

# Comparison between Chinese and American Practices in Food Banking System

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## ABSTRACT

Food banks are non-profitable institutions that help fight against starvation and social inequalities. As food banks thrive around the globe, especially in America, the Chinese food banking system is still primitive and faulty. Sharing economy is a genre of reallocation of resources, and secondary allocation alleviates the gap of wealth, ensuring sustainable development. As a result, sharing economy has been long established and improved in many countries. The food bank, as a major locomotive of sharing economy, is an “invisible hand” in the community, transferring voluntary donations from food surplus to food insecure populations, utilizing food resources and propagating humanity of sharing. Since inefficiency in the Chinese long-promoting sharing economy still exists and accessibility to food is still inefficient, the improvement of the Chinese food banking system is in urgency. Chinese food banks, as illustrated by scholar Xu to be stagnated by “suffocated popularization, low acceptance”, by scholar Liu to have “people’s doubt of food insecurity, even after volunteers’ foretaste”, meets gigantic developing hindrances. As the Chinese government and the people realize the advantages of reallocation by food banks, the various troubles need to be remedied as soon as possible. The writer tries to generalize all the obstacles in Chinese food bank development, and extracts merits in American food banking system, due to their long-term trials and errors and positive outcomes, to propose possible resolutions. In this paper, the advantages, including security, contributions to alleviating inequalities, of the successful American food banking system are analyzed and compared to the Chinese practices in pursuit of equal food distribution. In the end, several suggestions, from political, individual, social aspects, will be given to Chinese food bank industry. Research methods, including the horizontal comparison between the food banking system in China and America, investigation of domestic initiatives and awareness of food banks, will be utilized to ensure the validity of data analysis.

**Keywords:** Food Bank, Food Security, Inequalities, Fiscal Policies, Public Initiatives

## 1. INTRODUCTION

As the food banking system had become more and more popular around the globe, some food banks reach maturity and sustainability, including The Trussell Trust in the United Kingdom, Feeding America and Greater Chicago Food Depository. Apart from those paragons and pioneers in the food banking system, the number of elaborate food banks in Europe has exceeded 158 [1]. However, as the government-oriented sharing economy has developed in China for long, these monetary or food-based subsidies are still limited and consuming, which potentially increases other citizens’ tax burdens. It is time to develop a sturdier system to overcome the gigantic need of the impoverished. As Botsman [2] proposes that sharing economy is effective in the redistribution of donated and surplus food, it is believed that China should

imitate the western countries as well as combine its geographical and ethnographical features to promote equality and reduce food waste. In this paper, the author will choose America, which has a wholesome food sharing economy, to show which practices can be followed by China. Since there is not sufficient local data to collect and analyze, an investigation will be conducted and a database will be analyzed to compare with those from the United States to figure out existing problems and propose possible resolutions. The paper is dedicated to providing suggestions to improve the Chinese food banking industry, thus facilitating social equality and reducing food residuals.

**2. INTRODUCTION TO FOOD BANKING SYSTEM**

**2.1. The Definition and Development of Food Banks**

Food banks are defined as “centralized warehouses or clearing houses registered as non-profit organizations for the purpose of collecting, storing and distributing surplus food, free of charge either directly to hungry people or to front line social agencies which provide supplementary food and meals” [3]. Food banks “established themselves as one of the fastest-growing charitable industries in first world societies” [4]. There are 811 authorized food banks with 55,013 beneficiary organizations worldwide [5]. However, in China, there is only one food bank, Green Foodbank, which is also largely limited to geographical issues and can exclusively help those in urban areas.

**2.2. The Clients of Food Banks**

According to McPherson’s research [6], food banking system mainly helps people with food insecurity, either in amount or in quality. The beneficiaries are supposed to be low-income workers, females, sole parents and children, ethnic minorities and non-white populations, people living in deprived areas, young adults, and single people. When those residents cannot be financially able to support the sustenance, they look for the help of food banks. When financial crisis arises, the demand for food banks also increases, so food banks are indicators of food shortage in disadvantaged groups in society.

**2.3. Factors Relating to the Operations of Food Banks**

**2.3.1. Government Policies and Individual Donations**

In most of the countries, government do not directly intervene the operations of food banking system, but utilizing financially supportive policies, including tax free or tax reductions. It can effectively preserve both the individuality and maintenance of food banks, where trivial loss in tax retrieves a substantial development in sharing economy and resource equality. Since sharing

economy relies on resource surplus from higher-hierarchy populations, the individual supporters to food banks are in the narrowed range [7]. Monetary donations focus on providing “warehouses, refrigerated space for perishables, vehicle purchase and maintenance, administration” [7]. Another type of individual support lies in voluntary assistance and management, transportation or consultation for food bank, which are beneficial to the long-run development of food banks.

**2.3.2. Enterprises’ Participation**

Some countries where food banks are not developing from an early age, are oriented by the central government and are incapable to form a communal agency correlating governments, societies and individuals. Some credible private enterprises take up roles in sharing economy. For example, in China, McCarty Dragon and KFC are two influential companies providing surplus food to needy populations.

**2.3.3. Distribution**

The achievements of food banks largely rely on their accessibility. Since in poverty are more constrained in transportation, siting the food banks appropriately is crucial. According to analytically statistical research [8], the mismatch of distribution of food banks and poverty-struck regions arises, and it is crucial to “coordinate direct food assistance sites” and “ensure they are effectively targeting areas of greatest need”.

**3. FOOD BANK SYSTEM IN THE UNITED STATES**

**3.1. Successful Development**

Starting in the 1970s, American food banks dedicate to providing people having trouble satisfying their basic needs in food to avoid hunger. Through the years, the food bank system in the U.S. has formed a successful and complete system, which has a closed and sustaining loop of food transfer. Whether seen from the monetary value of the food saved and transferred or the number of beneficiaries, the U.S. food bank system is worth acclaimed; The following table lists some best scored or top-achieving food bank institutions in the U.S.

**Table 1.** Seven Most Influential Food Banks in the United States [9]

7 Most Influential Food Banks in the United States				
Name	# of Beneficiary	Saved Food Amount (lb/ton)	Monetary Value (if applicable)	Score
Feeding the Gulf Coast	food insecure people mainly in Florida, Alabama and Mississippi	700,000 meals to over 20,000 children annually	2020 Revenue: \$71,352,244 2020 Expense: \$55,004,662	100

Ozarks Food Harvest	food insecure people in Southwest Missouri	23 million meals annually	2020 Revenue: \$44,190,892 2020 Expense: \$41,343,251	100
Table To Table Inc	food insecure people living in New Jersey	over 227 million meals; 74,000 tons since inception	2020 Revenue: \$51,836,647 2020 Expense: \$51,670,328	98.23
Freestore Foodbank	food insecure people in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana	37.7 million meals annually	2020 Revenue: \$97,960,080 2020 Expense: \$71,309,298	98.23
Island Harvest	food insecure people in Long Island	130 million pounds; 108 million meals since inception	2020 Revenue: \$34,105,479 2020 Expense: \$29,220,679	98.23
East Texas Food Bank	food insecure people in East Texas	24,918,000 meals in 2020	2020 Revenue: \$40,555,370 2020 Expense: \$38,166,456	97.34
San Antonio Food Bank	food insecure people in Southwest Texas	91 million pounds in 2020	2020 Revenue: \$144,335,254 2020 Expense: \$132,676,200	97.07

In the chart listing seven of hundreds of food banks, substantial efforts and contributions can be observed from the sharing economy in the United States.

### 3.2. The Reasons for Success

Despite the accumulation of time and experience, the U.S. food bank system thrives because of people’s higher awareness of food residues and incentives to serve, governments’ support with fiscal policies.

#### 3.2.1. People’s Relatively High Awareness of Food Recycle

People’s sense of guilt when discarding food residues, their sense of accomplishment when donating food to food-scarce regions or individuals, and their overall willingness to save food and energy are all factors controlling people’s decision-making over the donation to food banks. According to Neff, Spiker, and Truant’s investigation [10], it is reported that in the U.S., there is relatively high ratio of people being aware of food waste and its impacts on underprivileged inhabitants in their community. Their research team provides the data shown below.

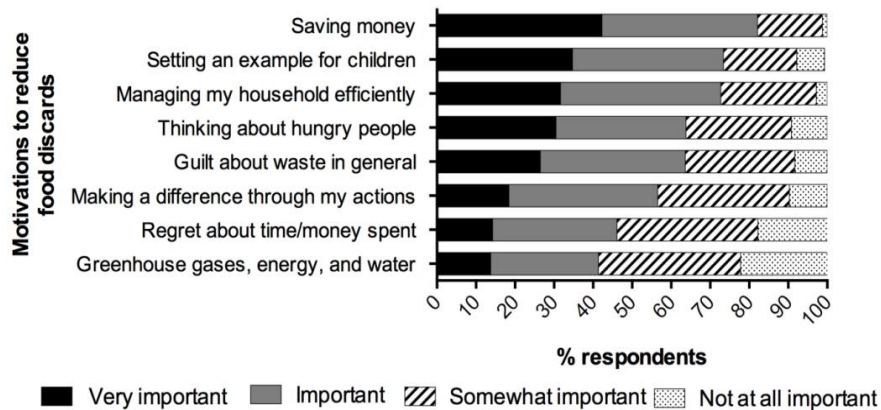


Figure 1. Motivations of U.S. residents to reduce food discards [10]

Although the residents didn’t all show interests and responsibilities to reduce food waste, they “score” higher in morality than many other regions (a similar investigation in China in the next chapter will be made to make a contrast). In economic pursuit, especially in caring for personal interests, more than two-thirds of people report it to be “important” or “very important” to

save money and manage their household efficiently. Another perspective, which concentrates more on community caring and setting moral paragon for descendants, are also indispensable factors to foster food banks’ sustainable development—the American residents also show alacrity and sincerity as more than two-thirds of the people reduce food waste for “setting

and example for children”, “thinking about hungry people”. Both the incentives to reduce personal loss and hungry people’s rights to access food allow American food banks to have stabilized inflow of food donations.

### *3.2.2. Potent Fiscal Policies and Government Contributions*

The U.S. pays efforts to enforce lawsuits or programs to promote the development of food banks, featured by liability protection, tax incentive, donation of certain food(s), donation via schools, grant program or funds and government programs for food banks, according to the research led by Hudak [11]. Among those Acts and Programs, the most influential ones are “donation via school” and “government programs”.

(1) 42 U.S.C. § 1769(h) School lunch programs [12]: Pilot program for high-poverty schools is an example of federal law for school lunch programs. It appeals to “eligible” schools, where more than 50% of students are below the poverty line, to be donated by local farms and non-profit organizations (food banks). In the funding chapter, the law points out that the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer \$5,000,000 to operate, ensuring school lunch nutrition and gardening and nutrition education. Another federal policy, 7 C.F.R. §§ 240.1–240.11 Child nutrition programs: Cash in lieu of donated foods [13], states that distributing agencies and federal governments would provide funding in lieu of lunch, and the funding varies according to the fluctuations in Price Index for Food Used in Schools and Institutions.

(2) As a government program for promoting the food banking system, 7 U.S.C. § 7502 Availability of CCC commodities [14] determines what and how much food should be carried out for domestic donation programs, to meet specific obligations and help emergency feeding organizations. CCC commodities are further narrowed down to dairy products, wheat or rice, honey and cornmeal. Except the routine ensuring of food supply to emergency food organizations, like food banks and organizations that care for starvation, the U.S. government effectively amends or replenish policies to resolve hunger problems, and one example is 7 C.F.R. § 9 Coronavirus food assistance program [15], mainly responsible for food supply in the pandemic. Government fundings of \$500,000 or \$750,000 are provided for corporations, limited liability company, limited partnerships and trusts that satisfy the requirement of production of commodities salutary to revival of sharing economy during the pandemic.

### *3.3. Existing Flaws in U.S. Food Banks*

Though creating unprecedented achievements in the past decades, U.S. food banks still confront issues in food security (pertain to human rights) and the limited capacity of donators.

### *3.3.1. Issues in Food Security and Nutrition*

Riches highlights in his research that food issues are about the interconnectedness of wealth and nutrition, social justice and the environment,, which position food security on an ethically concentrated stage. Apart from the food security, the structure of the donations that intangibly transforms food-lack people’s diet also meets drawbacks in recent years, indicated by Handforth’s research [16], “although their (food banks’) primary mission is to alleviate hunger, the rise in obesity and diet-related diseases among food-insecure individuals has led some food bank personnel to actively promote more nutritious products”. Promoting more nutritious products is not the sublime resolution, since enforcements in policies promoting food nutrition necessarily lead to a downfall in the donation of food, constricting food inflows.

### *3.3.2. Limited Donators to Satisfy Enormous Needs*

With the help of food banks to alleviate starvation, 49,100,000[17] citizens still suffer from food insecurity. According to the statistics from the United States Department of Agriculture, 10.5 percent [18] of the total population still experience low and very low food security in 2020. As a result, more donators, either individuals or corporations, are needed, but people’s motivations to donate in the U.S. is still not satisfying the needs[10]. Knowledge of ways to reduce food waste is the prerequisite of donation, while only 23% percent of U.S. residents under 65 and only 30% of U.S. residents above 65 reports being very knowledgeable about food waste alleviation methods.

Besides, more than three-fourths of people of all ages and education levels report not very clear with how to alleviate food waste, where possible solutions may be a donation to food emergency institutions or, within one’s reach, consider government programs.

## **4. EVALUATIONS OF CHINESE FOOD BANKING SYSTEM**

### *4.1. Overview and Data Analysis*

Chinese food bank system started with the advent of Shanghai Luzhou Food Bank in 2004 [19], while the food bank system radiates from the past years with the foundation of Shenzhen

Fangcaodi Food Bank and KFC food bank trials in Shanghai, Fujian, Guangdong and Taiyuan. The food bank radiates mainly from first-tier urban areas to rural areas, while the development is staged with a low donator participation rate [20] and an imperfect system. And they are mainly operated by governments instead of communities and individuals.

There are only two comparatively influential food banks in China: 1. Shanghai Luzhou Food Bank Network helps over 170,000 food insecure people, with a total donation of 160.2 tons, which is \$10,041,000 worth in value. 2. KFC Food Bank Network mainly helps residents in Shanghai, Fujian, Guangdong, Taiyuan, while other weights or monetary data of donations are not currently available.

Taiyuan Food Bank Network was once contributing to the overall sharing economy in China, but it later confronted financial shortage and collapsed. The asymmetrical economic and governmental system between China and the U.S. makes food banks not so popularized, while the sharing economy in China concentrates on China’s subsidies and preferential policies to rural or unenlightened regions to facilitate social equality.

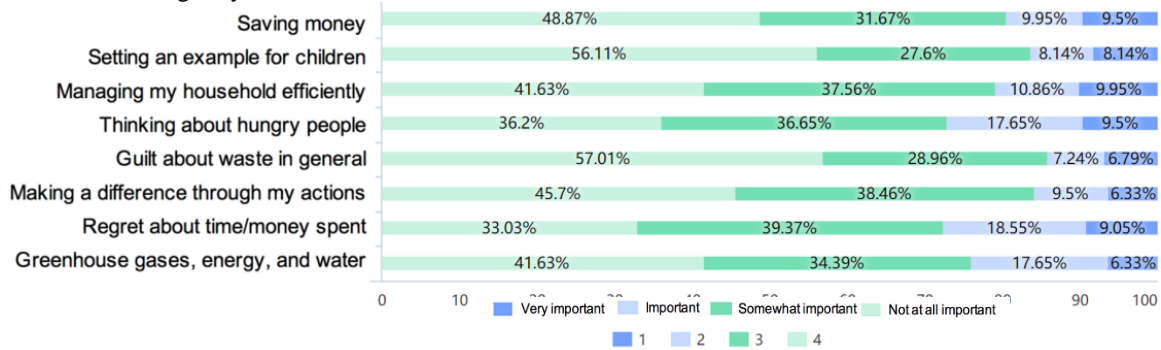
With far more poverty-driven and food-insecure residents, China urgently needs an elaborate food

banking system to ensure citizens’ health, but the non-promising results of the existing food banks depress; a questionnaire was created to do parallel comparison to American donators and non-profit institutions, and data analysis will be made to excavate the intrinsic dilemma of Chinese food bank system.

**4.2. Underlying Reasons for Stagnation in Development**

**4.2.1. Lack of Public Awareness**

As the main factor controlling the thriving of food banks, donators are supposed to have a high willingness to reduce food discards and donate the secure food residues to food-insecure people—a chart with the same investigating aspects with the U.S. investigation shown in Figure 1 is provided to make parallel comparison and further analysis.



**Figure 2.** Motivations of Chinese residents to reduce food discards

From the results, it can be observed that generally, Chinese residents take much more profound considerations of “setting an example for children” and “guilt about waste in general”, and these considerations enlighten how the publicity department in each community should use media to attract more donating populations.

Although food banks are familiar to almost every U.S.


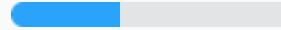
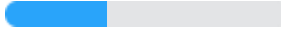
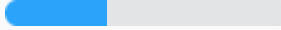
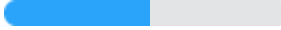
**Table 2.** Chinese residents’ awareness of food banks or general food sharing economy

Options	Quantity	Ratio
Familiar, knowing their values and how they operate	8	3.62%
Having heard, realizing their values	9	4.07%
Knowing their existence	72	32.58%
Never heard of them	132	59.73%
Effective object amount	221	

Then, respondents answering with the first three alternatives in Table 2 participate in the following investigation.

citizen as becoming one of the most influential genres of non-profit organizations for several decades, Chinese food banks still need attention and radiated propaganda to ensure long-run survival and contribution to society. A questionnaire is designed to simulate the investigation of American donator motivations, and the following two statistics show people’s awareness of those institutions and programs for food sharing.

**Table 3.** Popularity of different food sharing programs to Chinese citizens



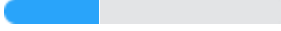
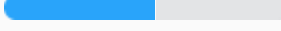
Options	Quantity	Ratio
Shanghai Green Food Bank Network	29	 32.58%
Chinese Food Bank Networks organized by KFC	34	 38.2%
Community-based food banks	32	 35.96%
“Sharing Refrigerator” programs	32	 35.96%
National poverty relief programs	46	 51.69%
Effective object amount	89	

With the long-term low participation rate of society and individuals, food bank organizations and the related food sharing economy are exclusively known by less than a half of the population, with most of them merely being aware of national poverty relief programs, which are totally operated by Chinese government’s transfer payments. The food sharing economy is out of people’s sight in China, and food banks’ existence is also evasive. That may be the main reason why most of the food bank foundations eventually collapse with the shortage of volunteers and donator funding, and the survivors currently absorbed huge amounts of government funding.

To ensure the efficiency of further publicity to raise food bank popularity, people’s incentives to donate and the current hindrances impacting potential donators’ behaviors should be analyzed. The following tables, show the willingness to donate, reasons for donating (if applicable), and obstacles that pull back donations (if applicable) respectively.

The respondents are asked to report their willingness to donate. The respondents answering high willingness and practical actions will participate in the following investigation of the reasons for their positive feedback.

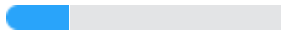
**Table 4.** Chinese donators’ motivations to donate to food banks

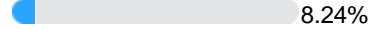
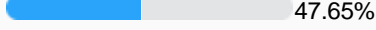
Options	Quantity	Ratio
Willingness to help poverty-driven populations	42	 82.35%
Feeling proud to promote social equality	24	 47.06%
Convenient commuting (easier access to food banks)	17	 33.33%
Effective way to reduce food residues at home	27	 52.94%
Effective object amount	51	

Respondents answering no willingness to donate or being obstructed by social erroneous arrangements

participate in the following investigation to report the hindrances to their donations.

**Table 5.** Chinese residents’ reasons for incapability or unwillingness to donate to food banks

Options	Quantity	Ratio
There are too few food banks nearby; low accessibility	38	 22.35%

I don't know where to donate; publicity for food banks is not effective	133	 78.24%
National poverty relief programs are enough; no participation needed	14	 8.24%
I am afraid to do harm on others with hazardous or insecure food	81	 47.65%
Effective object amount	170	

Fortunately, it can be indicated that most of the Chinese residents are willing to donate regardless of their capabilities and actions. As a result, the core of raising donators' amount is to seize the core hindrances preventing potential donators' donations. From Table 5, 78.24% of the respondents report nowhere to donate, indicating the publicity of food banks is problematic, not telling people how and where to contribute their benevolence. The Chinese government also forbids the

donation of expired food to institutions, so there is no surprise that 47.65% of the respondents fear the outcome of donating insecure food to food banks.

The following table comprehensively illustrates Chinese residents' attitude toward the Chinese sharing economy, and the faultiness can be extracted to further propose feasible resolutions.

**Table 6.** Chinese residents' attitude towards different angles of Chinese sharing economy and food banks

Options	1	2	3	4	5	Unsure
Experience and time accumulation	53(23.98%)	37(16.74%)	44(19.91%)	27(12.22%)	10(4.52%)	50(22.62%)
Publicity for non-profit institutions	59(26.7%)	29(13.12%)	47(21.27%)	25(11.31%)	14(6.33%)	47(21.27%)
Publicity for poverty and donation	46(20.81%)	27(12.22%)	45(20.36%)	36(16.29%)	23(10.41%)	44(19.91%)
Government policies	45(20.36%)	25(11.31%)	49(22.17%)	33(14.93%)	23(10.41%)	46(20.81%)
Balance among government, society, and individual participation	43(19.46%)	24(10.86%)	53(23.98%)	33(14.93%)	15(6.79%)	53(23.98%)
Effective object amount	246(22.26%)	142(12.85%)	238(21.54%)	154(13.94%)	85(7.69%)	240(21.72%)

#### 4.2.2. The Weakness of the Current Food Bank System

China doesn't have an elaborate food bank system to transport food from individuals and incorporations: even the Luzhou Food Bank Network currently doesn't accept personal donations to ensure food security and authorization, largely curtailing the possible donation inflow. Commonly called sharing economy, the food distribution and donation system meet structural issues—excessive intervention of government forces makes the community-based organizations restricted.

According to Zhang[21]'s recapitulation, Chinese community-based innovated sharing system mainly consists of three modes: (1) Shanghai mode, which focuses on “leading of Communist Party, support from

the government, community-level self-governance”, resulting in “government force overweighs community force”; (2) Qingdao mode, which shifts the rights downward to communities; (3) Jiangnan Plain mode, which focuses on interactions between government and communities. By contrast, the U.S. food bank system relies mainly on individuals and operating community-based institutions, with little support (safety guarantee and funding) from the government. When the community becomes a subordinate of the central government, it loses part of its power in balancing public affairs. Further, if the community, which represents governance in a region, lowers its role, individuals are less willing to participate because of a looser perception of affiliation. Further, government restrictions on food security in food sharing organizations largely discourage individuals to donate: for example, in Shanghai Luzhou Food Bank, personal

donations are not accepted, while only institutions and corporations can sign up for an enterprise-oriented donation. However, arousing enthusiasm and expanding the donation passage for potential donators are the only methods sustaining food banks' functions.

The food bank system is a network that takes from food surplus to food shortage, which forms a benign recycles in the society, yet the financial and food inflow from the central government deviates the original essence of the food bank system, necessarily leading it to be non-sustainable. Along with the low popularity, shortage of volunteers and lack of operational expertise among administrators and staff, the unitary inflow of aids leads the sharing economy to lose its vitality.

## **5. SUGGESTIONS TO CHINESE FOOD BANKING SYSTEM**

### ***5.1. Suggestions for Governments***

#### ***5.1.1. Clarification of government regulating gamut***

The Chinese government can consider the autonomous food banking system in western countries, absorbing experience from successful trials and integrating with our national conditions to clarify its role in sharing economy. Instead of being a manipulator of the food transportation and funding distributions, the Chinese government should take the community's original power into account, and allow them to mobilize citizens to be full-time or part-time volunteers, contact physical distribution incorporations to transport to food banks and food-insecure people, etc. A food sharing system can be analogous to an economic system: if the government intervenes excessively, the system is more inclined to a command economy, but its effectiveness is negated for the government does not totally conform to every individual's specialty and desires. If a food bank system is in a *laissez-faire* state, supply and demand are perfectly determined by supply (families or incorporations with surplus food) and demand (food-insecure individuals), while it has flaws including but not limited to food security.

The Chinese government should neither be a manipulator nor a bystander in the food banking system. Instead, the Chinese government should be a "night watchman", spectating how the market or community itself balances its demand and supply, forming a sustainable food banking network, also attending the market with propriety to ensure safety and supervision.

Except giving sufficient freedom for the Chinese food banking system, the government is suggested favorable policies or indirect funding to food banks to ensure its sustainable growth. First, like the American condition, China also has various schools for migrant workers with

low income, students with disabilities, and just like 42 U.S.C. § 1769(h) School lunch programs [12], local farms and aliment-related factories can be organized to donate to food sharing institutions, like Shanghai Luzhou Food Bank Network, to incentivize the individuals' and factories' willingness to donate. Well-controlled fundings can act as "efficiency wages" to those who participate in the program; this interrelation between food banks and society can foster the development of sharing economy, especially food banks, in China. Imitating U.S. education in food sharing, the Chinese government can attempt to propel the sharing vegetable garden in school, simultaneously improving students' manual ability, fulfilling their extracurricular experiences and creating possible food inflow for food banks. Although campus vegetation practice seems trivial compared to the gigantic national agricultural system, this practice potentially instructs the new generations to realize the essentiality and power of sharing economy, thus further stabilizing the future development of food banks. One other issue the government should be dedicated to resolving should be the low accessibility to donation sites, as 78.24% of people report "I don't know where to donate; publicity for food banks is not effective", shown in Table 5. As a result, the government should also fund in the early phase of food banks, including consecutive constructions of donation sites and food bank organizations, which assures the potential donators' accessibility to food banks.

#### ***5.1.2. Amendment of Existing Policies***

Although the food sharing economy is neglected by most of people in China (shown in Table 2), the Chinese government pays considerable efforts to raise awareness, featured by the legislation for food discards, named "Anti-food Waste Law of the People's Republic of China". The Law gives suggestions to local governments, food service industry and relevant proprietors. The goal is clarified: "preventing food waste, securing national food resources, promoting Chinese traditional virtues". From the perspective of the government, the Law suggests regional governments to lead anti-waste works, investigating, analyzing, evaluating food residues and organize food service industry to reduce food waste. Other more detailed suggestions are given through Article 6 through 12. First, responsibilities should be clarified: what the local government, communities, private companies should take up to ensure effective food waste reduction; second, obligations should be quantified: the amount of waste indicating violation of the Law; third, scheming attainable and measurable plans: the actual amount of food that should be saved; fourth, legible reward and penalty guidelines: by how much amount will an actively anti-waste institution or individual should be rewarded as obtaining a specific benchmark, and by what extent should a violating institution or individual should be accordingly punished.



Drawing a clear distinction of communities', individuals', governments' respective duties can effectively promote practice in anti-waste in food; eliminating ambiguity in legislation ensures sufficient people's participation, instead of exploiting legal loopholes.

## **5.2. Suggestions for Communities**

After acquiring much autonomy in administrating food banks, the communities should ceaselessly utilize the publicity department to obtain more human, capital, and entrepreneurial resources.

As Chinese people are proven to be cohesive toward community or domestic issues, seen from considerable collaborative force during earthquakes, pandemics, flooding, the community should utilize posters, online publications, or advertising to enable more residents to see the existing problems in food sharing. With long-lasting encouragement within publicity, residents will have incentives to organize human resources to manage the local food banks, taking charge of administration, transportation, propagandists and part-time volunteers. As the mass base for management is expanded, the Chinese food bank networks will become more sustainable, elaborate, systematic and influential.

The publicity should conform to motifs related to residents' greatest incentives to donate. According to Table 4, most of people demonstrate their donation motivated by "willingness to help poverty-driven populations" and "effective way to reduce food residues at home". As a result, communities can place emphasis on the database to illustrate how food banks are effective in improving social equality and helping food-insecure people, provoking both people's empathy with the poverty-driven families and confidence toward the food banking system. Instead of merely discarding food residues, donations are also shown as an equally effective way to reduce food residues at home, making more available space. Therefore, publicity department can also consider propagandizing individual benefits of family orderliness to provoke donating enthusiasm.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

In the paper, the existing advantages and disadvantages of the food banking system in the United States and China are discovered. Overall, the U.S. practice in food banks is more systematic, elaborate than the Chinese one, and relevant factors leading to success are analyzed through policies, donators' initiatives, food securities, government-community collaborations. While Chinese food bank systems confront structural disadvantages, and people's awareness, potential donators' hindrances to donate, current Chinese policies are excavated to demonstrate current issues and opportunities in development. Introspecting effective

fiscal policies in the United States and the core reasons discouraging domestic donators, this paper provides resolutions to problems in Chinese food banks from government and community aspects. Centralizing communities' responsibilities, amending the current legislated policies, and emphasis on publicity are all discussed at the end of the paper.

This paper comprehensively discusses the existing problems and opportunities confronted by domestic food sharing economy, especially for food banks, summarizing previous research in Chinese food bank development. However, as the general progress of foundation and amelioration of food bank system is excavated, specific policies and communities' definite practices are still not provided. As a general developing direction is proposed, future research can focus on putting forward specific regulations and regionally appropriate propagandizing means.

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