



## **BACKGROUND**

In 2006 the Greater Twin Cities United Way convened a representative group of hunger relief agencies that worked together to develop a plan to address the problem of hunger with agreed upon strategies and measurements to track progress. This plan was introduced to the public in November 2007. Members of the Twin Cities Hunger Initiative include hunger relief organizations (e.g., food shelves, meal programs and food banks, advocates), University of Minnesota, state government, corporations and faith based organizations.

In view of the emerging realities surrounding hunger, the Hunger Initiative steering committee developed three recommendations to be implemented in the nine county Twin Cities area. The recommendations included a challenge to the greater community to unite in support of the goal to eliminate hunger.

Overall Goal: To reduce and ultimately eliminate hunger in our community

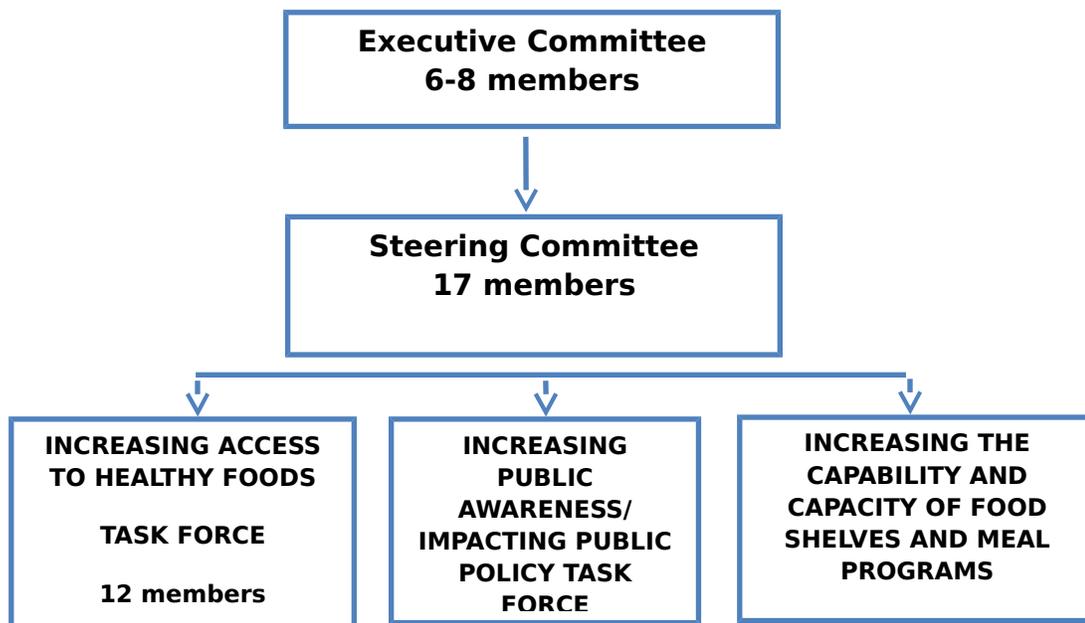
**Goal One: To increase the amount of healthy food available for distribution in the emergency food system**

**Goal Two: To increase the capability and capacity of food shelves and meal programs to effectively serve their clients.**

**Goal Three: To develop and support a robust public advocacy function that effectively serves the needs of hungry people in Minnesota**

## **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

The TCHI has a governance structure comprised of an Executive Committee, Steering Committee and Task Forces. Each committee has a defined role within the TCHI to provide leadership, direction and to make investment decisions. The Executive Committee is comprised of 8 members of the Steering Committee and will rotate membership every year. The Steering Committee votes on bringing in new members generally annually and currently has a total of 17 members. There are a total of three task forces that directly concentrate on hunger projects to move TCHI goals forward. All Steering Committee members are required to join a task force and/or have a representative from their organization join. Attached are the steering committee membership guidelines.



## TCHI PROJECTS

TASK FORCE: INCREASING ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOODS	TASK FORCE: INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS/IMPACTING PUBLIC POLICY	TASK FOCUS: INCREASING THE CAPABILITY AND CAPACITY OF FOOD SHELVES AND MEAL PROGRAMS
<p><b>Healthy Eating Index (HEI) Project:</b> In partnership with the University of Minnesota, determine impact of food shelves purchasing patterns when provided with a monthly HEI score.</p> <p>Explore expansion of the HEI project by creating access to a web-based HEI tool for all food shelves to measure full food inventory.</p> <p><b>Senior Hunger Tool Kit:</b> In partnership with senior government and non-profit organizations, assess the senior hunger issue in the metro through research and</p>	<p><b>Partners to End Hunger:</b> Continue supporting an existing entity of Partners to End Hunger, led by Hunger Solutions. Recruit clients when needed to educate legislators on their experiences with hunger.</p> <p><b>New TCHI Website:</b> Develop a new TCHI website that demonstrates collective impact and encourages engagement.</p> <p><b>General Public Awareness:</b> Continue keeping hunger relief on the forefront of discussion in the community.</p>	<p><b>Client centered database and shared metrics:</b> Explore affordable client management system options for varying sized food shelf operations to measure quantity and quality of food distributed and community impact.</p> <p><b>Solutran Healthy Savings Card:</b> In collaboration with Solutran, expand Medica's Healthy Savings card for hungry people. During the pilot, 100 households will have access to \$10 of free fresh produce weekly at participating retailers. Explore expansion to engage corporations in donating/discounting food at</p>

<p>informational discussions. Develop a senior hunger tool kit that meal programs and food shelves may use to create “senior friendly” services.</p>	<p><b>Walk to End Hunger</b> Continue planning and executing the Walk to End Hunger, a public awareness fundraising/volunteer event on Thanksgiving morning that was started by TCHI in 2008.</p>	<p>retailers and continue fresh produce incentive project.</p>
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