

# EQUITABLE ACCESS

## to Healthy & Local Food IN MARIN COUNTY

*“Healthy eating is one of the most powerful tools we have to prevent the onset of disease”*  
—USDA

### HEALTHY RETAIL

- Only 11% of stores in the Canal and 0% of stores in Marin City met “Neighborhood Food Store Quality” standards.
- Marin City does not have a single grocery store for its residents. It is a food desert.
- Not a single retail food store in West Marin accepts WIC.
- These stark retail food conditions are found in Marin’s communities of color where residents also have high rates of sugar-sweetened beverage consumption and diet-related diseases, including obesity, diabetes and other chronic diseases.

### FOOD ASSISTANCE

- Only about half of eligible Marin County residents are enrolled in CalFresh (also known as ‘food stamps’).
- Marin County ranks 55 out of 58 counties in enrolling eligible people onto CalFresh.
- Marin County is missing out on \$21.6 million in federally funded CalFresh benefits every year, representing \$38.6 million annually in lost economic activity.

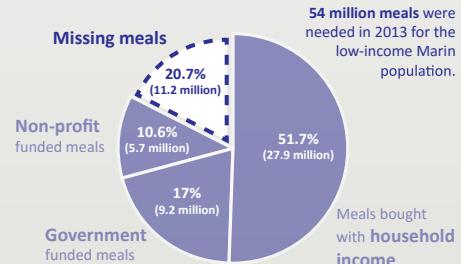
### COMMUNITY FOOD PRODUCTION

- Urban agriculture has been shown to raise home values, improve health, teach ecological stewardship, and build positive communities, raising the level of food security in low-income communities.
- Up and down Marin’s 101 corridor, demand for community garden plots outpaces supply.



In Marin County, **1 in 5** residents is at risk of food insecurity.

Low-income households in Marin County were missing 11.2 million meals in 2014



From the 2016 ‘Missing meals in San Francisco and Marin’ report by the SF-Marin Food Bank

