

WELCOME TO



# FEDERAL FOOD PURCHASING

## TRANSFORMING POLICY & PRACTICE

HOSTED BY

Global Food Institute

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

FEDERAL  
GOOD FOOD  
PURCHASING COALITION

WITH SUPPORT FROM




SUMMIT  
PROGRAM





# The true cost of food

- Current industrial food system paradigm compromises human, animal, and planetary health, local economies, workers' rights
    - Disproportionate impacts for those who are Black, Indigenous, and people of color
  - The Rockefeller Foundation estimated the “true cost” of the U.S. food system to be 3x larger than what consumers spend on food
    - Direct cost of food: \$1.1 trillion/year
    - True cost of the food system: \$3.2 trillion/year
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# The Federal Good Food Purchasing Coalition

We are working to spur a more **just, healthy, and sustainable food system** through values-aligned food purchasing and food service at the federal level.

We believe **the government can and should be a leader** in prioritizing core values in its food purchasing and food service operations.

As the **largest food purchaser in the world**, the US government has the responsibility to ensure that its food purchasing advances the public good.

Just as federal energy procurement has accelerated the transition to clean energy across the US economy, **food procurement can be a driver** for the food system we need.

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# Our Values

- Local & Community-Based Economies
- Valued Workforce
- Environmental Sustainability
- Animal Welfare
- Community Health & Nutrition
- Transparency & Accountability
- Racial Equity



Balboa kitchen, San Francisco Unified School District

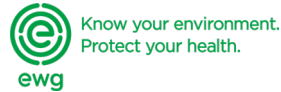


# The movement for values-aligned food purchasing

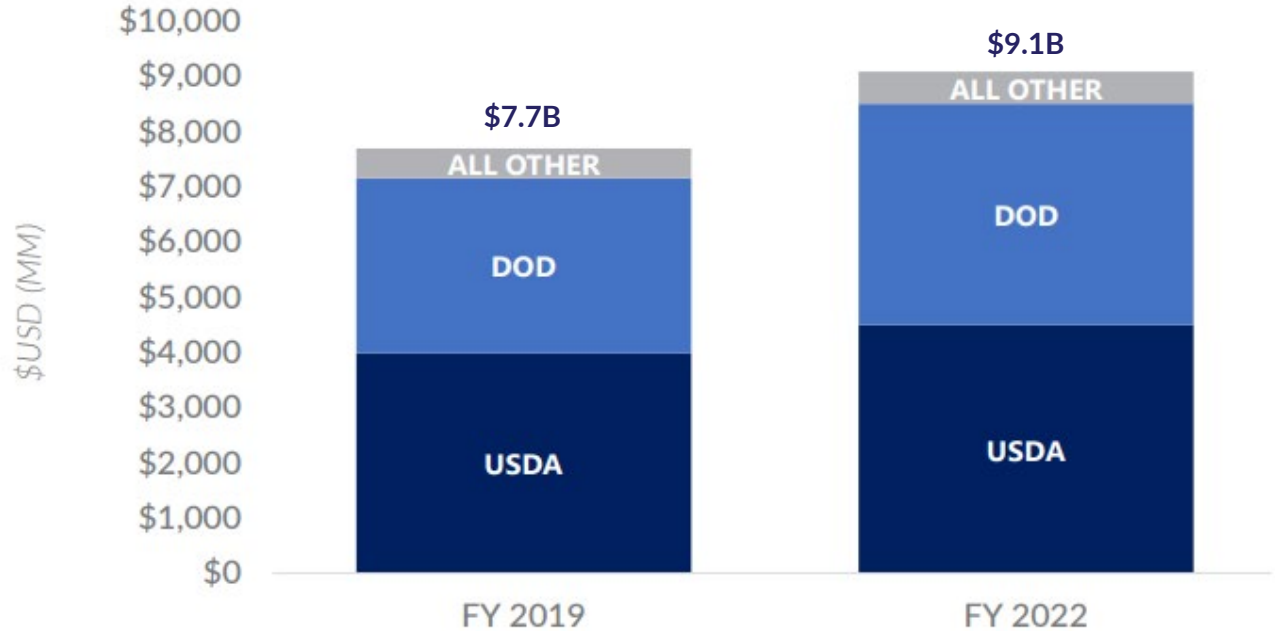
- Over 70 institutions in 26 cities and counties participate in the Good Food Purchasing Program
- 1700 hospitals participate in Health Care Without Harms' Healthy Food in Health Care Program
- The Anchors in Action Alliance aligned food purchasing framework embraces a unified set of values, principles, metrics, and strategies for values-aligned food purchasing across sectors



# Members



The federal government directly purchased **\$9 billion** worth of food in FY 2022





# The U.S. government has a huge food purchasing footprint

This purchasing power presents an opportunity for the federal government to advance public health, racial equity, local economies, a valued workforce, animal welfare, and climate mitigation and resilience.

Many federal programs already have nutrition requirements, and some purchase local or organic foods, offer climate-friendly choices, and create culturally relevant menus.

**HOWEVER, a coordinated effort across agencies is needed to achieve the greatest impact.**





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# Examples of current values-aligned practices

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- National Park Service
  - Healthy Food Choice Standards
  - Sustainable Food Choice Guidelines
- Department of Defense
  - Food Buyer's Guides
  - Menu Standards
  - Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program (DoD Fresh)
- Smithsonian Institution
- Bureau of Prisons
- Veterans Health Administration




Wild rice, Mitsitam Café

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While these examples are laudable, they do not go far enough: There is **enormous, untapped potential** for generating public health, social, economic, and environmental benefits using federal food purchasing power.





# FGFPC Policy Priorities

- Leverage the *Food Service Guidelines for Federal Facilities* to establish a government-wide policy for healthy, values-aligned food purchasing and food service.
  - Expand the availability of values-aligned food products and promote equitable procurement in USDA's commodity food programs.
  - Ensure climate-friendly food purchasing and food service are key components of the federal government's strategy to reduce procurement-related emissions.
  - Create public transparency for federal food purchasing through annual departmental reporting.
  - Create a pilot program to incentivize U.S. school districts to increase their values-aligned food purchasing.
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# Values-Aligned Federal Food Purchasing is a Win-Win

The federal government has an opportunity to leverage its purchasing power to improve the health and well-being of millions of people who rely on federal food service and build a more just, healthy, and sustainable food system from farm to fork.



## Who benefits from values-aligned federal food purchasing?

- Older Adults
- Veterans
- K-12 Students
- People Who Are Incarcerated
- Visitors to National Parks
- Armed Service Members
- People Who Rely On Food Banks
- Federal Employees
- Tribal Members and Organizations
- Museum Visitors

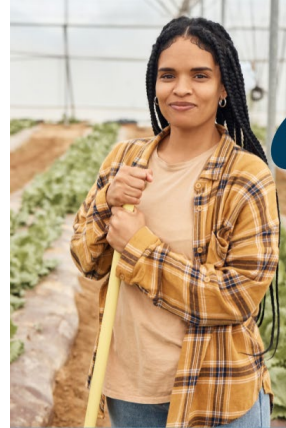


## Values-aligned federal food purchasing invests in...

- Food & Farm Workers
- BIPOC Communities
- Local Businesses
- Small & Medium Farms
- Farmed Animals
- Planet & Climate

# #powerofpurchasing

- If you wish to share your experience at the summit on social media, please use the hashtags **#powerofpurchasing #FFFP2024**
- We kindly ask that you do not take video or audio recordings of summit sessions. Video recordings of the plenary sessions will be made available to attendees at a later date.



**Investing in good food is  
an investment in dignity,  
prosperity, and equity.**

— JOSÉ ANDRÉS  
*founder of the Global Food Institute*



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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY


FEDERAL  
GOOD FOOD  
PURCHASING COALITION





# Agenda for Monday, March 11th

Follow the QR code on the event signs for the full agenda.

- 1:00-2:15 Opening Plenary (*Auditorium*)
  - 2:30-3:30 Concurrent Breakout Sessions
    - 1A: Local-Level Case Studies of Government-Wide Adoption of Values-Aligned Food Purchasing (700A)
    - 1B: Food Service Guidelines for Federal Facilities: The Path Forward (300A)
    - 1C: Equitable Procurement at USDA (400A)
  - 3:45-5:15 Afternoon Plenary (*Auditorium*)
  - 5:15-6:15 Reception (*Convening Center*)
- 



# Summit Planning Team

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# FGFPC Steering Committee

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Jennifer Howard, Rural Coalition

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Chloë Waterman, Friends of the Earth

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Helen Dombalis, Making It Count, LLC

**Government Relations**

Patricia Griffin, NVG, LLC

Amber Singh, NVG, LLC








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# Agenda for Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

Follow the QR code on the event signs for the full agenda.

- 8:00-9:00 Breakfast and Registration (*Convening Center*)
  - 9:10-10:10 Concurrent Breakout Sessions
    - 2A: How Vendors Can Achieve Food-Related Greenhouse Gas Reductions: Examples from the Field (700A)
    - 2B: Upholding Workers' Rights in Food Procurement (300A)
  - 10:25-12:15 Closing Plenary (*Auditorium*)
  - 12:15-1:30 Lunch Reception (*Convening Center*)
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