



# CAFB Operations and Strategy

**COG FARM Committee**

June 11, 2021



TOGETHER WE CAN SOLVE HUNGER.

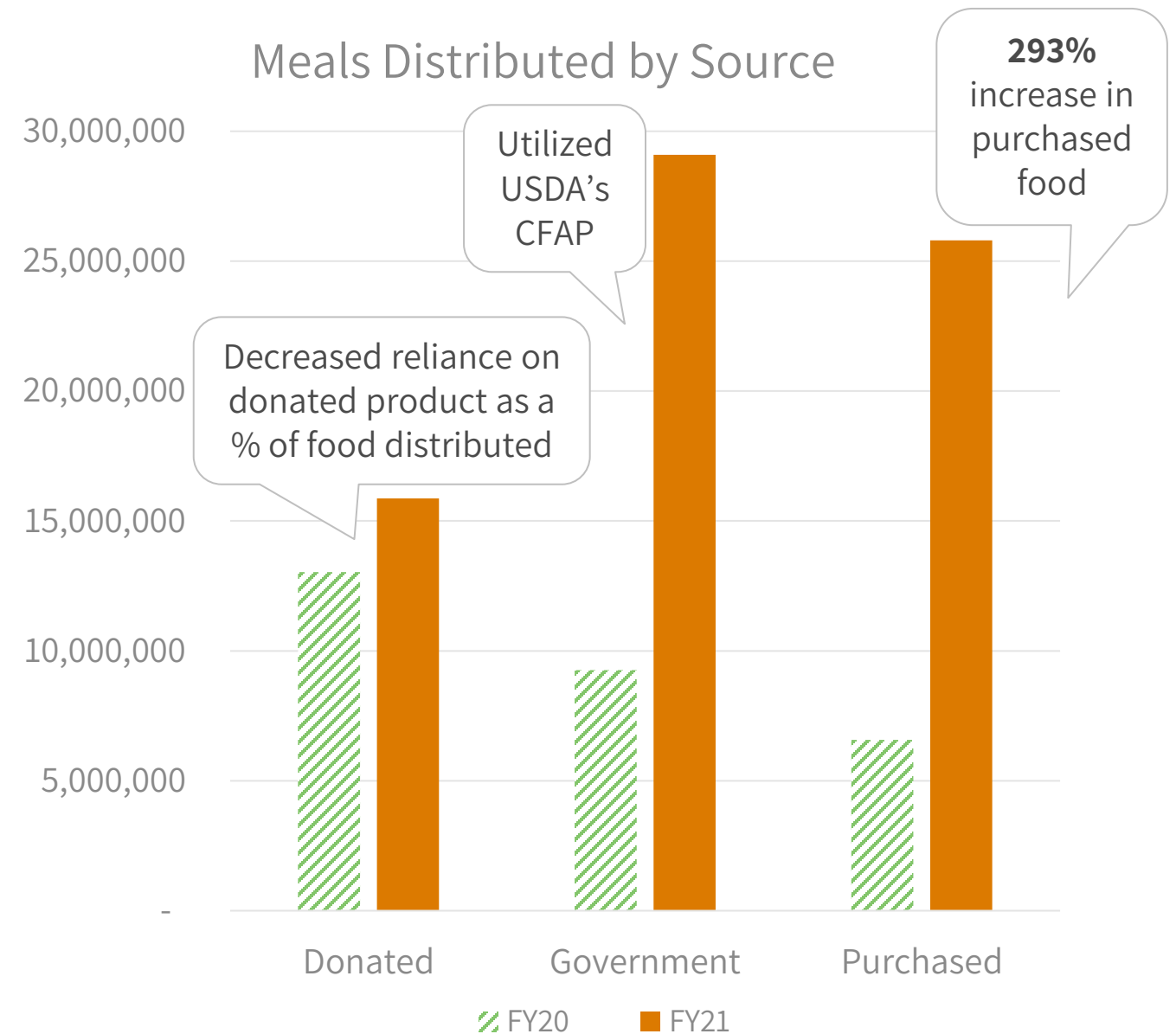
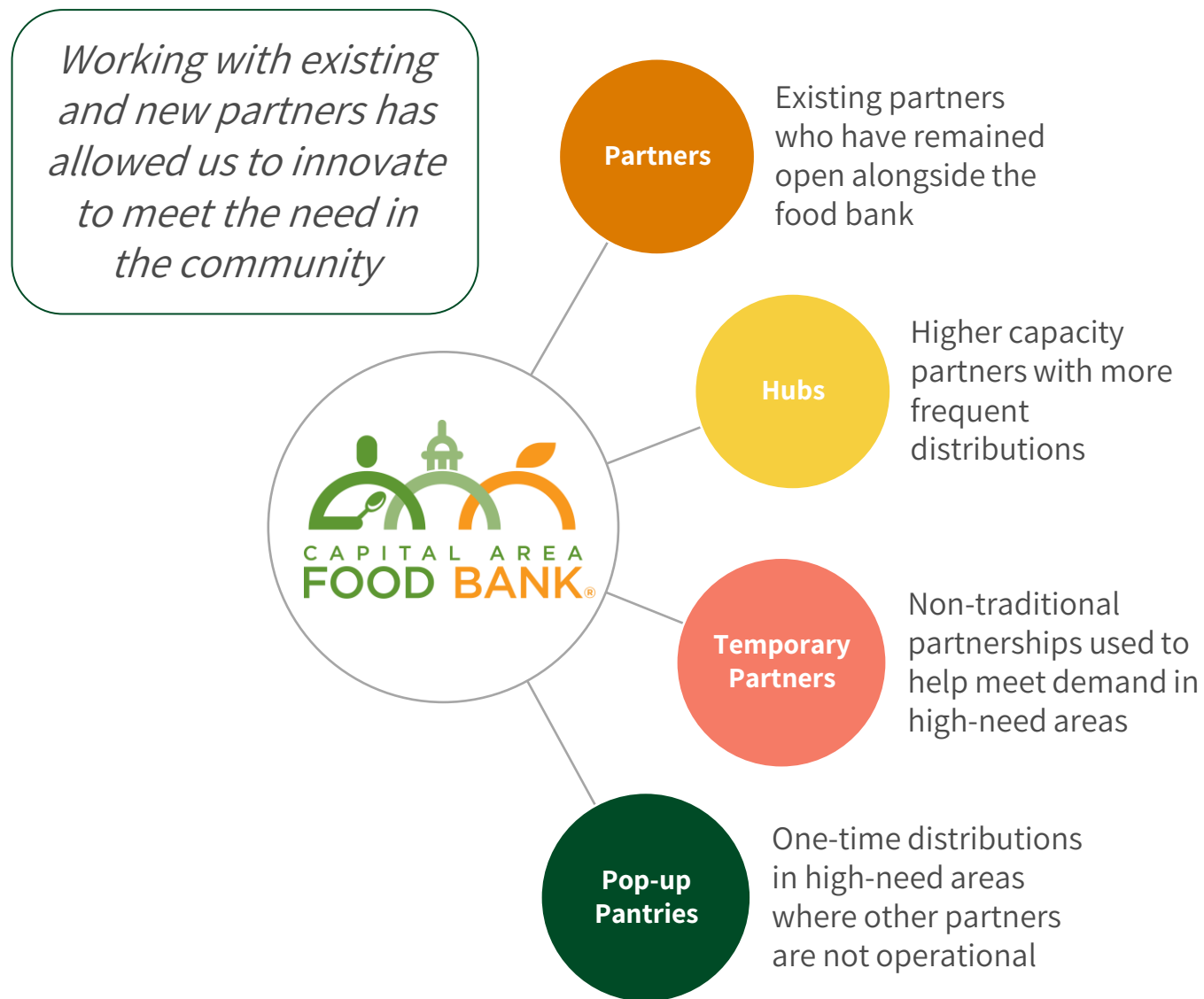
# The Capital Area Food Bank

- › Since 1980, the Capital Area Food Bank has existed to help solve the problem of hunger in our region.
- › Hunger affects every age, race, religion and zip code.
- › Since the onset of the pandemic, food insecurity has increased around **50%**, raising the number of food insecure individuals to almost **600,000**. In the last year, we have distributed more than **70 million meals** in DC, Maryland, and Virginia.
- › Years before the pandemic, the Capital Area Food Bank had enacted a new strategic plan emphasizing a **dual focus** on addressing hunger today *and* seeding innovative approaches that will have a lasting impact on longer term food security for tomorrow.
- › Much of our recent focus and future action will focus on pandemic **response, recovery, and rebuilding**.



# Response

- › The pandemic pushed us to innovate our operations and explore new partnerships so we could distribute more than **77 million meals**, more food than ever before



# Recovery

- › Supporting our distribution network and partners now while strategically moving toward inclusive economic recovery



## Supporting Our Network

- Providing grants to distribution partners so they can purchase, store and provide more food
- Building partners' capacity to implement high-volume distributions



## Supporting Our Clients

- Recent ~2,000-person survey on current needs and challenges
- Relaunching pilot programs to address root causes of poverty and food insecurity
- Supporting continued vaccine roll out efforts



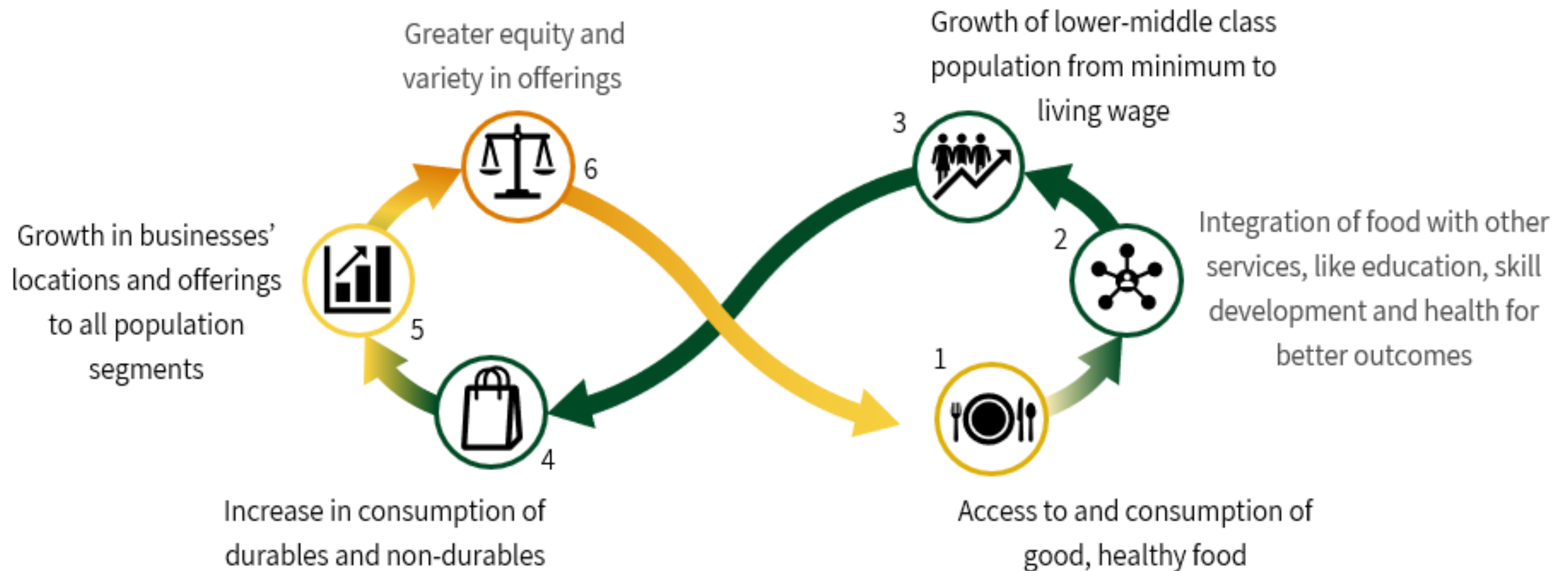
## Engaging New Partners

- Forging private and public sector partnerships to support inclusive recovery
- Engaging non-food providers
- Sourcing from local farmers, including minority-led farms

# Rebuilding

**The pandemic has both amplified pre-existing challenges and dealt us new ones.**

The size and composition of the region's food insecure population has changed and the return to "normal" is an opportunity to address the broader inequities that existed before and have been amplified by the pandemic to ensure more inclusive economic growth



# Our focus areas for the next year

## Food sourcing

- More age and culturally familiar food
- More food from local area farmers, including minority farmers



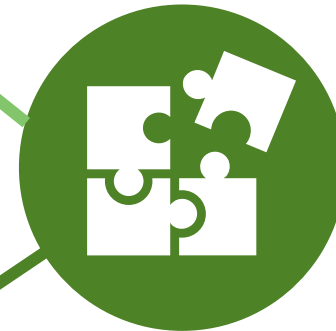
## Increasing food access

Mobile grocery stores, prepared food rescue, rideshares for clients



## Policy initiatives

**Federal:** Permanent 30% SNAP increase, efficient TEFAP administration  
**State:** Increased utilization of social welfare and anti-hunger programs, equitable grocery store access



## Bundling food with other services

Partnering with other anti-poverty service providers in health, skill development, education and financial literacy

## More tailored programming

Reviewing our programming for children, young adults, and seniors by more specific age and life-stage groups



# Our region -- A disparate network of support

**Our networks of social services are not optimally integrated or organized to support people who are seeking to transition out of poverty.**

- › Too many people are unaware, unable, or unwilling to access social services and government programs.
- › Social service providers and programs often see themselves as a single-service and assume beneficiaries can navigate the landscape of available supports.
- › A zoomed-in focus on individual programs and mini-networks has precluded a review of gaps and cliffs in the broader landscape.
- › Barriers to prosperity are not singular for most people; they are numerous and interrelated, and they need to be addressed in tandem for interventions to be effective.



# Areas needing further investment

## Identification of gaps & cliffs

Review the landscape of services across sectors in search of discontinuity in coverage (e.g. aging out of programs, unreached populations, etc.)

## Referral services

Screen clients for multiple needs and connect them with a range of service providers who are sharing data with each other

## Cross-sector, multi-year partnerships

Connect service providers from different sectors for long-term partnerships to serve the same population



## Utilization assessments

Review rates of utilization of government programs, analyze causes of under-utilization, and address them

## Investment in key stages and sub-segments

Based on gaps, invest in populations that are not receiving enough tailored support with new or modified programs

## Integration of service delivery

- Co-locate of services in the same place
- Blend multiple supports at the same point of service delivery