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Appendix 1.1.1

Food Forest Stewardship Roles by Boston Food Forest Coalition

Stewardship Team Roles

to support shared accountability

Healthy food forests and healthy stewardship teams go hand-in-hand. Healthy teams are actively and joyfully engaged in the work of tending their food forest and engaging with the broader neighborhood community.

Healthy teams are also aligned with the [Guiding Principles](#) of stewardship. One of those principles is “clearly defined roles and responsibilities.”

Food Forest Roles

Clearly-defined roles and responsibilities support team vision, shared accountability, and trust. They also help to make the day-to-day work of maintaining a food forest easier and more joyful to carry out.

Boston Food Forest Coalition suggests the following roles for each food forest Stewardship Team, *(but strongly encourages each Stewardship Team to update the roles and titles based on their team culture, needs, and priorities!)*

Lead Coordinating Steward — the week-to-week primary leader and decision-maker for the food forest. This person...

- coordinates stewardship team meetings that are fun and move the food forest toward the Stewardship Team’s collective vision.
- is the main point of contact with BFFC, including: proactively communicating site needs to BFFC, collaborating on the Memorandum of Special Stewardship with BFFC, paying yearly site fee to BFFC, and leading site fundraising efforts for fees and any necessary improvements.
- cultivates neighborhood relationships and encourages new community members to join the stewardship team.
- participates in ensuring the team sustains through the years.

Engaged Stewardship Team Members — the week-to-week members who drive food forest care and community engagement alongside the Lead Coordinating Steward.

These team members attend regular stewardship team meetings and take on concrete role(s) and correlating responsibilities in food forest/team maintenance.

They can play 1-3 of the following roles if the individual has time and interest:

- Fruit tree care leader: responsible for fruit tree health, pruning, harvesting, and annually updating the food forest map of trees and tree health.
- Perennial shrubs and plants leader: responsible for food forest plant guilds including perennial shrubs, greens, flowers, and other perennial plants (not annual garden beds), and annually updating the food forest map of shrub and shrub health.
- Weeds leader: responsible for learning what's a weed (and should be pulled) and what's not (edible, herbal, etc) and helping guide the team to staying ahead of weeding the food forest.
- Hardscape and buildings leader: responsible for care of pathways, buildings, garden box structures, trash removal, message boards, fencing, educational signage, winter water shut off, tools and shed maintenance, managing who has keys to the shed, and other physical structure maintenance and care.
- Community engagement, impact, and events leader: responsible for neighborhood outreach, community partnerships, getting neighbors involved in stewardship, planning regular volunteer days & annual community events (e.g. Spring Wake Up, Fall Harvest, Annual Site Clean Up, etc.), taking photos/videos, and notifying BFFC's Communications Manager if the team wants a community event or volunteer day promoted to the broader coalition.

Volunteers — the neighborhood members (non-stewards) who engage semi-frequently to participate in the food forest (e.g., tending a garden box, attending volunteer days, joining community events at the food forest, etc).

These volunteers are not the food forest Stewardship Team, but could ask the Stewardship Team to join if they want to get more engaged in the food forest.

Role definition and tenure guidelines

- Roles should be actively updated/modified by the Stewardship Team to meet the needs of the food forest and community. Roles should be updated in the BFFC stewardship dashboard so stewards and BFFC staff remain aligned on any team changes.
- At the end of each calendar year, the Lead Steward and Engaged Stewards should meet to decide if they are renewing their commitment for the coming year, if any roles should change, and if any new neighbors should join the team.
- BFFC's ongoing hypothesis is that the Lead Steward role should rotate every 2 or 3 years if not sooner. So, part of the Stewardship Team role should be actively engaging new stewards from the community and also cultivating the next Lead Coordinating Steward.

Guiding Principles of Stewardship

Shared Vision

Team is able to discuss and bring clarity to the specific objectives and vision that the team is working towards. Leadership is joyful, and stems from the team's collective dreams and visions.

Spirit of inclusion

Stewards actively engage and include neighbors across race, class, and age, while celebrating our differences.

Frequent collaboration

Successful stewardship teams meet regularly (e.g., monthly) to coordinate food forest care, design inclusive community events at the food forest, and other work to ensure the food forest is healthy, vibrant, and the community is actively engaged.

Clearly-Defined Roles & Responsibilities

Each team member understands individual responsibilities and how each role connects to and supports the team's vision. Individual roles are clearly defined and discussable.

Shared Accountability

Team members understand what they're being held accountable for as partners in the community land trust and as food forest stewards.

Learn By Doing (Hang Loose!)

Stewardship, like gardening, requires setting intentions, trying things out, making some mistakes, lots of curiosity, and adjustment on the fly. Stewards have a plan for the food forest site, while having fun and holding the work with looseness.

Conflict Is Natural

Disagreement is a natural part of the work. The goal isn't to avoid conflict but to gracefully lean into it to find inclusive, workable solutions that benefit the community. Getting curious about each other's perspectives and what's behind them can go a long way.

Listen To The Food Forest

Observing the food forest space is critical to designing and tending the land in concert with nature. Successful food forests cultivate relationships between people, plants, soil, and other animals, while aligning with permaculture/agroecology principles.

Appendix 1.1.3

Boston Food Forest Coalition Vision Mission Values

BOSTON FOOD FOREST COALITION

STATEMENT OF VISION, MISSION, VALUES

Vision

Imagine walking down a street in Boston on a Saturday morning in June, picking a handful of blueberries and currants from an edible park, sitting in the shade of an old oak to chat with neighbors, and grabbing a basket of fresh veggies on your walk home for dinner. It's 2050, climate-induced storms are stronger, sea-level rise is worse — but we planted a Forest City rooted in hope and environmental justice.

Boston Food Forest Coalition aims to endow healthy food forests as part of the renewable green infrastructure of Boston. In 50 years time, at a slow and steady rate of growth, this could mean over a hundred food forests have taken root throughout the city (each with their own annual harvest festivals and cultural events). Every healthy food forest is a garden of connectivity, renewing community leadership for adaptation and resilience, and signifies a cultural realignment of urban life with the natural world, creating nourishing relationships between neighbors, land, and food.

Together we are asking: How do we embody “beloved community” (in which all people are cherished and nurtured) as we engage gracefully with the work of realigning humanity with nature?

Mission

At the intersection of racial equity and climate resilience, the Boston Food Forest Coalition is a community of neighbors transforming vacant lots into public edible parks placed into permanent community control and ownership. Together, we are building resilience in Boston through more equitable access to healthy green space and greater connection to each other and the natural world.



BOSTON FOOD FOREST COALITION

Values

<i>Value</i>	<i>Description</i>
Joyful grace "Compassion & respect for yourself and all life"	We believe in supporting the wellbeing of all stakeholders (e.g., staff, board, stewards and their neighborhoods) so that they have the opportunity to show up to the work from a place of joy and grace. We believe in creating culture and systems to promote individual and communal well being, while recognizing it is the individual's responsibility to take care of themselves by advocating for what they need, setting boundaries, etc. We believe it is important to recognize that impact is different than intent, and in taking responsibility for repairing harm caused. Conflict and disagreement are natural parts of the work; the goal isn't to avoid them but to gracefully learn from them and to care for each other along the way.
Racial equity & justice at the center "Overcome racialized land injustice"	We believe in working towards racial equity and collective liberation for all Bostonians with a focus on increasing healthy green space for Black and Brown Bostonians and Indigenous Peoples. To achieve a vision of racial justice in Boston, we believe we must understand Boston's history of structural racism and how it manifests in policies, institutions, and culture related to BFFC's work. For example, a history of racist mortgage lending practices in Boston led to a 20% disparity in parkland between mostly white Bostonians and Bostonians of color, a 7.5 degree disparity in daytime temperature, and 39% disparity in trees. We pair this knowledge with humility and curiosity as we work across diverse communities in pursuit of greater racial equity and justice.
Inclusivity "Collective land ownership"	We believe in strengthening a Boston culture of belonging through collective ownership of land by a multi-racial, multi-generational, democratically-



BOSTON FOOD FOREST COALITION

	<p>engaged community, that has the information and decision rights to govern and operate a Community Land Trust that serves all Bostonians. We believe authentic representation and power-sharing is critical. We believe we must examine the roots of the systems BFFC participates in as a nonprofit land trust in Boston, and take action to increase inclusion toward racial justice, e.g., address the historic exclusion of Black and Brown leadership in decision-making roles in nonprofits.</p>
<p>Adaptability "Let's get curious"</p>	<p>We believe a proactive learning culture is necessary in times of rapid change – i.e., social, economic, and environmental transformation (e.g., sea-level rise, temperature increase, and heat island effect). We believe in listening deeply to stakeholders, analyzing and learning from data (perspectives, stories, and numbers), and making adjustments based on learnings. We <u>also</u> believe it is critical to "get curious" about our own (and others) opinions and assumptions and to slow down to hear each other in our day-to-day work. We believe individually we don't hold all the answers, but collectively we can learn from each other <i>and</i> the natural world to build a stronger path together. (Related: Here's our first draft of how to build a learning organization.)</p>
<p>Baseline trust and appreciation "You are valued"</p>	<p>We believe in the competency of each member of the BFFC team (board, staff, stewards). We believe mutual respect is vital to the psychological safety and well being of our team, and must be rooted in each person's inherent value. We believe it is important to support each other to take risks, make mistakes, communicate forthrightly and learn together.</p>
<p>Ecological imagination "Realigning with the natural"</p>	<p>We believe in realigning urban life with the natural world by inspiring an ecological imagination in all</p>



BOSTON FOOD FOREST COALITION

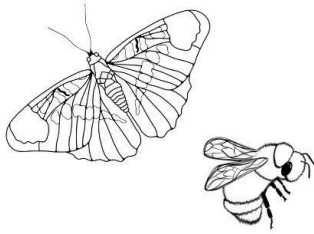
world"	<p>Bostonians. We believe we must listen deeply to the natural world to find our place within it so we might live adaptably and resiliently as it changes.</p> <p>We also believe in living into The Seventh Generation Principle which is based on an ancient Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) philosophy that the decisions we make today should result in a sustainable world seven generations into the future.</p>
<p>Community</p> <p>"We are better to each other when we know each other"</p>	<p>We believe we are stronger and smarter together. We believe in listening to and seeing each other, and celebrating differences. We believe, as Jessie, an Edgewater food forest steward put it, "we are better to each other when we know each other." We believe that relationships move at the speed of trust. BFFC was founded as a multi-racial, multi-generational coalition and intends to keep this at the core of our work.</p>

* For Reference only:

[2019 document](#), [2021 document](#), Current [Theory of Change](#) draft



BOSTON FOOD FOREST COALITION



Bayer Farm Guidelines

Welcome to Bayer Farm by LandPaths! We are very happy that you are here. Before your visit, please read these guidelines to help ensure a warm, welcoming and safe environment for all who visit. Thank you for being part of this wonderful community!

- **Open Hours:** Enjoy the beauty of the farm from sunrise to sunset!
- **Respect for All:** Please be kind and considerate to everyone, including the lovely plants and critters that call this garden home.
- **Respecting Garden Plots:** Ask for permission before entering any community garden plots. This ensures that we all respect each other's hard work and care.
- **Supervise Your Little Ones:** If you bring your children along, keep an eye on them to make sure they don't pick anything without asking. Let's teach them to be respectful garden explorers.
- **Harvesting Rules:** The teaching garden is off-limits for harvesting unless you have received special permission from LandPaths.
- **Zero Tolerance for Harassment:** We're all about spreading positivity, so any form of unkind words or actions are not acceptable here.
- **Stay Sober:** Bayer Farm is a place for clear heads and clear hearts. Please do not use drugs or alcohol here.
- **Pets:** As much as we love our furry friends, they can cause harm to our gardens. To protect the precious plants, please do not bring your pets into the garden.
- **Reporting Suspicious Activity:** Your safety is important to us. If you ever notice anything unusual, please call the Santa Rosa Police non-emergency number at (707) 543-3600. If someone is experiencing a mental health crisis, call (707) 575-HELP (4357).

Appendix 1.1.5
Bayer Farm Guidelines & Agreements



Bayer Farm Guidelines and Agreement

We are at Bayer Farm, located on the ancestral home of the Southern Pomo and Coastal Miwok people, past, present, and future. We recognize them as the first people and the first stewards of this land. We are on occupied territory and acknowledge the ongoing devastation of colonization. This land acknowledgement is the first step in LandPaths' long journey to repairing our relationship with the original people of this land, and to respect, make space, and honor the knowledge, culture, and deep connection to the natural world of indigenous people. Join us in this process by connecting and uplifting the organizations and resources to native communities in our area.

Garden Contacts:

- Name Phone _____ or _____@LandPaths.org
- Name Phone _____ or _____@LandPaths.org

- We are also available in the garden during volunteer workdays. Check the bulletin board to see the calendar of the days when we are open.

Bayer Farm is a project of LandPaths, a Santa Rosa based conservation organization whose mission is to *Foster a Love of the Land in Sonoma County*. The project was started in 2007 with a goal of building a community hub where neighbors can gather in a safe space to share traditions, knowledge and love that inspires families to grow nurtured by nature.

To qualify for an individual plot, we ask that you:

- Be an involved family in all activities and events in the Garden.
- Be prepared to support and be a part of the Garden directive.
- Lack of space in where to cultivate at home.
- Give a minimum of **50 volunteer hours** in the garden per year.
- Make sure to take a calendar in order to record your hours.
- Community work hours can also be received from other LandPaths properties. * see list of opportunities in the last page
- Pay a fee of at least \$100 per year. (If it is possible and/or wished, more can always be received.)
- Sign this agreement – in where you agree to follow all the rules of the garden, fulfill your volunteer responsibilities, and maintain your plot.
- Those that do not follow the garden rules or fulfill their volunteer hours will not be invited to return the next year and/or in extreme cases will lose their plot immediately.

Bayer Farm rules of behavior:

- All community gardeners will behave with respect and consideration to the garden, other gardeners, and visitors to the garden.
- Entering others' plots without permission, vandalism, harassment (verbal or physical), and disparaging remarks around race, gender, creed, etc. are **not tolerated** behaviors.
- Violation of these rules will result in expulsion from the garden.
- There is to be no planting in areas outside of your designated place. There is to be NO fencing over 6' tall.
- DO NOT WASTE WATER! A controlled Irrigation system is encouraged to be installed.
- An inspection before Spring - Summer planting should be passed.
- It is prohibited to leave water running or manually using hosing for watering.
- You are responsible for the behavior of your children and pets.
- Neither drugs nor alcohol is permitted in the Garden.
- Wear your badge visibly every time that you are in the garden and / or working in your space.
- Respect the doors and never share the combination, especially minors- access by unauthorized people could lead to accident, fire and theft.
- If something suspicious is seen, anyone jumping the fence, or committing a crime including night visits and theft, please call the Santa Rosa Police at 707-543-3600
- If you see someone harvesting from multiple sites or otherwise apparently harvesting without authorization, please approach them and inquire as to who they are – if they are supposed to be there you will meet a new friend. If not, you can explain the rules.
- It is prohibited to gather products from the teaching area. (They belong to Running Programs!)

Basic rules for families or persons with individual plots:

- The Garden is composed of a community section for families and another of teaching.
- The community garden is officially open from dawn to dusk. Do not enter after nightfall.
- We are an ORGANIC garden: Fertilizers, Chemical Pesticides, and Herbicides are not permitted. We can help with advice if you have a problem. _____ Initials
- Large permanent plants, i.e. trees, are not permitted in family plots.
- Edible plants, herbs and flowers are suitable.
- It is not permissible to allow produce to rot – if you have extra, please share with a neighbor or let us know so that we can utilize the produce. _____ Initials
- Keep in touch – if your phone number or email changes, let us know promptly.
- If you need to abandon your plot, let us know right away so that we may pass it on to the next person on the waiting list.
- Keep your plot and the adjoining paths free of trash and weeds. _____ Initials
- Ask for advice! We are here as resources for you, whether for how to obtain necessary materials, watering methods or any other subject that concerns the garden. (Do NOT assume things, it is always best to straighten any doubts out by asking.)

Garden Calendar:

- There are two activity-heavy seasons in the garden – Spring and the Fall. You must attend to your plot all year long, but there are certain activities that take place during these times specifically, where we will be checking to see if you are participating.
- It is important to maintain your plot clean and free of weeds all year long. _____ Initials

- In the Spring:
 - You must begin your garden by April 1st. Those who do not utilize their plots will lose them.
 - To know when and how to plant various plants; look at the planting calendar on the bulletin board. If you do not know what to do in your garden, ask us for advice.

- During the Fall:
 - You must clean all dead plants from your plot, without any exception.
 - We recommend that you plant a cover crop – we even provide seeds. It adds vital nutrients to the soil, reduces the need to weed during the winter, and prepares the soil for Spring. Plant it in all areas without crops before December 15th.
 - You can grow winter produce, in accordance with the planting calendar, but you must maintain your plot free of weeds, just as during the summer.
 - It is not acceptable to abandon your plot for the winter – keep it tidy. _____ Initials

- **Community Area Cleanup**
 - We are all responsible for keeping the entire property clean and beautiful.
 - Learn and teach how to manage garbage disposal, recycling, and compost.
 - Reduce materials that cause garbage to the point where it is possible.
 - Accept the challenge of eating and drinking healthier! Take advantage of the teachings and information that we provide here from prior years. (NO SODAS!)
 - For all events where LandPaths where food is served, we require your own reusable plates to be brought.
 - Reduce the use of disposable utensils and plates. Styrofoam is prohibited.

- **Compost:**
 - Bring all the plants and weeds to the compost station.
 - Grass and other invasive plants should be rid of in the appropriate yard container.
 - Follow the system's instructions and signs. _____ Initials

- **Volunteer Hours:**
 - We always have projects in which you are able to help with or without supervision.
 - We will explain the system in person. You are responsible for following it and fulfilling your volunteer hours. _____ Initials

● If you do not agree with or think you will not comply to all the regulations, DO NOT sign this agreement and return it.

● If you do agree and will comply to all the regulations listed above, please sign and keep this document only turning in the page of Information which is asked.

Your space number is: _____

I have read and fully agree to the Garden Guidelines

I understand that neither the garden group nor owners of the land are responsible for my actions. I therefore agree to hold harmless LandPaths, the other gardeners, the City of Santa Rosa or anyone else for any liability, damage, loss or claim that occurs in connection with me or my guests' use of the garden.

Date: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Community Gardener Information

Of Adults in Family: _____ # of Children in Family: _____

Main Contact #1:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

e-mail: _____

Address: _____

Main Contact #2: ☐ minor?

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

e-mail: _____

Address: _____

Names and ages of children: _____

Are you a Home Owner? Yes / No

Reason for Inability to Garden at Home:

List languages spoken at Home:

Please list any groups you belong to (cultural, civic, educational or any other of interest):

Special Skills or Interests:

List of opportunities for reciprocity (50 hours)

In the garden:

- Native plants
- Cactus
- Tropical garden
- Welcome kiosk
- Flower circle
- Fig trees
- Fire pit
- Fruit trees
- Compost
- Worms
- Greenhouse
- Vineyard
- Chickens
- Goats
- Beehive
- Harvest and stand

Programs:

- Harvest for Health
- Free Lunch
- Bookmobile

Other garden activities:

- Potluck
- Pollinators
- Sports
- Art

- Cooking
- Youth education

Appendix 1.1.6
Green Team Advocacy Questionnaire

File in
Confidential File



Name: _____ Date: _____

Advocacy Questionnaire

Welcome to the Green Team program interview. The following questionnaire will help you remember information before you meet with a staff member. This is not a test. There are no “right” or “wrong” answers. We all have a different life story. Take your time. You may ask questions during the interview.

1. Do you currently have a place to live? Where? Yes No
2. Is housing a priority for you? (circle one) Yes No
3. Do you have access to transportation? Yes No
4. Were you ever in the Armed Services? (circle one) Yes No
 - a. If yes, which one and how long? _____
 - b. What was your specialty skill? _____
5. Our program requires the ability to stand for long periods of time, stoop, squat, kneel, and/or bend frequently, occasionally lift 30 lbs, and work in extreme weather conditions. Can you, with or without accommodations, perform these movements? Yes No
 - a. If no, please explain:
 - b. What accommodations will you need?
6. What work skills did you use in your past jobs?
7. Have you ever worked in any of the following areas? If yes, please describe.
 - a. Gardening/Farming (circle one) Yes No
 - b. Nursery/Greenhouse (circle one) Yes No
 - c. Food Service (circle one) Yes No

d. Landscaping/Maintenance	Yes	No
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8. What do you see as your three greatest strengths in the workplace?

a. _____

b. _____

C. _____

9. What are three skills you would hope to gain or improve through this program?

a. _____

b. _____

C. _____

10. This cohort starts at the end of July and runs through the end of November. Is there anything that might prevent you from staying the whole time? (circle one) Yes

No

a. If yes, please explain:

11. We work in all kinds of weather on the farm. Some days are sunny and beautiful, but others can be very hot, cold, or wet. Is there anything that might prevent you from working in different kinds of weather? (heat sickness/sensitivity, arthritis, etc) Yes

No

a. If yes, please explain:

12. Below is a list of some of the things we do during the season. We want to know what your priorities are while you are here. Please think about how important each element is to you and place a score next to each item. (There are no right or wrong answers here!)

1

2

3

4

5

not important

very important

Getting into stable housing _____

Being part of a community and meeting new people _____

Getting support with meeting my personal goals _____

Getting connected to social services (like health care or food stamps)

Receiving farm and garden training

Gaining food prep, cooking, and nutrition skills _____

Improving my communication skills

Spending time in a safe space _____

Gaining work skill experience _____

Spending time in nature _____

Earning wages _____

Eating organic food at the farm _____

Learning about financial planning and budgeting _____

Getting support on job searching (resumes, interview prep, etc) _____

Building positive references for my resume _____

Fulfilling requirements of another program (DWS work experience, probation, drug court, etc.) _____

Work on and/or clearing up fines, records, court appointments, etc. _____

Any other things you would like to add that you want to work on this season _____

What would you like to see in your Case Manager/Advocate that you have not received from previous Case

Managers _____

Appendix 1.1.8
Green Team Program Application



Green Team Program Application

Instructions

Please complete all parts of this application by printing requested information. All information on this form must be provided so program eligibility can be established.

General Information

First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name

Phone Number

Mailing Address

City, State, Zip

Email Address

Physical Address (most recent)

City, State, Zip

County of Residence

Social Security Number

Date of Birth & Current Age

Resident of Utah Since (year)

Citizenship: ☐ U.S. Citizen ☐ Legal Permanent Resident ☐ Employment Authorization Card
 ☐ Other, please explain: _____

Ethnicity: ☐ Hispanic or Latina
 ☐ Not Hispanic or Latina

Race: ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American ☐ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 ☐ American Indian/Alaska Native ☐ White/Caucasian ☐ Multiracial

Marital Status: ☐ Never Married ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated ☐ Widowed

Have you ever been convicted of a crime?* ☐ Yes ☐ No

*Such as a DUI, Shoplifting, Forgery, Possession, Runaway. Your response to this question will not affect your eligibility for the program.



How did you hear about the Green Team program (check all that apply)?

- ☐ Green Team Poster ☐ News Story ☐ Facebook ☐ Nextdoor ☐ Newspaper ☐ Radio
☐ Past Participant ☐ Friend/Relative* ☐ Saw the farm and wanted to check it out
☐ Caseworker: _____ ☐ Other _____

*If through Friend/Relative, please also mark how the Friend/Relative heard about Green Team.

Financial Information

What is the total income for your household for the previous month?: \$ _____

*Total income is considered monthly gross wages, child support, and any other cash benefits received.

Number of adults ages 18 or older in your household: _____

Number of people who contribute to pay the household expenses: _____

Number of people ages 0-17 in your household: _____

Number of children you have: _____

Are you the head of household (To be considered a Head of Household, you have to file an individual tax return, be considered unmarried, not be claimed on someone else's tax return, and be able to claim a qualifying dependent on your return)

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you pay child support if your children under age 18 do not live with you?

- ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you currently receive child support for one or more of your children?

- ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you currently receiving food stamps/SNAP benefits? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what is your average monthly SNAP amount: \$ _____

Do you currently receive child care assistance through the state? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what is the approximate number of hours of childcare per week: _____

Do you currently have health insurance for yourself? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, is this health insurance:

- ☐ Public health insurance provided by the state (Medicaid/Medicare)
☐ Private health insurance paid by you, family, a spouse, or an employer
☐ Both

Do you currently have health insurance for your children? ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ No



WASATCH
COMMUNITY
GARDENS

If yes, is this health insurance:

- ☐ Public health insurance provided by the state (Medicaid/Medicare)
- ☐ Private health insurance paid by you, family, a spouse, or an employer
- ☐ Both

Please indicate below other specific assistance programs you are currently utilizing:

- ☐ WIC ☐ CHIP ☐ TANF ☐ Food Stamps/SNAP ☐ Support from church
- ☐ Public Housing ☐ Section 8: voucher amount: \$ _____
- ☐ Low income/affordable housing
- ☐ Other, please explain: _____

How would you describe your current living situation? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Rent ☐ Own ☐ Living with relative/family ☐ Living with non-relative/friend
- ☐ Living in shelter: _____
- ☐ Living on the streets/camp: _____
- ☐ Other, please explain: _____

Employment Information

What is your current employment status?

- ☐ Employed full time (30+ hours per week) ☐ Employed part time (1-29 hours per week)
- ☐ Unemployed

Do you work more than one job? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you're not currently employed, when was the last time you were employed? _____

What is the name of your main employer? _____

Employer's city and state? _____

What is your occupation? _____

What is your hourly wage? \$ _____

How many hours a week do you work? _____

Approximately when did you start working for this employer? _____

Educational Information

What is the last grade you completed:

- ☐ 6th ☐ 7th ☐ 8th ☐ 9th ☐ 10th ☐ 11th ☐ 12th (no diploma)
- ☐ High school graduate ☐ GED ☐ Some college
- ☐ Certificate ☐ Associate's ☐ Bachelor's ☐ Master's Degree
- ☐ Other, please explain: _____



Are you currently in school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, name of school currently attending: _____

If yes, degree pursuing: _____

Contacts

Enter complete addresses and telephone numbers for TWO individuals who will know a way for us to reach you if we can't reach you directly.

_____ First Name	_____ Last Name	_____ Relationship to you
---------------------	--------------------	------------------------------

_____ Street Address	_____ City, State, Zip	_____ Primary Phone
-------------------------	---------------------------	------------------------

_____ First Name	_____ Last Name	_____ Relationship to you
---------------------	--------------------	------------------------------

_____ Street Address	_____ City, State, Zip	_____ Primary Phone
-------------------------	---------------------------	------------------------

Do you have any backup emails, phone numbers, Facebook, or other social media profile information that will help program staff reach you:

- ☐ Backup Phone Number (s): _____
- ☐ Backup Email(s): _____
- ☐ Facebook Name: _____
- ☐ Instagram Name: _____
- ☐ Other contact method: _____

Preferred method of Contact:

- ☐ Phone call ☐ Text ☐ Email

Certification and Authorization (by signing below)

- **I certify**, under penalty of law, that the above information is correct.
- **I understand** that my statements may be verified.
- **I understand** that this application serves to assess program eligibility and that this process is separate from Wasatch Community Gardens' hiring process and policies.

I give my permissions for my progress to be monitored as it relates to services or training provided by Green Team and Wasatch Community Gardens. I authorize Green Team and Wasatch Community Gardens to release and receive my name, image, and information for the purposes of statistics and analysis, eligibility determination, and program publicity.

File in
Confidential File



WASATCH
COMMUNITY
GARDENS

Applicant's Signature

Date

Applicant's Printed Name

Companion Planting & Guild Design: Sample Species for Mautino Park

Overview

A well-designed food forest is much more than a collection of fruit trees—it is a living system of mutually beneficial plants. Using **guilds**—strategic groupings of trees, shrubs, perennials, and groundcovers—we mimic the structure and function of natural ecosystems to increase productivity, biodiversity, and resilience.

Each guild is built around a primary tree species (such as walnut, cherry, or apple) and is supported by layers of plants that perform ecological functions: fixing nitrogen, attracting pollinators, suppressing weeds, accumulating nutrients, repelling pests, and protecting soil.

The following is a curated list of edible and beneficial plants that thrive in the Grass Valley region. Species were selected based on climate compatibility, low-maintenance requirements, ecological value, and culinary or medicinal use—many of which are expensive or inaccessible for food-insecure households. All guilds in this guide were developed with the conditions of **Mautino Park** in mind, including shade, water access, and soil profiles.

Sample Guild: Walnut Tree-Based System

Anchor Tree: Walnut

Juglans regia / *Juglans nigra*

A highly productive nut tree that provides deep shade, long-term food security, and valuable canopy cover. Note: walnuts emit *juglone*, a chemical that inhibits growth in sensitive species—so all companions must be juglone-tolerant.

Guild Companions:

- **Nitrogen Fixer: Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)**
A hardy, drought-tolerant shrub that improves soil fertility by fixing atmospheric nitrogen, helping nearby plants thrive in depleted soils.
- **Soil Detoxifiers: Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) & Mulberry (*Morus* spp.)**
These fast-growing shrubs help draw up toxins from deeper soil layers and are excellent for wildlife habitat and human food.

- **Pollinator & Insectary Plants: Asters, Bee Balm (*Monarda* spp.), and Yarrow**
These flowering perennials attract pollinators and beneficial insects, improving fruit set while helping control pests naturally.
- **Groundcover: Ostrich Fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*) & Sweet Woodruff**
These low-growing perennials help suppress weeds, retain soil moisture, and tolerate deep shade under the walnut canopy.
- **Root Layer: Beets & Carrots**
Deep-rooted vegetables that help aerate soil, increase microbial activity, and are nutrient-dense crops that store well.
- **Additional Nitrogen Fixer: Beans (*Phaseolus* spp.)**
Fast-growing annuals that boost soil nitrogen and provide a culturally relevant food source.

This guild is an example of how multifunctional, climate-appropriate plant communities can be structured for both ecological function and food production.

Possible Companion Plants by Category

Below is a categorized list of plants suitable for food forest guilds at Mautino Park. These selections reflect community input, climate resilience, and a desire to support both food access and ecological education.

Nitrogen Fixers

- Russian Olive
- Siberian Pea Shrub
- Beans
- Clover

- Comfrey
- Dandelion
- Horseradish
- Plantain
- Beets

Dynamic Accumulators & Soil Health

Pollinator Plants & Insectaries

- Bee Balm
- Calendula
- Asters
- Yarrow
- Dill
- Fennel
- Sunflowers
- Black-Eyed Susan
- Coneflower

Edible Fruiting Trees & Shrubs

- Walnut
- Chestnut
- Apple
- Pear
- Cherry
- Peach
- Black Raspberry
- Goji Berry
- Elderberry
- Currants

- Hackberry
- Mulberry

Perennial Ground Covers

- Creeping Phlox
- Ostrich Fern
- Sweet Woodruff
- Cranesbill Geranium
- Strawberry
- Thyme

Vines

- Honeysuckle
- Clematis
- Wisteria

Vegetables & Edible Roots

- Beans
- Beets
- Carrots
- Garlic
- Onion
- Squash

- Cabbage

Medicinal & Culinary Herbs

- Alliums
- Dill
- Fennel
- Yarrow
- Plantain

- Calendula

- Bee Balm

- Artichoke

Annual & Seasonal Flowers

- Zinnia
- Tuberous Begonia
- Impatiens
- Tulip (for early spring
pollination support)

This plant list and guild model serve as a starting point for site-specific design and community engagement. Species can be selected and modified based on sun/shade patterns, water availability, and specific food needs. The educational potential of these guilds is significant—offering a platform to teach children and adults about plant roles, permaculture, traditional ecological knowledge, and herbal medicine.

Future development may include labeled educational signage, hands-on planting days, and partnerships with local Tribes, native plant educators, and herbalists to ensure inclusive learning and cultural stewardship.

Appendix 3.1.1

2025 Community Member Survey

Community Survey

Sierra Harvest and Interfaith Food Ministry Call for Community Input on Proposed DeVere Mautino Park Food Campus Vision

[Link to survey](#)

The [Grass Valley City Council](#) (GVCC) is exploring opportunities to enhance its Parks and Recreation program to serve a wider range of community needs and residents of all ages and abilities. After considering multiple options, the GVCC has enlisted two local nonprofit organizations, [Sierra Harvest](#) and [Interfaith Food Ministry](#), to share a vision of investing in and transforming land at [DeVere Mautino Park](#) to strengthen the community through food access and education.

With community input and support, this project will:

- design and nurture vibrant, beautiful, and inclusive garden spaces
- increase access to organic foods
- promote community learning
- elevate social connection
- foster diverse, healthy ecosystems benefiting the entire community and the land

Initial Concepts:

Educational Farm - Sierra Harvest is exploring moving its beloved Food Love Farm to a new location that is closer to town and schools and more accessible so it may better serve the community and reach more people with its food and educational offerings.

Food Forest - Interfaith Food Ministry is seeking to expand its sites producing locally grown food to enhance the nutrition and abundance of its free food distributions to 10,000 residents annually while also offering volunteering and educational opportunities. A public Food Forest at DeVere Mautino Park would provide a unique sensory and food production experience. **IFM has NO intention of making this a distribution site.**

Composting - Interfaith Food Ministry is exploring the creation of a small demonstration composting site that will reduce food waste from local businesses, build soil for food production, and teach residents how to recycle their food scraps at home.

Community voices and input are essential to this vision

We invite you to fill out this survey as a starting point to a rigorous project proposal and review process. Recent community discussion sessions allowed park users to express concerns and support. This survey allows community members to provide input. (NOTE: If you completed the survey before attending an in-person session on January 16 or 19 at Peace Lutheran Church, you may re-take this survey, which has been updated since the listening sessions.)

Community Listening Sessions at Peace Lutheran Church:

Wednesday, 1/15, 5:30-7:30pm

Saturday, 1/18, 3-5pm

Community Values and Vision

Are you supportive of a project at [Mautino Park](#) that plants trees, grows and provides food, functions as a community hub, and hosts educational food production-related opportunities for children and adults? (Select only one response)

Yes / No / Maybe

What are the most pressing needs in our community that a community food campus could help address? (Check all that apply)

- a. Food insecurity/affordable food
- b. Social isolation/community events
- c. Educational classes about gardening, cooking, composting, etc.
- d. Job training
- e. Food production
- f. Community resilience and sustainability
- g. Programs relevant for all ages (youth, seniors)
- h. Other _____

Potential Features and Activities

Which of these initial concepts or roles interests you? (Check all that apply)

- a. Educational farm

- b. Soil science education and small scale composting
- c. Food forest - diverse edible and native plants that mimic the natural ecosystem
- D. Volunteering
- E. Advisory role
- F. Workshop teacher

What types of community events, activities, or workshops would you like to see at Mautino Park? (Check all that apply)

- a. Gardening workshops - organic gardening, composting, and pest management.
- b. Cooking and nutrition classes
- c. Educational Programming
- d. Volunteer work days
- e. Community events, potlucks
- f. Age appropriate programming (seniors, youth)
- g. Farm stand (fruit, veg, smoothies, etc)
- h. Exercise opportunities - yoga, tai chi, aerobics
- i. Other _____

Barriers to Participation

What barriers might prevent you from participating in Mautino Park activities? (Check all that apply)

- a. Childcare responsibilities
- b. Language barriers (spanish, etc)
- c. Limited transportation
- d. Disability or health conditions
- e. Social comfort/inclusion/safety
- f. Time/schedule
- g. Other _____

OR

- h. No barriers

Share your Feedback

What questions, ideas, or concerns do you have related to changes at Mautino Park?

How did you hear about this survey/project?

1. IFM
2. Sierra Harvest
3. Mautino Park Flyer
4. Radio
5. The Union
6. Yubanet

Other _____

Keep in Touch

If you are interested in receiving future communications, and/or being involved in an upcoming community listening session please leave your information below:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Proximity to Mautino Park:

- A. Less than one mile
- B. 1-2 miles
- C. 2-5 miles
- D. Greater than 5 miles

Final Screen or completion message:

Share your voice!

Thank you for providing input on this proposal.

Appendix 3.1.2

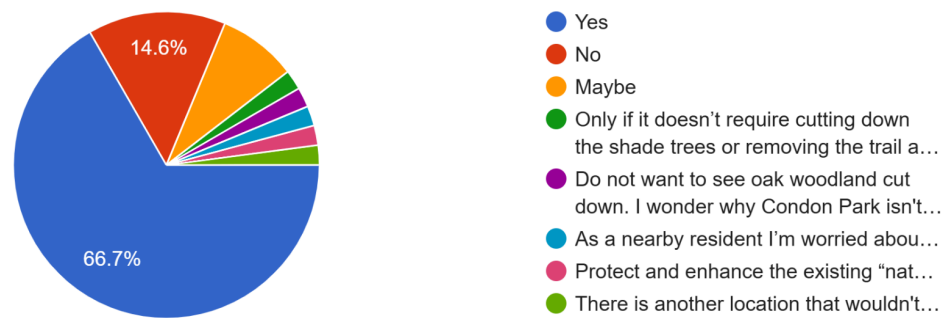
2025 Community Member Responses

Mautino Park - Community Survey

1/6/25 - 48 Responses total

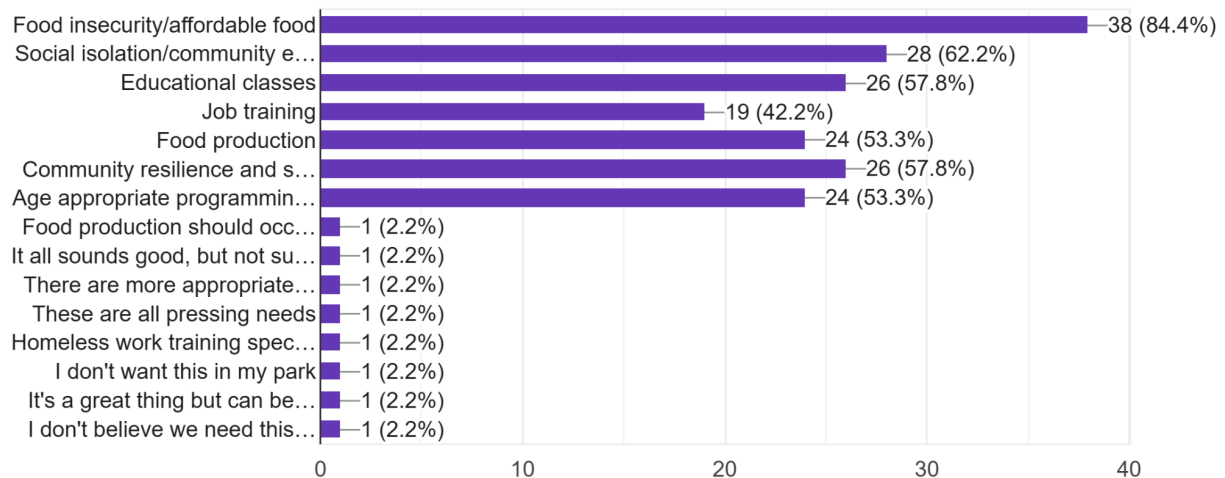
Community Values and Vision Are you supportive of a project at Mautino Park that plants trees, grows and provides food, functions as a community ...r children and adults? (Select only one response)

48 responses



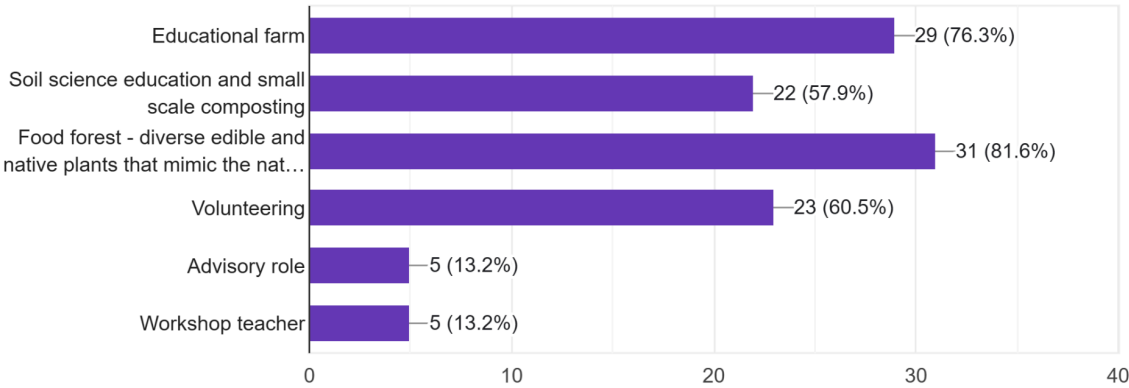
What are the most pressing needs in our community that a community food campus could help address? (Check all that apply)

45 responses



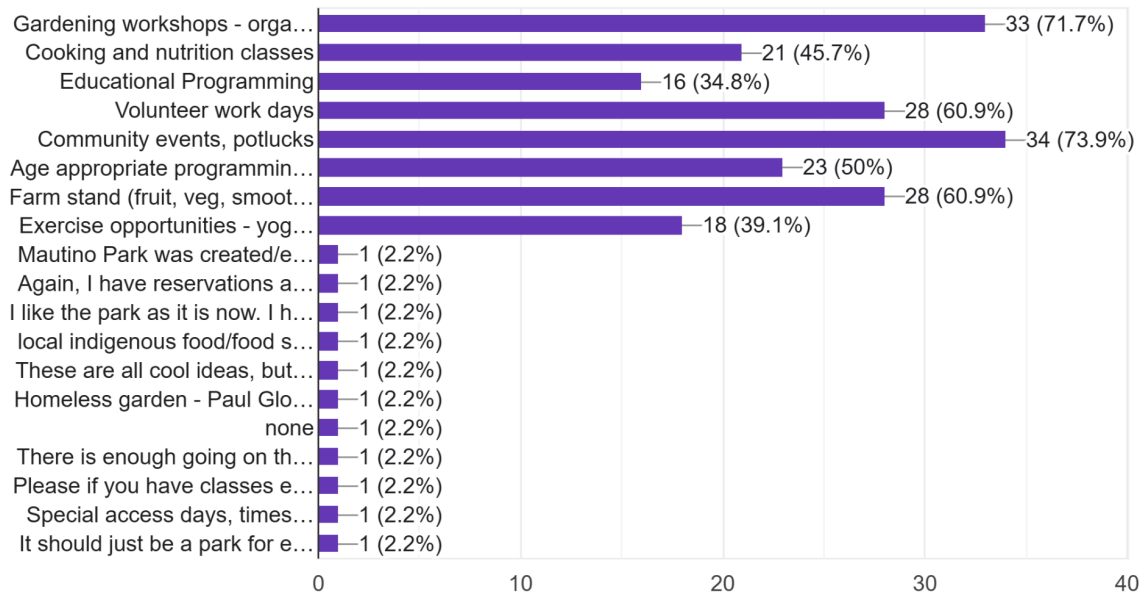
Potential Features and Activities Which of these initial concepts or roles interests you? (Check all that apply)

38 responses



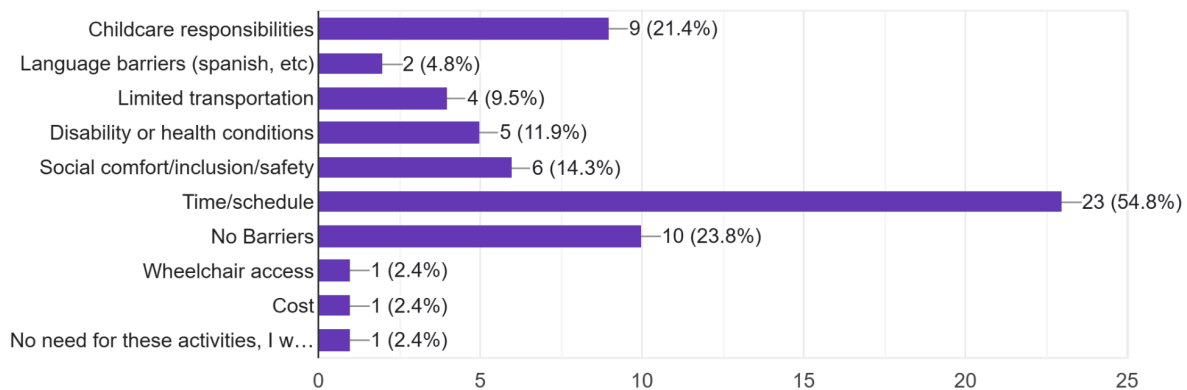
What types of community events, activities, or workshops would you like to see at Mautino Park? (Check all that apply)

46 responses



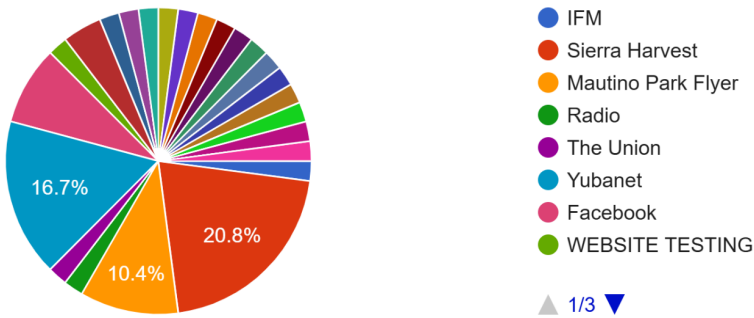
Barriers to Participation What barriers might prevent you from participating in Mautino Park activities? (Check all that apply)

42 responses



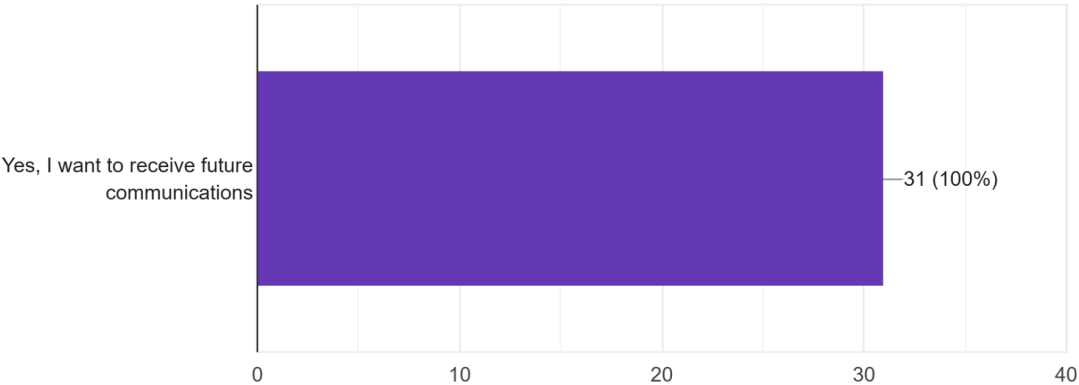
How did you hear about this survey/project? (Select only one response)

48 responses

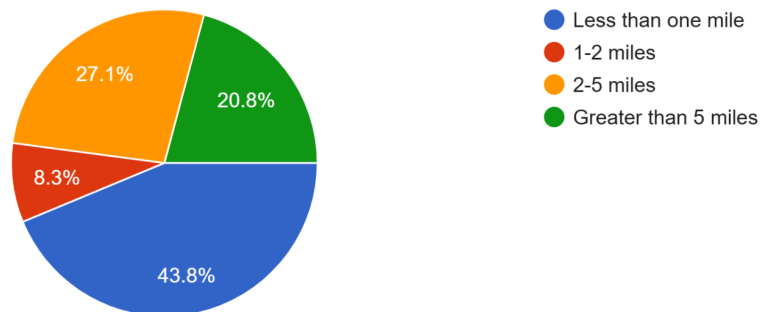


Keep in Touch If you are interested in receiving future communications, and/or being involved in an upcoming community listening session please check the box and leave your information below.

31 responses



Proximity to Mautino Park. How close to Mautino Park (on Alta Street in Grass Valley) do you live?
48 responses



Share your Feedback

What questions, ideas, or concerns do you have related to changes at Mautino Park?

26 responses

Paths that are wide enough for an electric wheelchair and are not rough gravel that i would get stuck.

I want us to stick with the original vision for the park. That includes keeping intact the natural forested area at the end of the park for walking and quiet enjoyment of the local trees and plants. I'd love to see native vegetation growing under the trees, not a farm. This park is too small, has inadequate parking for the proposals plus the sports and activities that already occur there.

Consideration of the Master Gardeners demonstration gardens and educational workshops, which is in the general area, should be included in any needs assesment. It could be this group could share the capacity concerns of popular offerings they have, like composting or pruning workshops, or community needs they have recognized but are unable to address.

We take daily walks on the trails in the park and especially love the shady spot at the back in the summer. It's one of the reasons why we purchased our home on Dolores Dr. We love that it is a quiet shady trail right in town and we use it to go through to the neighborhood behind the park then catch another trail down to Doris then into town. It would greatly diminish our quality of life here to lose that shaded trail area at the back of the park.

We live in this neighborhood and walk/ride bikes on the loop several times a week with our kids. We've loved the safe/quiet space the park has provided for those activities and would love to see the trail remain intact.

This should happen at the front of the park, not the back

The neighborhood does not want to see the forest part of the park gone

Administration oversight

I would propose locating this project in Condon Park. I know Mautino Park trail provides a level area that's shaded for hiking that might be eliminated by this project

I don't think Mautino Park is the right location for this project. The project is great but not there. Mautino Park is the perfect blend between a conventional park with a playground and a more wild forested park like Condon Park. It's safe, with nice smooth trails on which children can run or ride their bikes without fearing of getting scratched on paved paths. It would be a shame to lose this mixed, good-sized park. Why isn't Condon Park considered for this project? It's wide enough to find a good spot and right next to town.

See above.

teaching about local indigenous foods should be included

In your planning, Please include the vision to include an enhancement of the existing "natural area". This was part of the design of the park 20 years ago; it provides an important habitat for plants and animals, but the city has not been proactive in efforts to improve it. This is a great opportunity to do so. There is plenty of room for your plans that would also allow the Natural Area to become a more diverse habitat, a refuge in the midst of the urban area. This quiet refuge is important humans as well as the native flora and fauna

Paul Glowaski was a homeless garden mentor in Santa Cruz and would be devoted to teaching and training local housing insecure people to be skilled ag labor for our local farms. This would provide not only job training, purpose, and productivity but skilled labor for local farms. I would also be willing to help train, as a former employee of Paul. Teaching how to cook the products would also be helpful. If possible, animals and their manure should be included in the process, since they are a vital part of soil health. Will there be bus routes that included several pick ups and drops a day there?

Engaged Services works with people with special needs and their families find funding for programs, activities, and services. We have a community center at 551 Whiting Street GV. We would like to promote your services with the special needs community.

Mautino Park is already being fully utilized by the public. Great project, but placing it at Mautino reduces public space, it doesn't add to it. Please don't take away the already limited public space that we have in the neighborhood. Please find other space for this project. If it's inter-faith - why not use one of the many under utilized church spaces in the area.

Wondering about increased traffic on Alta street and parking for the farm, but I love the idea. Also think it would be great to incorporate milkweed and other native species for monarch and native bees.

I'm curious the proposed location within the park

How large is the proposed footprint and where is the proposed location in the park? Is Mautino the best place for this project? How do you plan on addressing concerns from neighbors? I'd love to see anticipated food production statistics and how that will supplement IFM's distribution.

The park is already valuable as open space. With parking and space so limited, I don't support these proposals at this location.

This a small park. Trees and habitat would be destroyed, as well as a walking path. is not an appropriate palce for a food campus

The reason I moved to Dolores Dr and many people I know who use this park for walking and thereby tending to their physical and mental health use this park because it's quiet and peaceful.

I live in the neighborhood adjacent to the park (on Alta vista avenue). We are all concerned about any additional traffic on our street that is a county road without sidewalks and so many people, children and pets walking on the street. Please don't give access to the park from Alta vista avenue.

Additionally, the park is a beloved and well used walking trail for the adjacent neighborhoods and for people who walk to it from further afield. Please don't cut down the trees in the back of the park with us the only shade on hot days and a habitat for wildlife. Additionally, the water ditch flows under the area and as such should be a protected trail as far as I'm aware. Please put the garden at the entrance of the park where there is already so much land available and no trees need to be cut down.

This is all the same sentiments of all of the neighbors that I have talked with about the community garden, etc that you are considering to locate in the park.

Has access to water for irrigation been secured?

Where will the access for these gardens be? Hopefully not on any of the residential streets surrounding the park.

are you going to cut down all the trees?

Appendix 3.2.1

Partner Member Survey

Partner Survey

Sierra Harvest and Interfaith Food Ministry Call for Community Input on Food Campus Vision

Sierra Harvest and Interfaith Food Ministry share a vision of investing in and transforming land at [DeVere Mautino Park](#) to strengthen the community through food access and education.

With community input and support from organizations like yours, this project will:

- design and nurture vibrant, beautiful, and inclusive garden spaces
- increase access to organic foods
- promote community learning
- elevate social connection
- foster diverse, healthy ecosystems benefiting the entire community and the land

Initial Concepts:

Educational Farm - Sierra Harvest is exploring moving the beloved Food Love Farm to a new location that is closer to town and more accessible so it may better serve the community and reach more people with its food and educational offerings.

Food Forest - Interfaith Food Ministry is seeking to expand its sites producing locally grown food to enhance the nutrition and abundance of its free food distributions to 10,000 residents annually while also offering volunteering and educational opportunities.

Composting - Interfaith Food Ministry is exploring the creation of a small demonstration composting site that will reduce food waste from local businesses, build soil for food production, and teach residents how to recycle their food scraps at home.

Community voices and input are essential to this vision

We invite you to fill out this survey as a starting point. We will be hosting a partner listening session and it will help us indicate your desire to participate in a deeper conversation to understand ideas, concerns, or areas of collaboration.

Partner Listening Session at Peace Lutheran Church

(NEW TIME!) 2/20, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Partner Organization

Name of Organization:

Name of person / people completing this survey:

Contact Info of people completing this survey:

Community Values and Vision

Are you supportive of a project at [Mautino Park](#) that plants trees, grows and provides food, and hosts educational opportunities for the community?

Yes/No/Maybe

What are the most pressing needs in our community that a community food project could help address?
(Check all that apply)

- a. Food insecurity/affordable food
- b. Social isolation/community events
- c. Educational classes
- d. Job training
- e. Food production
- f. Community resilience and sustainability
- g. Age appropriate programming (youth, seniors)
- h. Other _____

Are there ways your organization/entity could imagine collaborating or being involved in this project?

Y/N/M

How? _____

Are there any other people or organizations you think should be involved in this project?

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Potential Features and Activities

What types of community events, activities, or workshops would you like to see at Mautino Park? (Check all that apply)

- a. Gardening, pest management, and native plants workshops

- b. Soil science education and small-scale composting
- c. Cooking and nutrition classes
- d. Educational Programming
- e. Volunteer work days
- f. Community events, potlucks, concerts
- g. Age appropriate programming (seniors, youth)
- h. Farm stand (fruit, veg, smoothies, etc)
- i. Exercise opportunities - yoga, tai chi, aerobics
- j. Other _____

Barriers to Participation

What barriers might your clients have in participating in Mautino Park activities? (Check all that apply)

- a. Childcare responsibilities
- b. Language barriers (spanish, etc)
- c. Limited transportation
- d. Disability or health conditions
- e. Social comfort/inclusion/safety
- f. Time/schedule
- g. Other _____
- h. No barriers

Share your Feedback

What questions, ideas, or concerns do you have related to the project?

Keep in Touch

If you are interested in receiving future communications, and/or being involved in an upcoming partner listening session, then please leave your information below:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____

Area of interest _____

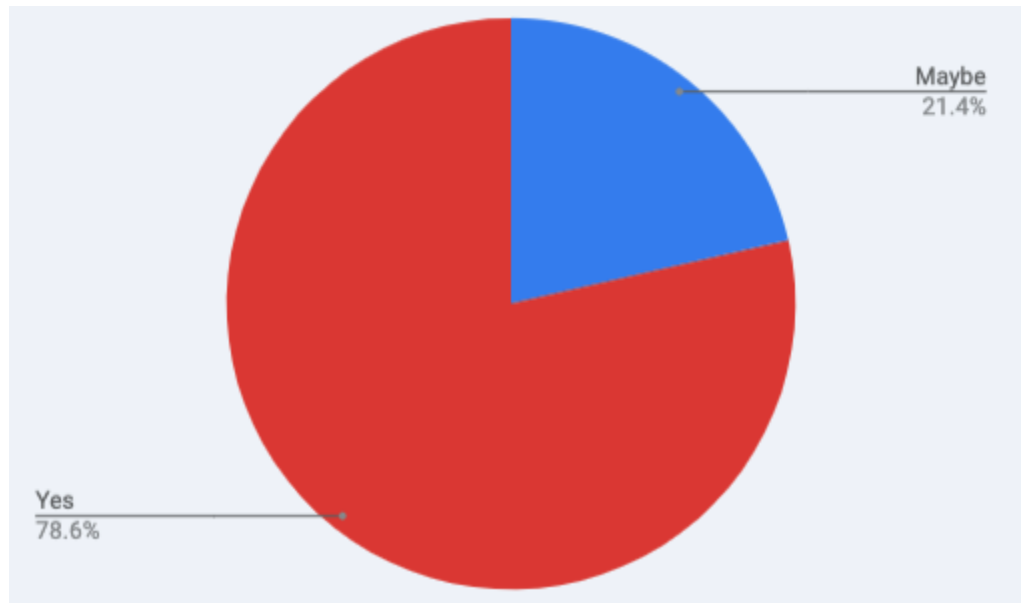
Partner Listening Session at Peace Lutheran Church

Thurs, 1/16, 5:30-7:30pm

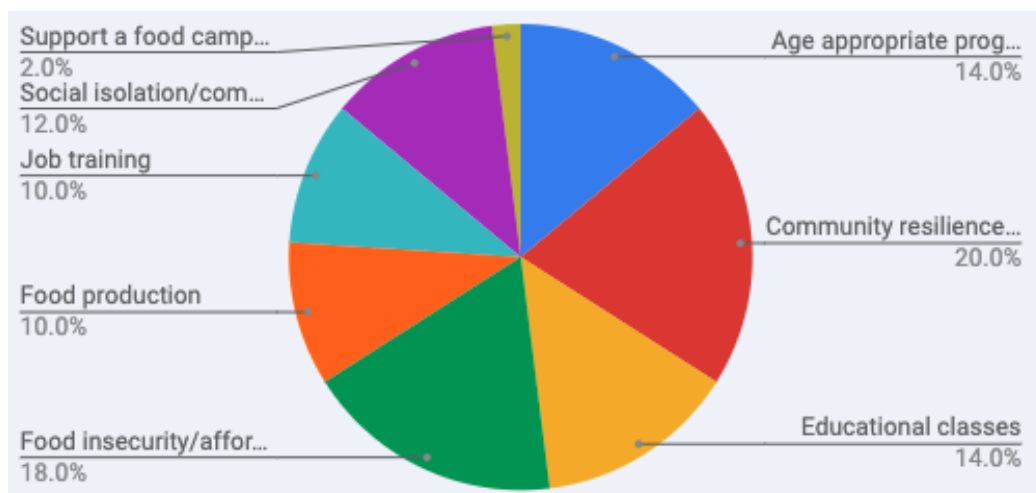
Appendix 3.2.2

Partner Member Summary Responses

Are you supportive of a project at Mautino Park that plants trees, grows and provides food, functions as a community hub, and hosts educational opportunities for children and adults?
(Select only one response)



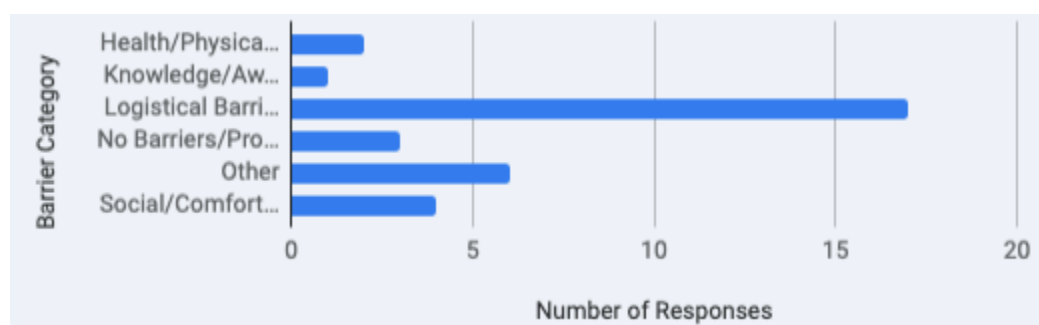
What are the most pressing needs in our community that a community food campus could help address?



What types of community events, activities, or workshops would you like to see at Mautino Park?

- **Gardening workshops - organic gardening, composting, and pest management:** 12 responses (12.5%)
- **Farm stand (fruit, veg, smoothies, etc):** 12 responses (12.5%)
- **Educational Programming:** 11 responses (11.5%)
- **Community events, potlucks:** 10 responses (10.4%)
- **Age appropriate programming (seniors, youth):** 10 responses (10.4%)
- **Volunteer work days:** 9 responses (9.4%)
- **Cooking and nutrition classes:** 8 responses (8.3%)
- **Exercise opportunities - yoga, tai chi, and aerobics:** 8 responses (8.3%)

What barriers might prevent your clients from participating in Mautino Park activities?



Are there ways your organization can partner with this project and if so, how?

- **Direct Partnership/Collaboration:** Many organizations expressed a general willingness to "partner together" or collaborate directly.
- **Promotion and Educational Sessions:** One organization specifically mentioned "Promotion" and "doing educational sessions." Another offered to "Help with educational workshops for all ages" and "partnering on workshops for children," including coordinating field trips and trainings.
- **Design, Build, and Maintenance:** A licensed contractor and executive director of a 501c3 offered their expertise to "design and build gardens." Another organization offered to "Design and build trails that connect throughout the park and to other neighborhoods," "improve existing trails," "assist with restoration of native plants," and provide "trail stewardship." One response also mentioned the possibility of "Providing volunteers to help staff community garden and to deliver food to IFM."
- **Community Center Usage:** One organization offered their "community center that could be used" for the project.
- **Internship and Subsidized Employment Programs:** Several organizations expressed interest in supporting the project through "paid internship programs" and "subsidized employment opportunities" to provide staff hours and on-the-job training. This also includes connecting internship programs, especially in Kitchen & Nutrition Programs.

- **Youth and Family Engagement:** Organizations are interested in bringing "groups of youth participating in our programs on educational field trips" and connecting "their families to affordable local foods."
- **Food Entrepreneur Support:** One organization mentioned the "Sierra Commons Food Entrepreneur Food Accelerator program."
- **Networking, Marketing, and Sponsorship:** One response suggested "Networking - connect people/farms/organizations that are not already connected," "Marketing/event sponsorship - potentially sponsor/co-create/market events," and "Volunteers could receive PatchWorks discount." They also offered to "Provide input on our current food waste system, past classes."
- **Access for Low-Income Clients:** One organization explicitly stated they would "like to explore ways our low-income clients could access food grown there."

Appendix 3.3.1

IFM Client Survey

Results of Client Feedback Survey



Clients attending one of IFM's food distribution events between April 26 – May 21, 2021, were offered the survey.

A total of **469 Surveys** were completed.

This represents 55% of all the clients visiting IFM during this timeframe.

(469 / 859 = 55%)

Updated 6/25/2021

Analysis and Impacts

1. Other Food Resources

- a) 1/3 reported only using IFM, and 2/3 utilize other food resources. Of those using other resources, about 65% use the Food Bank of Nev Co and 40% receive Cal Fresh food stamps.
- b) Collaboration with the FBNC is critical to tackling food insecurity issues in Nev Co.
- c) CF food stamps are an important resource and IFM should commit to continuing its CF contract to provide services.

2. Barriers

- a) Nearly 3/4 reported NOT having any barriers to accessing IFM, indicating that our current location and open days/times work for the majority of our clients. However, that leaves the other 1/4 reporting some kind of barrier/challenge to access.
- b) Of the 1/4 with a barrier, Half (53%) said they would come more often if they could come every week. **IFM will start this on July 1.**
- c) Of the 1/4 with a barrier, 23% said we should be open on a different day/time, but only 8 wrote-in suggestions, 4 said afternoon/evening. Depending on results of client phone call survey, IFM could consider this.

Analysis and Impacts

3. Need Changed

- a) Nearly 2/3 reported their need has NOT changed in the last 12 months, and 1/3 said their need increased and has stayed the same. Only 4% said their need increased and then more recently decreased. Surprising! Expected both the 1/3 and the 4% to be higher!
- b) Of the 72 surveys that had write-in responses for why/how need has changed, 44% said income loss/unemployment, 26% said expenses increased, 22% said relative moved in/ household size grew, and 7% said kids home from school.

4. Most Important Foods Received

- a) Consistent with previous surveys, the top 3 types of food were: Dairy (60%), Protein (49%), and Produce (45%). Grains=27%, Staples=20%. Fittingly, most of the IFM Food Budget goes towards these items. 92%, or 430 surveys had at least one food written in = strong data.
- b) See Slide 17 for more details on specific foods written in by clients.₃

Analysis and Impacts

5. Food IFM Should Provide More Of

- a) 62% wrote in a valid response for this question, suggesting that nearly 40% of clients are satisfied with the amounts/types of food distributed.
- b) The 2 top responses were 30% Protein and 29% Produce. Dairy was next at 17% and Staples at 14%. IFM's Food Committee already has efforts underway to offer more protein and produce, both in volume distributed and options offered (and grown locally!). See Slide 19 for more details on additional types and specific foods written in by clients.
- c) 8% reported Specialty Diets, indicating the Food Committee should continue to explore new options and could call these clients (if phone # provided) in order to get more detailed suggestions and requests.

6. Prefer Drive-Thru or Coming Inside?

- a) A clear majority (88%) prefer the Drive-Thru model, so IFM will continue with this as our primary model for the long-term. However, 12% preferring to come inside does merit IFM exploring if possible.

Analysis and Impacts

7. Ever Had a Bad Experience?

- a) 321 responses were written in. The categories were: 91% said never a bad experience/always good, 7% said had received Expired Food/Moldy Bread/Rotten Produce, 2% said a person was rude/didn't listen to their needs, and 1 % said don't like sign-up process.

8. Ever Had a Positive Experience?

- a) 341 responses were written in. The categories were: 67% volunteers are kind/friendly/welcoming, 28% said always a positive experience, 6% said the quality of food was great.

9. Impacts of IFM Services

- a) Had a strong response rate of 95% giving at least one response: 76% said w/o IFM would struggle to have enough food, 55% saved money they spent on other bills (see below), 30% learned new cooking tips/recipes, and 26% introduced to new foods. The first two indicate the importance of our basic food distribution program to our clients, and the second two related to our client education efforts.
- b) Of the 118 write-in responses for which bills: 39% PG&E/ Utilities, 24% Rent/Mortgage, 19% All Bills, and 10% Car/Gas/Ins.

Analysis and Impacts

10. New Services IFM Could Offer

- a) 58% gave a valid response, suggesting that 42% of clients are satisfied with the services that we currently offer.
- b) Of the 273 responses, the top 2 were 41% Be Part of a Community Garden and 40% Recipes/Cooking Classes. IFM is already working on expanding our garden program and re-introduce cooking classes.
- c) 26% said interested in Establishing a Home Garden and 20% need Help w/ Keeping a Household Budget. IFM will explore these ideas.
- d) 12% said Job Training in Food Careers and 8% said Training on Reading Nutrition Labels. IFM will possibly explore these ideas.

11. Anything Else to Share?

- a) Only 46 surveys had written in responses: 26 saying a version of Thank You/Appreciate IFM, 12 said Service/Staff/Volunteers are great, and 8 said God Bless You.

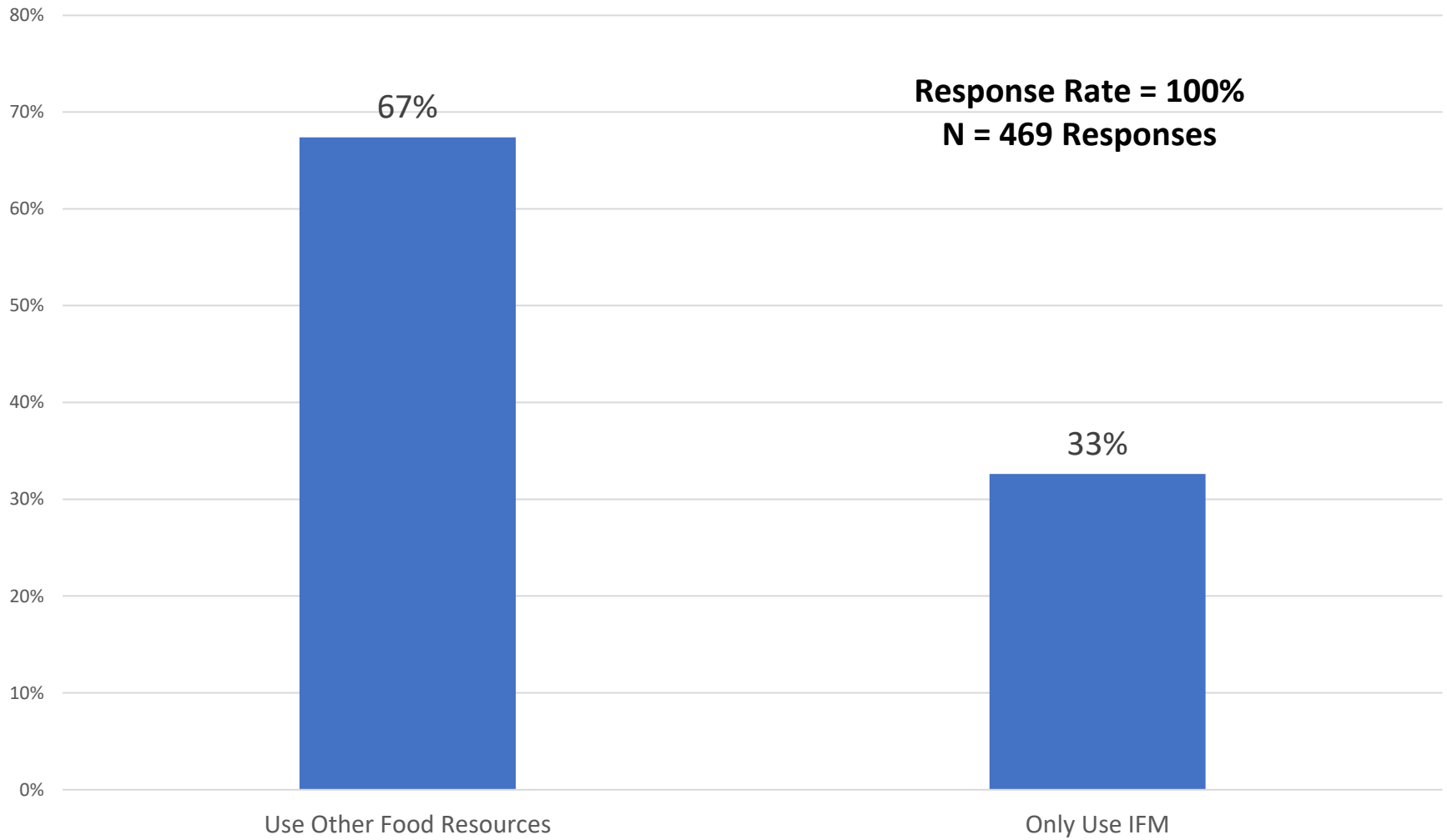
Graphs and Tables

Explanations:

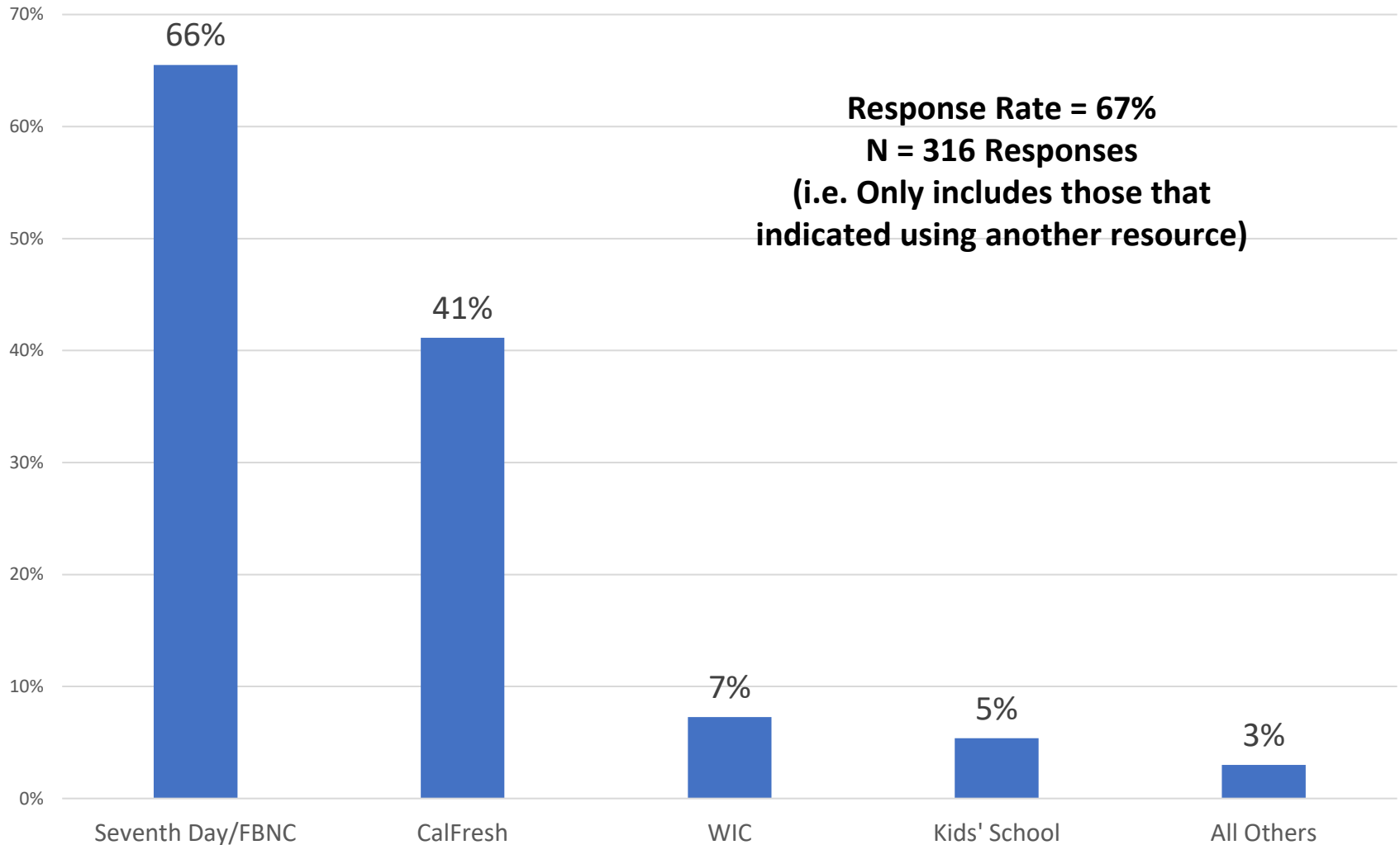
A. **Response Rate** – on slide 11 it shows a “response rate” of 95%. This is derived by taking the 445 surveys with a valid response to this question and dividing it by the 469 total surveys completed. On the flip side, 24 clients (or 5%) left this question blank. A strong response rate means we can be confident that the results of the question are reflective of our entire client population.

B. **Select Only One vs Check All that Apply** – Slides 14 and 20 are examples of “select only one,” so therefore the response %s will add up to exactly 100%. Slides 9, 12, 16, 18, 24, and 26 have %s that add up to more than 100% because clients could give multiple responses.

Use Other Food Resources?



What Other Food Resources Used?



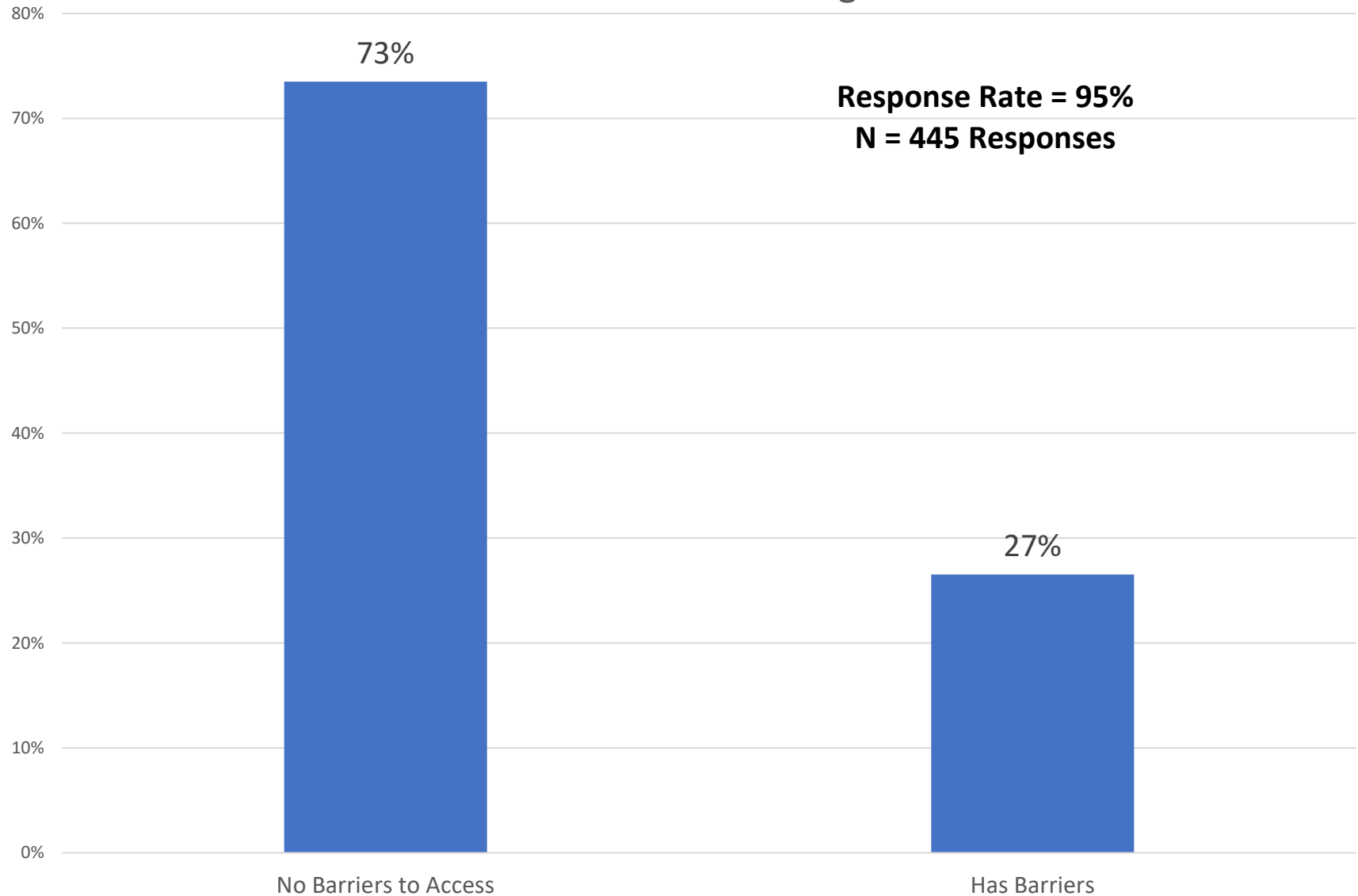
“All Others” = 3% EACH Gold Country Seniors, Sierra Roots, Salvation Army, and United Way

What Other Food Resources Used?

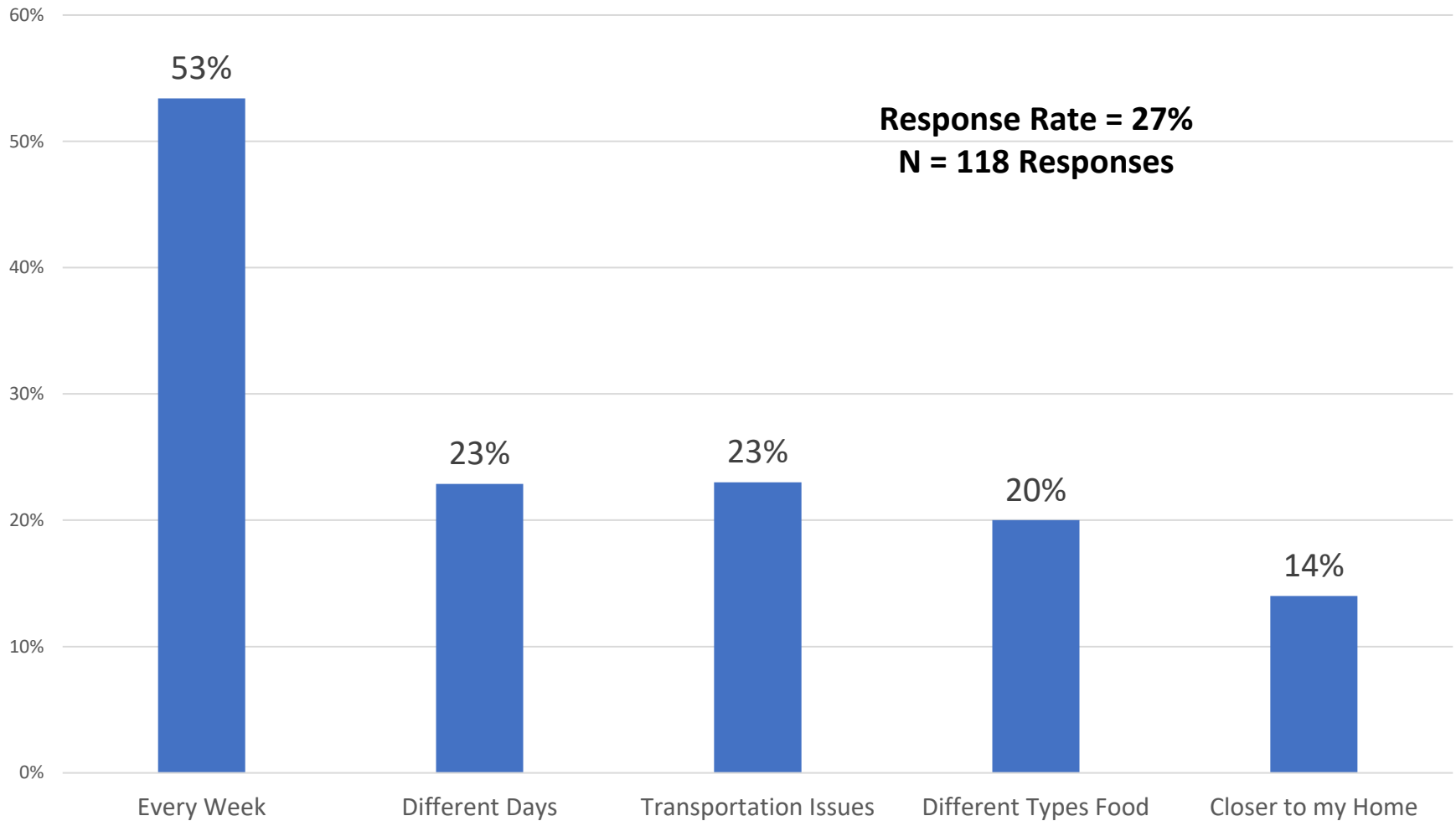
Meaningful write-in responses included:

"Other" Food Resources Written In	# Responses
Other Church	8
Penn Valley Church	4
Family/Friends/Neighbors	2
Friendship Club	1
Colfax/FBNC	1
NSJ/FBNC	1
Washington/FBNC	1

Have Barriers to Accessing IFM Food?



What Barriers do you have?



Not on Graph: 7% didn't like the sign-up paperwork, 6% said drive-thru takes too long.

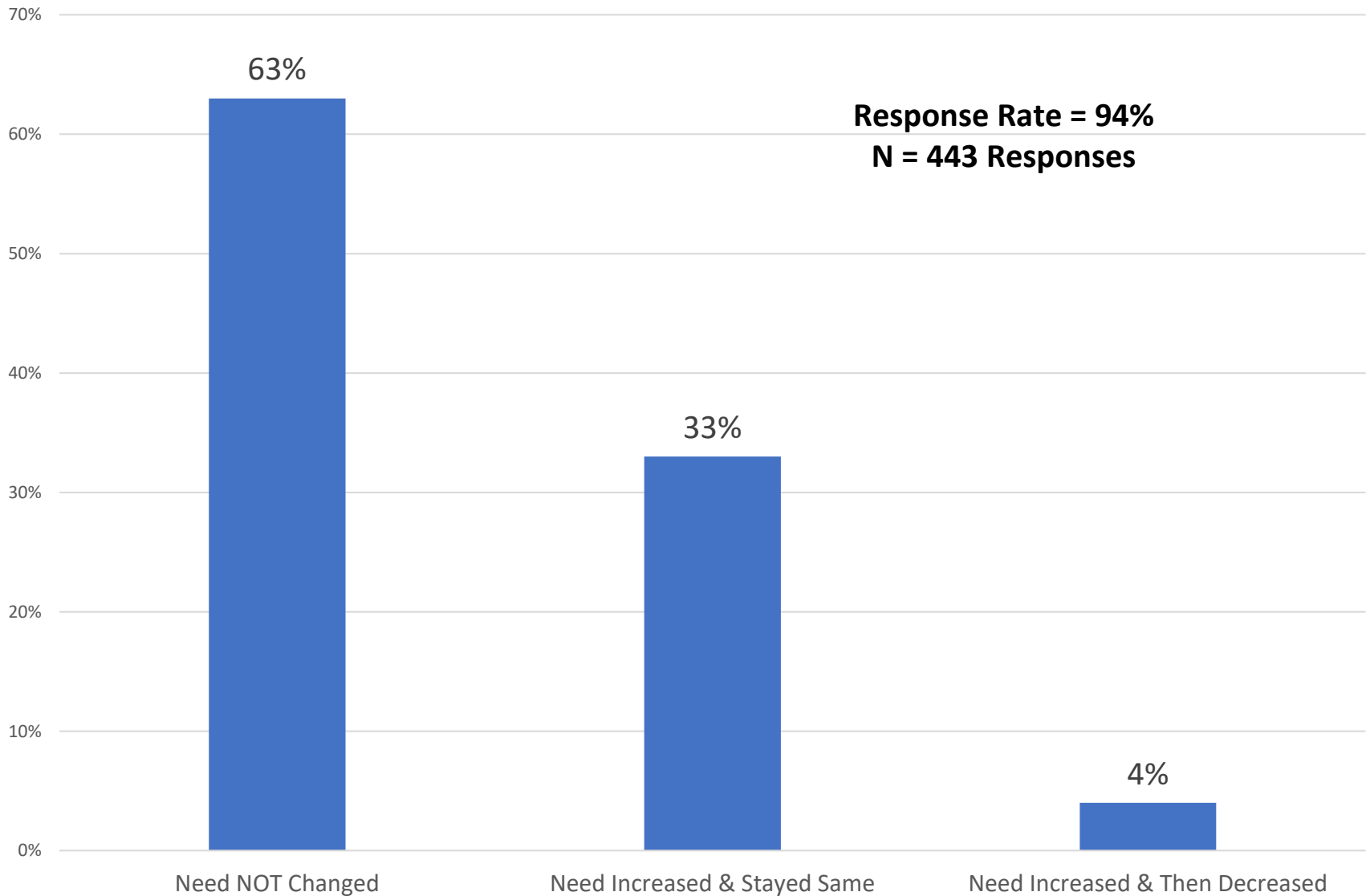
Other Days/Times IFM Could be Open Written In

Meaningful write-in responses included:

"Other" Days/Times Written In	# Responses
Late Afternoon / Evening / 3-6pm	3
Saturdays	3
Tuesdays at 9am	1
Afternoons 1-3pm	1

Also had 15 responses written in for “Other” Barriers, but only 3 were very meaningful and all 3 had to do with being homeless.

Has Need Changed in Last 12 Months?

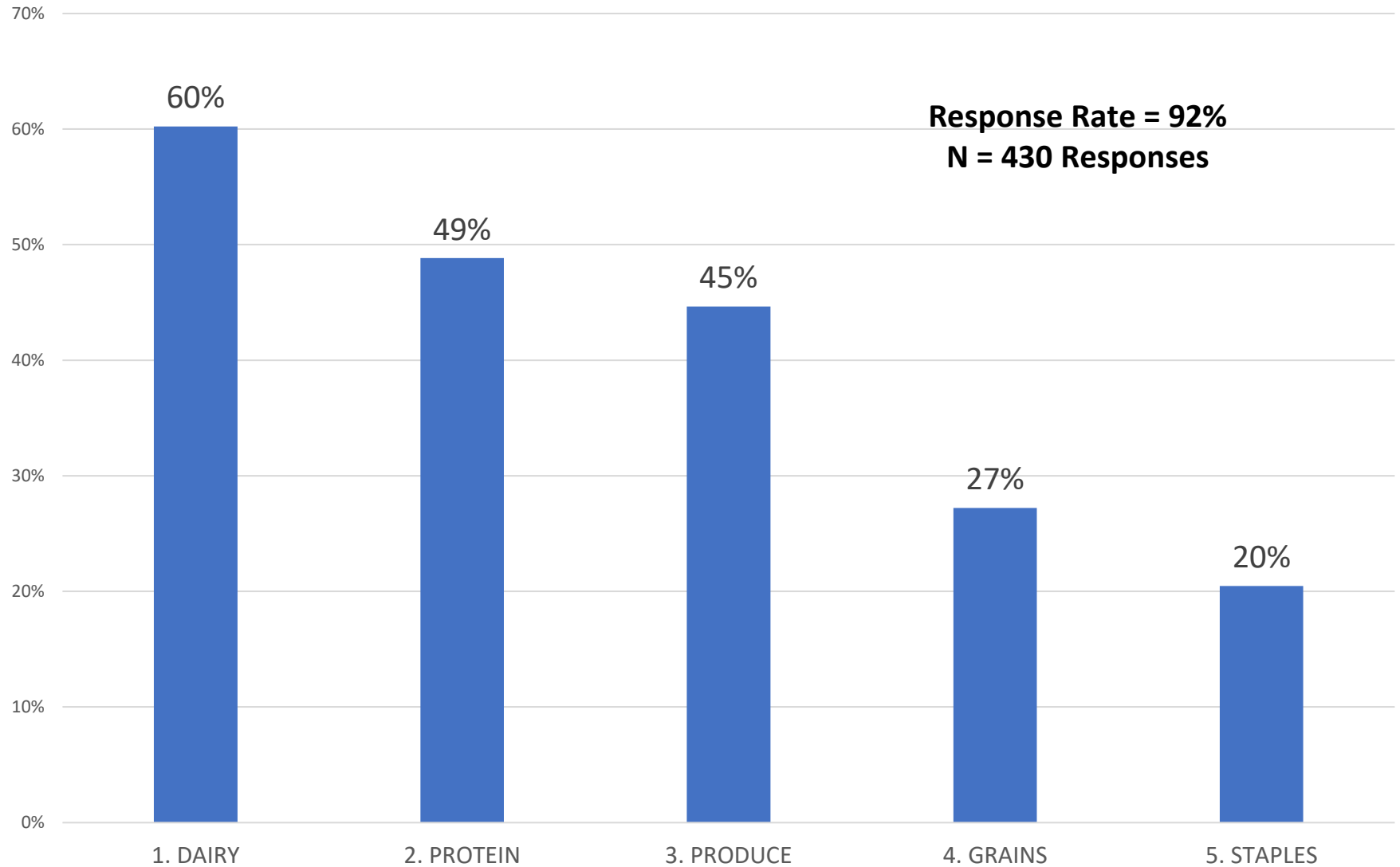


Comments Written In for How/Why Need has Changed

Meaningful write-in responses included:

"Comments" Written In for How/Why Need has Changed	# Responses	% of Write In Responses
Income Loss / Employment Challenges	32	44%
Expenses Increased (Home Insurance, Health Issue, Car)	19	26%
Relative Moved In / HH Size Grew	16	22%
Kids Home from School	5	7%
Total	72	100%

Most Important Food Items You Receive



See more detailed data table on next slide.

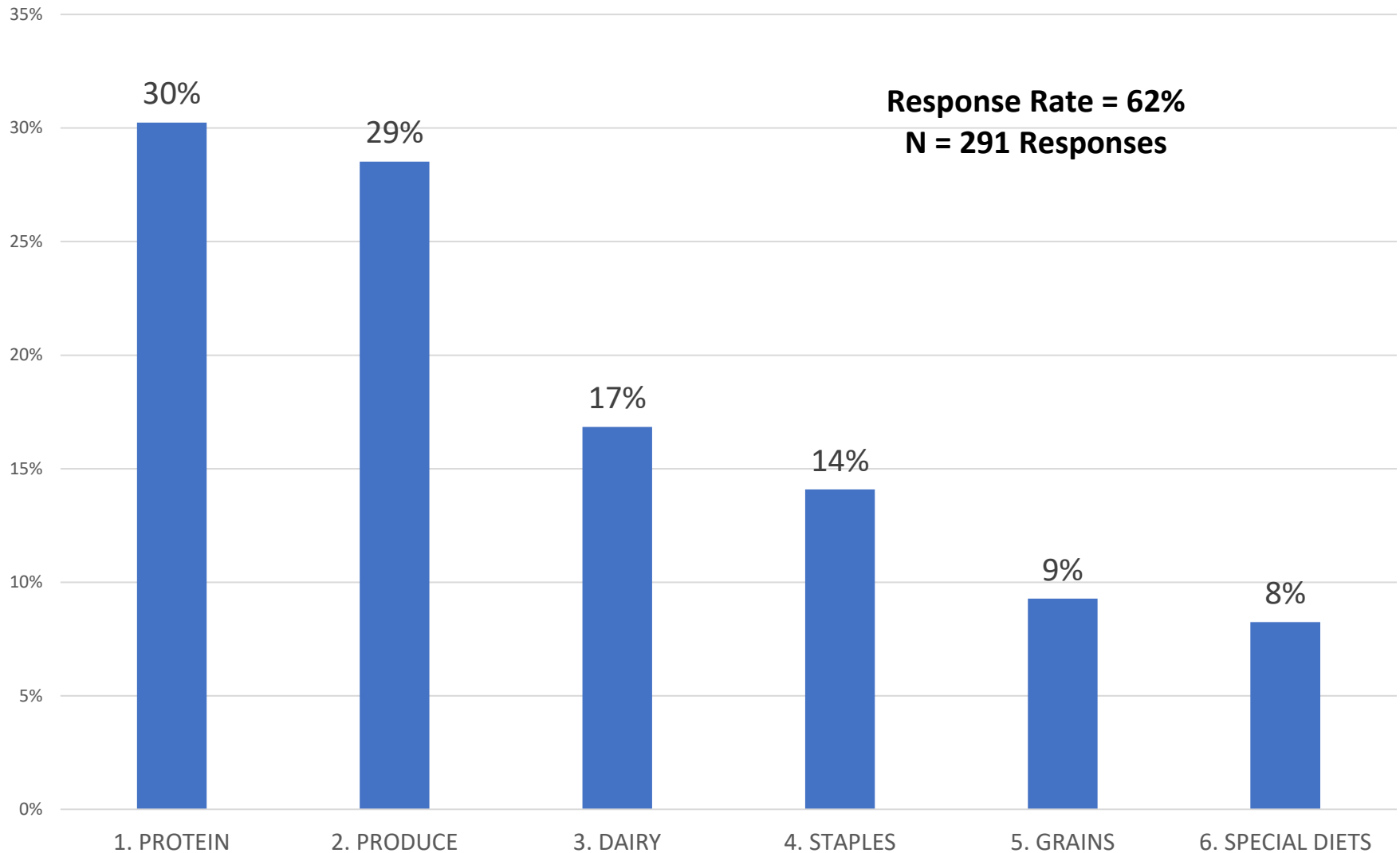
4. What are the food items you receive from IFM that are most important to your family?

Food Category	%	Specific Food Items Written in by Clients
1. DAIRY	60%	Milk 78%, Eggs 62%, Cheese 18%, Yogurt 5%
2. PROTEIN	49%	Meat/Protein 85%, Peanut Butter 11%, Chicken/Turkey 8%, Seafood/Fish 4%
3. PRODUCE	45%	Veggies 77%, Fruit 34%, Produce 15%, Salad/Greens/Lettuce 10%, Potatoes 2%, Corn 1%
4. GRAINS	27%	Bread 58%, Rice 23%, Cereal 15%, Pasta 6%, Oatmeal 5%, Ramen 4%, Mac Cheese 4%
5. STAPLES	20%	Canned Goods/Staples 60%, Butter 35%, Sugar 7%, Honey 5%, Jelly 2%, Flour 1%, Oil 1%
6. SNACKS/DESSERTS	5%	
7. SPECIAL DIETS	3%	Organic 7, Gluten-Free 3, Sugar-Free 2, Dairy-Free 2
8. EXTRAS	2%	Pet Food 6, Diapers 3
9. BEVERAGES	1%	Water 3, Juice 2
N=430 responses		Note: Last 3 rows are #s of clients, NOT %.

Note: This was an open-ended question so respondents could write in as many answers as they wanted. That is why the %s add up to more than 100%.

This data table corresponds with the graph on the previous slide.

Types of Food IFM Should Provide More Of



See more detailed data table on next slide.

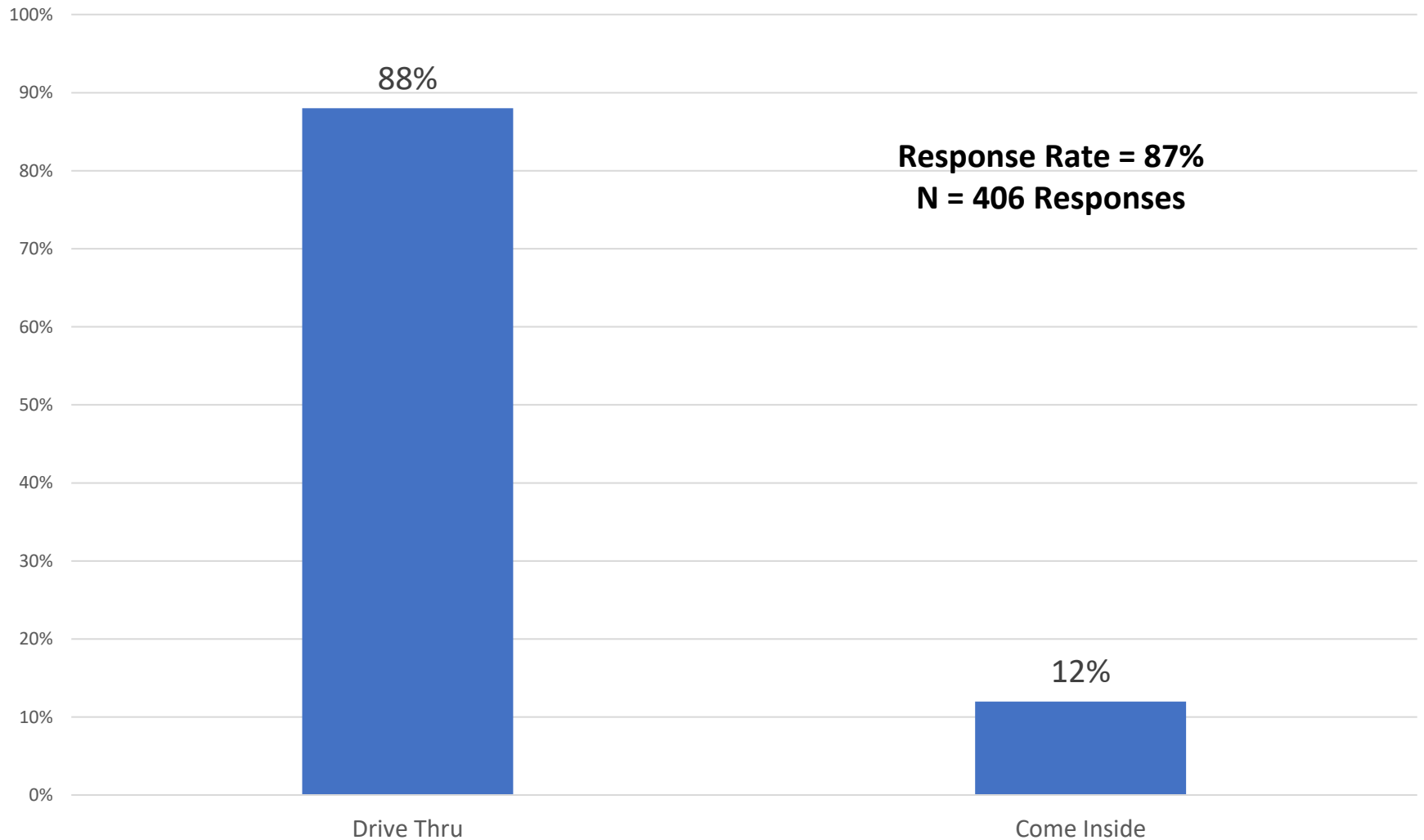
5. What types of food items would you request that IFM start providing (or provide more of)?

Food Category	%	Specific Food Items Written in by Clients
1. PROTEIN	30%	Meat/Protein 85%, Beef 11%, Chicken/Turkey 7%, Seafood/Fish 7%, Tofu 2%
2. PRODUCE	29%	Veggies 59%, Fruit 48%, Produce 13%, Salad/Greens/Lettuce 5%, Potatoes 4%, Corn 2%, Green Beans 2%
3. DAIRY	17%	Cheese 43%, Milk 31%, Dairy 14%, Yogurt 10%, Eggs 8%, Mayo 4%, Half@Half 2%
4. STAPLES	14%	Butter 41%, Sugar 34%, Canned Goods/Staples 19%, Flour 10%, Oil 10%
5. GRAINS	9%	Bread 33%, Cereal 26%, Ramen 15%, Grains 11%
6. SPECIAL DIETS	8%	Organic 11, Gluten-Free 7, Sugar-Free 4, Vegetarian 2, Dairy-Free, Vegan 1, Mexican 1
7. BEVERAGES	6%	Juice 12, Coffee 4, Water 4
8. SNACKS/DESSERTS	4%	
9. EXTRAS	1%	Pet Food 3, Diapers 1
N=291 responses		Note: Last 4 rows are #s of clients, NOT %.

Note: This was an open-ended question so respondents could write in as many answers as they wanted. That is why the %s add up to more than 100%.

This data table corresponds with the graph on the previous slide.

Prefer Drive Thru or Come Inside?



"Comments" Written In for Suggest Any Changes to Process?

Meaningful write-in responses included:

"Comments" Written In for Suggest Any Changes to Process?	# Responses
Both Models are Fine / No Preference	30
Drive-Thru Works Well / Is Fast	15
Liked Coming Inside (miss selecting food/bread, socializing, books)	14
Nice to Allow for Both Models	4
Don't Like Getting Food I Won't Use	3

"Comments" Written In for Ever Have a Bad Experience at IFM?

Meaningful write-in responses included:

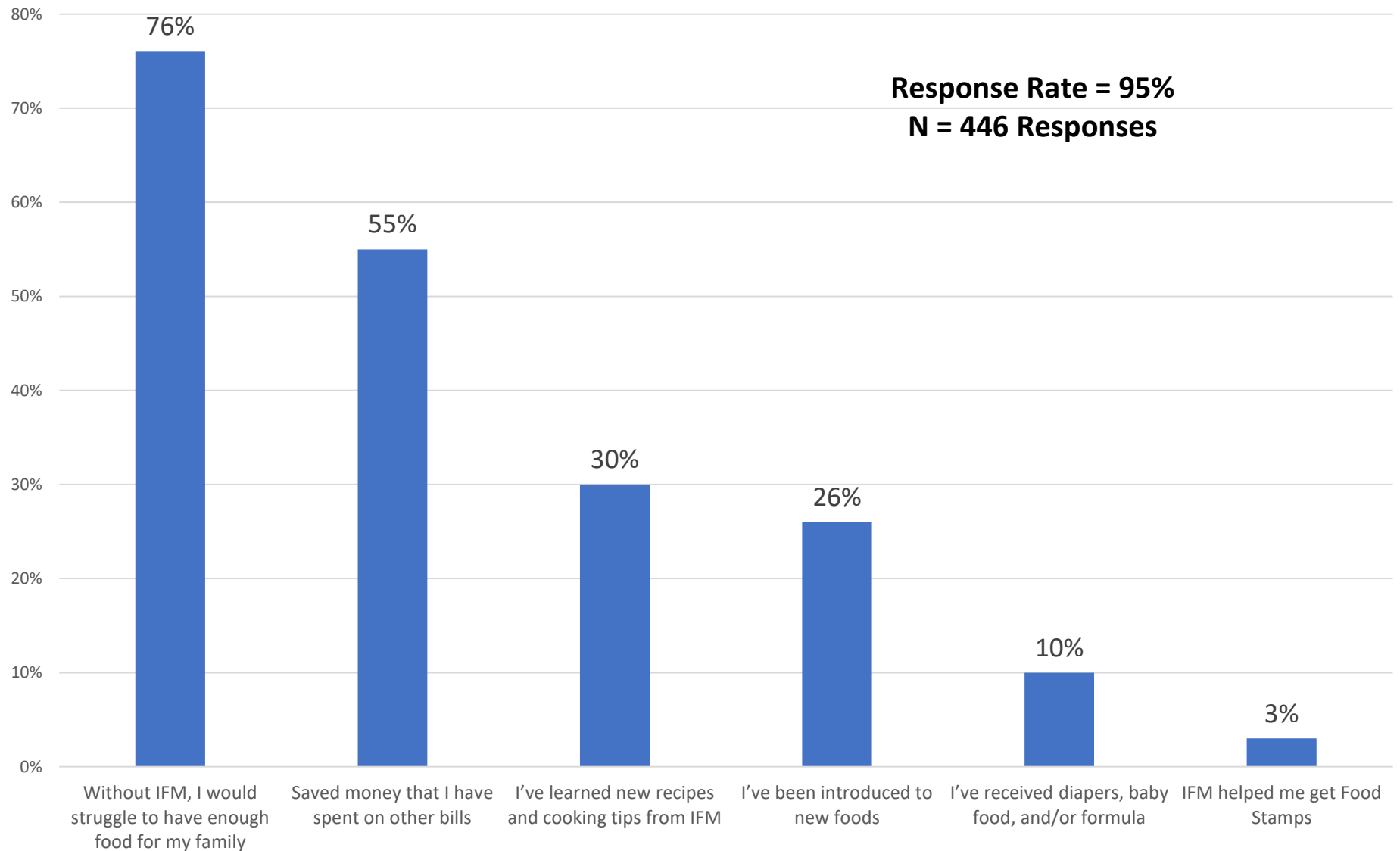
"Comments" Written In for Ever Have a Bad Experience?	# Responses	%
Never / Always Good	291	91%
Expired Food / Moldy Bread / Rotten Produce	21	7%
Rude Volunteer / Didn't Listen to my Needs	5	2%
Don't Like the Sign-Up Process	4	1%
Total	321	100%

"Comments" Written In for Ever Have a **Positive** Experience at IFM?

Meaningful write-in responses included:

"Comments" Written In for Ever Have a Positive Experience?	# Responses	%
Volunteers are Kind, Friendly, Welcoming	227	67%
Always a Positive Experience	94	28%
Quality of Food	20	6%
Total	341	100%

Impacts of IFM Services



See data table on next slide.

Impacts of IFM Services

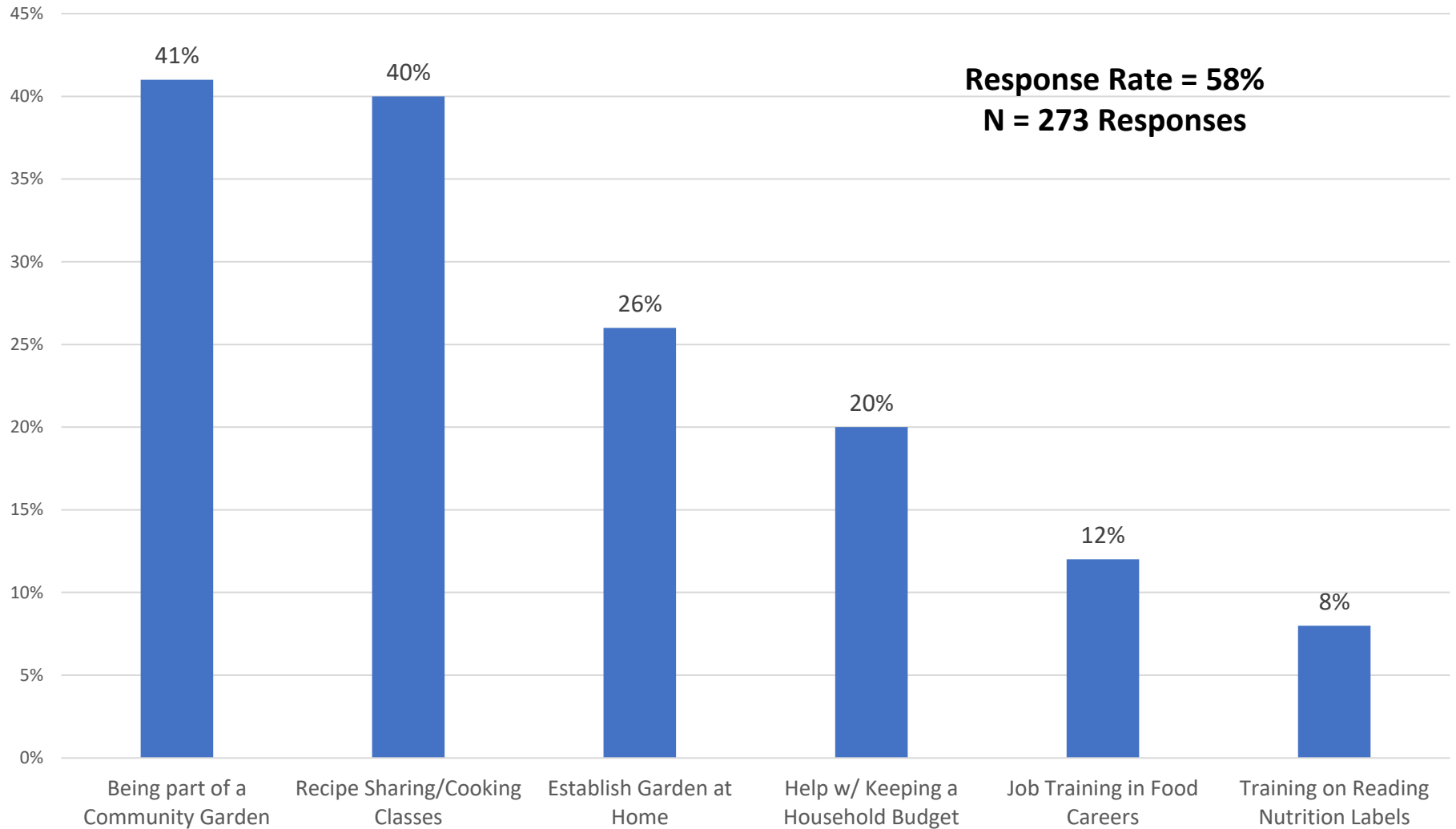
Without IFM, I would struggle to have enough food for my family	76%
Saved money that I have spent on other bills	55%
I've learned new recipes and cooking tips from IFM	30%
I've been introduced to new foods	26%
I've received diapers, baby food, and/or formula	10%
IFM helped me get Food Stamps	3%

"Comments" Written In for Impacts IFM Services has had?	# Responses
Eat Healthier / Learned Something New About Food	6
Food / Bday Cakes for my Children	5
Pet Food	2
Socialize / Meet People	2

"Comments" Written In for Bills Been Able to Pay?	# Responses
PG&E / Utilities	46
Rent / Mortgage	28
All Bills	23
Car / Gas / Insurance	12
Food	6
Debt / School Loans	3

These data tables correspond with the graph on the previous slide.

Possible New Services to Offer



See data table on next slide.

Possible New Services to Offer

Being part of a Community Garden	41%
Recipe Sharing/Cooking Classes	40%
Establish Garden at Home	26%
Help w/ Keeping a Household Budget	20%
Job Training in Food Careers	12%
Training on Reading Nutrition Labels	8%

Also had 9 responses written in for “Other” possible new services to offer, but only 4 were very meaningful and all 4 had to do with having transportation issues / requesting home delivery.

"Comments" Written In for Anything Else to Share?	# Responses
Thank You	26
Service / Staff / Volunteers are Great	12
God Bless You	8
Total	46

Interfaith Food Ministry (IFM) Client Survey - Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Please include your name and a working phone # so that you can be placed into a raffle for prizes. Your responses to this survey will be kept confidential. We strive to provide you with the best food resource assistance we can. Please be honest! THANK YOU!!



Access to Food Resources

1. In the past 12 months, what other food resources has your household used (besides IFM)? **CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**

- ☐ Seventh Day Adventist Church in Grass Valley (Food Bank of Nevada County) ☐ United Way High School Food Pantry
☐ Gold Country Senior Services ☐ The Salvation Army ☐ Sierra Roots ☐ WIC ☐ Kids' School ☐ CalFresh Food Stamps
☐ Other Church/Agency: _____ Interested in getting help signing up for Food Stamps? Check Here ☐

2. Are there any barriers that keep you from accessing IFM food resources? **CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**

- ☐ No barriers, I'm able to come to IFM when I need to, and I receive enough food for my needs.
☐ Yes, I would access IFM food resources more often if I was allowed to come every week.
☐ Yes, I would access more often if they were open different days/times than M, W, F 10am-1pm. Suggest better days/times: _____
☐ Yes, I would access IFM more often if the distribution took place closer to my home. _____
☐ Yes, I would access IFM more often if I had more reliable transportation.
☐ Yes, I don't like having to show my Proof of Address and other documents while getting signed up.
☐ Yes, the Drive Thru line takes too long. ☐ Yes, I would access more often if they provided different types of food.

ANY OTHER COMMENTS ABOUT **ACCESS** TO FOOD RESOURCES? _____

3. In the past 12 months, has your need for food resources assistance changed? **SELECT ONLY ONE. PLEASE EXPLAIN**

- ☐ No, my need for help with food resources has NOT changed at all in the last 12 months.
☐ Yes, my need has increased in the last 12 months and continues to stay the same.
☐ Yes, my need initially increased, but it has more recently decreased.

EXPLAIN HOW and WHY YOUR NEED HAS CHANGED: _____

Food Distributions at IFM

4. What are the food items you receive from IFM that are most important to your family?

5. What types of food items would you request that IFM start providing (or provide more of)?

6. To collect food, would you prefer ☐ Drive Thru OR ☐ Come Inside? Do you suggest any changes to our process? Please explain.

7. Have you had any **bad** experiences at IFM, related to food received or volunteers or our paperwork process or anything else?

If so, please explain: _____

8. Have you had any especially **positive** experiences at IFM, either related to food received or volunteers or anything else?

If so, please explain: _____

Impact of IFM and Possible New Services

9. What has been the impact on your household as a result of IFM services? **CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**

- ☐ Without IFM, I would struggle to have enough food for my family ☐ I've learned new recipes and cooking tips from IFM
☐ Saved money that I have spent on other bills, such as (give examples) _____
☐ I've been introduced to new foods ☐ I've received diapers, baby food, and/or formula ☐ IFM helped me get Food Stamps
☐ Other impacts: _____

10. We are exploring new ways to Reduce Food Insecurity in Nevada County. Are you interested in ...? **CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**

- ☐ Cooking Classes ☐ Recipe Sharing ☐ Help w/ Keeping a Monthly Household Budget ☐ Training on Reading Nutrition Labels
☐ Being part of a Community Garden ☐ Assistance w/ Establishing a Garden at your Home ☐ Job Training in Food Careers
☐ Other new services IFM could offer: _____

11. Anything else you would like to share? _____

Appendix 4.1.2

Key Definitions

Agroecology – A sustainable farming approach that integrates ecological principles, biodiversity, and local knowledge to create resilient food systems.

Analogous Models - An analogous model offers insights into a complex system by examining a more familiar or manageable system that shares structural or functional similarities. This comparative approach facilitates understanding through the identification of commonalities and differences.

Biodiversity – The variety of plant and animal life within an ecosystem, which is crucial for ecological balance, soil health, and resilient food systems.

Climate Resilience – The ability of food systems, communities, and ecosystems to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to climate-related disruptions, such as extreme weather, droughts, and changing growing conditions.

Community Garden – A shared space where individuals or groups collaboratively grow food, often promoting community engagement, education, and access to fresh produce.

Composting – The process of decomposing organic waste, such as food scraps and plant materials, into nutrient-rich soil amendments for gardening and farming.

Cooperative Farming – A model in which farmers or community members collectively own and manage agricultural land, equipment, and resources to share risks and benefits.

CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) – A model in which consumers purchase shares of a farm's harvest in advance, providing farmers with financial stability while ensuring fresh, seasonal produce for members.

Ecological Farming - Ecological farming, also known as agroecology, is a sustainable agricultural approach that emphasizes the integration of ecological principles to enhance food production while minimizing environmental impact. It focuses on building healthy ecosystems within farming systems, promoting biodiversity, conserving natural resources, and reducing reliance on synthetic inputs.

Edible Landscaping – The practice of integrating food-producing plants, such as fruit trees, herbs, and vegetables, into public or private landscapes for both aesthetic and functional purposes.

Farm-to-School – A program that connects schools with local farms to provide fresh, locally grown food in cafeterias while incorporating food education into the curriculum.

Food Forest – A perennial, multi-layered agricultural system designed to mimic a natural forest ecosystem, incorporating fruit trees, shrubs, herbs, and ground cover plants to create a self-sustaining food source.

Food Justice – The movement advocating for equitable access to nutritious and culturally appropriate food, particularly in historically marginalized communities.

Food Security – The condition in which all people have access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs for an active and healthy life.

Food Sovereignty – The right of communities to control their own food systems, including production, distribution, and consumption, in ways that are culturally appropriate and ecologically sustainable.

Food Waste Reduction – Strategies and initiatives aimed at minimizing food loss across the supply chain, including composting, food recovery programs, and consumer education.

Human-Centered Design -

Job Training – Programs designed to equip individuals with the skills and experience needed for employment in agriculture, food production, and related industries, often focusing on workforce development for underserved communities.

Land Trust - A land trust is a legal arrangement where a trustee holds property title for the benefit of one or more beneficiaries. Land trusts can also be community-based, non-profit organizations that work to conserve land through acquisition or conservation easements e.g. Bear Yuba Land Trust

Native Plants – Plant species that have evolved and naturally occur in a specific region or ecosystem without human introduction. These plants are well-adapted to local climate, soil conditions, and wildlife, making them essential for biodiversity, habitat restoration, and sustainable agriculture.

Permaculture – A design philosophy and agricultural system that focuses on creating sustainable and regenerative ecosystems through principles such as biodiversity, soil health, and water conservation.

Pollinator Habitat – Natural or cultivated spaces designed to support pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and birds, which are essential for food production and ecosystem health.

Regenerative Agriculture – Farming and land-use practices that restore soil health, increase biodiversity, and improve water cycles, ultimately enhancing the resilience of ecosystems.

Resilience Farming – Agricultural practices designed to withstand climate change, economic fluctuations, and other challenges through diversification, soil conservation, and water management.

Revenue Generation – The process of creating financial income to sustain and expand programs, which can include selling produce, offering workshops, securing grants, or establishing community-supported initiatives.

Sustainable Agriculture – Farming practices that meet current food needs without compromising the ability of future generations to produce food, focusing on environmental, economic, and social sustainability.