
Sustainable Development Goals as a Tool to Address Food Insecurity in North Texas

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Institution: The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas

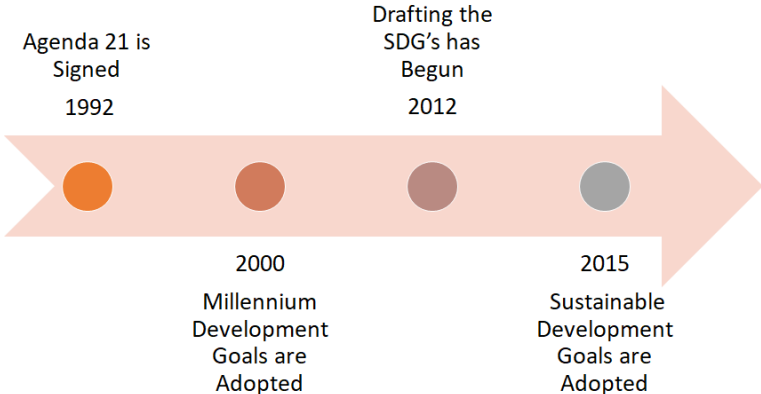
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About the Sustainable Development Goals

What are the SDGs? In 2015, the United Nations Member states adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which set 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) -- a global plan to achieve economic development while protecting the planet and its inhabitants in present and future generations. The SDGs call for global partnerships amongst governments, industries, and stakeholders. Most importantly, they take into account the interconnected nature between social, economic, and environmental improvement. They “recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth, all while tackling climate change and preserving our oceans and forests” (Sustainable Development Goals, 2019). The SDGs are further divided into specific targets that address the practical aspects of these broader goals. The progress made toward targets is measured by clearly specified and defined indicators which are monitored by countries and the UN.

Background and History of the SDGs. The formulation of the SDGs are a result of decades of collaboration between the UN-Department of Economic and Social Affairs and various countries. The roots of the SDGs lie in Agenda 21, signed by more than 178 countries in 1992 as a “comprehensive plan of action to build a global partnership for sustainable development to improve human lives and protect the environment”(Sustainable Development Goals, 2019). This led to the establishment of the Millenium Development Goals in 2000, aimed at reducing extreme poverty by 2015. In 2002, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and Plan of Implementation were adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, with greater emphasis on building partnerships. With growing global concern for sustainable solutions, in 2012, member states at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development began to draft Sustainable Development Goals. In 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development containing 17 SDGs was officially adopted. Annually, member countries meet at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to review and present updates. The figure below gives a simplified visual representation of the history of the SDGs:



How are SDGs implemented?
 To ensure that the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals achieve their purpose, implementation at the local level is key through the active participation and

commitment of all stakeholders. The Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) works to engage stakeholders and evaluates the implementation of the 2030 Agenda across the world. The DSDG provides “substantive support and capacity-building” for the SDGs, including through “advocacy and outreach activities” (Overview—SDG Indicators, 2019). Additionally, they also release global Sustainable Development Goals Reports (SDGR) which present the progress made and the areas for improvement remaining to accomplish the goals of the 2030 Agenda. The 2018 SDG Report states that global data indicates the world is not on track for meeting the SDGs targets by 2030; nevertheless, overall living conditions have improved across the world. The report calls for “immediate and accelerated action by countries and stakeholders at all levels” (Overview—SDG Indicators, 2019).

What are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals?

The full list of SDGs is as follows (Overview—SDG Indicators, 2019):

GOAL 1: No Poverty: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger: End hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages.

GOAL 4: Quality Education: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

GOAL 5: Gender Equality: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth: Promote sustained, inclusive economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.

GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation.

GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality: Reduce inequality within and among countries.

GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

GOAL 13: Climate Action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact.

GOAL 14: Life Below Water: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

GOAL 15: Life on Land: Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss.

GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

GOAL 17: Partnerships to Achieve the Goals: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2015/12/sustainable-development-goals-kick-off-with-start-of-new-year/>

How can we use SDGs as a tool for communication and collaboration? The purpose of the UN SDGs is to be a universal call of action towards the betterment of people and this planet. To do so, 17 diverse goals create a platform that allows for everyone to play a part in the process. In a time of rapid digitization and urbanization at the backdrop of wars, political conflicts and natural disasters, these goals act as reminders to become more conscious of our place in society, more aware of the current and future problems we will face and lastly, more inquisitive and analytical about how we go about solving problems. They are important tools that enable us to become better decision makers and more importantly, they create a platform of global collaboration by universally calling upon help from civil society, the private sector and everybody in between.

How is the progress towards SDGs being tracked? Tracking the global progress of these goals through the global SDG Indicators Database gives an opportunity to communicate about the challenges and obstacles. Additionally, it creates a platform for businesses, governments, and people to find opportunities to step up and innovate with a proper direction. We're making significant progress because of these goals and it's important to recognize the current impact and what's more to be done.

According to the Sustainable Development Goals report for 2019:

- **Child deaths** have dropped by nearly 50%.
- **Extreme global poverty** has dropped from 36% to 10%.

- The proportion of people living in **urban slums** has dropped from 46% to 23%.
- Nearly 89% of people have **access to electricity**, but many still lack access to sustainable and safe energy systems.
- Extent of **marine protected areas** have doubled significantly since 2010.

However, according to the global SDG Indicators Database, we're lacking progress in areas such as:

- **Hunger:** 1 in 9 people globally are still undernourished and no progress has been made.
- **Education:** More than 50% of children are lacking proper skills in math and reading.
- **Gender Equality:** No country is on track to achieve this goal by 2030.
- **Clean Water/Sanitization:** 3 billion people still don't have the basic facilities.
- **Economic Growth:** Youth are three times more likely to face unemployment than adults.
- **Responsible Consumption:** Material consumption has risen 254% since 1970.
- **Climate:** Greenhouse gas emissions are 146% much higher than pre-industrial levels.

Progress on any of these goals was made possible due to international cooperation, investing in data, leveraging science, technology and innovation, strengthening local institutions to be collaborative, and mobilizing people to lend a hand to help. With the initiation of these goals, we're seeing a global interaction of ideas and resources and an emphasis on promoting equality in the way we interact with each other and solve problems. As technology accelerates, it becomes an enabler to innovate and it highlights root problems through a data-driven lens. With the world population increasing by the minute, being able to accurately account for the massive amounts of data is crucial to answering how we can collectively make sense of patterns and observe societal changes in a different perspective than before. The SDGs act as important tools that allow us to focus on current global issues, analyze patterns through a systems thinking mindset, and they allow us to model and predict local and global change early on.

Hunger is a complex, interconnected issue that can be addressed through SDGs.

What is food insecurity? According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, food insecurity is defined as the lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life (USDA ERS ,2019). As of 2018, it has been reported that 1 of every 10 people around the world experience chronic hunger (Reid, 2018). In the U.S., more than 37 million people struggle with hunger every day, and within that number includes countless children. Food insecurity affects individuals of all populations including senior citizens, children, rural communities, and minorities.

Why does food insecurity matter? The main issue with food insecurity is that it is not isolated. Families and individuals facing food insecurity are most likely challenged by overlapping issues such as affordable housing, low wages, medical costs, and social discrimination. Thus, the issue of solving food insecurity is complex and needs to be analyzed from a multidimensional

approach. Since food insecurity affects numerous aspects of communities worldwide, it demands the collaboration and work of numerous institutions and individuals. This can only be accomplished by scrutinizing the root causes of food insecurity and seeing how we can address these root causes to stop food insecurity in its tracks.

How is food insecurity related to other societal issues? One of the primary goals that the United Nations (UN) has set out is to end world hunger by 2030. As listed earlier, the Sustainable Development Goal 2 seeks to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. However, it is worth showing that this SDG is not limited and has overlapping issues with other SDGs (Table 1).

SDG	Goal	Relationship to Food Insecurity
1	<i>No Poverty</i>	Without a reliable, consistent income, people are unable to purchase or produce food to sustain themselves or their families.
2	<i>Zero Hunger</i>	821 million people are hungry today and an additional 2 billion people are expected to be undernourished by 2050 (Goal 2: Zero Hunger, 2019).
3	<i>Good Health and Well-Being</i>	Food insecurity has ties to negative health outcomes due to lack of access to nutritious foods and significant stressors impacting mental health.
4	<i>Quality Education</i>	Children facing food insecurity are at higher risk of developmental issues and are more focused on when their next meal will be rather than their schoolwork.
5	<i>Gender Equality</i>	In many countries, women are not given equal access to the resources they need for agricultural production. This exacerbates food insecurity.
6	<i>Clean Water and Sanitation</i>	70% of our water sources are used for agriculture and irrigation, and only 10% on domestic uses (Khokhar, 2017). Uneven distribution of water sources prevents a steady source of agriculture.
7	<i>Affordable and Clean Energy</i>	Energy is needed in all aspects of agriculture and food production. We must improve energy access to impoverished communities.

8	<i>Decent Work and Economic Growth</i>	Labor productivity spurs economic growth (Goal 8: Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform, 2019). In order to maintain productivity, workers should be assured they are receiving the proper nourishment to work efficiently.
9	<i>Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure</i>	Most of the world's hungry live in rural areas, and many lack basic services such as food and irrigation provision due to lack of infrastructure (Turley & Uzsoki, 2018).
10	<i>Reduced Inequalities</i>	Groups with the least social, economic, or political power suffer hunger or malnutrition (Hossain, 2017).
11	<i>Sustainable Cities and Communities</i>	828 million people are estimated to live in slums (Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities, 2019). Populated areas consume more than what is being produced. Higher food prices and a decrease in food stock leads to food insecurity.
12	<i>Responsible Consumption and Production</i>	The US throws away more than 38 million tons of food every year (Food Shortage Causes, Effects and Solutions, 2019). That food that goes to waste could be used to feed millions of starving families. Responsible consumption and production needs to occur to reduce food insecurity.
13	<i>Climate Action</i>	Greenhouse gas emission is increasing and climate change is occurring faster than ever. If we do not have the basic necessities to grow food, then food insecurity will increase.
14	<i>Life Below Water</i>	Emissions from human activities are changing the ocean's chemistry and temperature in ways that threaten the livelihoods of those who depend on fish and seafood for their diet (How Much Food is Wasted in America? - Food Forward, 2017).
15	<i>Life on Land</i>	From 2000 to 2015, more than 1/5 of the Earth's total land was degraded, largely due to human induced processes (Huelsenbeck, 2012). Less trees, less agriculture production, less animals, and more drought happens due to these activities.
16	<i>Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions</i>	Increasing rule of law, ending violence, and strengthening institutions is needed when we want to address hunger issues in our area.

17	<i>Partnerships for the Goals</i>	Having groups and organizations to address hunger is going to help us reduce the problem quickly. Together we can spread the word and advocate for solutions.
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Table 1. This table compares all 17 SDGs and their synergistic relationship with food insecurity. Overall, this shows that food insecurity has close ties to numerous issues and how we have multiple conduits to which we can address food insecurity both globally and locally.

Root Causes of Food Insecurity:

In the United States, about 1 in every 9 people face food insecurity. Although hunger and food insecurity are closely related, the main difference between the two is that food insecurity stems from the lack of resources to obtain nutritional food at a household level. Progress towards solving hunger and food insecurity at the global level is slow and in the wake of conflicts, climate change and population growth, it’s becoming more challenging for both developed and developing countries to meet Sustainable Development Goal targets. Food insecurity is a complex issue that highlights how strongly social institutions are interconnected, how strongly individuals from different socioeconomic backgrounds play a role in this issue and lastly, how the future will look like for the upcoming generation if this problem continues to persist.

Food security is built on three pillars: food availability, food access, and food use. Using a systems thinking mindset, it’s fairly easy to start finding patterns in a) the challenges towards each of these pillars and b) the root causes of food insecurity. Solutions to these challenges must address the overlapping targets presented these sustainable development goals:

- **SDG #1: No Poverty**
 - Proper access to Decent + Productive employment
 - Inability to pay for expenses to sustain
 - Food Access
 - Social protection towards the most vulnerable: children & elderly
 - Addressing Malnutrition + obesity issues
 - Food Use
- **SDG # 3: Good Health and well-being**
 - Access to healthcare services
 - Addressing sustainable financing for health
- **SDG # 9: Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure**

- Increasing Transportation services accessibility
 - Food Access
- **SDG # 10: Reduced Inequalities**
- **SDG # 11: Sustainable Cities & Communities**
 - Decreasing food deserts
 - Food Access

Individuals who face a combination of poverty, unemployment/underemployment, and lack of proper healthcare resources are deeply stuck in the cycle of food insecurity. Those that live below the federal poverty level simply do not have the resources to maintain day to day health and these resources can also highlight how their environment plays a huge role in accessibility and exposure to resources and opportunities. According to the Texas Hunger Initiative, the food insecurity in Texas is 18.4%, much higher than the national average. In Dallas, some of the biggest drivers of food insecurity are poverty, the sharp decline in median income per family, lack of affordable transportation, segregated neighborhoods by income, race and ethnicity, lack of accessible healthcare and healthy food options.

Access to healthy food options and healthcare are essentially determined by areas and how they are separated by income, race and ethnicity. In areas with low median income, food deserts and transportation accessibility costs make it challenging for individuals to break free from poverty and take the necessary steps to tackle poverty. In consequence, food insecurity grows as a parallel problem. The dependency that hunger creates for people of all ages calls upon the effectiveness of welfare programs and how well they're able to mobilize people to a) break free from poverty b) economically scale themselves and their family to grow and c) sustain a constant healthy lifestyle that can be measured over time.

Spreading Awareness in Our Metroplex

The Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area is known to have a large and growing population. However, people who live across this metroplex continue to deal with the effects of poverty on a daily basis. People regardless of age, gender, and race are experiencing problems ranging from financial instability to food insecurity. Therefore, it is important to recognize these problems and find solutions to counter them by working together as a community. The Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex has a variety of organizations that provide resources to those seeking assistance. The North Texas Food Bank (NTFB) is an example of an organization that seeks to distribute food which has been donated, purchased, and readily stored to give to the community. Meanwhile, the Child Poverty Action Lab (CPAL) is a non-profit that focuses on countering child poverty in the metroplex and also offers services to mothers. There are numerous organizations such as these scattered throughout the metroplex that have a common goal, which is to give assistance to those in need.

The convening power of the North Texas Food Bank can be used to bring organizations together to solve hunger and food insecurity in North Texas. Currently, the North Texas Food Bank and Texas Hunger Initiative spearhead the Dallas Coalition for Hunger Solutions, which successfully brings together diverse organizations to collaboratively address hunger and poverty in North Texas through five action teams: child hunger, faith community hunger solutions, public policy, senior hunger, and urban agriculture. In addition, the North Texas Food Bank has a connection of more than 200 agencies throughout 13 counties. It is important to continue reaching out to various organizations and collaborate, coordinate, and spread the message to them. By expanding North Texas Food Bank’s connections to include organizations that further address the root causes of hunger and food insecurity, awareness can be spread throughout the metroplex and doing so reflects SDG 17, Partnership for the Goals. Food insecurity and the SDGs facilitate coordination and collaboration because they are connected to the effects of poverty. Using North Texas Food Bank’s unifying power, setting common goals, leveraging resources, and working collaboratively with these organizations can help bring the metroplex together. In essence, utilizing partnerships with institutions that target a variety of root causes is crucial in achieving a common goal and strengthening community support especially in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area.

Section - Orgs and Institutions working to address these root causes and SDGs

Organizations Addressing Root Causes of Food Insecurity	
Food Insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wilkinson Center • Gardeners in Community Development • City Square • Hunger Busters • Children’s Hunger Fund • SoupMobile
Education and Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cafe Momentum • AVANCE • United Way of Metropolitan Dallas • BridgeBuilders • Water From The Rock • American Airlines • Frisco Family Services • Communities in Schools: Dallas Region • Love Thy Neighbor • International Rescue Committee, Dallas (Community Programs and Services)
Public Policy and Immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Rescue Committee, Dallas (Policy and Advocacy Team) • Texas Campaign for the Environment
Housing and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Stewpot • Dallas Housing Authority • City House • North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Division
Medical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julia’s Center for Healthcare
Existing Partners of the NTFB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GROW North Texas • The Senior Source

Key for

Organization Types:

- **food insecurity**

- education and service
- public policy and immigration
- housing and transport
- medical
- existing partners of the NTFB

Organization	Description	SDGs Targeted	Area Served	Contact Info
Food Insecurity Organizations:				
The Wilkinson Center	The Wilkinson Center provides a variety of services designed to assist low income North Texans. They target poverty and food insecurity through their food pantry, as well as their case management services which are available so that clients can get assistance to additional social services, such as food stamps, WIC, and Medicaid. In addition, The Wilkinson Center provides a variety of free courses such as career development, financial literacy, computer training, GED, and ESL to ensure that clients have access to the tools they need to gain financial independence and stability.	1 2 4 8 10 17	Dallas	Elizabeth L. Willis President 3302 N. Buckner Blvd, Suite 111 Dallas, TX, 75228 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 720248 Dallas, TX 75372 Phone: (214) 821-6380
Gardeners in Community Development	A small Dallas nonprofit organization that facilitates community gardening through education projects that train and assist refugees and low income families to use organic methods to feed their family, donate to neighbors in need, or sell. They currently manage five Dallas community gardens and provide training and support to more than a dozen regional garden projects. North TX food banks can use their convening power to connect community garden organizations with affordable housing groups (like Dallas Housing Authority) and refugee relief groups, to foster collaboration on joint projects.	11, 15	Based in Dallas, support and training offered regionally.	Don Lambert Founder 901 Greenbriar Lane, Richardson, Texas, 75080. Email: grower@flash.net Facebook: @gardendallas Gardendallas.org
City Square	This is a nonprofit organization that targets helping low-income families and individuals in North Texas. Not only do they have food pantries, but they provide housing, have workplace development programs, and have health and wellness programs in place. Their fight is focused on ending poverty in Dallas and bringing hope to their neighbors.	1 2 3 4 5 10 17	North Texas/Dallas	Opportunity Center: Address: 1610 S Malcolm X Blvd Dallas, TX 75226 Phone: 214.823.8710

Hunger Busters	Hunger Busters is a non-profit organization that provides a third meal to food-insecure children in DISD. All of their meals are prepared daily and served fresh in order to ensure all students consume a healthy and tasty meal before they go to bed. A partnership with this organization could allow more school districts to host this program and create more fresh meals for food-insecure children.	2 3 4	Dallas	Trey Hoobler CEO 3116 Sylvan Ave, Dallas, Texas 75212 (214) 220-0031 info@hungerbusters.com trey.hoobler@hungerbusters.com
Children's Hunger Fund	This nonprofit faith-based organization is helping to fight childhood hunger. They equip local churches with food and necessities in order to help decrease the needs of the family. Not only do they provide "Food Paks" for the children and their families, they also provide medicine, vitamins, clothing, diapers and other items the family may need for their child/ren.	1 2 3 5 10 17	Dallas San Antonio Los Angeles	Dallas Center: Address: 11550 Newberry St., Suite 100 Dallas, TX 75229 Phone: 972.850.5607
SoupMobile	SoupMobile is a mobile soup kitchen founded in 2003 serving the homeless population in Dallas, following their mission statement of three simple words, "Feed my sheep". By taking a soup kitchen to the areas where the homeless congregate in Dallas, they are truly the front lines in a war against hunger in Dallas, providing over 250,000 meals per year. In addition to this, SoupMobile has expanded their services to further address the homelessness in Dallas by helping with shelters. In a 2019 State of the Homeless Address given by Dallas officials, there were an estimated 4,500 homeless people, nearly 1,500 of which were considered unsheltered homeless. SoupMobile offers various shelter programs, including a Safe House for women fleeing domestic violence, Apartment units throughout the Dallas area, motel housing assistance to provide short term emergency housing, and sponsored housing programs working to provide housing for women and children. By partnering with SoupMobile, NTFB literally moves to be a front line force while addressing numerous issues that can help to shorten the line at the food banks.	1 2 3 5 10 17	Dallas	David Timothy <i>Founder and CEO</i> 2423 S. Good Latimer, Dallas, TX, 75215 Phone: (214) 655-6396 Email: david@soupmobile.org
Education and Service Organizations:				
Cafe Momentum	Cafe Momentum is a non-profit organization and restaurant that	1 2	Dallas	Chad Houser Founder, CEO,

	provides culinary internships to children coming out of juvenile detention. This hands on culinary training facility provides kids with life skills, education, and future employment opportunities in order to help break the cycle of violence and crime many of them have faced from a young age.	3 4 8		Executive Chef 1510 Pacific Avenue Dallas, TX 75201 214-303-1234 info@cafemomentum.org
AVANCE	AVANCE is a non-profit organization serving the North Texas region focusing on Parent-Child education, using a dual generational model to support families with programs focusing on parent education, early childhood development, literacy, and more to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty seen all around North Texas. By partnering with this organization, NTFB will be able to assist in directly addressing some of the root causes of hunger in North Texas.	1 3 4 8 10 17	North Texas	Richard Heffernan <i>Chair</i> 2060 Singleton Blvd, Ste 103, Dallas, TX, 75212 Phone: (214) 887-9907
United Way of Metropolitan Dallas	United Way of Metropolitan Dallas is a non-profit organization that seeks to strengthen education, income, and health equality in our North Texas communities. They partner with non-profit organizations that work to target educational success, food insecurity, economic mobility, and family development. A partnership with the North Texas Food Bank will allow NTFB to leverage the capacities of their partnerships.	1 2 3 4 8 10 16 17	Dallas, Collin, Rockwall, southern Denton counties	Jennifer Sampson <i>McDermott-Templeton President and CEO</i> 1800 N. Lamar Dallas, TX 75202 Phone: 214.978.0000 Email: info@unitedwaydallas.org
BridgeBuilders	BridgeBuilders is a South Dallas based organization focusing on restoring urban communities through education, health, economic development, and spiritual development. This organization focuses on improving the lives of any and everyone in impoverished areas of Dallas through various means including employment opportunities, financial coaching, life skills training, and youth mentoring programs. By partnering with BridgeBuilders, North Texas Food Bank is able to directly address root causes of hunger in North Texas while focusing on a very underserved population of Dallas.	1 3 4 8 10 11 16 17	Dallas	Jonathan Fechner <i>Executive Director</i> 6601 Bexar St, Dallas, TX, 75215 Phone: (469) 621-5984 Email: connect@bridgebuilders.org
Water From The Rock	Water From The Rock is an organization based in Arlington, TX, serving any adults in need of help. Their services range from adult literacy, assisting in ESL or GED classes, to job-readiness services, assisting with computer literacy and providing professional	1 2 3 4 6 8 10 17	Central Arlington	Herman Williams <i>Chairman</i> Barry Anderson <i>Vice Chairman</i> 402 N. L. Robinson Drive, Arlington, TX,

	<p>attire for interviews/work, as well as aiding with various support services, whether it is getting their clients access to food and meals or extra support provided for homeless individuals. By partnering with this organization, NTFB can help build a small organization that is fighting for the same problems facing their own community of central Arlington.</p>			<p>76011 Phone: (817) 860-9702</p>
<p>American Airlines</p>	<p>American Airlines, the airline with the most carried passengers in the world and second highest revenue, is headquartered in the backyard of North Texas Food Bank. According to their "Let The Good Take Flight" program, service is a way of life at American Airlines, being an essential component to the legacy of their company and for all their future plans. American Airlines can give back in a variety of ways, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-Kind Contributions: Donating AAdvantage mileage certificates to non-profit organizations. • Volunteerism: Employees give their time with the Do Crew, their community service program. • Monetary Donations: AA provides limited support to NPOs <p>Using these multi-billion dollar companies as a resource for the North Texas Food Bank can bring immense changes to their overall goals as an organization while either getting a larger platform to reach out to the community or expanding their reach through financial means into communities that are still underserved through all of the efforts by NTFB.</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 8 9 10 17</p>	<p>DFW</p>	<p>Resendiz Estela G <i>Sr. Coordinator, Community Relations</i> (No specific contact info listed)</p> <p>Phone: (817) 963-1234</p> <p>Email: community.relations@aa.com</p> <p>https://www.linkedin.com/in/resendiz-estela-g-3a7a4a66/</p>

<p>Frisco Family Services</p>	<p>Frisco Family Services is a non-profit organization that targets hunger, homelessness, and other needs in the Frisco community and school district. They offer adult life skill classes, vouchers for clothing and household goods as well as meals to children and families . FFS targets food insecurity, unemployment, emergency financial assistance, and provides referrals to other services. Their one-time financial assistance goes toward rent assistance, utility assistance, medication assistance, and/or gasoline cards. A large portion of the financial assistance comes from their resale store which sells discounted, donated items. The adult education classes aim for self sufficiency with training in job readiness, nutritional education, legal rights, and parenting education.</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 6 8 10 17</p>	<p>Frisco</p>	<p>Frisco Family Services Office 8780 Third St, Frisco, TX 75034</p> <p>Contact (972) 335-9495 Email: info@friscofamilyservices.org</p>
<p>Communities in Schools: Dallas Region</p>	<p>This is a nonprofit organization stationed in the Dallas school district. Their goal is to reduce the dropout rate for students in Dallas. They provide family support, educational guidance, college and career prep, health services, etc.</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 10 17</p>	<p>Dallas</p>	<p>Address: 1341 W. Mockingbird Ln. Suite 1000E Dallas, TX 75247</p> <p>Phone: (214) 827-0955</p> <p>Email: connectcis@cisdallas.org</p>
<p>Love Thy Neighbor</p>	<p>Love Thy Neighbor is a small organization in North Texas that began in 2010 to help with daily food programs for the Flower Mound community. Since their inception, Love Thy Neighbor has served over 108,000 meals and has distributed over 10,000 to go bags, providing well over 100 meals daily to families and individuals. As a 100% volunteer-based organization, Love Thy Neighbor has had very little room to grow, as most of its funding goes directly into the programs it hosts, including the Kitchen (where all the meals are made), Clothing Assistance Program (clothing items distributed at no charge to qualified clients 3 days a week, up to 4 changes of clothes are provided per family member), Love Thy Baby (Focuses on meeting the needs of infants who are born into health or economic crises), and Love Thy Pet (volunteers make pet</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 10 17</p>	<p>North Texas, based in Flower Mound</p>	<p>Traci Long <i>President</i></p> <p>Mary Ann Saxton <i>Program Manager, Clothing Assistance Program</i></p> <p>2201 Long Prairie Road, Suite 107-706, Flower Mound TX, 75022</p> <p>Phone: (214) 334-1432</p> <p>Email: info@ltnlovethyneighbor.org</p>

	beds for shelters/humane societies/foster homes). By partnering with this organization, NTFB can provide the assistance they are able to sustain to smaller organizations that are looking to address the same root causes in a different light, helping one smaller organization grow to serve the same population.			
International Rescue Committee, Dallas (Community Programs and Services)	<p>An international nonprofit, the IRC provides opportunities for refugees and immigrants to thrive in Dallas. They rely on government funding and private donations. Programs and services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resettlement: basic needs for food, shelter and legal rights (also distribute free food and advertise local food pantries) • Economic Empowerment: Protecting, supporting and improving household livelihoods and financial security. • Community Integration and Development: Strengthening communities and preparing individuals to participate fully in American society. • Extended Case Management: Promoting wellness and ensuring access to healthcare services up to five years after arrival. • Mental Health: Connecting clients with social emotional support and other services with the IRC and throughout the community. • Immigration: Providing assistance with adjusting immigration status, Civics/Citizenship, and family reunification. <p>See specific policy and advocacy information below.</p>	1 2 10 11 16	Dallas	Dallas@Rescue.org 6500 Greenville Avenue Suite 500 Dallas, TX 75206 Phone: (214)-461-9781
Public Policy Organizations:				
International Rescue Committee, Dallas (Policy and Advocacy Team)	<p>The International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Dallas has been invested in the greater Dallas community since 1975. They provide the wider community with access to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board of Immigration (BIA) accredited representatives that assist in the completion of 	1 2 10 11 16	Dallas	Dallas@Rescue.org 6500 Greenville Avenue Suite 500 Dallas, TX 75206 Phone: (214)-461-

	<p>applications for naturalization, family reunification and other immigration benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredited Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site and provide free income tax preparation for anyone during tax season. <p>Additionally, the IRC works on public policy and advocates for solutions for refugees, asylum seekers, asylees, Temporary Protected Status recipients, DREAMers and other marginalized people.</p>			<p>9781 Info: https://www.rescue.org/policy</p>
Texas Campaign for the Environment	<p>Texas Campaign for the Environment is a 501(c)(4) non-profit organization that works to address environmental issues across Texas by empowering Texans to change corporate and governmental policy. They work to catalyze campaigns that provide solutions to longstanding sustainability issues. In North Texas, they have campaigns to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide reduced trash bills for households that produce less trash Expand recycling and composting services in Denton Provide all apartment complexes with recycling services <p>By partnering with the North Texas Food Bank, issues regarding sustainable operations can be resolved.</p>	<p>3 11 12 13 17</p>	<p>DFW, Austin, Houston</p>	<p>Corey Troiani <i>Program Director (DFW)</i></p> <p>3303 Lee Parkway Suite 402 Dallas, TX 75219 (214) 599-7840</p>
Housing and Transport Organizations:				
The Stewpot	<p>The Stewpot seeks to provide assistance to the homeless and low income individuals in the Dallas area. They offer access to shelters, counseling, housing resources information, Texas ID assistance. They also have a medical clinic on-site available for homeless individuals where they can have access to eye exams, a dental clinic, and mental health services.</p>	<p>1 2 3 10 17</p>	<p>Dallas</p>	<p>1822 Young St., Dallas, TX, 75201</p> <p>Phone: (214) 746-2781</p> <p>Email: info@thestewpot.org</p>
Dallas Housing Authority	<p>A local government agency with the mission to provide affordable quality housing across North TX through housing assistance programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voucher program: provides \$13 million in rent contributions across North Texas Extensive neighborhood and business 	<p>1 11</p>	<p>Based in Dallas, serving seven counties across North Texas: Dallas, Denton, Collin, Ellis, Kaufman, Rockwall and Tarrant</p>	<p>Jorge Baldor Chairman / Business Development Committee Chair</p> <p>jorge.baldor@dhantx.com</p> <p>https://dhantx.com/</p>

	<p>partnerships including: landlords, contractors, housing developers, architects, engineers, financial investors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They support HUB's (Historically Underutilized Businesses), MWBE's etc. <p>North Texas Food Bank can receive information from DHA to target what locations they should focus on expanding partnerships with local food banks. NTFB can promote collaboration between DHA (housing) and transportation, community gardening, education, health orgs to improve access.</p> <p>(This is one of three Dallas government housing agencies: Dallas County Housing Agency, City of Dallas Housing Department. This one seemed to be the most connected to multiple private and public stakeholders across North Texas.)</p>			
<p>City House</p>	<p>City House is a children's homelessness center that strives to provide, serve, and empower young adults and children that are facing homelessness, abuse, or neglect through a variety of programs. They provide emergency shelter and care in partnership with Child Protective services to those from newborn to 17 years old. They aim to help homeless and runaway youths to get them into proper homes or foster care. City House covers basic needs like food and shelter, case management/assessment, medical assistance, education assistance, life skills, counseling, and more. They also provide help to those 18-21 to help them transition out of homelessness and into independent living.</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 6 8 10 16</p>	<p>Plano</p>	<p>City House Administrative Office: 830 Central Parkway East Suite #350 Plano TX 75074 Phone: 972-424-4626</p>
<p>North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Division</p>	<p>The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a voluntary association of local governments within the 16-county North Central Texas Region. Involved in investment for transportation infrastructure to support growth and development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable development program works on land-use-transportation intersection, in areas such as affordable housing, transit-oriented development (such as revitalization of downtown 	<p>1 9 11</p>	<p>16-counties in North Texas, metropolitan region centered around Dallas and Fort Worth</p>	<p>Michael Morris, P.E., Director of Transportation Contact: April Leger Transportation Program Assistant III Program</p>

	<p>areas, improving pedestrian access), zoning, school access, etc.</p> <p>Mobility 2045:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-range transportation plan • goal to “encourage livable communities which support sustainability and economic vitality.” <p>NCTCOG produced a study with ideas to alleviate and mitigate gentrification in North TX (Liska,2019)</p> <p>NCTCOG is also a stakeholder in the UN Regional Center for Expertise, working on SDG 11 Sustainable Cities.</p> <p>NTX Foodbank can connect NCTCOG to The Dallas Coalition for Hunger Solutions (especially to Texas Hunger Initiative data) to ensure the NCTCOG’s Sustainable Development Program projects facilitate food access to the most vulnerable communities (promoting safe neighborhoods, transit, decreasing food deserts etc.)</p>			<p>Administration - Committees Support 817-695-9246 aleger@nctcoq.org</p>
Medical Organizations:				
<p>1. Julia’s Center for Healthcare</p>	<p>A faith-based clinic serving residents in Collin County who do not have health insurance. This clinic first opened up in 2016 and has been continuing to grow with volunteers. It seeks to provide basic medical treatment to those who are under-served in our community.</p>	<p>1 3</p>	<p>Collin County</p>	<p>Address: 1947 Ave K Suite A 400 Plano, Texas 75074</p> <p>Phone: (972)-535-5099</p> <p>Website: http://www.JuliasCenter.com</p>
Existing Partners of the NTFB:				

<p>GROW North Texas</p>	<p>Member of the Dallas coalition for hunger solutions (which NTX food bank spearheads with other orgs). GROW North Texas is a nonprofit which connects the community to sustainable food and farms. They offer support to local farmer's markets, community gardens, urban gardeners, and through cooking classes. They're home to The Happy Kitchen/La Cocina Alegre® in Dallas, Market Provisions at the Dallas Farmers Market, Genuine Provisions Food Hub, and facilitates the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program for Dallas. SNAP benefits can be used at many of their farmer's markets. North TX foodbank can use their convening power to connect community gardening and farmers market organizations with affordable housing groups (like Dallas Housing Authority), to foster collaboration on joint projects, such as hosting markets with SNAP access in neighborhoods with DHA tenants.</p>	<p>11, 15</p>	<p>North Texas, Based in Dallas</p>	<p>Address: P.O. Box 7103, Dallas, TX 75209-0103</p> <p>Phone: (214) 702-6655</p> <p>Email: info@grownorthtexas.org</p> <p>Website: grownorthtexas.org</p>
<p>The Senior Source</p>	<p>The Senior source is a non-profit aimed at empowering the lives of senior citizens across Dallas. Elderly people are vulnerable to many inequalities. The Senior Source has numerous programs to help from financial assistance, transportation, and most importantly, companionship. The Senior Source is always looking for ways to build partnerships with surrounding organizations and community leaders. Senior citizens are greatly affected by food insecurity. A partnership with the North Texas Food Bank would help feed the growing elderly population and expand the reachability of the NTFB.</p>	<p>1 2 3 10 11 16 17</p>	<p>Dallas County</p>	<p>Stacey Paddock Malcolmson <i>President and CEO</i></p> <p>E-mail: SMalcolmson@TheSeniorSource.org</p> <p>3910 Harry Hines Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75219</p> <p>PH: 214-823-5700 FAX: 214-826-2441</p>

A Model for Systems-level Change for the NTFB

How can the NTFB use their convening power to solve food insecurity in North Texas?

The organizations listed previously use different approaches to fulfill a common mission: to benefit our neighbors in need. To advance their goal of addressing food insecurity in North Texas, the NTFB can employ their convening power to:

- Expand their existing coalition of organizations.

- Facilitate collaboration amongst different organizations that address root causes of hunger. For example, this includes organizations that address various factors such as poverty, hunger, and education.
- Utilize their relationship with governing bodies to increase their level of impact and reach deeper within communities.
- Agree on a set of measurable goals between community stakeholders on how to address root causes of food insecurity.

How can SDGs be used in communication with collaborative partners? The Sustainable Development goals help us to connect complementary initiatives that address food insecurity. This allows NTFB to “feed the line” while other organizations recognize their role to “shorten the line” by addressing root causes of hunger and food insecurity. Through the language of Sustainable Development Goals, these organizations can more effectively communicate to align their existing initiatives. The shared language of SDGs can facilitate the sharing of resources and avoid duplication of efforts. We hope that SDGs can visibly highlight the interconnections between different sectors that affect food insecurity, particularly:

- education and childcare services (SDG 4)
- components of sustainable cities including transportation, affordable housing, access to quality work and eradicating food deserts (SDG11)
- access to affordable healthcare (SDG 3)
- access to job training (by promoting decent work and economic growth) (SDG 8).

How can NTFB sustain their new relationships with organizations and utilize this relationship to achieve short and long-term goals? Previously, we have included an exhaustive list of organizations NTFB can potentially partner with in order to achieve a common goal of reducing the root causes of food insecurity here in North Texas. In order to spark collaboration and sustain the relationship with these organizations, the two parties must address how the organization can contribute to the NTFB mission statement. To do so, evidence-based approaches and feasible short and long-term goals must be established from the offset. Our hope is that any new partnerships that are formed with these institutions help not only the community but also the institutions themselves, particularly in regard to donations, volunteering, and expansion. The North Texas Food Bank can:

- Utilize their brand recognition to help promote and advertise the services of other organizations.
- Use their new relationships with other organizations to advertise themselves across new channels, reaching a wider audience.
- Gather information provided by other organizations to better identify who is in need.
- Utilize information provided by other organizations to reduce barriers to accomplish the immediate mission of the NTFB.

How can the NTFB begin to lay the framework to create systems-level change? Systems-level change in the context of the NTFB involves addressing the root causes of food insecurity rather than solely providing direct services. In order for the NTFB to have an impact large enough to change community-level indicators, an iterative framework of thinking must be

adopted. According to The University of Texas at Austin Child & Family Research Partnership Program, developing long and short-term goals can best be divided into five different phases (A Framework for Evidence-Based Systems-Level Change, 2018) :

- 1) Determining foundational activities essential to the NTFB.
- 2) Fostering collaborative activities with community organizations.
- 3) Developing clear indicators of progress.
- 4) Being able to measure output and progress.
- 5) Compiling measurable outcomes that address community progress as a whole.

The table below shows questions that the NTFB should aim to answer in each phase of thinking:

SYSTEMS LEVEL CHANGE	Foundational Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which partners are necessary in NTFB's operations? Does the NTFB have the capacity to collaborate? What are the NTFB's specific and measurable goals?
	Collaborative Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are some evidence-based drivers of change? What kind of funding, political support, and resources does the NTFB have? How can NTFB collaborative partners contribute?
	Indicators of Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What would the NTFB operations look like if these collaborations did not exist? What underlying policies and programs have to change to meet longer-term goals?
	Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which short-term metrics represent indicators of progress? What evidence within the NTFB's surrounding community indicates that progress is being adopted in the community?
	Measurable Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How has the wellbeing of North Texas changed? How has the North Texas Food Bank progressed towards long and short term goals?

Having a defined framework will help organize discussion between convening parties and ultimately allow the NTFB to develop goals with community partners to heighten their scope of impact.

Conclusion

The mission of the SDGs is to provide greater understanding of the many challenges that humanity continues to face. Countries all over the world are united through these central goals. Due to the interconnected nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, NTFB can address multiple SDGs while continuing to reduce food insecurity in North Texas. In implementing these targets through systems level change, the use of convening power and collaborative partners, NTFB can mitigate the root causes of food insecurity through the lens of sustainability.

Strengthening partnerships with other organizations can help foster systems change and address root causes of hunger due to its mutual need for action. To impact more areas and communities, more collaboration is necessary. With a great number of factors contributing to the root causes of hunger and food insecurity, it is necessary to take into account the many other organizations and community outreaches that can help with NTFB's fight to end hunger. By utilizing their existing relationships and forging new ones, NTFB can surely succeed in its mission to feed the hungry, while also reducing the amount of North Texans who are in need.

Systems level change is vital to address the root causes of hunger and food insecurity. Various SDGs are highly interconnected, and the only way to properly address all of them is to create lasting changes in every system involved. For a positive change to be made, there must be a significant effort to build connections with relevant institutions. It is important that we create a sustainable space for our generation and future generations to come. We must end the cycle of food insecurity that occurs in our communities. With each partnership created, we are one step closer to creating a better future for our community and beyond.

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