elders to gather, communicate in their familiar language, stay healthy, and feel less lonely.

\$49,688 to **Concord International Elementary** Indigenous Students Club to hire Native and Indigenous educators and Elders to share traditional ecological knowledge with Native/Indigenous students and families at Concord International Elementary. Funding also supports field trips to forage and learn about traditional and culturally relevant ingredients and medicines. They work with local Native and Indigenous chefs and restaurants and traditional medicine practitioners to provide access to traditional and culturally relevant foods and medicines for students and their families as well as lessons in food and medicine preparation.

Chef Leticia Sanchez, owner of the Oaxacan restaurant El Cabrito, teaches a workshop on origins of guacamole at Concord International Elementary.



Mrs. Ilaise Folau of First Tongan Senior Nutrition Association preparing monthly grocery boxes for Pacific Islander seniors



Food Equity Fund (continued)

2023 Capacity Building Grant Recipients

\$20,000 to **Serve Ethiopians Washington** to distribute monthly culturally appropriate food bags and provide culturally relevant food and food waste related information to 23 East African seniors.

\$20,000 to **Marvin Memorial Fund's** project Dinner Dash for a food pantry on wheels that will provide non-perishable dinner menu items to 20 BIPOC families once a month for six months.

\$20,000 to **American Polynesian Organization** to increase access to culturally relevant meals and grocery bags on a weekly basis for up to 100 low-income Polynesian seniors and seniors of color living in South Seattle.

\$19,965 to **Duwamish Valley Sustainability Association** (DVSA) to monitor the use and application of the probiotic plant food at five local farms for a period of four months to determine its advantages and disadvantages and host a community event sharing this learning experience and knowledge.

\$20,000 to **Roni LifeWorks** to organize 15 interactive face-to-face workshops and five online zoom educational sessions (in partnership with Compass Housing Alliance, Plymouth Housing, and Mary's Place) focused on food education, nutrition, shopping for nutritious food and health education.

\$17,892 to **Freeway Park Association's** Food Distribution Program to purchase and distribute food and water to people experiencing homelessness or food insecurity around Freeway Park. This includes 30 sack lunches per week, nutritional snacks, and sustainable canned waters.

\$20,000 to **Choose to Win Transitional Housing** to promote food equity in underserved and under-resourced, marginalized, and BIPOC communities. Funds support youth leaders to serve up to 160 healthy and nutritious sack lunches a month in Downtown Seattle and at Brighton Community. Mentees also volunteer with an urban farm to learn about sustainable and equitable farming practices.

\$19,875 to **Alimentando al Pueblo** to expand outreach and coalition building in South and West Seattle. This food program feeds and heals Latinx Community through the distribution of culturally relevant foods – promoting connection, resilience, and cultural stewardship through events that amplify joy and heritage preservation. The project will develop partnerships with local food businesses.

\$20,000 to **Hand and Hand Community Development** to engage in culturally specific outreach to unhoused South Seattle residents, distribute meals to five different sites (3 times a week serving up to 200 people) and offer connections to wraparound resources for low-income children and families.

Food Equity Fund (continued)

2023 Capacity Building Grant Recipients

\$20,000 to **Kandelia to support a Community Resource Coordinator** to implement a Food Access Program for newly arrived immigrants and refugees. Components of the program include Weekly Food Bags and Food Bank Pop-up incorporating foods that are healthy, culturally relevant and chosen by students and families.

\$20,000 to **City Fruit** to support its Harvest Program in 2024. Each year, this program harvests 30,000-40,000 lbs. of organic fruit from residential fruit trees and public orchards across the city and shares this fruit directly with 30 food bank and meal program partners.

\$20,000 to **Voice of South Pacific** fiscally sponsored by the Tongan Community Resource Center of Washington to launch its Pasifika Food Harvest Program focused on mitigating food insecurity experienced in Tongan and other Pasifika communities.

\$20,000 to **For All's** to support its *Saturday Really (Really) Free Market*, a weekly outdoor grocery distribution held in Yesler Terrace and serving the neighborhood residents including seniors and low-income households. Funds also support the Grocery Surplus Recovery program that picks up and delivers grocery surplus throughout Seattle including Seattle Community Fridge locations, partner food banks, meal programs, and community groups.

\$20,000 to **Friendly Island of Tongan Seniors, Youth, and Family (FITS)** to expand their feeding program to Tongans, Fijians, Samoans, and many other Pacific Islanders by providing culturally relevant hot lunches and groceries. For this five-month project, they are expecting to serve about 30-50 Pacific Islanders families every month.

\$20,000 to **Bridging Wisdom** to facilitate a weekly intergenerational program for low-income seniors and South Seattle high school students. Participants share a healthy meal and build relationships through student-led activities.

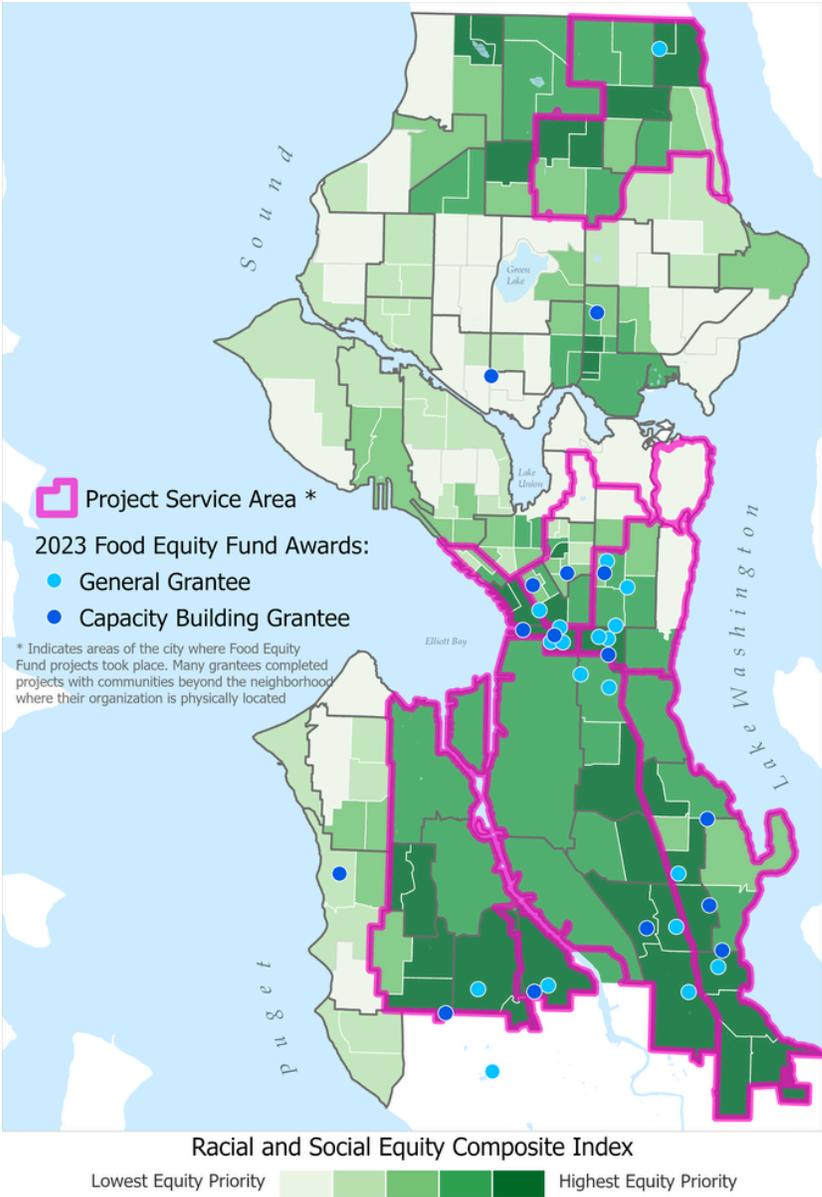
\$20,000 to **Restaurant 2 Garden** for their community composting program that collects food scraps from local restaurants in the Chinatown International District and turns it into a safe, reliable, and clean composting materials for the nearby Danny Woo Community Garden.

Food Equity Fund Map

This map shows the locations and project areas of the 2023 Food Equity Fund grantees.

Sites are displayed over the City's [2023 Race and Social Equity Index](#). The index combines data on race, ethnicity, English learner status, immigrant status, socioeconomic disadvantages, health disadvantages, and disability to identify the areas of Seattle that generally experience higher levels of race-based disparity. The darker green the area, the higher the equity priority.

Food Equity Fund grantees served communities throughout Seattle and especially in areas of highest equity priority.



Food Banks & Home Delivery

SEATTLE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (HSD)

Food banks provide nutritious food to low-income Seattle residents to combat hunger.

Food banks provide groceries for infants, children, adults, seniors, and people with special dietary needs, and help families access other food assistance (such as SNAP benefits) and other non-emergency food resources. Staff and volunteers at food banks strive to offer culturally-specific food choices and create a welcoming environment for guests. In addition to on-site services, many food banks provide home delivery to clients who are unable to come into food bank locations because of age, disability, or illness. Some food banks also supply weekend food backpacks to school-aged children and provide mobile or satellite food bank services to serve communities where they work and play.

[Solid Ground](#), the City's contractor for food system support, assists with centralized food purchases and donations from food partners, then transports that food to local [Seattle Food Committee](#) member food banks for distribution to clients. Solid Ground also provides a forum for regular information-sharing, collaboration, training, and linkages to other food system partners.

2023 Outcomes

In 2023, COVID-era federal food assistance ended while people were still grappling with high food prices. Food banks supported the following services:

- **756,351** duplicated food bank visits
- **115,010** home deliveries
- **131,921** weekend hunger backpacks distributed

The nutritious food sourcing program purchased **664,994** pounds of food for food system partners, including 27 food banks weekly.

Network support staff provided trainings on racial equity and trauma-informed services within food systems. It also hosted a virtual conference for committee members with sessions on local economy, increasing accessibility, and staff retention.

Food Banks & Home Delivery (continued)

Additional Highlights

With support from University of Washington, 19 food bank partners designed and conducted a new customer survey. An analysis of 3,322 returned surveys suggested that programs were providing a welcoming and respectful experience, helping households afford basic needs, and providing desired foods.

Seattle's food pantries and food banks were frequently featured in the local media due to increased demand for their services:



Rainier Valley Food Bank

In the Media

- [Seattle food banks in need of volunteers, resources](#) – King5 12/23/23
- [‘There are more people than ever’: Washington food banks scramble to provide for families](#) – KIRO 7 11/28/23
- [WA food bank lines grow as COVID-era benefits end, grocery prices rise](#) – Seattle Times 5/25/23

Partners

In 2023, the following food bank, home delivery, weekend backpack, and other food distribution partners were supported by SBT funding:

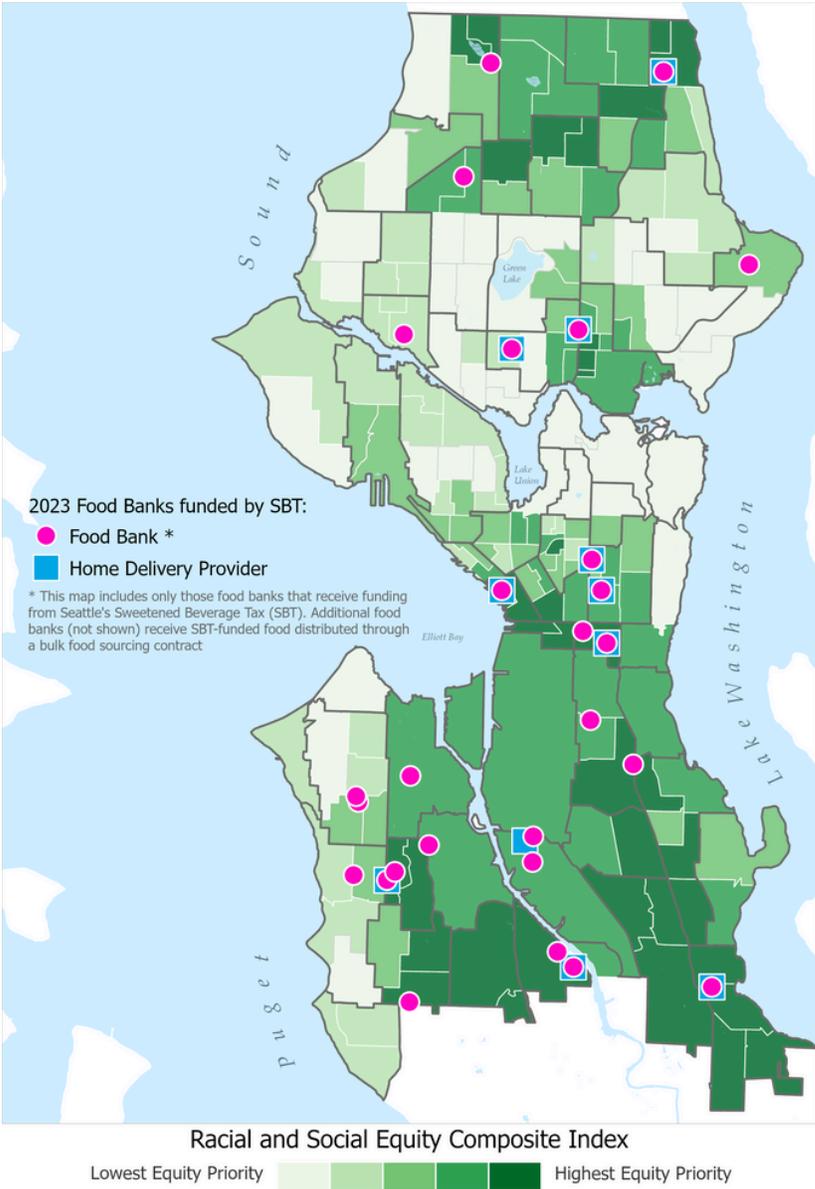
- Asian Counseling & Referral Service
- Backpack Brigade
- Ballard Food Bank
- Byrd Barr Place
- Cultivate South Park
- El Centro de la Raza
- FamilyWorks
- Food Lifeline
- Hunger Intervention Program
- Jewish Family Service of Seattle
- Lifelong: Health for All
- North Helpline
- Pike Market Senior Center
- Puget Sound Labor Agency
- Rainier Valley Food Bank
- Seattle Indian Center
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Solid Ground
- South Park Senior Citizens
- The Food Bank at St. Mary's
- University District Service League
- West Seattle Food Bank

Food Bank Map

This map shows the locations of food banks and home delivery providers funded by SBT in 2023

Sites are displayed over the City's [2023 Race and Social Equity Index](#). The index combines data on race, ethnicity, English learner status, immigrant status, socioeconomic disadvantages, health disadvantages, and disability to identify the areas of Seattle that generally experience higher levels of race-based disparity. The darker green the area, the higher the equity priority.

SBT-funded food banks are located throughout Seattle and concentrated in areas of highest equity priority.



Meal Programs

SEATTLE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (HSD)

Meal programs provide nutritious food to older adults, people experiencing homelessness, and low-income Seattle residents to combat hunger.

Meal programs provide nutritious food to older adults, people experiencing homelessness, and low-income Seattle residents to combat hunger. Meal programs are hosted by diverse community-based organizations throughout Seattle, with a focus on those located in areas of highest need (central, south, southeast, and southwest Seattle). Here is an overview of the programs and who they serve:

- [Community meal programs](#) provide nutritious, well-balanced meals in a variety of locations for unsheltered neighbors and others experiencing food insecurity.
- [Older adult meal programs](#) serve adults (ages 60+) who can access a range of meal program options, from congregate meals that provide social connections to home-delivered meals for those who are homebound. In addition, SBT supports food and nutrition education, as well as fresh farm produce bags (Good Food Bags) for seniors participating in health promotion programming.
- The [Meals Partnership Coalition](#) (MPC) supports centralized food purchases and donations from food partners, then transports and distributes that food to local food banks. MPC also provides a forum for regular information-sharing, collaboration, training, and linkages to other food system partners.



International Community Health Services meal program in China-International District.

Meal Programs (continued)

2023 Outcomes

Community meal programs:

- Served **2,262,080** meals

Older adult meal programs (for adults ages 60+):

- Congregate meal programs provided **406,786** meals to **8,166** adults aged 60 or older.
- Home delivery programs provided **540,430** meals to **2,494** older adults and individuals with a chronic medical condition (includes people under age 60). It also provided **4,396** produce bags to complement meals.
- Provided **12** nutrition education workshop series, engaging an average of 16 adults per workshop.

Meals Partnership Coalition:

- Purchased **664,994** pounds of food through the bulk buy program for food system partners, including 28 meal programs, 2-3 times per month.
- Provided Seattle meal program staff with Food Protection Manager certification and other food safety trainings. Meal programs also participated as a cohort in the 21 Day Racial Equity Habit Building activity as a way to work toward dismantling racism in the food system.

Partners

In 2022, the following meal program partners were supported by SBT funding to provide meal programs:

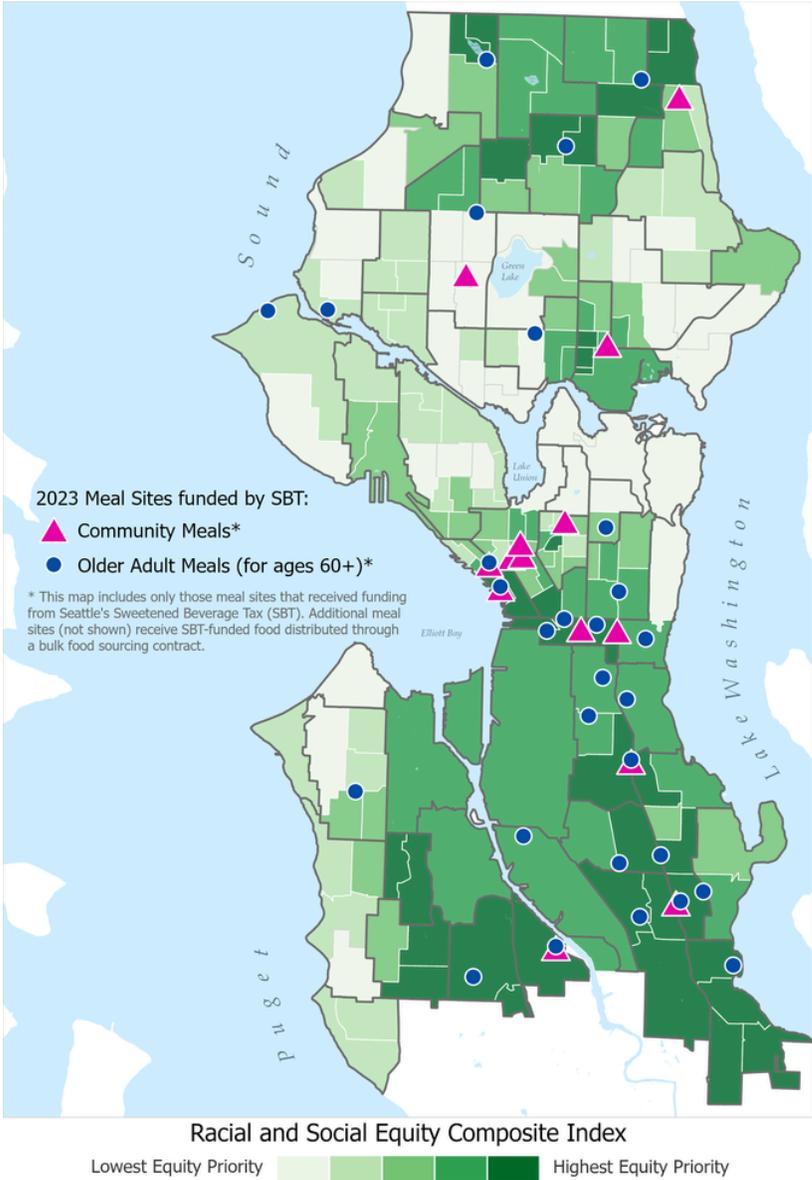
- Asian Counseling and Referral Service and its community partners
- Community House Mental Health Agency, Inc.
- Community Lunch on Capitol Hill
- El Centro de la Raza
- FareStart
- Filipino Community of Seattle
- Hunger Intervention Program
- International Community Health Services
- Lifelong Chicken Soup Brigade
- Mary's Place
- Mercy Housing
- OSL
- Phinney Neighborhood Association
- Pike Market Senior Center
- Recovery Café
- ROOTS
- Young Adult Shelter Seattle
- Chinatown International District PDA
- Seattle Indian Center
- Sound Generations and its community partners
- South Park Senior Citizens
- Tilth Alliance
- Ukrainian Community Center of WA - Seattle
- United Indians of All Tribes Foundation

Meal Programs Map

This map shows the locations of meal programs funded by SBT in 2023

Sites are displayed over the City's [2023 Race and Social Equity Index](#). The index combines data on race, ethnicity, English learner status, immigrant status, socioeconomic disadvantages, health disadvantages, and disability to identify the areas of Seattle that generally experience higher levels of race-based disparity. The darker green the area, the higher the equity priority.

SBT-funded meal sites are located throughout Seattle and concentrated in areas of highest equity priority.



Seattle Farm to Preschool

SEATTLE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (HSD)

Farm to Preschool makes funds available to approximately 45 Seattle Preschool Program sites to increase their offerings of fresh, Washington-grown food to the children in their care.

Teachers and staff purchase fresh produce from local farmers including BIPOC, women, immigrant, and refugee farmers, and use the fresh produce for snacks, family nights, and school activities. Participating sites also engage in nutrition education and field trips where trained educators talk about food preparation, food justice, safety protocols, gardening activities, and seasonal produce. Families are encouraged to take home kits with food, materials, and recipes to cook together.

Almost 70% of Farm to Preschool sites served children on tuition subsidies; 77% were children of color.

Additional Farm to Preschool partners deliver free bags of local fruits and vegetables to participating Seattle Preschool Program sites so families can pick up healthy groceries at the same time they pick up their children. The bags are filled with locally sourced fresh fruits and vegetables for a family of four.

Each Seattle Preschool site receives a combination of services which can include nutrition education, food bag delivery and/or food procurement. Eight providers work together as a cohort to co-create policies and coordinate services among themselves and preschool sites.

2023 Outcomes

Participating Preschools

- **45** Seattle Preschool Program sites participated
- **102** nutrition education classes provided to students, including **16** farm fieldtrips and/or classroom visits with partner farmers



Seattle Farm to Preschool

Seattle Farm to Preschool (continued)

2023 Outcomes (continued)

Food Distribution

- **32,442** farm food bags distributed to participating preschools
- **344** food boxes delivered to participating preschools



Food Procurement

- **162** partner farms including 85% Washington farms, 34% BIPOC-owned farms, 31% immigrant or refugee owned farms, and 51% women-owned farms
- **\$390,900** spent on food procurement, with 94% of funds spent at Washington farms, 49% at BIPOC-owned farms, 56% at women-owned farms, and 47% at immigrant or refugee owned farms
- **\$580,566** generated in the local economy (source: [Local Food Impact Calculator](#)).

Partners

In 2023, the following Farm to Preschool partners were supported by SBT funding:

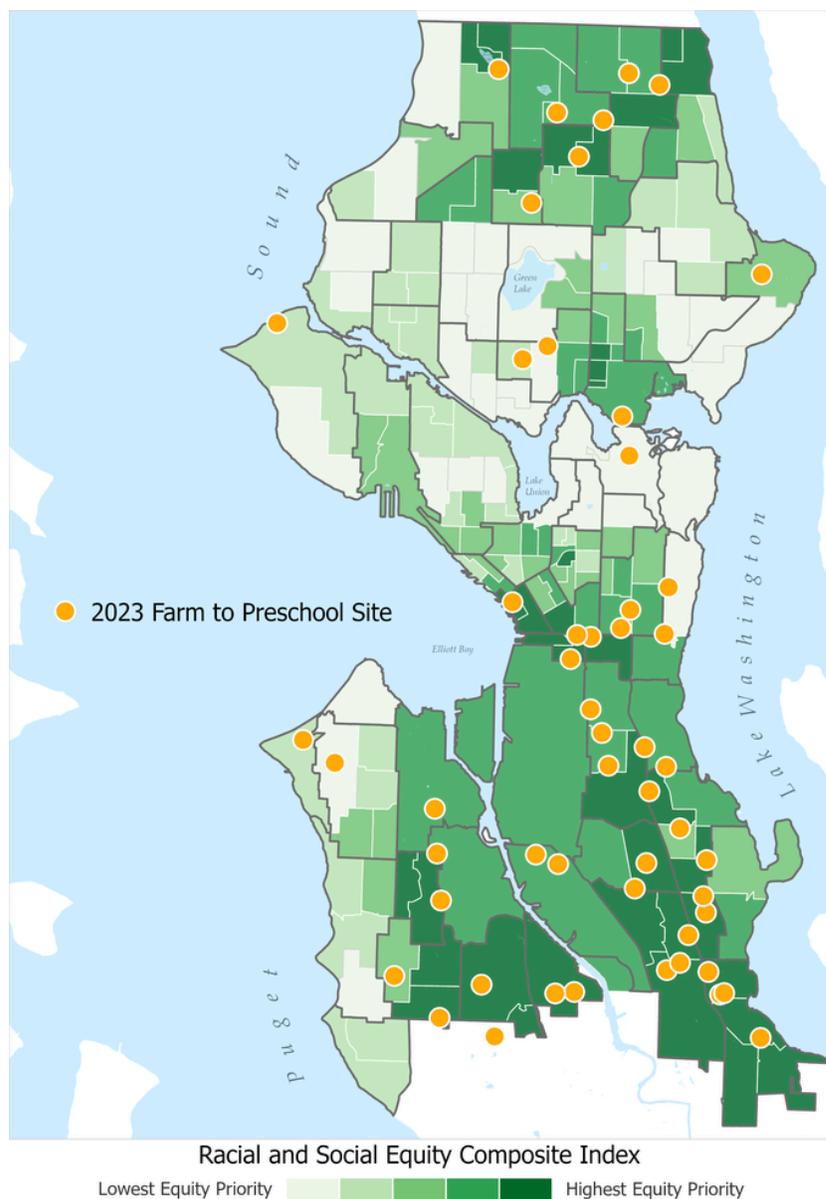
- Farmstand Local Foods LLC
- Friendly Hmong Farms
- Lifelong: Health for All
- Nourishian for Life
- Pacific Coast Harvest
- Pike Place Market PDA
- Solid Ground
- Sound Generations
- Tilth Alliance

Seattle Farm to Preschool Map

This map shows the locations of preschools with Farm to Preschool programming in 2023

Sites are displayed over the City's [2023 Race and Social Equity Index](#). The index combines data on race, ethnicity, English learner status, immigrant status, socioeconomic disadvantages, health disadvantages, and disability to identify the areas of Seattle that generally experience higher levels of race-based disparity. The darker green the area, the higher the equity priority.

Farm to Preschool was offered throughout Seattle and in neighborhoods of highest equity priority.



Healthy Food in Schools

SEATTLE OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT (OSE)

Healthy Food in Schools increases student access to fresh, nutritious, sustainable, and culturally relevant foods at school.

Healthy Food in Schools is an initiative of OSE in partnership with Seattle Public Schools (SPS), local food producers, and community partners. It includes the following components:



Staff from OSE and SPS Culinary Services with Muckleshoot Indian Tribe fisherman Louie Ungaro.

Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program (FFVP) - Students receive free fruit and vegetable snacks 2 to 3 days a week at schools with large populations of low-income or BIPOC students. Students try a variety of new and familiar fresh produce snacks and schools also receive educational materials and signage promoting fruits and vegetables

Values-Based Food Purchasing - Supports SPS to increase their purchases of high quality, local, sustainable ingredients and serve freshly prepared, culturally relevant meals. Food purchased from BIPOC-owned food businesses and tribal enterprises is especially encouraged.

Seattle School Meals & Food Education Working Group - Focuses on increasing equitable access and awareness of high-quality school meals, nutrition, and garden education across SPS. The cross-sector group was comprised of more than 25 participants from SPS departments, City departments, and community organizations.

Healthy Food in Schools (continued)

2023 Outcomes

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP):

- Served **6,678** students at 34 school sites with free, fresh produce 2-3 times weekly (2022-23 and 2023-24 school years).
- Facilitated strategic purchasing for FFVP between **16** local farms and SPS, including 4 BIPOC-owned farms, resulting in an overall increase in local and organic produce served by SPS through the program.
- An evaluation led by a grant-funded Food Systems Design Fellow found that FFVP improves student access to fresh fruits and vegetables, helps students focus while in school, and exposes students to new foods. Based on findings from the evaluation, OSE and SPS increased training about FFVP for school staff and provided promotional kits and nutrition education books and posters for classrooms.
- Provided **food and nutrition education workshops**, designed and delivered by Nurturing Roots, and [book readings by Dr. Magaret Towolawi](#).

Values-Based Food Purchasing:

- In May 2023, SPS Culinary Services purchased **3,000** pounds of salmon from the Muckleshoot Seafood Products tribal enterprise to serve for a featured lunch, as covered by the [International Examiner](#).
- SPS began purchasing locally made tofu from Thanh Son Tofu in the Chinatown-International District for a regular tofu stir fry dish.

Voices of FFVP

“Students get a better understanding [of fruits and vegetables] and learn how to eat them.”

~School Kitchen Staff,
Dunlap Elementary

“Students enjoy the program. They love the fruits!”

~School Kitchen Staff
Dunlap Elementary

“Anytime schools can receive food for children and families, it's a win.”

~School Administrator
Lowell Elementary

“It's cool that kids get to try new foods and have access to food families wouldn't have at home.

~School Administrator
Lowell Elementary

“There are a lot of families with food insecurity. School might be the only place they get fresh fruits and vegetables.”

~School Administrator
Baily Gatzert Elementary

Healthy Food in Schools (continued)

FFVP Participating Schools

The following schools offered FFVP in the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years:

- Aki Kurose Middle School
- Bailey Gatzert Elementary School
- Broadview-Thomson K-8
- Chief Sealth High School
- Concord Elementary
- Denny International Middle School
- Dunlap Elementary School
- Emerson Elementary School
- Interagency Programs (6 sites)
- James Baldwin Elementary School
- John Muir Elementary
- John Rogers Elementary School
- Kimball Elementary
- Lowell Elementary
- Madrona Elementary School
- Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School
- Meany Middle School
- Mercer Middle School
- Olympic Hills Elementary School
- Olympic View Elementary School
- Rising Star Elementary School
- Roxhill Elementary
- Sanislo Elementary
- Seattle World School
- South Shore K-8 School
- Washington Middle School
- West Seattle Elementary School
- Wing Luke Elementary School

Other Partners

The following community partners served on the School Meals and Food Education Working Group:

- EarthGen
- FEEST
- Nourishian for Life
- Nurturing Roots
- Public Health Seattle King County
- Seattle Public Schools
- Seattle Restaurants United
- Solid Ground
- Tilth Alliance
- United Way of King County
- Y-WE Grow

Local Food Suppliers and Vendors

The following local suppliers and vendors partnered in the Healthy Food in Schools initiative:

- Bellewood Farms*
- Boldly Grown Farm*
- Bow Hill Blueberries*
- Cascadia Mushrooms*
- Cloud Mountain Farm Center*
- Dog Island Mushrooms*
- First Cut Farm*
- Hedlin Farms*
- Jack Mountain Meats
- Marge's Granola
- Muckleshoot Seafood Products
- Pacific Coast Fruit
- Plymouth
- Puget Sound Food Hub
- Ralph's Greenhouse*
- Regino Farms*
- Royal Farm Produce*
- Sauk Farm*
- Scenic Isle Farm*
- Seattle Granola Company
- Silva Family Farm*
- Spring Time Farm*
- Thanh Son Tofu
- The Crows Farm*
- Tortillas Con Madre
- Uwajimaya

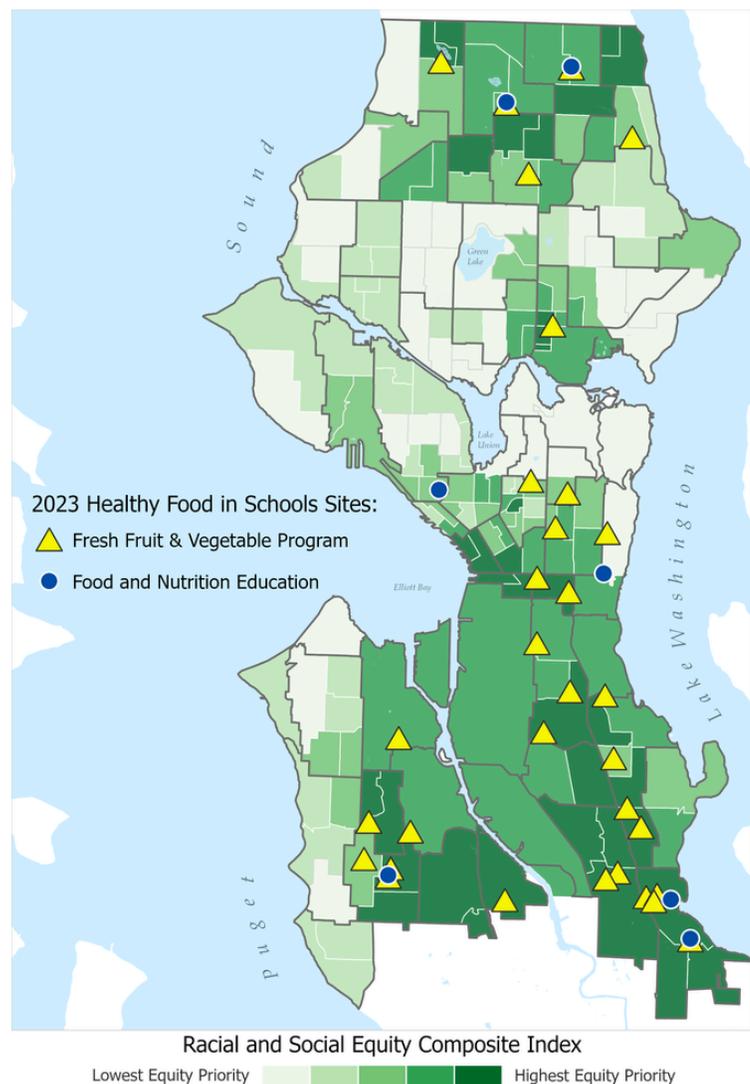
*Product purchased via Puget Sound Food Hub

Healthy Food in Schools Map

This map shows Seattle Public Schools that offered the **Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program** and/or one-time (pilot) **food and nutrition education workshops and book readings** supported by the SBT Fund.

School sites are displayed over the City's [2023 Race and Social Equity Index](#). The index combines data on race, ethnicity, English learner status, immigrant status, socioeconomic disadvantages, health disadvantages, and disability to identify the areas of Seattle that generally experience higher levels of race-based disparity. The darker green the area, the higher the equity priority.

Healthy Food in Schools programming was available throughout Seattle and focused in neighborhoods of highest equity priority.



Food & Recreation

SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION (SPR)

SBT supports staffing for several Seattle Parks & Recreation programs that increase access to meals after school, on weekends, during school holidays and throughout the summer, when they may otherwise miss meals that they rely on while in school.

Food and Fitness is a program for ages 13 and up that provides yearlong nutrition fitness, classes and workshops in Seattle Parks and Recreation spaces. These programs use SBT funds to support two dedicated staff members for program oversight. The dedicated staff manage the applications for Summer Food sites, coordinate meals during the summer, provide staff training, and work to implement the program. They also develop additional food and health-oriented programming.

In 2023, Food and Fitness provided **124** hours in nutrition programming and **159** hours of structured activities including reading and art activities, athletic activities (soccer, basketball, football) and fitness programming (balance boards, jump ropes, agility courses, and hula hoops).

Summer of Safety (SOS) is a free program that provides structured activities and a safe space for young people not connected to other supervised programs over the summer. The program is geared towards serving diverse groups of tweens and teens from low-income families. Most sites provide a free lunch through the City's Summer Food Service Program (a partnership with the Food and Fitness Program). SOS activities typically include field trips, arts and craft, as well as sports and athletics. The program operates rain or shine and no sign up is required; youth can drop in on any day and at any time during the program's regular hours.

SOS engaged over **1,200** participants during the summer of 2023.

Summer Sack Lunch (also known as the Summer Meals Program) provides nutritional lunches at community sites during the summer. Summer Playground is a program specifically for youth ages 0-18 that provides nutritional and physical education in conjunction with the free meals provided by Summer Sack Lunch.

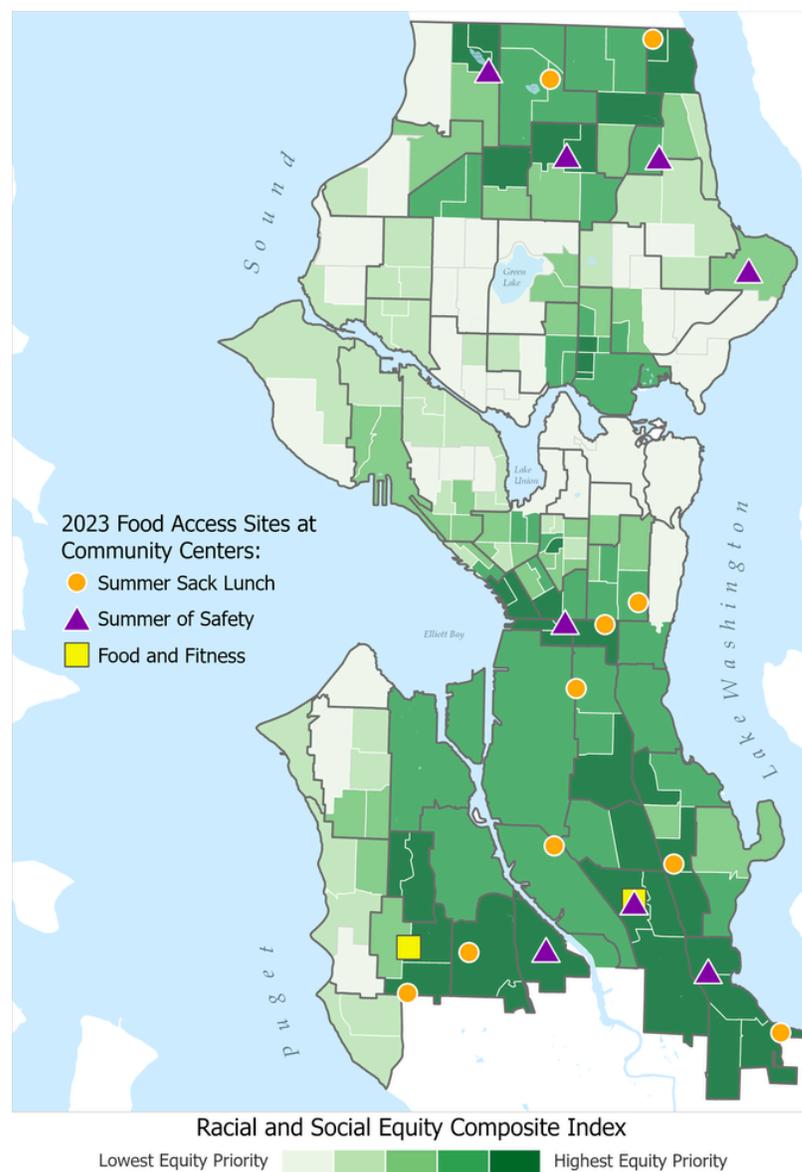
Summer Sack Lunch served nearly **14,000** meals and snacks during the summer of 2023.

Food and Recreation Map

This map shows Seattle Parks & Recreation community centers that provided food and recreation programming with staffing supported by the SBT.

Sites are displayed over the City's [2023 Race and Social Equity Index](#). The index combines data on race, ethnicity, English learner status, immigrant status, socioeconomic disadvantages, health disadvantages, and disability to identify the areas of Seattle that generally experience higher levels of race-based disparity. The darker green the area, the higher the equity priority.

Food and Recreation Programming was available throughout Seattle and in neighborhoods of highest equity priority.



Early Learning & Child Development Program Highlights



Section Contents:

- **Impact Snapshot**
- **Program Summaries:**
 - ➔ [Child Care Assistance Program](#)
 - ➔ [Birth-to-Three Community Grant Program](#)
 - ➔ [Health & Developmental Supports](#)
 - ➔ [Coaching & Training](#)
 - ➔ [Home Visiting](#)

Early Learning & Child Development 2023 Impact Snapshot



Child Care Assistance Program

Distributed **\$4.4 million** to help cover the cost of child care for 709 children from 521 families.



Prenatal-to-Three Community Grant Program

Awarded **\$1.4 million** in grants to organizations that provide critical prenatal services and supports to underserved communities.



Health & Developmental Supports

The Developmental Bridge Program provided early intervention services to **185** children and families.



Coaching & Training

Coaching & Training was provided to **40** Birth-to-Three classrooms



Home Visiting

Served over **800** children and families with family-focused services that support child growth and development.

Child Care Assistance Program

SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING (DEEL)

The **Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)** helps families pay for child care by lowering their cost burden by 10-15% on average.



CCAP is designed to support families who are below 94% State Median Income and who are not eligible for Washington state's Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) assistance program. Many Seattle-based families have either too high an income to qualify for WCCC, have parents who are enrolled in a job training program, or choose not to disclose residency status, and, in each case would be financially burdened by paying for Seattle-based child care. In 2023, a family size of 2 with a gross annual income of \$45,828 to \$71,784 would be eligible for CCAP.

The City uses a sliding scale to determine the level of child care subsidy available to families based on the child's age, family size, and gross family income. The City then pays the subsidy to child care providers monthly. Parents are responsible for paying any remaining balance after the City subsidy is applied.

To utilize a CCAP voucher, families must work with a CCAP provider to received subsidized care through the program. DEEL contracts with over 235 high-quality and affordable child care providers through CCAP.

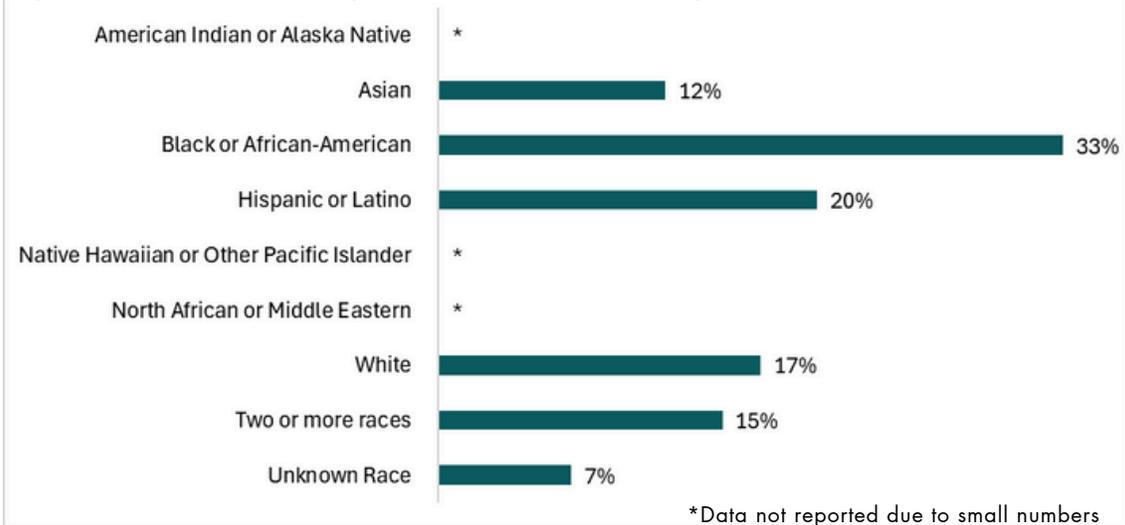
DEEL's goal for CCAP is to advance racial equity and social justice by providing direct financial support to families furthest from opportunity and minimizing barriers to care for Seattle's communities of color and low- and middle-income communities. The current displacement of Seattle's historic communities of color and low-income communities in tandem with Seattle's increasing cost of living has renewed the program's racial equity and social justice emphasis.

Child Care Assistance Program, CCAP (continued)

2023 Outcomes

- The City distributed **\$4.4 million** to help cover the cost of child care for 709 children from 521 families.
- CCAP Program Intake Representatives supported the highest number of families over the past 5 years in accessing child care subsidies, with **303** new families joining the program in 2023.
- CCAP eligibility expanded to include serving families looking for work or other demonstrated needs to serve more children and families

Figure 1: Race/Ethnicity of Children Served by CCAP in 2023



The City of Seattle's **Child Care Assistance Program** has expanded! More families are now eligible for financial support to cover the costs of child care.



Live within Seattle city limits



Have a child age 0-12 years old



Meet income eligibility based on family size *

*A family of four earning up to \$101 K per year may qualify!

More than

235

participating providers citywide!

Choose a provider who works with your schedule and accepts CCAP vouchers:

- Center-based child care providers
- Home-based Family Child Care providers
- Before- and after-school programs

Prenatal-to-Three Community Grant Program

SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING (DEEL)

The **Prenatal-to-Three Grant Program** awards funding to groups interested in providing prenatal-to-three supports to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), immigrants, refugees, individuals with low income, and those whose primary language is not English.



The intended outcome of this investment is to support increased kindergarten readiness and reduce the disparities in outcomes for young children and families based on race, gender, or other socioeconomic factors. The program intends to accomplish this by supporting community informed proposals that address obstacles contributing to these disparities. These include providing families access to critical resources and services, supporting healthy and equitable births, increasing parental health and well-being, strengthening caregiver-child relationships, and supporting optimal child health and development. In 2023, the Prenatal-to-Three grant program funded five community organizations as the investment moved to a 2-year investment cycle, based on organizational and community feedback in alignment with DEEL's commitment continual quality improvement.

Research indicates that women today are 50% more likely to die in childbirth compared to their mothers, and this risk is three to four times higher for Black women than white women, irrespective of income or education. Three of the five organizations are using the support to provide midwifery, doula, or other key supports such as mental health screening and supports during the prenatal period and in the critical weeks and months after childbirth when many maternal morbidity statistics occur. Two organizations offer parent and caregiving prenatal to three supports that match cultural and linguistic needs for the communities served. All organizations also provide in-language services for limited-English speaking communities to support equitable birth outcomes, with 18 linguistic communities supported overall.

Prenatal-to-Three Community Grant Program (continued)

2023 Grant Recipients

In 2023, the following organizations were awarded a Prenatal-to-Three Community Grant:

- **Families of Color Seattle** – Awarded \$280,000 to support Parent Groups, gatherings that increase parenting skills and provide a space for parents to discuss identity, race, culture, and belonging at no cost to participants.
- **Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services*** – Awarded \$280,000 to provide culturally specific, full spectrum doula support for Indigenous families.
- **Voices of Tomorrow** – Awarded \$280,000 for the Mind, Body, Culture (MBC) home visiting program that offers culturally and linguistically responsive case management, peer-based education, and social-emotional supports.
- **Global Perinatal Services*** - Awarded \$280,000 to provide culturally specific, doula services to Black, Immigrant, and Refugee families, prioritizing those with low income.
- **InterCultural Children & Family Services*** - Awarded \$280,000 to provide parent education focusing on building strong parent-child relationships meeting cultural, logistical, and individual needs of African American pregnant individuals and families.

*First-time award recipient of DEEL funding

DEEL partnered with the following consultants who provided technical assistance to applicants in efforts to make the process accessible and equitable:

- Hassan Wardere, Bulle Consulting
- Catherine Verrenti, Verrenti Consulting



Prenatal-to-Three Community Grant Program (continued)

Populations Served by Grantees

All the Prenatal-to-Three Community Grant awards went to organizations or groups that provide services co-created, led by, and benefiting BIPOC, immigrants, refugees, individuals with low income, and/or those whose primary language is not English. Together, grantees served **782** mothers and their families.

Figure 1: Race/Ethnicity of Mothers Served by 2023 Grantees

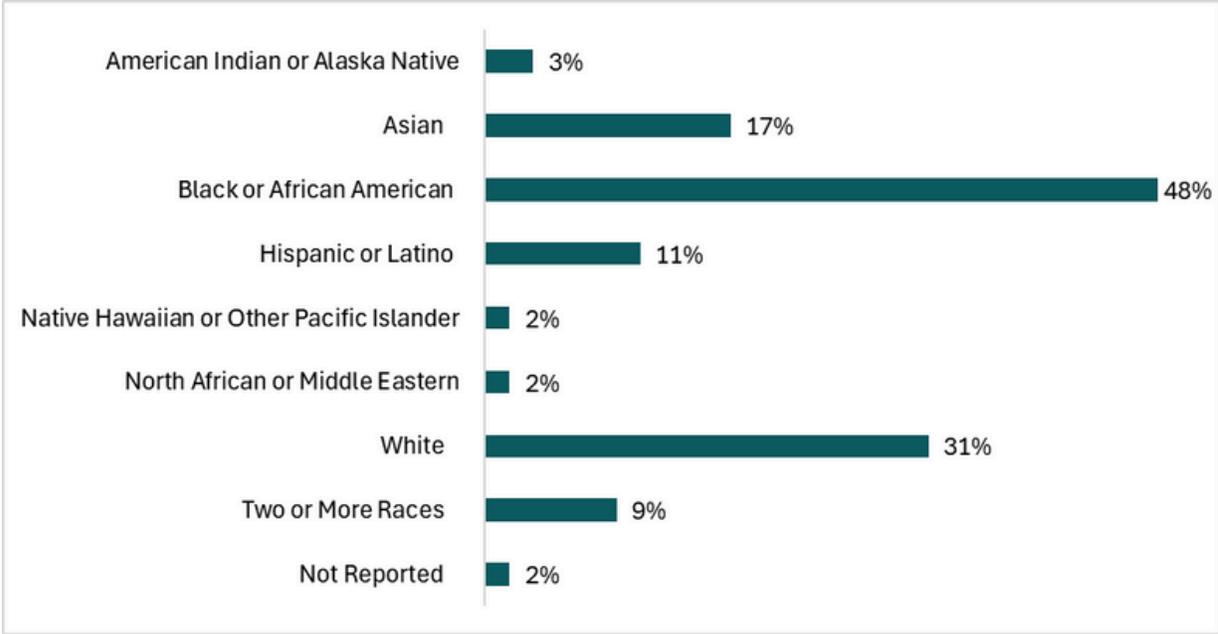
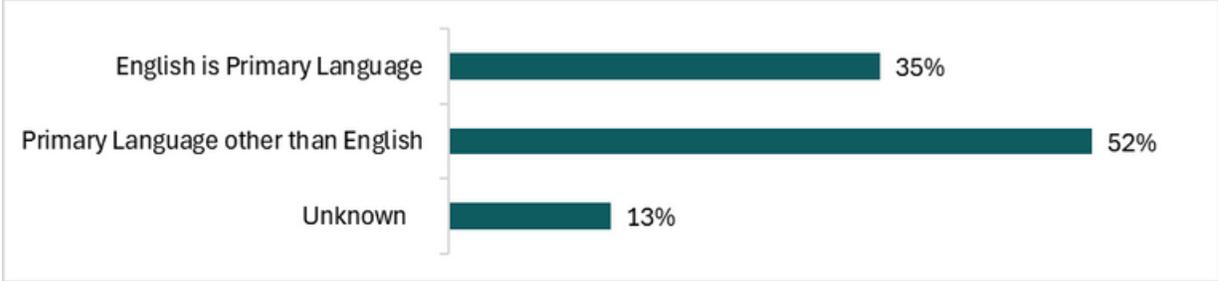


Figure 2: Primary Language of Mothers Served by 2023 Grantees



Health & Developmental Supports

SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING (DEEL)

Two distinct but related SBT investments make up DEEL's the Health and Developmental Support strategy:

- **Developmental Bridge Program**
- **Multi-disciplinary Health Consultation Services**

The Developmental Bridge Program

The City funds the Developmental Disabilities Division at King County and three community-based organizations (Boyer's Children's Clinic, Northwest Center, and Wonderland Kids) to implement the Developmental Bridge Program. The Development Bridge Program or "Bridge" is a pilot initiative intended to align (or bridge) early intervention supports and services for infant and toddlers and their families. The initiative is fully funded by SBT revenue.

Bridge is intended to provide developmental services to children who were ineligible from federal programs but could benefit from individualized, quality early intervention services to promote ongoing healthy development and wellbeing. [Read more about the program.](#)

In 2023, Bridge served **185** children from diverse racial/ethnic backgrounds (see **Figure 1**).

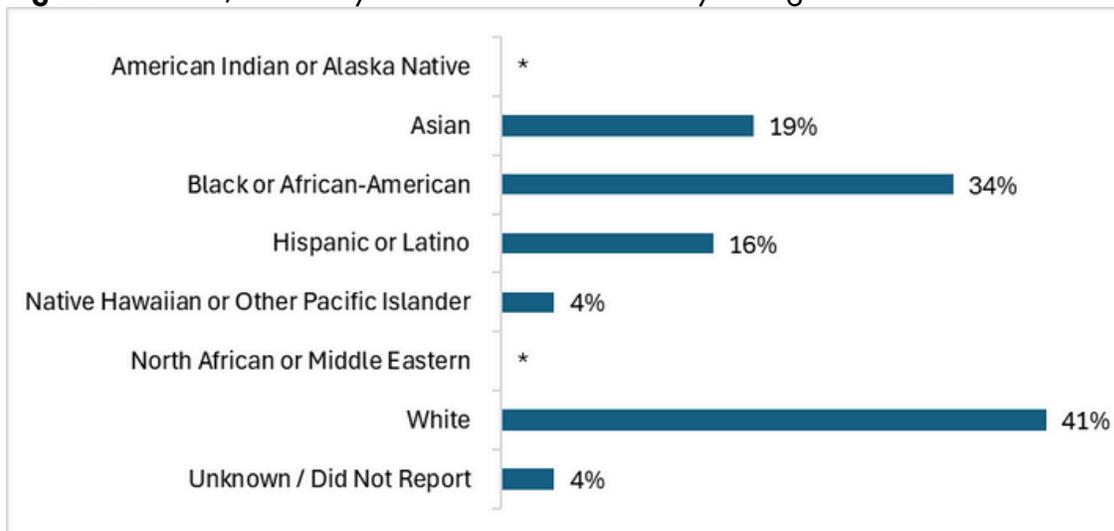
Of the children served in this period, **8.6%** of their families required interpreter services; these families spoke 12 different languages. Of the primary caregivers, **12.4%** reported that they were non-English speaking or Limited English speaking.

Sixty-two percent (**62%**) of the children served spoke English at home. The next most common languages were Spanish (10%), Amharic (4%), Chinese (4%), and Somali (4%).

Health & Developmental Supports (continued)

Developmental Bridge Program (“Bridge”)

Figure 1: Race/Ethnicity of Children Served by Bridge[^]



[^]Percentages do not sum to 100% since respondents could select multiple races/ethnicities.

*Data not reported due to small numbers

2023 Outcomes & Accomplishments

- **185** children and their families were supported by Bridge.
- **100%** of families that responded to the family exit survey expressed feeling supported by Bridge.
- **73%** of children made appropriate linkages to the next program, and another 8% met their goals without needing additional services.
- Bridge provided services to families facing homelessness through the CONNECT program and partnered with Solid Ground Seattle to support families facing housing insecurity.
- Bridge connected children, specifically those exhibiting behaviors consistent with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), with evaluation services.

Health & Developmental Supports (continued)

Multi-disciplinary Health Consultation Services

Multi-disciplinary Health Consultation Services

In 2023, SBT funding also supported multi-disciplinary health consultation services for child care providers through the Child Care Health Program (CCHP) at Public Health – Seattle & King County. The CCHP team includes Mental Health Consultants, Community Educator Consultants, Public Health Nurses, and a nutritionist. Together, this team focuses on relationship building; information sharing and guidance; health-giving best practices; and providing services based on child care provider feedback. The program strives to be community-, equity-, and trauma-informed to meet the needs of the diverse array of early learning educators and the children in their care.

Among the topics the CCHP addresses for the children and staff in early learning programs are communicable disease prevention, hygiene and sanitation, safe sleep, infant health and safety, medication management, emergency preparedness, promoting nurturing environments, challenging behavior management, healthy nutrition and feeding practices, and physical activity.

CCHP provides consultations to providers who accept Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) subsidies, with dedicated visits and support to providers with infant and toddler classrooms. Consultations cover a range of child topics including health promotion and disease prevention; mental and behavioral health; child development and learning; nutrition, food safety, and healthy mealtimes. Focusing on CCAP providers ensures these consultation services reach programs that serve children of families who are below 94% State Median Income, and who are not eligible for Washington state's Working Connections Child Care assistance program.

2023 Outcomes & Accomplishments

- The Public Health Nurses provided nearly **360 total consultations** to 26 Child Care Centers and 16 Family Child Care programs caring for infants.
- CCHP developed [guiding health materials](#) written in plain language, available in different forms (such as videos and dynamic presentations), and translated into multiple languages. A training on culturally relevant snacks and meals was designed for Family Child Care programs in mind, as well as videos on topics such as infant bottle-feeding and healthy snacks for preschoolers, which are available in English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin.

Coaching & Training for Birth-to-Three Providers

SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING (DEEL)

Supportive relationships and positive learning environments benefit infants and toddlers as their brains develop and set the stage for their future success in education and later in life. Over the past decade, the City of Seattle has made significant investments in facilitating access and providing resources to improve quality in preschool settings. However, relatively few investments focus on programs that care for infants and toddlers. A dedicated, sustained focus on enhancing the quality of child-caregiver interactions in infant and toddler child care settings is critical in addressing opportunity gaps in education.

In 2023, DEEL worked with the Child Care Health Program at Public Health – Seattle & King County (PHSKC) to continue piloting an aligned, culturally responsive health consultation, coaching and training model for birth-to-three providers in Seattle. DEEL and PHSKC worked with an initial cohort of providers from the City’s Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) to adapt a training, coaching, and consultation model to:

- increase teachers’ knowledge, skills and abilities
- raise the quality of care provided in infant and toddler environments
- connect providers, teachers, and families to other early childhood system supports
- support children and families through their transitions within the early childhood system.

In School Year 2022-23, PHSKC provided health consultation, coaching, and training for birth-to-three providers in Seattle at the following child care centers:

First Place – Main (1 room)

Learning Way School & Daycare (3 rooms)

Primm ABC Child Care (3 rooms)

Sound Child Care Solutions - Pinehurst Child Care and Preschool (4 rooms)

Sea Mar Child Development Center (3 rooms)

Tiny Tots – Othello (4 rooms)

Coaching for Birth-to-Three Providers (continued)

2023 Outcomes & Accomplishments

In 2022-2023 School Year, Birth-to-Three coaches began a new practice for collecting data on coaching frequency and topics discussed. From data collected using this new process:

- **40** Birth-to-Three classrooms had at least one coaching log entered and **21** (53%) had visits recorded in at least 6 of the 10 months of the school year.
- **30** (75%) Birth-to-Three classrooms had at least one focused classroom observation; observations allow coaches to offer specific, actionable feedback to teachers.



Home Visiting

SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING (DEEL)

Home visiting programs are family-focused services that support expectant parents and families with new babies and young children. DEEL invests SBT revenue into two home visiting programs described below.

[Nurse-Family Partnership](#) is a community health program that helps transform the lives of people pregnant with their first child. The program partners families with registered nurses from pregnancy through a child's second birthday, allowing nurses to deliver the support first-time parents need to have a healthy pregnancy, become knowledgeable and responsible parents, and provide their babies with the best possible start in life. The relationship between parent and nurse provides the foundation for strong families, and lives are forever changed—for the better.

[ParentChild+](#) is an evidence-based home visiting program that empowers parents to use conversation and play to support the growth and development of their child. Each family is matched with a community-based early learning specialist who shares their culture, with particular focus on linguistic and racial/ethnic alignment. The program offers culturally specific and effective ways to engage children and families in activities that promote early literacy and learning, honor cultural practices and familial traditions, support joy and connection for children and parents, and build a positive sense of self and enthusiasm for learning.

The specialist visits families twice a week with books and educational toys. Over the course of two cycles, families receive 92 home visits and acquire a library of 46 high-quality books and educational toys and 46 curricular guide sheets with tips on vocabulary building, engaging conversation, skill development, social-emotional development, imaginative play, and literacy, music, and art activities. At the conclusion of the program, ParentChild+ works to ensure children are enrolled in a high-quality early care and education program, the critical next educational step. This dovetails nicely with the Department of Education and Early Learning's continuum of early childhood programs and supports.

Home Visiting (continued)

2023 Outcomes & Accomplishments

Nurse Family Partnership:

- **269** children and **341** parents pregnant with their first child were served; all families served by the program have low incomes.
- Introduced an online referral form allowing potential clients to self-refer through their cell phones via QR code or URL. This change substantially increased self-referral and has benefitted referring providers, removing the requirement to scan and fax referral sheets, technology many small grassroots community-based organizations do not have.

ParentChild+

- **558** children were served; all families served by the program have low incomes. Among those who provided race and ethnicity data: 14% were Asian, 63% were Black/African American, 14% were Hispanic/Latino.
- Programs began the transition from a seasonal school-year schedule to year-round enrollment, providing more flexibility for programs and families and more continuous employment for direct service staff.

Service Delivery Partners

- Atlantic Street*
- Congolese Integration Network*
- CISC*
- El Centro de la Raza*
- Encompass* (not funded to serve Seattle, but part of the local network)
- Horn of Africa Services*
- InterCultural Children and Family Services*
- Iraqi Community Center of Washington*
- Neighborhood House*
- Southeast Youth & Family Services*
- Southwest Youth & Family Services*
- United Way of King County
- Voices of Tomorrow*
- YWCA Seattle, King, Snohomish*

**ParentChild+ service delivery partner contracted through United Way of King County*

Acknowledgements

2023 Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board

Jaimée Marsh, Food Access Representative (Position 1)

Barbara Baquero, Food Access Representative (Position 2)

Rebecca Finkel, Food Access Representative (Position 3)

Bilan Aden, Community Representative (Position 4)

Tanika Thompson-Bird, Community Representative (Position 5)

Christina Wong, Public Health Representative (Position 6)

Kristin Sukys, Public Health Representative (Position 7)

Jen Moss, Public Health Representative (Position 8)

Barbara Rockey, Public Health Representative (Position 9)

Munira Mohamed, Early Learning Representative (Position 10)

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*Administrative support for the Board and coordination across SBT-funded departments is led by the Office of Sustainability & Environment

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