



brighterbites®

Creating Healthy Futures

**Brighter Bites
Annual Impact Report
2025**





MISSION

Our mission is to create communities of health through fresh food.

VISION

Our vision is to improve health outcomes among children and families in under-resourced communities by using data-driven, evidence-based strategies of providing fresh produce and nutrition education.





13
cities served across
eight states

29,041
nutrition education
lessons and PE activities
executed

264,354
students, teachers, &
families impacted

\$20,123,018.65
retail value of fresh
produce distributed

**Based on USDA average retail prices for
fruits and vegetables*

2025: CREATING HEALTHY FUTURES

This year, thanks to the generosity of our donors, the dedication of our volunteers, and the strength of our community partnerships, we made measurable progress toward our goal: creating healthier futures for communities nationwide.

A few highlights for us this year included the following:

- Expanded our Food is Medicine work in Houston
- Launched programming in San Diego
- Debuted the new Brighter Bites 2.0 program in Washington, D.C.

This year also came with its challenges due to the loss of SNAP-Ed, which accounted for 40% of our funding. Our team is resilient and we quickly adapted, making these changes:

- We found innovative ways to serve more families with lower expenses.
- We adapted our produce delivery model to fit the changing landscape.
- We worked to identify new business strategies to enable us to move beyond government contracts.

We look forward to sharing more with you in this year's Annual Impact Report.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from Founder	6
Note from our CEO	7
2025 Programming	9-13
Volunteers	15-16
Brighter Bites 2.0	17
Research	19-21
Financials	23
Supporters: Produce	24
Supporters: Donors	25-27
Board of Directors	29
Austin Update	30
Stories of Change	31

LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This year, I've found myself returning to a simple but powerful belief: access to fresh, nourishing food is not a privilege, it is a basic human right. Yet for too many families in our communities, that right remains out of reach.

When we founded this organization, our vision was clear: to improve health outcomes among children and families in under-resourced communities by using the data-driven, evidence-based strategies of providing fresh produce and nutrition education. Today, I'm proud to say that vision continues to grow in both impact and urgency.

While this year brought significant shifts in federal funding, we remained steadfast in our mission and adapted quickly — emerging stronger and more financially resilient as we continue meeting the needs of the families we serve. Our produce distributions continue to provide thousands of families with consistent access to fruits and vegetables that support their health and well-being. At the same time, our nutrition education initiatives, classroom lessons, produce activities, recipe demonstrations, and culinary materials, are helping families turn access into healthier habits and lasting change.

But numbers alone don't tell the full story.

The real impact lives in the parents who tell us their children are trying vegetables for the first time. It lives in the families who now gather around meals they prepare together. It lives in the confidence we see when someone realizes they have the tools to nourish themselves and their loved ones.

None of this would be possible without you—our donors, volunteers, partners, and advocates. Your support fuels every delivery, every lesson, and every moment of connection. You are not just contributors to this work; you are partners in creating a healthier, more equitable future for families across the country.

As we look ahead, our commitment remains steadfast. We will continue to deepen our impact, listen to the communities we serve, and innovate in how we deliver both food and education. The challenges are real, but so is the opportunity to create meaningful, lasting change.

Thank you for believing in this mission and for standing with us.

With gratitude,

Lisa Helfman
Founder



NOTE FROM OUR CEO

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners,

As we reflect on the past year, I want to begin with sincere thanks to our donors, partners, volunteers, educators, and our amazing staff. Your belief in Brighter Bites, and your continued investment in our mission made it possible for us to serve families during a year that tested nonprofits across the country.

2025 was undeniably challenging. The loss of 40% of our funding due to the complete elimination of SNAP-Ed required us to make careful, sometimes difficult decisions. We approached these realities with discipline, transparency, and deep respect for the trust our donors place in us. Every decision was guided by a single question: how do we best steward our resources today while protecting Brighter Bites' ability to serve families tomorrow?

Despite these headwinds, the commitment from our donors allowed us to continue to deliver fresh food, nutrition education, and meaningful engagement to communities facing food insecurity. At the same time, we used this moment to strengthen the organization from the inside out, tightening operations, sharpening our strategic focus, and investing in systems and partnerships that will support long-term impact. These actions were not about retreat; they were about building long-term resilience.

I am confident that Brighter Bites is now positioned for a very positive future. We enter the next chapter as a more resilient organization, one that is financially disciplined, strategically focused, prepared to scale responsibly and maximize the impact of every dollar entrusted to us as opportunities grow. Our board and leadership team remain deeply committed to financial stewardship, accountability, and measurable outcomes.

The need for our work has never been greater, and neither has our confidence in what lies ahead. With a clear strategy, strong partnerships, and an unwavering belief in the power of access to fresh food and nutrition education, Brighter Bites is ready to build for the future.

Thank you for standing with us during a year of challenge and transformation. Your partnership fuels our mission, strengthens our communities, and helps ensure that brighter, healthier futures remain within reach for the families we serve.

With deep gratitude and optimism,

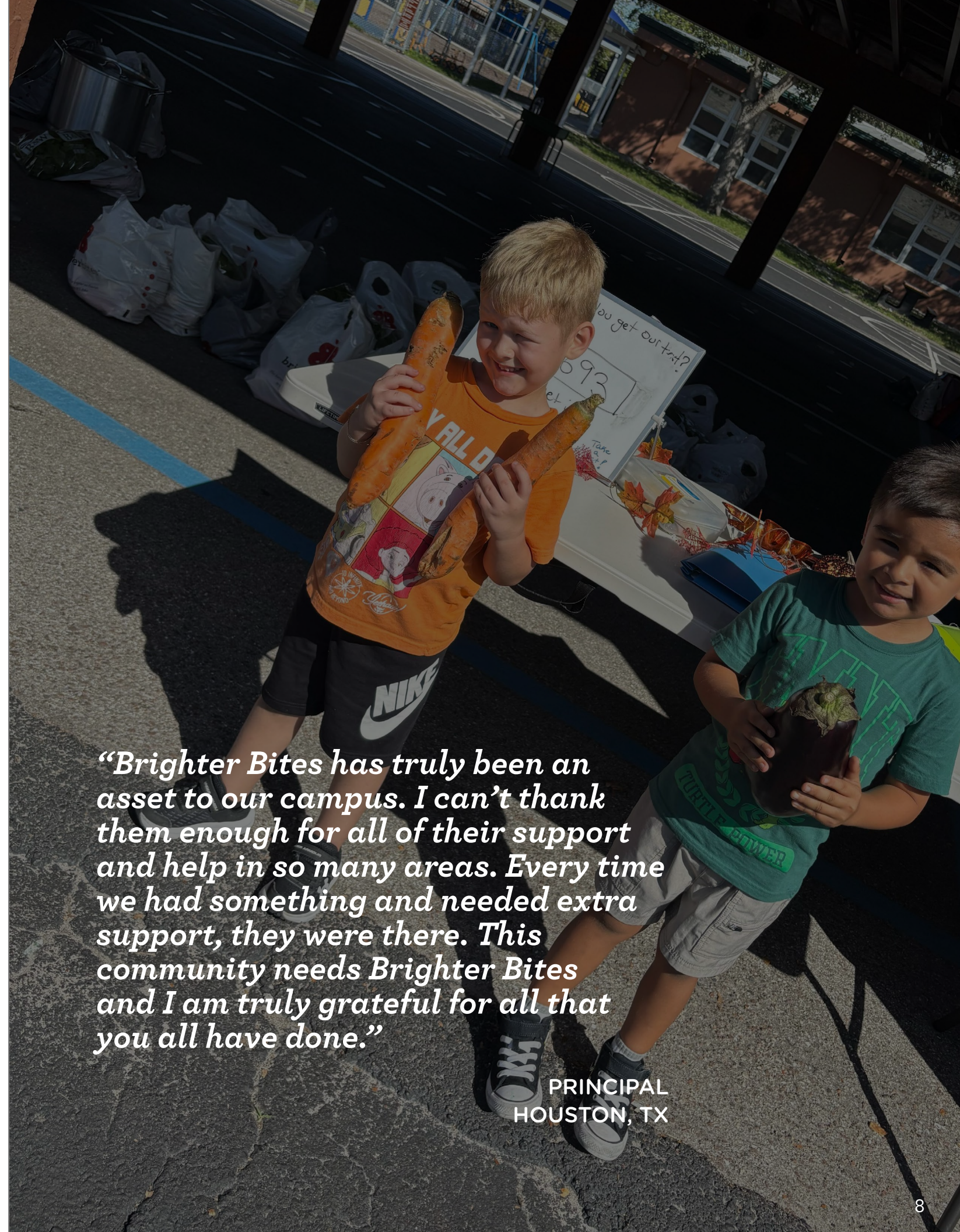
Richard Dachman

Richard Dachman
CEO



“Brighter Bites has truly been an asset to our campus. I can’t thank them enough for all of their support and help in so many areas. Every time we had something and needed extra support, they were there. This community needs Brighter Bites and I am truly grateful for all that you all have done.”

PRINCIPAL
HOUSTON, TX



BRIGHT

By pairing fresh produce with nutrition education and fun food experiences, our program formula has proven to change lives. We continue our mission to create healthier futures for students and their families across the country. This year, we explored new ways of delivering our program to our families.

“Thank you! Because of your program my kids now get excited to eat healthy. They love going to the grocery store and picking out their own fruit and veggies.

PARENT
HOUSTON

BRIGHTER BITES: GROWING INTO SAN DIEGO



Since 2020, +BOX has played an important role in expanding access to fresh, locally sourced produce for children and families across San Diego County, distributing more than 1.3 million pounds of nutritious food and contributing over \$2.3 million to the local economy. Their commitment to communities most impacted by health inequities has laid a strong foundation for continued growth.

This February, +BOX merged with Brighter Bites, based on the shared commitment to improving children’s health through access to fresh produce and hands-on nutrition education. The transition to Brighter Bites happened over the course of the year, with a full program launch in September. The 2025–26 school year represents the first full year of programming in San Diego following the merger, bringing proven, long-term health solutions to North County schools and families facing rising food insecurity.

Together, we are strengthening communities and creating brighter, healthier futures for children across San Diego.



293
schools



97
summer sites



440,338
bags & boxes
distributed



713,231
total student
engagements in
nutrition ed lessons*

*All nutrition education statistics are self-reported by teachers. Some information may be incomplete, and the actual numbers are likely higher.

2025: A YEAR OF CHANGE

The passage of the Congressional Reconciliation Bill eliminated SNAP-Ed funding. In 2025, SNAP-Ed dollars covered 40% of our funding, playing a significant role in the foundation of our programming. With this news, we made operational changes in several of our programming cities and found efficiencies nationwide to reduce overall expenses. Additionally, we

worked to identify nontraditional funding strategies, enabling us to move beyond government contracts.

We are confident that over time we will rebuild our funding model and emerge even stronger. All expense cuts made this year will help us to gain more stability in the years to come.

FRESH

By increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables, we are creating meaningful opportunities for lasting, positive change for the families who need it most.



“At home, the menu has become more colorful, and my children already see vegetables on their plates. This program has helped me learn so much. I am extremely grateful because it changed my life and most importantly my children’s.”

PARENT
SWFL



Some of the Brighter Bites families’ favorite produce items in 2025:

tangerines, pineapple, mango, blueberries, sweet potatoes, broccoli, tomatoes, mushrooms

406

unique produce
varietals distributed

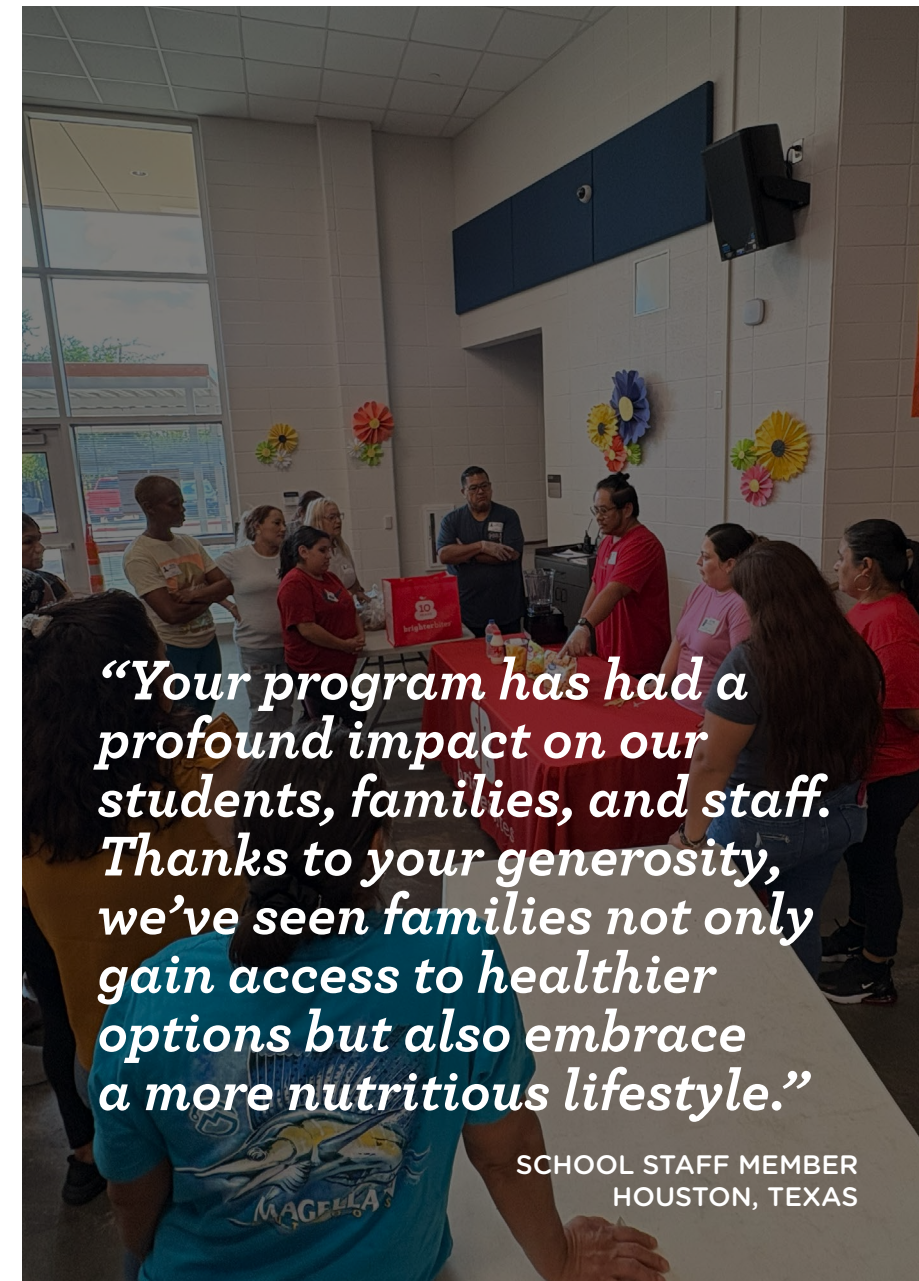
7,548,019

pounds of fresh
produce distributed

NUTRITIOUS

By strengthening foundational nutrition knowledge, we are helping families build healthier habits and brighter futures.

Story from the classroom: One teacher shared “Students are loving the CATCH lessons. It is an exciting break in their day. They are experts on GO, SLOW, & WHOA foods and have taken to calling me out saying, ‘You are eating a WHOA food right now!’”



“Your program has had a profound impact on our students, families, and staff. Thanks to your generosity, we’ve seen families not only gain access to healthier options but also embrace a more nutritious lifestyle.”

SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER
HOUSTON, TEXAS

27,092
nutrition
education lessons
taught

1,949
p.e. activities
implemented

10,935
teachers +
p.e. coaches
trained



448
culinary
demonstrations



19,465
total students
and adults
participating in
culinary demos



FUN

By introducing families to fresh produce and making it fun, we are fostering a vibrant, welcoming environment that makes a healthy future exciting and attainable.

“My 5-year-old daughter has learned to appreciate the joys of cooking using the delicious produce that we’ve received from Brighter Bites. We’ve used recipes provided in the Brighter Bites app to experience new flavors while learning about nutrition. Through the generosity of the Brighter Bites program my family has been able to make healthier choices in eating while learning about nutrition, cooking and even gardening. Thank you, Brighter Bites, for making such a positive impact on my whole family.”

PARENT
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



“I just want to say thank you for what you do. Brighter Bites saved my family’s life. We would not be able to afford produce without Brighter Bites.”

SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

VOLUNTEERS

CHANGE MAKERS

By sharing their time and energy, volunteers help create a supportive environment where families can build healthier, brighter futures.



52,068
volunteer hours

10,263
unique volunteers

462
external volunteers

**Volunteers not affiliated with partner schools.*

“Brighter Bites has been a refreshing experience for both me and the families here at school... We also enjoy the opportunity to volunteer and help one another out, giving us all a chance to get to spend time with one another while doing something good.”

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SPECIALIST
HOUSTON, TEXAS



BETTER TOGETHER

100
volunteer groups

1,138
total group volunteers

WE BROUGHT BRIGHTER BITES TO YOU!

This year we launched new remote volunteer opportunities designed to meet companies where they are. These virtual projects enabled corporate teams across the country to support our mission in meaningful, flexible ways. We deepened partnerships, increased employee participation, and created impactful ways for companies to give back while advancing our work to build healthier communities.



Amperity



Hilti



Etsy



Morgan Stanley

BRIGHTER BITES 2.0: AN INNOVATIVE NEW PROGRAM MODEL MADE POSSIBLE BY THE DOHMEN COMPANY FOUNDATION

This fall, we announced the launch of Brighter Bites 2.0, a new model made possible by a grant from the Dohmen Company Foundation. The initiative builds upon our proven and effective three-part formula of produce distributions, nutrition education, and fun food experiences. By shifting to a purchased-produce approach, Brighter Bites 2.0 creates a simple, scalable way to reach more families with fresh food and education. The centerpiece of the program is a preassembled, high-quality produce box that can be delivered to any setting, anywhere.



“I would like to thank you for being there for my family. We have started eating different vegetables and more fruits like the ones you gave to us. We have also started creating different recipes. You were a blessing to our family.”

PARENT*
WASHINGTON, D.C.
*NOT PICTURED

FOOD IS MEDICINE: PRODUCE RX PROJECTS

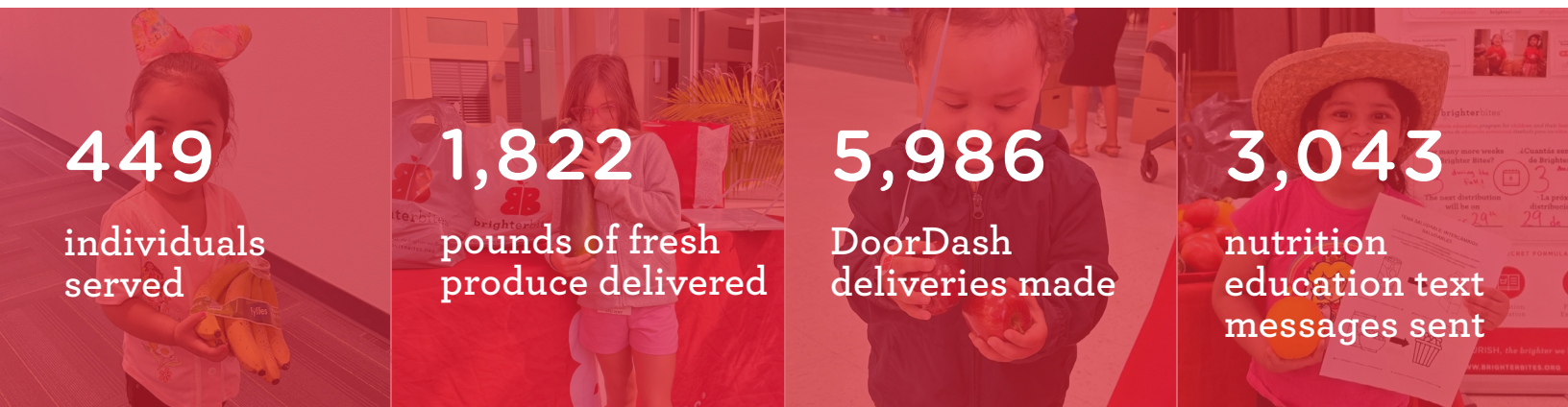
- Kids Health PRx Project:** (Humana/UT Physicians Produce Rx):
Evaluating impact of produce Rx + Brighter Bites nutrition education to improve diet quality, food security, and physical and mental health outcomes among families with children ages 5–12 years who are overweight or obese, on Medicaid, and a patient at UT Physicians clinics.

145 individuals served | 850 pounds of fresh produce delivered (70 varieties)
1,466 DoorDash deliveries made | 1,679 nutrition education texts sent
- Diabetes Adult Health PRx Project:** (Cigna/UT Physicians Produce Rx):
Evaluating impact of produce Rx + Brighter Bites nutrition education to improve diet quality, food security, and physical and mental health outcomes among Hispanic adults with type 2 diabetes.

25 individuals served | 179 pounds of fresh produce delivered (20 varieties)
300 DoorDash deliveries made | 425 nutrition education texts sent
- Maternal Wellness PRx Project:** (Harris Health Produce Rx):
Evaluating impact of produce Rx + Brighter Bites nutrition education to improve diet quality, food security, and physical and mental health outcomes among at-risk pregnant women through 2 months postpartum.

230 individuals served | 451 pounds of fresh produce delivered
3,613 DoorDash deliveries made
- Teen Wellness PRx Project:** (Legacy Health Clinic Produce Rx):
Evaluating impact of produce Rx + Brighter Bites nutrition education to improve diet quality, food security, and physical and mental health outcomes among families with youth 11–17 years who are patients at a school-based Legacy Health Clinic in Galena Park, are overweight or obese and on Medicaid.

72 individuals served | 340 pounds of fresh produce delivered (44 varieties)
607 DoorDash deliveries made | 939 nutrition education texts sent



RESEARCH PROJECTS:

Brighter Bites Acres Homes

Since fall 2024, Brighter Bites has been working with MD Anderson Cancer Center and the UTHealth Houston School of Public Health to bring its school program to the Acres Home community. This project is part of an NIH-funded effort to help prevent cancer by studying health habits linked to obesity in children and parents. Across 12 schools in Houston, 860 children and their families are taking part in this five-year study. This research will show how Brighter Bites affects obesity-related health outcomes in both the short and long term.

Presentations:

Senn M, Sharma S, Chuang RJ, Perkison W, Markham C, Garcia-Quintana A, Zieba A, Crichlow K, Tran M, Abdullah-Nguyen H, Xu S, Gaminian A, Pomeroy M, Hall M, Degen K, Shete S. A cluster randomized controlled trial evaluating the impact of a school-based fruit and vegetable co-op on cardiometabolic health in 1st–3rd grade children from a persistent poverty area. Oral presentation at: American Public Health Association 2025 Annual Meeting and Expo; November 2025; Washington, DC.

Senn M, Zieba A, Ranjit N, Chuang RJ, Cox J, French K, Pomeroy M, Gaminian A, Sharma S. Using the Veggie Meter® to objectively assess fruit and vegetable intake in preschool and elementary teachers in Houston, Texas. Poster presented at: ISBNPA 2025 Annual Meeting; June 2025; Auckland, New Zealand.

Sharma SV, Chuang RJ, Perkison W, et al. Design, framework, and study measures of Brighter Bites, a cluster RCT to assess the impact of a nutrition intervention on cardiometabolic health outcomes among children living in a persistent poverty area of Texas, USA. Poster presented at: ISBNPA 2025 Annual Meeting; June 2025; Auckland, New Zealand.

Manuscript:

Sharma SV, Senn M, Chuang RJ, Perkison WB, Crichlow K, Markham C, Ramphul R, Shete S, Basen-Engquist K, McNeill L, Rechis R. Design of a cluster randomized controlled trial to evaluate the impact of a school-based fruit and vegetable co-op on cardiometabolic health among children and parents in a persistent-poverty area. [Under Review]



Brighter Bites Produce Rx program in School-based clinics

As part of our commitment to the White House strategy on Hunger, Nutrition and Health, Brighter Bites had launched a Produce Rx program with Legacy Community Health, the largest Federally Qualified Health Center and school-based health program in Texas, to implement our Food Is Medicine program in four school-based clinics in Galena Park ISD. This study enrolled 72 Medicaid- or SNAP-eligible adolescents at risk for overweight or obese aged 10-17. In addition to health outcomes (BMI z-scores, blood pressure, hemoglobin A1c, liver and lipid panels), we will also assess adolescents' mental health using an anxiety/depressive symptom screener. This is our first project to understand the impact of BB on adolescent health and mental health outcomes.

Presentation:

Chuang RJ, Pomeroy M, Mottu L, Rowlands J, Tice N, Gibson W, Mather M, Xue Q, Gaminian A, Ramirez S, Sharma SV. Design and recruitment strategies of a non-randomized controlled study evaluating the feasibility and effectiveness of a produce prescription program in school-based health centers among overweight and obese adolescents. Oral presentation at: American Public Health Association 2025 Annual Meeting and Expo; November 2025; Washington, DC.

Brighter Bites/UT Physicians Produce Rx

Brighter Bites partnered with UT Physicians, the clinical arm of UTHealth Houston, to offer produce deliveries or vouchers to pediatric patients and their families. The goal of the program was to examine changes in key child obesity related health biomarkers, dietary behaviors, and the home food environment. Two cohorts of 150 patients enrolled in the program for a total of 300 patients from 2022 to 2025. Parent feedback was largely positive, with many reporting high use and strong overall benefit from the program components. Findings from this work have been disseminated across multiple venues, including one international, two national, and two local conferences.

Publication:

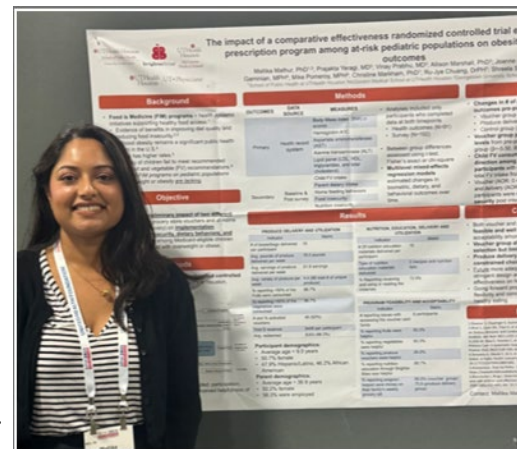
Mathur, M., Yeragi, P., Prabhu, V., Marshall, A., Chow, J., Gaminian, A., Pomeroy, M., Markham, C., Chuang, R. J., & Sharma, S. V. (2025). Implementation and Effectiveness Outcomes of a Pilot Comparative Effectiveness Randomized Controlled Trial Evaluating a Food Is Medicine Program Among At-Risk Pediatric Populations. *Childhood obesity (Print)*, 10.1177/21532176251403284. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/21532176251403284>. PMID: 41452182

Presentations:

Mathur, M., Marshall, A., Prabhu, V., Yeragi, P., Markham, C., Chuang, R.J., Pomeroy, M., Gaminian, A., McKay, S., Sharma, S. (November 2025). Poster Presentation. The effectiveness of a comparative effectiveness randomized controlled trial evaluating a produce prescription program among at-risk pediatric populations on obesity-related health outcomes. APHA Annual Meeting, Washington DC.

Chuang R.J., Larue D., Mathur M., Gaminian A., Tice, N. Panel discussion: "From Prescription to Plate: Leveraging Partnerships for Healthier Communities." Healthier Texas Summit 2024 Annual Meeting, Austin, TX, October 2024.

Marshall, A., Mathur, M., Prabhu, V., Yeragi, P., Markham, C., Chuang, R.J., Pomeroy, M., Gaminian, A., McKay, S., Sharma, S. (May 2024). Oral Presentation. Process and Implementation Evaluation of the Brighter Bites/UT Physicians Produce Rx - a Community-Academic-Healthcare Partnership (ISBNPA) 2024 Annual Conference. Omaha, NE, United States.



American Public Health Association Conference 2025 in Washington DC.

Brighter Bites Produce Prescription for Hispanic Adults with Type 2 Diabetes

This project implements and evaluates a culturally tailored produce prescription program for Hispanic adults with diabetes, combining bi-weekly produce deliveries with individualized nutrition counseling and culinary education to improve diet quality, food security, and long-term glucose control. The program provides fresh produce, diabetes-focused education, and regular touchpoints from registered dietitians to address both access and knowledge barriers to healthy eating.

Zihan Yang's Sharma fellowship

Zihan Yang, a fifth-year PhD student, was awarded the Shreela and Vibhu Sharma Endowment for Excellence in Community Nutrition. Ms. Yang will conduct research on Brighter Bites families participating in an NCI funded research study. She will use the Gaussian graphical models (GGMs), a unique type of analysis method, to map the relationships among children's dietary intake patterns, health indicators, and household food and nutrition security. Her research will help identify the food-specific vulnerability among children and inform future intervention focus.



“I am grateful for Brighter Bites. I am a single mother who has proudly graduated this past December with a Master’s. I had no idea that I would still experience food insecurities. Many nights, I managed to get food but could never make a complete meal. I am not eligible for state assistance, but I barely make enough for all of my bills and responsibilities. Brighter Bites definitely helps me create a complete meal for my kids. No questions and no large obstacles to go through for assistance. Thank you.”

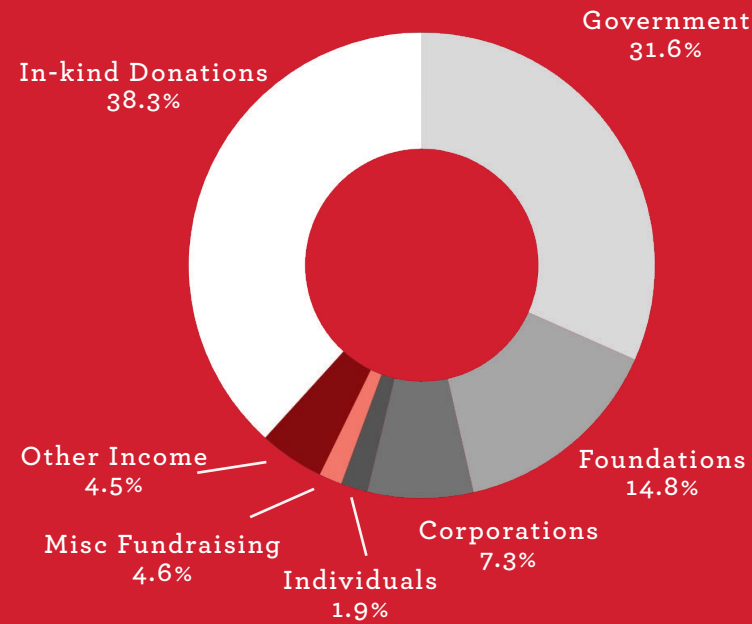
PARENT
HOUSTON, TX

FINANCIALS

REVENUE

TOTAL: \$17,985,268

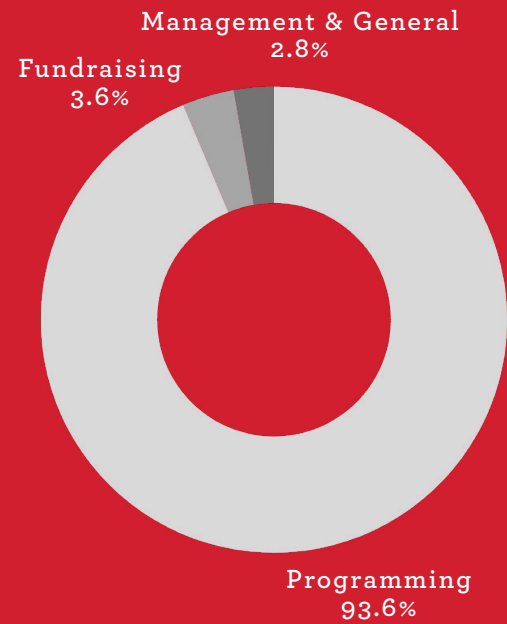
Government:.....	\$5,691,227
Foundations:	\$2,660,732
Corporations:.....	\$1,317,143
Misc Fundraising:.....	\$355,142
Individuals:.....	\$286,304
Other Income:.....	\$811,639
In-kind Donations:.....	\$6,883,080



EXPENSES

TOTAL: \$16,383,946

Programming:.....	\$15,343,216
Fundraising:.....	\$588,594
Management & General:.....	\$452,137



94¢
OF EVERY DOLLAR GOES
TOWARDS PROGRAMMING
INCLUDING IN-KIND
EXPENSES

Financials are unaudited.

**IN-KIND DONATIONS:
\$6,883,080**

**PRODUCE FROM FOOD BANKS
AND INDUSTRY PARTNERS
+ VITAMIX BLENDERS**

SUPPORTERS

PRODUCE & LOGISTICS PARTNERS

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| B&W Quality Growers | Gills Onions | Smiths Farm |
| Blue Henry | Go Green Agriculture | Southern Specialities |
| Braga Fresh | Golden Door Farm | St. Marys Food Bank |
| Cal-Organics | Grimmway Farms | Sunkist |
| Capital Area Food Bank | Harry Chapin Food Bank | Sunset |
| Casa de Peregrinos | Houston Food Bank | Sunview Marketing International |
| Church Brothers | Hukama Produce | Tanimura & Antle |
| City Harvest | J&C Tropicals | Taylor Farms Retail |
| Coastal Roots Farm | Mann Packing | Taylor Farms Texas |
| Coastal Sunbelt | Misfits Market | Texstar Produce |
| Collaborative for Fresh Produce | North Texas Food Bank | The Garlic Company |
| Community Action Partnership
of Kern Food Bank | Planet Harvest | Westpak Avocados |
| D'Arrigo New York | Produce Good | Windset Farms |
| Dole | Prosource | Wonderful Citrus |
| Feeding San Diego | River City Produce Co. | Yasukochi Farms |
| Freshpoint Dallas | Roadrunner Food Bank | Zespri |
| Freshpoint South Florida | Second Harvest Food Bank
Santa Cruz County | |
| Freshpoint South Texas | Sharing Excess | |



“Access to fresh food can be life-changing for families. By partnering with Brighter Bites, Sunkist is proud to help deliver fresh citrus to children and families who need it most, while supporting healthier routines that extend far beyond the classroom. Our commitment to this work shows up in meaningful ways - through monthly fruit donations, annual financial support, and contributions to their fundraising efforts - because we believe investing in access to nutritious food is investing in the future of our communities.”

CASSIE HOWARD
SR. DIRECTOR OF CATEGORY MANAGEMENT AND
MARKETING AT SUNKIST GROWERS, INC.

DONORS

On behalf of all of us at Brighter Bites, thank you for joining our family of supporters. Your contribution will help drive our impact in the months and years ahead. Your contribution will help support families in creating a healthier future through fresh produce and nutrition education. Every dollar donated goes directly toward providing families with the resources they need to create brighter, healthier lives.

\$500,000+

New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance
Scarlet Feather Fund
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Texas Department of Agriculture
Texas Health and Human Services Commission

\$100,000 - 499,999

A R Tony & Maria J Sanchez Family Foundation
Burt Family Foundation
CareFirst
Chick Fil A Foundation Inc
City of New York
Dohmen Company Foundation
H-E-B
Houston Food Bank
International Fresh Produce Association
Naples Children Foundation
New Mexico State University
PA SNAP-Ed
Prince George's County Public Schools
Ruth And Hal Lauenders Charitable Trust
Sysco
Taylor Farms
The Jerold B. Katz Foundation
United States Department of Agriculture
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Whalley Family Foundation
Zespri International Limited Corporate

\$25,000 - 99,999

Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation
Board of Education of Prince George's County
Burton Family Foundation
Charitarian (Benenson)
Community Foundation for Monterey County
Dallas Foundation A Tx Nonprofit Corporation
Driscoll's
Equation Collaborative
Halliburton Charitable Foundation
Harden Foundation
Isaacs Family Foundation
JV Smith Companies
Memorial Hermann Health System
Monterey Peninsula Foundation
Partnership for Healthier America
Mission Produce
Regina Rogers
Samuels Family Foundation
The Sanchez Lopez Negrete Family
San Diego Foundation
Sun Orchard
Sunkist Growers, Inc.
Sunset Grown (Mastronardi)
The Comis Foundation
The Sprouts Healthy Communities Foundation

\$10,000 - 24,999

Aetna Foundation Inc
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas
CalFresh
California Resources Corporation (CRC)
Carmen Rebozo Foundation
Chelan Fresh
Communities Foundation of Texas
Con Alma Health Foundation
Dignity Health Mercy & Memorial Hospitals
DoorDash
Dorothy and Jim Kronzer Foundation
Fairlife
Florida Blue Foundation
Greehey Family Foundation
Grimmway Farms
Gunde & Ernie Posey Family Foundation
Jennifer Johnson
Lipman Family Giving Fund
Newman's Own Foundation
Nusenda Foundation
Olson Family Fund
OMG Charitable Foundation
Opleider Do Good Fund
Origin Bank
Southern Specialties
Spindletop Community Impact Partners

\$1,000 - 9,999

Melissa Ackerman
Adventist Healthcare, California
Adventist Healthcare, Maryland
AgPack Inc.
Joe Albaugh
John Anderson
Maureen Andrew
Tonya Antle
Arizona Community Foundation
Alyne Assunto
Diwakar Balachandran
Beshoff Family Foundation
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan
Blue Zones Project Bakersfield
Ingrid Bond
Zachry Boubel
Rod Braga
Braga Fresh Foods
Adam Brown
Brumm-Patel Charitable Trust
Wes Burt
Byrne Family Foundation
Andrew Callaghan
Cannery Row Company
Jessica Canning
Marathon Capital
Carlos Family Trust
Center for Supportive Schools
Central Texas Community Foundation
Janine Chicourrat
Lisa Chiu
Steve Church
Church Brothers LLC
Coastal Pacific Real Estate
Collier Community Foundation
Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula
Shelia M. Condon
Dave Corsi
County of Kern
Marty Craner
Richard Dachman
Marti & Steve Diamond
Jim DiMenna
Dole Fruit
Don and Barbara Chapin Foundation
Drew Massa Transportation
Earth Fresh
Edith H. & C. Hastings Johnson Family Fund
Etsy
Fairfax School District
Dwight Ferguson
QVT Financial
Annabel Florescu and Phoebe Cholnoky
Wawa Foundation
Sundt Foundation
Helen Frost, D'Arrigo CA
Pam Fullenweider
Kyle Gelbart
Matthew Giddings
Susan Gill
Amy Gipson
Greater Houston Golf Charity
Corey Griswold
Bill Hassel
Michael Helfer
Lisa Helfman
Honest Engine Films
Houston Pediatric Nutrition Group
Debbie Huennekens
Insperty
Jen Mauldin Designs
John and Elizabeth Mace Charitable Trust
John Vena, Inc.
Joshua and Inette Brown Family Foundation
Ken Keller
Kern Energy
King Arthur Baking Company
Hemmal Kothary
Gouri Kulkarni
Lange Companies
James Macek
Anton Marano
Marianne Baldrice Charitable Fund
Christine Markham
Dan Martin
Poppi Massey
Catherine McCauley
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Mike Woolf Farming Co
Suhas Mondkar
Andrew Moore
Morgan Stanley
Shauna Motta
Dee and Chad Muir
Joe Murphy
Erika Niedernhofer
North County LGBTQ Resource Center
Once Upon a Farm
John Pandol

\$500 - 999

Act Bar
Jacquie & Dave Adams
Amperity
Shelly Anello
Bank of America
Richard and Debbie Basham
Derrick Bender
Denise & Larry Boshers
Robert Brenner
Anne Cesario
Teachers College
Daffy Charitable Fund
Jeffrey DeBoer
Dino DiLaudo
Fred Dohmann
Laurie & Todd Doyle
Dion & Judy Dow
Cigna Foundation
Fusion
Karen Gliner
Jill Goldstein
Jennifer Greenberg
Iwona Hohnloser
Jack Inslee
Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego
Jim Burke Ford Lincoln
Catherine Johnson
Christine Johnson
Jae Kremer
Julie Krivanek
Denise LaRue
Celeste Lee
Susan and Tim Lee
Lance Lightfoot

Tejash Patel
Pebble Beach Company Foundation
Marion & Judith Pomeroy
Prosource Produce
Judith Profeta
Eric Proffitt
Proforma Solutions for Printing & Promotional PS 29X
Publix Super Markets Charities Inc
Audra Pura
Purple Line Transit Partners
Anita Ravat
RCMA
ReadyWork
Karl Rectanus & Victoria Wheeler
Susan Renke
River Fresh Farms
Paula Robichaud
Goldman Sachs
Salad and Go Charities
Salinas Valley Health
Ben Samuels
Andrew Schwartz
Seedcore Foundation
Shreela Sharma
Anila Shethia
Kent Shoemaker
Sigma Sales/Maui Fresh Int
Vic Smith
SPJST Lodge #88
Jamie Stracuzzi
Brian Sturgeon
Suncoast Credit Union Foundation
TDECU Cares Foundation Inc
Tech: NYC Foundation
Teichert Foundation
Texas Childrens Hospital
The Albertsons Companies Foundation
The Pledge Good Foundation
The Reservoir
Tuchen Family Charitable Fund
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Claudine Charie Watson
West Family Fund
Whittington Family Fund
Jaclyn Williamson
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The Wonderful Company
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Richard Loew
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Devesh Pandya
Aashish Pandya
Marco Poltera
Tim Riley
Michael Savit
Mario Steta
Chris Sudjadi
Tim Tucker
Robert Verloop
Harry Wardwell
David Werner

DONOR STORY: THE SANCHEZ LOPEZ NEGRETE FAMILY

The Sanchez Lopez Negrete Family honored Brighter Bites with an extraordinary four-year, \$200,000 commitment, sponsoring two schools annually throughout the term of their gift. Their investment supports two KIPP campuses, which hold special significance for both our organization and the family. KIPP was the host of Brighter Bites' very first program site in 2012, marking the beginning of our journey to build communities of health through fresh food.



This gift is especially meaningful given **Manolo Sanchez's** longstanding connection to both organizations. A former Brighter Bites board member and previous KIPP board member, Manolo's leadership and the family's generosity reflect a deep belief in the power of school-based partnerships to drive lasting health outcomes for children and families.

COMPANIES THAT GIVE BACK!

This year, we partnered with two CPG brands, Act Bar and Bright Side Snacks, as their nonprofit partner. They have helped raise awareness about our mission through highlighting our logo on their packaging. This commitment to our work highlights a shared mission to improve childhood nutrition and create healthier futures. Thank you, Act Bar and Brighter Side Snacks, for using your platforms and profitability to serve a greater purpose!



“Receiving these bags of vegetables has been a great blessing for my family and for the entire community. This program has had a very positive impact on our lives as we have been trying new items we never would have before. Thank you for what you all do!”

PARENT*
SWFL
*NOT PICTURED

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THANK YOU, AUSTIN!

After ten meaningful years, Brighter Bites' Austin program closed in December 2025. This difficult decision follows the elimination of SNAP-Ed funding this summer, which resulted in a significant national funding loss and required us to scale back programming to ensure long-term sustainability.

We are deeply grateful to the Austin families, schools, partners, volunteers, and staff who made this program so special. The memories, relationships, and moments of joy we shared will always be part of the Brighter Bites story.

Thank you, Austin, for an incredible decade of impact.



2026:

STORIES OF CHANGE

“I enjoy being able to create delicious and healthier meals for my family with the items we receive. The lessons about healthy eating make trying fruits and vegetables that we’ve never had before exciting.”

-JOSIE, HOUSTON PARENT

The families we serve remain at the heart of everything we do. We look forward to sharing more of their stories with you in the year ahead, like Josie’s.

In 2026, we will take an important step forward by launching a comprehensive feasibility study to help guide the next chapter of our program. This work will provide meaningful insight and clear direction as we plan for sustainable growth and greater community impact.

We welcome the coming year with anticipation and excitement. Together, we will continue building healthier communities and a brighter future for all!
