# Report for Peoria Food Bank Policy Input Survey - Direct Service Staff and Volunteers 



## 2. Role/Title



| Value | Percent | Responses |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Feeding program manager or coordinator | $67.1 \%$ | 108 |
| Other feeding program staff | $3.7 \%$ | 6 |
| Volunteer | $12.4 \%$ | 20 |
| Other - Write $\ln$ |  | $16.8 \%$ |

## ROLE AT FOOD PANTRY

- Director or Coordinator

Food service

- Youth programming (snack pack or preschool) - Other ( leader, pr esident, etc.)


4. Feeding Program Zip Code

5. To help your guests eat healthier, what foods would you like this pantry to have more of? Please select all that apply.


## HEALTHIER FOODS NEEDED

Canned foods ( canned meat, soup, pasta)
Healthy shelf stable (fruit, healthy snacks, milk)
Peanut butter
Breakfast Items
Other ( pet food, paper products, gluten free, eggs )


| Value | Percent | Responses |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Frozen fruits | 44.4 \% | 71 |
| Canned fruits | 76.9\% | 123 |
| Fresh fruits | 61.3\% | 98 |
| Frozen vegetables | 48.8\% | 78 |
| Canned vegetables | 68.8\% | 110 |
| Fresh vegetables | 58.8\% | 94 |
| Whole grains (brown rice, whole wheat bread and pasta, whole corn tortillas, etc.) | 46.3\% | 74 |
| Low-fat dairy (milk, yogurt, cheese, etc.) | 61.3\% | 98 |
| Dairy alternatives (soy milk, almond milk, rice milk, etc.) | 25.0\% | 40 |
| Lean protein/meats (turkey, lean beef, eggs, etc.) | 78.1\% | 125 |
| Plant-based protein (beans, nuts, seeds, tof u, tempeh, etc.) | 18.1\% | 29 |
| Ready-to-eat meals (boxed lunches, sandwich meals, etc.) | 49.4\% | 79 |
| Low-sodium (salt) options (low-sodium canned foods, bacon, etc.) | 35.0\% | 56 |
| Spices | 34.4 \% | 55 |
| Other - Write In | 18.8\% | 30 |
| Other - Write In | 9.4\% | 15 |
| Other - Write In | $4.4 \%$ | 7 |

6. Food pantry guests may need certain foods to support their cultural or religious preferences and/or dietary restrictions. Which of these types of foods does your pantry have trouble getting enough of to meet the demand from your guests? For any categories selected, please use the textbox to explain and/or provide examples of specific foods guests request, but your pantry has trouble getting.


Soul or Southern food options (e.g. pork, collard greens, okra, 49.4\% 40 black-eyed peas, and grits)

Foods from Latin America (e.g.tortillas, beans, chilies, 30 tomatillos, plantains, and cilantro)

Foods from Asia (e.g. tof $u$, soy sauce, fish sauce, sesame oil,
12.3\% miso, coconut milk, edamame, ginger, and mushrooms)

Halal options (e.g. foods that are not Haram/forbidden 6.2\% including pork, foods with gelatin, non-halal meat broth, and yogurt and cheese made with animal-based rennet)

Kosher options (e.g. kosher-certified foods including beef, fish, dairy products, nuts and bread)

Vegetarian options (e.g. beans, nuts, seeds, tof $u$, tempeh, eggs and meat-free packaged meals)

Vegan options (e.g. beans, nuts, seeds, tof $u$, tempeh,
7.4\%

6 nutritional yeast, bread without animal byproducts and dairy alternatives)

Other - Write In
25.9\%

21

Soul or Southern food options (e.g. pork, collard greens, okra, black-eyed peas, and grits) ( $n=13$ )
SOUL OR SOUTHERN FOOD OPTIONS
Greens ( turnip, collard or fresh) ■ Black-eyed peas ■ Pork ■ Pinto beans ■ Okra ■ Grits


Foods from Latin America (e.g. tortillas, beans, chilies, tomatillos, plantains, and cilantro) ( $n=12$ )
FOODS FROM LATIN AMERICA
■Tomatillos $\quad$ Tortillas ■Cilantro ■Salsa ■Chilis


Foods from Asia (e.g. tofu, soy sauce, fish sauce, sesame oil, miso, coconut milk, edamame, ginger, and mushrooms) ( $n=4$ )

- Fish sauce, coconut milk, mushrooms, ginger, mushrooms

Halal options (e.g. foods that are not Haram/forbidden including pork, foods with gelatin, non-halal meat broth, and yogurt and cheese made with animal-based rennet) ( $n=2$ )

- "all of the above" and meat broth, cheese

Kosher options (e.g. kosher-certified foods including beef, fish, dairy products, nuts and bread) ( $n=6$ )

- "all of above", fish, bread, dairy

Vegetarian options ( $n=7$ )

- Tofu, nuts and meat free meals

Vegan options (e.g. beans, nuts, seeds, tofu, tempeh, nutritional yeast, bread without animal byproducts and dairy alternatives) ( $n=1$ )

- Yes


## Other ( $n=2$ )

- Gluten free, peanut butter, canned foods, meat

7. What would you like to see provided to help your guests eat healthier? Please select all that apply.


Value
Percent Responses

| Healthy eating or cooking classes | $21.6 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Healthy eating inf ormation to use at home (flyers, websites, <br> videos, etc.) | $52.8 \%$ |
| Healthy food recipes | 66 |
| Healthy messaging (signs, labels, etc.) | $76.8 \%$ |
| Other - Write ln | $36.8 \%$ |

## 8. What barriers does your pantry face in your ability to provide

 healthier foods to your guests? Please select all that apply.

| Value | Percent | Responses |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Volunteer capacity | 22.1\% | 33 |
| Staff capacity | 10.1\% | 15 |
| Funding (e.g. cost of healthier food options) | 39.6\% | 59 |
| Safety concerns with COVID-19 | 28.9\% | 43 |
| Buy-in that health is a priority | 23.5\% | 35 |
| Availability of healthier products | 47.7\% | 71 |
| Storage, shelving, and/or refrigeration capacity | 56.4\% | 84 |
| Other - Write In | 10.7\% | 16 |

8. What barriers does your pantry face in your ability to provide healthier foods to your guests? Please select all that apply.
( $n=16$ )
Education, large quantity foods, transportation/accessibility, freezer/cooler space, ability to distribute fresh timely, too many unhealthy options


# Feeding Program Staff and Volunteers Survey | Question \#9 Free Response Analysis 

What could your local food bank do to better support pantries in providing healthier options? $(n=78)$


- More healthy options

■ More of a specific type of food

- Fewer unhealthy options

Logistical or supplies support
Nothing, or thanks to the bank(s)

## Logistical or support supplies

- Letting us shop. We know what our clients food choices are.
- have healthy food recipes and free sample
- Frequency: Provide weekly food as oppose to one day a month.
- Let us SEE the options of the food we can get
- Logistics are challenging. Getting fresh food before it spoils seems to be a problem. Also know what the supply is ahead of pick up would be beneficial.
- we are currently trying to fund a walking cooler/freezer. We would appreciate help on getting a grant for one. If we had kird freezer space we could have the capacity for more frozen foid.


## More of a specific type of food

- The dairy and produce boxes were wonderful. I'd love to see this continue.
- Healthy foods that are individually wrapped and do not require refrigeration. Easy to place in lunch sack
- Offer main dish foods that can be sent home with school children.
- More fresh fruits and vegetables would be helpful when available.


## More healthy options

- Being able to provide more of the foods specified
- Obtaining more canned vegetables and canned produce. (Please understand that we are so thankful for what you do help us with.)
- Give healthier options of foods, not so much chips, candy, etc.
- Just send us whatever healthy items you are able to send. We can get them into the hands of people who want them, and encourage those who have never before eaten a certain food, to give it a try. Thank you!


## Nothing, or thanks to the bank(s)

- We have many healthy options. Our guests are very happy I think.
- We have had very good success with the food bank. Can't think of anything they could do better.
- We appreciate you helping us help our community. This has been a crazy year and our client numbers have continued to go up, but we know you are always there for us. Our shelves aren't always as full as we would like, but they have never been empty. Thank you for all you do.


## Fewer unhealthy options

- Less candy \& sweet drinks
- Give healthier options of foods, not so much chips, candy, etc.
- Provide more healthy options to choose from when we shop for pick up. Right now there are always a lot of sugary drinks, chips, candy, and high sodium meals

10. Would you be willing to have students, interns or a volunteer come to your feeding program to ask similar questions of your guests?


32\% Maybe, please share more information

| Value | Percent | Responses |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Yes | $24.7 \%$ | 37 |
| Maybe, please share more information | $32.0 \%$ | 48 |
| No | $43.3 \%$ | 65 |

Totals: 150

