



## **FLORIDA BLUE FOUNDATION**

### **2021 FOOD SECURITY GRANTS**

The goal of the Florida Blue Foundation's 2021 Food Security grant opportunity is to impact food security of families and communities to help mitigate associated costly issues, which can be detrimental to health, development, and well-being. Grants are to provide support for access to affordable healthy foods for low-income families who live in food deserts and food insecure communities.

#### **All Faiths Food Bank, Inc.**

Serving Sarasota and DeSoto counties

\$300,000

#### **Pediatric Screening Expansion**

Through the Pediatric Screening program, All Faiths Food Bank will partner with health care providers to screen families with children for food insecurity. Health care providers will conduct screenings and refer food insecure families to All Faiths Food Bank where a Food Assistance Navigator will provide connections to food resources, benefits assistance, and referrals for other community services.

#### **American Heart Association, First Coast Division**

Statewide

\$300,000

#### **Building a Nutrition Security Coalition Framework to Address Systems and Policy Change in Florida**

This grant will enable The American Heart Association to further develop a statewide framework that will utilize their extensive network of local partnerships to improve nutrition and food security throughout the state of Florida. They will work with local food banks and pantries to strengthen fresh produce storage and client nutrition education. They will partner with FQHCs to add nutrition to treatment protocols through produce prescriptions. They will also work to broaden SNAP access through mobile food markets in underserved areas.

#### **America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend, Inc.**

Serving Gulf, Madison, and Liberty counties

\$300,000

#### **Hope 24/7 Grocery Locker**

This grant will enable America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend to launch the Hope 24/7 Grocery Locker program in low service areas where working, food insecure families can access food. This initiative will place temperature-controlled grocery lockers in communities where food insecurity is high and groceries cannot be obtained through traditional avenues. They will also distribute educational materials to provide clients with information on proper nutrition and supportive services.

**Bridge to Hope**

Serving Miami-Dade County

\$300,000

**Bridge to Hope Food Pantry with Neighborhood Hubs**

Through a holistic approach, Bridge to Hope will leverage partnerships to expand access and better support clients so they will experience improved outcomes in the areas of food security, nutrition, and health. This will be accomplished through food distributions, nutrition education, connection to support services, and community health fairs.

**Evans Center, Inc.**

Serving Brevard County

\$300,000

**Breaking Bread, Breaking Barriers**

Breaking Bread, Breaking Barriers will implement a multi-faceted approach to ensure the community has access to affordable, healthy foods, quality health care, and educational programs to improve health standards and quality of life for community residents. The program will include the expansion of “Buy One, Get One” SNAP promotions at the Evans Market, free lunches for children during summer break, nutrition education programming, and Food as Medicine food prescriptions.

**GENYOUth**

Statewide

\$285,000

**End Student Hunger**

GENYOUth’s End Student Hunger program provides grants of up to \$3,000 to schools to supply resources necessary for meal distribution, service, and delivery efforts to meet COVID school meal protocols and support the increased demand.

**Goodwill Industries of North Florida, Inc.**

Serving Duval County

\$400,000

**Debs Store Neighborhood Market**

The intent of this grant is to restore and operate Debs Store Neighborhood Market to provide access to fresh, healthy, affordable food in the Eastside neighborhood in Jacksonville.

**Health in the Hood, Inc.**

Serving Miami-Dade County

\$300,000

**Health in the Hood Food Access Program**

This program will further Health in the Hood’s efforts to eliminate food insecurity in low-income neighborhoods that lack access to fresh food by building urban vegetable farms; distributing free healthy food; teaching nutrition, gardening, and wellness; and creating sustainable local food ecosystems.

**Jewish Community Services of South Florida, Inc.**

Serving Miami-Dade County

\$300,000

**Hungry Hearts: Nutrition Support for Families & Seniors**

The purpose of this grant is to decrease food insecurity for two groups – low-income families and seniors. These funds will enable Jewish Community Services of South Florida to expand its capacity to serve Miami-Dade County families through its Kosher Food Bank and for seniors through its congregate meal sites, which closed in 2020 due to the pandemic.

**Metropolitan Ministries**

Serving Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Pasco counties

\$400,000

**Inspire Hope**

This grant will enable Metropolitan Ministries to provide food boxes and supportive services to families in under-resourced, high-poverty neighborhoods in Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Pasco counties.

Community Navigators will connect families to financial assistance for rent/utilities, SNAP assistance, and resources for housing, health care, transportation, and education/employment.

**Muslim American Social Services**

\$300,000

Serving Duval County

**Food as Medicine Program**

The Food as Medicine Program will enable the Muslim American Social Services Clinic to screen all patients for food insecurity and provide food and appropriate resources to those identified as food insecure. This program will include a nutrition education program for clinic patients identified as both food insecure and having chronic poorly controlled diabetes or hypertension. The objective is permanent behavioral changes for participants and their families through nutritional counseling and medical monitoring with a goal of better disease self-management.

**Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida**

\$300,000

Serving Orange County

**Screen and Intervene: Connecting Food Insecure Patients to Resources**

This grant will enable Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida to increase screenings for food insecurity in medical practices and connect food insecure patients with community resources. A community health worker will connect food insecure patients with appropriate resources and follow-up with patients on outcomes of these referrals. This program will also provide education and technical assistance to health care providers on implementing screenings into practice.

**St. Petersburg Free Clinic**

Serving Pinellas County

\$300,000

**Increasing Food and Nutrition Security in Pinellas County, Florida**

The purpose of this grant is to support the We Help FRESH Pantry and Lifestyle Rx program. The St. Pete Free Clinic will provide health and nutrition education, as well as nutritious food, directly to patients who access medical and dental care in their Health Center.