



National Commission on Hunger Public Hearing

June 15, 2015 ♦ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Oakland, California

Invited Speaker Biographies (alphabetical order)



Jessica Bartholow

Legislative Advocate, Western Center on Law and Poverty

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Jessica Bartholow is a legislative advocate at the Western Center on Law and Poverty. She has nearly two decades of experience in antipoverty organizing, advocacy, and program development at the local, state, and national levels.

Ms. Bartholow has coauthored several advocate and program guides and led a coalition to support the passage of several pieces of signed legislation to improve public benefits delivery, consumer protections, and financial empowerment for low-income Americans. She holds a master's degree in political science and is the 2012 recipient of the Wellstone Wheeler National Anti-Hunger Advocate of the Year Award.



Clarissa Doutherd

Executive Director, Parent Voices Oakland

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Clarissa Doutherd is the Executive Director of Parent Voices Oakland, an East Bay chapter of Parent Voices California, and comes to the organization with over 10 years of nonprofit experience. Ms. Doutherd discovered her passion for early childhood advocacy when she lost a much needed child care subsidy for her then 3-year-old son, Xavier. She was recruited to join Parent Voices as a parent leader, where she found her own voice through the incredible leadership development model that the organization offers. As a passionate advocate against child poverty, Ms. Doutherd has piloted a new partnership with the Alameda County Social Services Agency called The People's Taskforce, which seeks to eliminate barriers families face while accessing child care and other work or education supports. Ms. Doutherd has

also developed a new leadership development program, training over 75 parents since 2013, and supported parent leadership on the Alameda County Early Childhood Policy Committee, a parent-led cross-sector collaborative that works to build innovative strategies for county-wide systems change. Ms. Doutherd is on the steering committee for the Alameda County Early Care and Education Planning Council, 18th Assembly District Education Advisory Committee, and a proud member of the Oakland Rising collaborative. Clarissa lives in Oakland with Xavier who is 7 years old.



Willy Elliott-McCrea

CEO, Second Harvest Food Bank Santa Cruz County

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Willy Elliott-McCrea has been the Chief Executive Officer of Second Harvest Food Bank Santa Cruz County since 1988. Under his leadership, Second Harvest has grown to distribute over 8 million pounds of food annually—more than half fresh fruits and vegetables—through a network of 200 agencies and programs countywide.

Mr. Elliott-McCrea believes that nutrition is the cornerstone to building strong and vibrant communities where no one's life opportunities are curtailed by food insecurity. He has devoted decades to increasing access to and consumption of healthy food for low-income families and the underemployed, founding successful programs such as The California Association of Food Banks, Against Hunger, Food for Children, and the Community Food Hotline. Second Harvest's Passion for Produce program, which combines fresh produce distributions with nutrition education, is recognized nationwide as a model peer education program.



Karen Gruneisen

Associate Director, Episcopal Community Services of San Francisco

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Karen Gruneisen joined Episcopal Community Services (ECS) of San Francisco in 2008. As Associate Director, Ms. Gruneisen serves as ECS's lead for strategic planning and program design. She represents ECS to a variety of community groups, including the Local Homeless Coordinating Board, the Homeless Employment Collaborative, and the San Francisco Food Security Task Force.

Prior to joining ECS in 2008, she served as Managing Attorney at HomeBase and the Center for Common Concerns providing legal and technical assistance to communities and agencies in support of their work to end homelessness. In addition to practicing employment law for over two decades, Ms. Gruneisen has worked with many homelessness commissions and task forces. She has authored several dozen articles and reports related to homelessness and served on the Board of Directors of The Gubbio Project, St. Anthony's, and the Tenderloin Neighbor.



Mia Hubbard

Vice President of Programs, MAZON

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Mia Hubbard is the vice president of programs at MAZON. She provides leadership and direction for MAZON's advocacy, grant making, and strategic program efforts to reduce and eliminate hunger and expand low-income communities' access to healthy food in the United States and Israel.

Ms. Hubbard joined the organization in 1993 and helped MAZON establish itself as a leading advocate, funder, and capacity builder in the field of hunger. She brings to MAZON a critical source of expertise, leadership, and inspiration for advocacy and public policy solutions to hunger. She has served on several boards of directors, including most recently as the international program committee chair for an international association of food and nutrition programs serving people living with HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Hubbard has a master's degree in international relations and public policy from the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies at the University of California-San Diego and a bachelor's degree in international relations from Stanford University.



Paula Jones, Ph.D.

Senior Health Planner, Office of Equity and Quality Improvement, San Francisco Department of Public Health

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Paula Jones is a senior health planner for the San Francisco Department of Public Health (Office of Equity and Quality Improvement). In this role, she works with multiple public-private

collaborations composed of hospitals, public agencies, faith-based organizations, health equity coalitions, community-based organizations, and businesses focused on improving food security and nutrition, eliminating health disparities, and improving population health. These groups include the San Francisco Health Improvement Partnership, The San Francisco Food Security Task Force, the San Francisco Unified School District's Food and Fitness Committee, and the California Food Policy Council.

Dr. Jones has more than 15 years of experience in food systems from various perspectives, including research, planning, evaluation, program development, and policy. She earned her master's degree from San Francisco State University and her PhD from the University of California Santa Cruz.



Kim McCoy Wade

Public Policy & Philanthropy Consultant, Alliance to Transform CalFresh
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Kim McCoy Wade is a public policy and philanthropy consultant focused on creating opportunities for low-income children and families. She coordinates a coalition, the Alliance to Transform CalFresh, advocating to increase access to nutrition alongside the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and boost SNAP participation in California.

Before becoming a consultant in 2008, she served as the Executive Director for the California Association of Food Banks, where she held a series of leadership positions over 7 years (2001–2008) and helped launch state programs in fresh produce delivery, food stamp outreach, and nutrition education. She also served as the primary consultant to the Walmart Foundation on their new “Fighting Hunger Together” campaign, a \$2 billion commitment to reduce domestic hunger (2010).

Ms. McCoy Wade is an alumna of New York University School of Law, Carleton College, the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, and the Emerge California training program.



Matt Newell-Ching

Public Affairs Director, Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon
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Matt Newell-Ching joined Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon in 2015 and has 15 years of experience as a grassroots organizer and policy analyst on issues relating to hunger, homelessness, global health, and

international development. He has worked at organizations including Bread for the World, Feeding America, Sojourners, the Hunger Task Force of Milwaukee, and the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

Mr. Newell-Ching lives in Portland with his wife and two kids.



Sarah Palmer

Policy Associate, California Association of Food Banks
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Sarah Palmer is a Policy Associate at the California Association of Food Banks. She is an Alameda County resident, a mother, and advocate. She brings her professional and experiential knowledge of antihunger programs to this panel.

Ms. Palmer holds a master's degree in public policy from Mills College and an undergraduate degree in sociology from the University of California-Davis.



Anne Quaintance

Chief Program and Government Affairs Officer, Meals On Wheels San Francisco
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Anne Quaintance is the Chief Programs and Government Affairs Officer at Meals On Wheels of San Francisco. She has been working for over 20 years to address hunger and food security through developing programs, engaging communities, and building collaborations to establish citywide programs and policies to increase effectiveness and support in San Francisco.

Previously, she was a Senior Analyst at the San Francisco Human Services Agency and spent 9 years as the Associate Director of Programs at the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank.

While at Meals On Wheels of San Francisco, Ms. Quaintance has led the implementation of a 30-day maximum wait for home-delivered meals, developed the citywide home-delivered groceries program (in partnership with the San Francisco Food Bank and Department of Aging and Adult Services), and established a disaster food box program. She also secured additional funding for San Francisco's government-supported nutrition services and led the passing of San Francisco's Resolution to End Hunger in San Francisco by 2020.

Ms. Quaintance earned a master's degree in nonprofit administration from the University of San Francisco.



Cathy Senderling-McDonald

Deputy Executive Director, County Welfare Directors Association of California

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Cathy Senderling-McDonald is Deputy Executive Director at the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) of California. She works with the Association's Executive Director and the social services directors in all 58 of California's counties. In addition, she works directly with staff in the Legislature, key state and federal departments, and other advocacy organizations to promote legislative changes that improve health and human services programs and the delivery of those services.

Ms. Senderling-McDonald also serves as CWDA's chief policy analyst on the Medi-Cal program and health care issues including implementation of the Affordable Care Act of 2010. Nationally, she serves as the Board Secretary of the National Association of County Human Services Administrators and sits on the Human Services and Education Steering Committee for the National Association of Counties.



Tia Shimada

Managing Nutrition Policy Advocate, California Food Policy Advocates

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Tia Shimada is a Managing Advocate with California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of low-income Californians by increasing their access to nutritious, affordable food.

Ms. Shimada provides overall coordination of CFPA's efforts to strengthen the federal child nutrition programs and child nutrition environments. She also leads CFPA's advocacy efforts to improve access, participation, and nutritional quality with respect to the school breakfast and summer nutrition programs. She oversees CFPA's state administrative agenda on child nutrition and CFPA's research agenda, including data analyses. She earned her Master of Public Health at UC-Berkeley and joined CFPA's staff in 2009.



Andrew Souza

President and CEO, Community Food Bank

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Andy Souza has been the President and CEO of the Community Food Bank (CFB) since October 2010. He and his team serve the five southern counties of California's San Joaquin Valley: Fresno, Madera, Kings, Tulare, and Kern. During Mr. Souza's tenure, CFB has doubled the amount of food it distributes to just over 40 million pounds per year and has increased the number of people served each month from 120,000 to over 285,000.

Mr. Souza currently serves as the Chair of Feeding America's Policy, Engagement, and Advocacy Committee and is a member of the Board of Directors of the California Association of Food Banks. Prior to his appointment at CFB, Mr. Souza served for 24 years in management positions with the City of Fresno, including his last 5 years as City Manager. He is a graduate of California State University-Fresno with a BA in business administration.