



**brighter**bites<sup>®</sup>

**2022**

**Annual Impact  
Report**

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# 10 YEARS

## *Celebrating 10 Years of Brighter Bites*

**9 cities**

served across  
5 states

**150,000+**

nutrition education  
lessons & activities taught

**500,000+**

students, teachers, &  
family members impacted

**50+ million**

pounds of fresh  
produce distributed



## 2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

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# HAPPY 10 YEARS

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to open our annual report for 2022. This year has been a momentous one for us as we celebrated a milestone of 10 years of programming, expanded into two new cities, grew an overall amazing 38% in school sites, and hosted our first gala in Houston. It is amazing to see how much we have grown from starting in just one school in Houston to now 192 schools across the country!

Over the past ten years, we have been committed to creating communities of health through fresh food. With the support of our dedicated donors and volunteers, we have been able to achieve great things and make a positive impact on the communities we serve. Since 2012, we have served 500,000+ families, taught 150,000+ nutrition education lessons, and distributed 50+ million pounds of fresh produce. That's something worth celebrating!

In the past year, we have expanded our reach to two new cities, and we are excited to report that our programs have been received with open arms. We have worked hard to establish partnerships with local organizations and community leaders, like Food Forward and Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK), to ensure that our programs are tailored to the unique needs of each community.

Additionally, we held our first gala in Houston, which was a great success. The event brought together members of our community in Houston and across the country to celebrate our achievements and raise funds to support our programs. It was quite the evening of impact and celebration!

We are so grateful for your commitment to our mission in making a difference in the lives of those who need it most. Your contributions and ongoing support are vital to our continued success in changing the lives of hundreds of thousands of families across the country. We are committed to ensuring that every dollar donated is put towards making a positive impact on the communities we serve. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our mission.

I hope you enjoy learning more about our milestone year full of growth and success in our most recent Annual Impact Report.

With gratitude,  
Lisa

## A NOTE FROM THE CEO

I am so proud and pleased with what we accomplished in 2022, proving when we work together, we are able to make a difference. In 2022, we celebrated our tenth year of programming, and we celebrated in a big way with a gala in Houston and the announcement of expansion into our tenth city, San Antonio. It has been such an exciting year!

I am moved by our donors, partners, and staff who have risen to the occasion and overcome all obstacles this past year. They have demonstrated resilience and an uncompromising dedication to the communities we serve. The astonishing generosity of our donors allowed us to meet the needs of our families. Our donors overwhelmed us with their outpouring of support and inquiries on how they could help. I am deeply grateful to each of them for meeting our needs in a remarkable way.

Last and clearly not least, I want to thank the extraordinary Brighter Bites employees and our wonderful board of directors. In spite of obstacles in implementing programming, our Brighter Bites staff constantly prioritize our Brighter Bites families in doing whatever it takes to provide them with fresh produce and educational materials. They understand that we are changing lives in such a positive way, and I am grateful to each and every one of them for their magnificent contributions. Our marvelous board members contributed both financially and strategically throughout the year. We are so fortunate to have such qualified individuals on our board--we would not be where we are today without them.

I encourage you to learn more about our commitment to helping our families lead a healthier life by learning about good nutrition and eating more fruits and veggies!

-Rich



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## By the Numbers 2022:



**192**  
schools



**366,234**  
families\*

*\*cumulative family encounters with Brighter Bites produce*



**7,134,405**  
pounds\* of fresh produce

*\*approximate to include room for waste and human error*



**2,167,626**  
family & classroom encounters

### Programming Details:

This year, programming continued to evolve as met new challenges and new markets. We solidified our regional model with hiring new regional program directors and classifying our cities within regions. We found new unique partners across our cities as we continue to get creative in delivering our formulated produce quantities through the building of both boxes and bags. We shifted our fun food experience to a demonstration model in classroom settings for more intimate and hands-on experiences for both adults and children. Lastly, we've shifted to focus on digital check-ins, communications, and surveys. This has proven to be a sustainable way to communicate and run regular program operations successfully.



Austin

# PROGRAM HAPPENINGS

In 2022, we opened two new cities and laid the groundwork for our TENTH city! We saw success in Los Angeles and Bakersfield as we introduced ourselves to new families and schools. In addition to expanding to new cities, we also expanded within our current cities, as well as explored new creative ways to reach families. Over this past year, we saw a 37% school-year site growth nationwide--our footprint grew from 140 schools at beginning of 2022 to 192 by end of 2022. We also explored research initiatives, like Nurturing Healthy Teachers (funded by the Vitamix foundation) and Produce Rx (in partnership with UT Physicians Pediatric Clinics).



Austin



Washington, DC



Austin



### CREATIVE PROGRAMMING:

**2,665**

#### PRODUCE VOUCHERS

Brighter Bites provided vouchers to families to spend on fresh produce to help families maintain healthy habits outside of school programming.

**217**

#### CULINARY DEMOS

Brighter Bites staff demonstrated recipes at schools for the students, parents, & teachers to learn culinary skills and nutrition tips.

**1,205**

#### SWEETGREEN MEALS SHARED

Through our partnership, we shared sweetgreen salads with families at distribution for free on three store opening days.

**1,434**

#### DOORDASH DELIVERIES

We partnered with DoorDash to deliver produce to families of students that ride the bus home.

*“My experience with Brighter Bites has been very good. They have helped me in many ways. For example, I have learned and tried different fruits and vegetables that I did not know, and I have saved on the food I had to buy. I love the Brighter Bites program.”*

*- Brighter Bites Parent*

# DIFFERENCE MAKERS

## We Love our Educators

Brighter Bites believes that teachers are powerful role models for students, and we count on them to help us create change in their school community. Teachers help us accomplish our mission nationwide by executing CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) lessons, Produce Activities using the fresh produce, and CATCH PE Activities. We hope to empower all participating teachers with the tools they need to successfully teach and advocate for school health!



**5,318**  
teachers + PE coaches



*“The students love these activities because they get to see the fresh fruits and vegetables right in front of them!”*

- Brighter Bites Teacher

*“We had a great discussion about the importance of healthy foods, and the kids liked coloring the different fruits and vegetables. Families were so grateful for the fresh produce!”*

- Brighter Bites Teacher

*“Later on in the day, my kids saw a rainbow in the sky. Two of them shouted “LOOK! It’s a rainbow! EAT YOUR RAINBOW!” like we had talked about during the lesson.”*

- Brighter Bites Teacher



### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**374**  
produce activities

**8,411**  
nutrition education lessons

**534**  
P.E. activities

**7,629**  
teacher newsletter impressions



# DIFFERENCE MAKERS



## VOLUNTEERS = CHANGE MAKERS

Volunteers are essential to the success of the Brighter Bites program, and we are grateful to each one for joining us in our mission. Their decision to volunteer with us helps guide families to choose the “brighter bite.” Volunteers primarily help with sorting and packing fresh fruits and vegetables into the Brighter Bites bags/boxes for families to take home at the end of the day. Thank you, volunteers!



**490**  
external volunteers



**14,664**  
volunteer shifts



**21,996**  
volunteer hours

*“I enjoy helping and seeing the families happy knowing they are able to introduce their family to healthy eating habits. In doing this I have been introduced to foods I had not eaten before that are now a staple in my kitchen.”*

- Brighter Bites Volunteer

*“Thank you for the opportunity to volunteer. Me and my mom had a lot of fun! Would love to continue volunteering whenever you need help.”*

- Brighter Bites Volunteer



Austin

# BEHIND THE SCENES

## Interns

Brighter Bites offers internships to high school, college, and graduate students interested in public health, nutrition, and nonprofit work. We invite students to join our program staff in the field or work behind the scenes building our brand and developing relationships. Our interns are exposed to all components of Brighter Bites to gain a well-rounded understanding of how a public health nonprofit operates. This year, we hosted 25 interns! Some projects from this year include: recipe development, survey implementation strategy, and fresh produce advocacy.



*“What an incredible team of people who are working on a wonderful cause. I truly enjoyed my internship at Brighter Bites. I feel Brighter Bites gives professionals the opportunity to really participate on all levels.”*  
*-Brighter Bites Intern*

## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



**15**  
council members

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Council seeks to support and advance the Brighter Bites mission of creating communities of health while applying the principles of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in all aspects of our organization.



**2**  
DEI newsletters



**30**  
council meeting hours



### 2022 DEI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Formalized a governance process and bylaws for the Advisory Council to ensure regular participation, effective programmatic implementation, and regular review to codify goals and outcomes.
- Each city held staff facilitated discussions about Brighter Bites diversity, equity, and inclusion to support improved organizational culture, belonging and space to communicate about DEI.
- All Brighter Bites employees attended at least one DEI training and one additional event from the DEI calendar.
- Collaborated with several Brighter Bites departments to create a GIS mapping tool that uses demographic data to support our goal that we are implementing Brighter Bites equitably across the schools we partner with.

# BEHIND THE SCENES



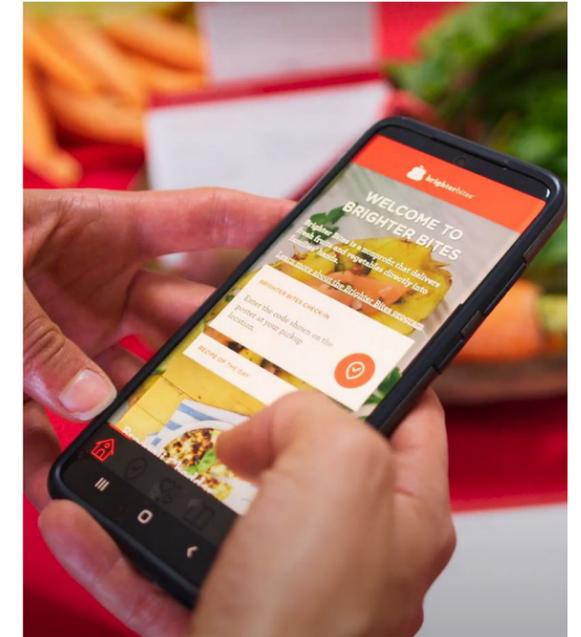
### OUR DIGITAL REACH

**250,432**  
Webpage views

**6,371**  
New social media followers

**74**  
Newsletters sent to our audiences: general, donors, produce partners, families, teachers

**14**  
Press releases highlighting our work that resulted in 116 media stories



*“Brighter Bites has helped me when I needed it. It is a relief in these tough times with the economy and our tight budget. I also appreciate that healthy items are given with tips on the ‘week’s healthy topic’, recipes, and tip sheets.”*  
*-Brighter Bites Parent*

*“Brighter Bites has made a significant impact in me and my son’s life as a single mum. I sincerely appreciate you making a huge difference in our food security.”*  
*- Brighter Bites Parent*

## Produce Update

This year, we explored new partnerships and found creative ways to package our produce. We were grateful this year to see more volunteers on school campuses to help us with the bagging of the produce. We also continued to work with partners to pre-package some boxes to be delivered to school campuses across the country.



**7 million+**  
pounds of  
fresh produce distributed



### PRODUCE FRIENDS

This year, we were grateful to attend IFPA's Foodservice Conference in Monterey and host the closing reception with a virtual wine auction. We had the opportunity to introduce ourselves to more key players in the produce industry and school foodservice network as well as raise money for our program--over \$56,000! We are so grateful for the generous support of so many stakeholders in the produce industry.

*"Windset Farms is proud to support Brighter Bites and their mission to provide easier access to fresh fruits and vegetables to kids and families and to educate them on how to use this fresh, local produce and make healthier choices. Brighter Bites is a fantastic organization making a great impact and we are happy to be a partner."*

- Matt Modena, Sales Manager, Windset Farms

*"We are proud to partner with Brighter Bites to ensure the deserving families in our communities have access to high-quality, healthy produce. In nourishing our neighbors, we help foster a better world for generations to come."*

- Zak Laffite, President, Wonderful Citrus

## Variety Highlights

We distributed 86 unique items of produce across all cities this year. While we love all fruits and veggies, here are some of the highlights from this year:

dragonfruit · SunGold kiwis · asian pears · dates · artichokes  
prickly pears · mushrooms · papaya · asparagus · guava · carambola



## A Kiwi Partnership

This year, Brighter Bites was selected as the CSR nonprofit partner of Zespri! This was a unique opportunity in that it was a multi-level, multi-department partnership. It involved a kiwi-inspired art contest, donated product, financial contributions, materials for distribution, and recipe collaborations. We loved introducing our Brighter Bites families to Zespri SunGold kiwifruit!



*"Brighter Bites is the perfect fit for Zespri because the partnership allows us to support our mission to help people, communities, and the environment thrive through the goodness of Kiwifruit. The opportunity to partner with Brighter Bites to provide underserved families with our tasty and nutritious Zespri SunGold kiwi and encourage healthier habits in households around the United States is an honor."*

- Jeanne Wilson, Zespri's Head of Marketing for North America

## RESEARCH

### A Note from Co-founder Dr. Shreela

This year the research team at UTHealth Houston School of Public Health and Brighter Bites partnered with healthcare and community organizations to intentionally initiate key research efforts directed towards improving the health outcomes of our teachers, children and families. We share some of these initiatives with you here.



#### PUBLICATIONS 2022

**Brittini Metoyer et al.**

**Citation:**

Metoyer BN, Chuang R-J, Lee M, Markham C, Brown E, Almohamad M, Dave JM, Sharma SV. Fruit and Vegetable Shopping Behavior and Intake among Low-Income Minority Households with Elementary-Aged Children. 2023; 10(1):82.

[See article here](#)

**Key Findings:**

- The relationship between location and frequency of shopping for fruits and vegetables and child fruits and vegetables intake varied by race/ethnicity between Hispanic and African American families enrolled in Brighter Bites.
- Across all cities, most Brighter Bites families shop at large chain stores, superstores, and warehouse clubs for produce. Few reportedly shopped for produce at convenience stores, local/corner stores, natural/organic supermarkets, and farmers' markets/co-ops.
- Among Hispanic families, child fruit and vegetable intake increased with increased frequency of shopping for produce at large chain grocery stores, natural/organic supermarkets, warehouse club stores, discount superstores, small local stores/corner stores, convenience stores, ethnic markets, farmers' markets/co-op/school farm stands and gardens.
- Among African American families, child fruit and vegetable intake increased with increased frequency of shopping at natural/organic supermarkets, discount superstores, and convenience stores.

## RESEARCH



#### PUBLICATIONS 2022

**Melinda Rushing et al.**

**Citation:**

Rushing M., Chuang RJ., Markham C., Sharma SV. (2021) Sociodemographic Factors Associated with Attendance to Brighter Bites, a School-Based Food Co-op Nutrition Intervention for Low-Income Families. *J Health Dispur Res Pract.* 14(3): 73-88.

[See article here](#)

**Key Findings:**

- When compared to Hispanics, Whites were 39% and African Americans were 53% less likely to attend Brighter Bites produce distributions indicating inequities in Brighter Bites produce distribution participation by race/ethnicity.
- Understanding predictors of program attendance allows for the development of equitable implementation and dissemination strategies.



### What do these results across both studies mean?

- Attendance to Brighter Bites program differs between our Hispanic, White, and African American families such that the Whites and African Americans had lower attendance as compared to Hispanic families. Thus, more targeted, culturally relevant strategies to improve attendance among our White and African American families are needed.
- Most of our Brighter Bites families shop at large grocery stores and supermarkets. Grocery shopping behaviors also vary by race/ethnicity, and the more frequently our families are shopping for produce, the greater their children's consumption of fruits and vegetables is. Sociodemographic factors that affect dietary intake and shopping behavior need to be taken into consideration in Brighter Bites' health promotion strategies.

## Nurturing Healthy Teachers

- Results from the annual Brighter Bites teacher surveys have shown consistently high rates of food insecurity among teachers during the pandemic years (>30% reportedly food insecure) across Brighter Bites schools. Teachers were also reporting high levels of stress during this time. Teacher health and wellness is important not only for their own long-term wellbeing but also for the quality of education delivered to children in the classroom.
- While Brighter Bites provides produce and nutrition education to the teachers in their participating schools, there is lack of data on the impact of programs such as Brighter Bites on teacher physical and mental health.
- With funding from the Vitamix Foundation, and led by UTHealth School of Public Health, Brighter Bites is participating in a two-year study (2022-2024) to evaluate the impact of two evidence-based programs, Brighter Bites and Create Healthy Teachers (developed by Penn State Better Kid Care), on food insecurity, dietary behaviors, mental health and cardiometabolic health among elementary school teachers.
- This study will be among the first to assess the impact of a healthy food access plus education information on teacher mental and physical health outcomes in Texas.

### Published Articles

- Mofleh, D., Chuang RJ., Ranjit, N., Cox J., Anthony C., Sharma SV. A cluster-randomized controlled trial to assess the impact of a nutrition intervention on dietary behaviors among early care and education providers: The Create Healthy Futures study. *Prev. Med. Rep.* 2022; 28:101873. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pmedr.2022.101873>
- Mofleh, D., Ranjit, N., Chuang, R. J., Cox, J. N., Anthony, C., & Sharma, S. V. (2021). Peer Reviewed: Association Between Food Insecurity and Diet Quality Among Early Care and Education Providers in the Pennsylvania Head Start Program. *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 18. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5888/pcd18.200602>
- Chuang RJ., Sharma SV., Cox J., Mincemoyer CC. A pilot randomized controlled trial of a nutrition and dietary intervention for early care and education providers. *J Sch Health*. 2020; <https://doi.org/10.1111/josh.12951>



Bakersfield



Houston



Austin



New York City

## Brighter Bites Produce Rx

- Produce Rx or Produce Prescription programs are fast gaining popularity nationwide as a strategy to partner with healthcare organizations to improve health outcomes by improving access to healthy foods, especially among those at-risk for diet related chronic diseases.
- In 2022, Brighter Bites partnered with UT Physicians and UTHealth Houston McGovern Medical School and School of Public Health to conduct a comparative effectiveness randomized controlled study to assess the impact of two produce Rx strategies among children who are overweight and obese and their families who are Medicaid-eligible at two UT Physicians clinics in Houston, Texas.
- Families are prescribed to receive either a bi-weekly home delivery of produce boxes or grocery store produce vouchers across 32 weeks, and compared to a group of children receiving standard medical care for weight management through their clinics. All children receive Brighter Bites nutrition education.
- The study, conducted among 150 families, will be completed in Spring 2024 and will determine the feasibility and effectiveness of improving weight management outcomes, food insecurity and diet quality among the participating children and their families.
- If successful, this will provide the evidence-base for a new healthcare partnership model for Brighter Bites.

### News Article

- [New Clinic Program Adds Colorful Bites for Brighter Futures](#)

### Manuscript In Progress

- Title: “Design of a comparative effectiveness randomized controlled trial to determine the feasibility and effectiveness of food prescription program strategies in at-risk pediatric populations”
- Authors: Mallika Mathur, Allison Marshall (co-first authors), Prajakta Yeragi, Vinay Prabhu, Christine Markham, Alexis Preston, Kaitlyn Stark, Mike Pomeroy, Sandra, McKay, Azar Gaminian, Megan Hall, Ru-Jye Chuang, Rebecca Kow, Miao Tang, Shreela Sharma (senior and corresponding author)



brighterbites®

OUR FIRST GALA:  
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF BRIGHTER BITES!



Brighter Bites staff at the gala

Photo by Daniel Ortiz



10  
years celebrated



500+  
attendees



\$700,000+  
raised

**A major success!**

This year, we hosted our first gala to celebrate our 10th birthday. We exceeded our campaign goal and raised over \$700,000 to support our mission. The gala took place on November 2nd in Houston, Texas at The Revaire and featured guest speaker Scott McClelland of H-E-B. Additional honorees and sponsors included Sysco, Taylor Farms, SUNSET, Mission Produce, and members of our board of directors.



Dr. Shreeta Sharma, Lisa Helfman, Scott McClelland, and Derek Shore

Photo by Johnny Than



Marc Grossberg, Cyvia Wolff, and Isabel Dayid

Photo by Daniel Ortiz



Sara Speer Selber, James Campbell, Nancy Lopez, and Paula Ramirez

Photo by Daniel Ortiz



Mary Whalley and Grace Kim

Photo by Daniel Ortiz



Alicia and Esmeil Porsa

Photo by Daniel Ortiz



Doug and Winell Herron

Photo by Daniel Ortiz

*"The Inaugural Gala exceeded financial expectations and created awareness of Brighter Bites' work and mission to create communities of health through fresh food. Scott McClelland's Q&A was the highlight of the evening."* - Sue Smith, Board Member

*"It was great to see all the school leaders that believed in Brighter Bites from day one. Without school distribution, it would have been impossible to make a difference in the lives of so many families. It was so inspiring to be a witness to our first Houston gala."*

- Manolo Sanchez, Board Member

EVENT SPONSORS:



# FINANCIALS

## Revenue

**TOTAL: \$15,617,184\***

**Government: \$5,761,145**

**Foundations: \$1,590,790**

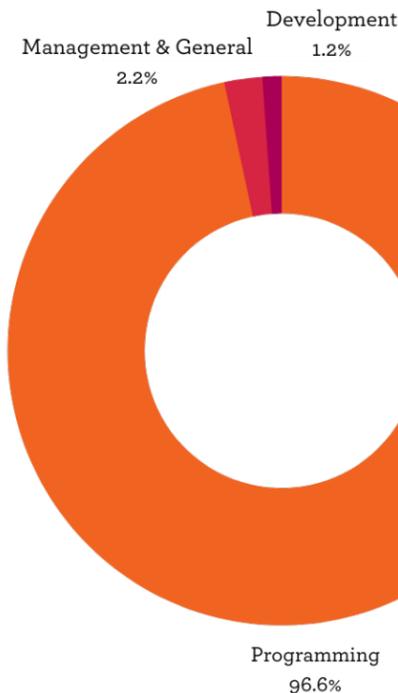
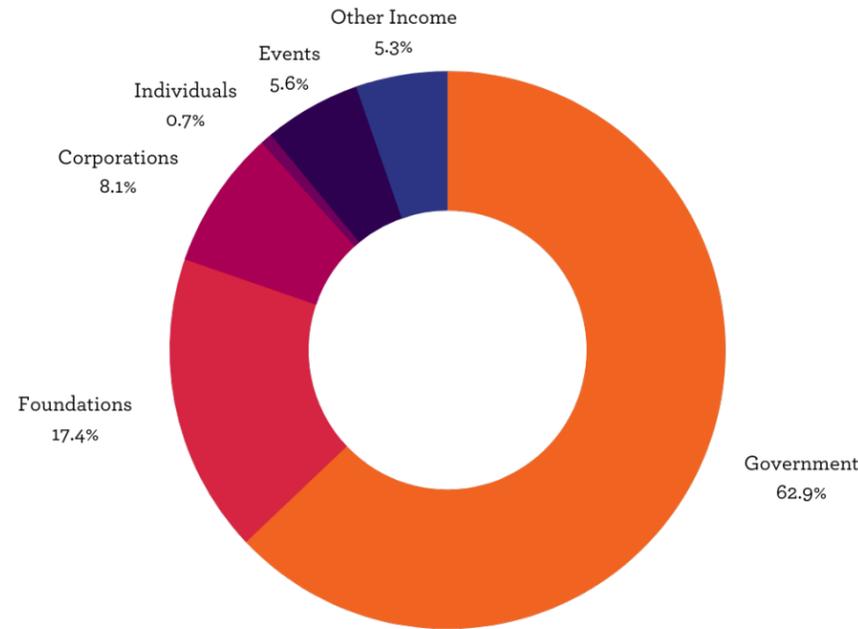
**Corporations: \$738,897**

**Individuals: \$63,550**

**Events: \$514,440**

**Other Income: \$489,202**

**\*Including In-kind donations: \$6,459,160**



## Expenses

**TOTAL: \$15,465,972**

**Programming: \$14,945,783**

**Management and General: \$346,135**

**Development: \$174,053**



**97¢**

of every dollar goes towards programming

*\*financials not audited*

**IN-KIND DONATIONS\*: \$6,459,160**

**\*PRODUCE FROM FOOD BANKS AND PRODUCE INDUSTRY PARTNERS**

# OUR SUPPORTERS



**THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS!**

**\$500,000+**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service  
Texas Health and Human Services

**\$100,001 - \$500,000**

City Harvest/NY Snap Ed  
Lawrence B. and Elyse Benenson  
Naples Children & Education Foundation  
The Scarlet Feather Fund

United Health Care  
University of California at Davis Cal  
Fresh Healthy Living

University of Texas Health Sciences  
Center at Houston  
Whalley Foundation

**\$25,001 - \$100,000**

American Heart Association  
Anonymous  
The Board of Education of Prince  
George's County  
Cigna Foundation  
The Coastal Companies Foundation Inc.

H-E-B Grocery Company  
International Fresh Produce Association  
Kosmos Energy  
Mastronardi Produce  
MDA Be Well Acres Homes  
Mission Produce

Samuels Family Foundation  
Sysco Corporation  
Taylor Farms  
Vitamax Foundation  
Zespri Kiwifruit

**\$10,000 - \$25,000**

William S. Abell Foundation  
Melissa Ackerman  
AlixPartners  
American Federation of Teachers  
Burton Family Foundation  
B&W Quality Growers  
Philip Chase  
D'Arrigo New York  
Barbara Fowler  
Garcia Hamilton & Associates  
Greater Houston Community Foundation

Grimmway Farms  
Halliburton Charitable Foundation  
Harden Foundation  
HFW Family Foundation  
Evan H. Katz  
Scott McClelland  
Memorial Hermann Foundation  
NBC Universal Telemundo  
Michelle Riley-Brown  
Town of Riverdale, Maryland  
Manolo Sanchez Rodriguez

Sue Smith  
Victor Smith  
Sunkist Growers  
Stephanie Tobor  
USDA Food Access Relief Funding  
Wagner-Myerson Family Fund  
Jamie Weisinger  
Winn-Dixie Gives Foundation

**\$5,001 - \$9,999**

Alliant Group  
Diwakar Balachandran  
Faizyaz Bhojani  
BKD Foundation  
Bill & Pam Boyar  
Evan Compean  
Richard Dachman  
Deacons of Deadwood  
Viviana Denechaud  
The Fant Foundation  
Fifth Generation  
Pam and Keith Fullenweider  
Vijay Goradia  
Todd Gosule

Grade Family Giving  
Harris County Hospital District  
Foundation  
Edith H. & C. Hastings Johnson Family  
Fund  
Health Care Service Corporation  
Lori Hood  
Mandy Kao  
Rohit Kawathekar  
The Kroger Zero Hunger | Zero Waste  
Foundation  
Randall Lack  
Tiffany LaRose  
Legacy Community Health

Benjamin Levit  
MAVFoundation  
MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Natalia Merienne  
Naturipe Farms LLC  
Pebble Beach Company Foundation  
Porter Hedges  
James Prevot  
Publix Supermarket Charities  
Regina Rogers  
Anila Shethia  
Fen Yee Teh  
Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.  
Asha & Farid Virani Fund

## OUR PARTNERS

- |  |                          |                       |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4P FOODS   | D'ARRIGO NEW YORK        | LIPMAN FAMILY FARMS   |
| ANDREW SMITH   | DOLE                     | MANN PACKING          |
| BOWERY FARMS   | DREW MASSA               | MONTEREY MUSHROOMS    |
| BRAGA FRESH  | FOOD FORWARD             | NORTH TEXAS FOOD BANK |
| CAL-ORGANICS   | FRESHPOINT DALLAS        | SOUTHERN SPECIALTIES  |
| CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK                               | FRESHPOINT SOUTH FLORIDA | STEINBECK PRODUCE     |
| CHILEAN FRESH  | FRESHPOINT SOUTH TEXAS   | SUNKIST               |
| CHURCH BROTHERS                                      | GILLS ONIONS             | TAYLOR FARMS RETAIL   |
| CITY HARVEST   | HARRY CHAPIN FOOD BANK   | TAYLOR FARMS TEXAS    |
| COASTAL SUNBELT                                      | IMPERFECT FOODS          | WESTPAK AVOCADOS      |
| COMMUNITY ACTION<br>PARTNERSHIP OF KERN<br>FOOD BANK | KALERA                   | WINDSET FARMS         |
|  |                          | WONDERFUL CITRUS      |



## OUR 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

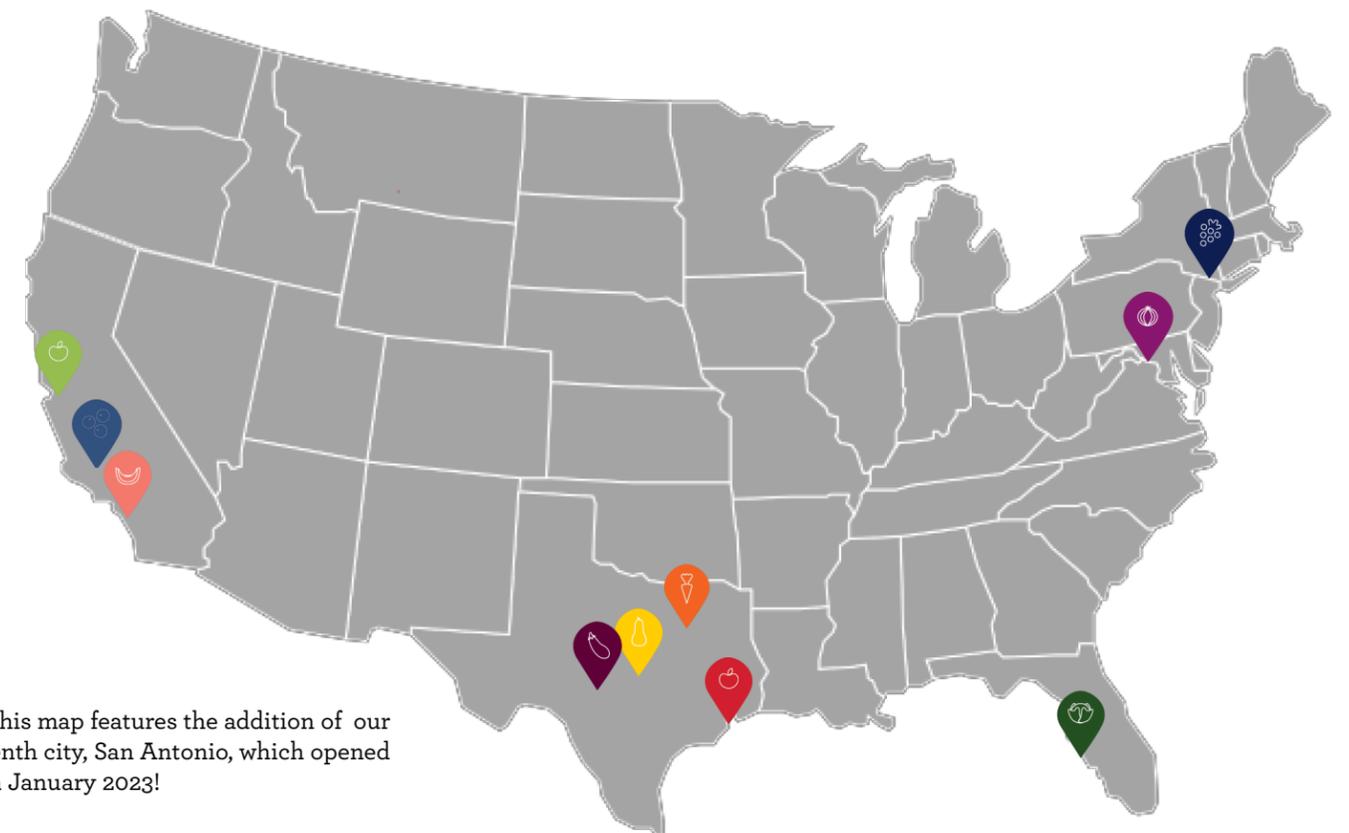
- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>LISA HELFMAN</b><br>Founder & Board Chair                                    |  | <b>DR. SHREELA SHARMA, PHD</b><br>Co-Founder  |   |
| <b>MELISSA ACKERMAN</b><br>President<br>Produce Alliance                        | <b>FAIYAZ A. BHOJANI, MD, DRPH</b><br>CEO<br>MRZ Medical Group PLLC              | <b>CHELSEA POPE COLLINS</b><br>Head of School<br>St. Luke's Episcopal School        |   |
| <b>JOEL GRADE</b><br>Executive Vice President,<br>Business Development<br>Sysco | <b>STEVEN GRAUBART</b><br>President & CEO<br>Community Hospital<br>Partners, LLC | <b>SCOTT MCCLELLAND</b><br>Board Member Emeritus<br>Brighter Bites                  |   |
| <b>BENJAMIN SAMUELS</b><br>Director<br>Samuels Family Foundation                | <b>MANOLO SÁNCHEZ</b><br>Director<br>Fannie Mae (FNM)                            | <b>SUE SMITH</b><br>Executive Vice President<br>Craig and Galen Brown<br>Foundation | <b>VIC SMITH</b><br>CEO<br>JV Smith Companies |

## WHAT'S NEXT?

For the Brighter Bites team, 2022 was a milestone year that gave us the opportunity to look back and celebrate. As we move into another decade, Brighter Bites is strengthening its core, from programs to people. Our families are our top priority and our team members are our most valuable asset.

Brighter Bites has developed a scalable model that makes positive changes in people and communities. To ensure these habits stick and to reach even more families, we are taking a close look at best practices and new opportunities. Looking inward and outward, and adjusting when necessary, will provide stability for the communities we serve now and in the future.

The better we nourish, the brighter we flourish. **We believe every child and their family should have access to the resources to live a healthy life, and we want to make room at the table for more families across the country.** Celebrating 10 years was only possible because of you. Thank you. We can't wait to taste what's next!



\*this map features the addition of our tenth city, San Antonio, which opened in January 2023!

The background of the entire image is a repeating pattern of various fruits and vegetables, including apples, bananas, grapes, carrots, pears, and leafy greens, scattered across a light-colored background. A large red rectangle is centered on the page, containing the main text.

HAPPY **10** YEARS

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT 10 YEARS!

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