



The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

July 14, 2022

Dear Mr. President:

At KABOOM! we recognize the critical connection between proper nutrition, physical activity, and better long-term health outcomes for kids. That is why our organization has spent over 25 years creating and transforming more than 17,000 playspaces in communities across the nation, ensuring that over a million children have access to safe high-quality playspaces. However, having the best designed and most equitably distributed playspaces won't be as useful if our nation's children and families are struggling to get proper daily nutrition.

As you are aware, food deserts exist in many high-need, BIPOC communities across the country. To address food insecurity, playgrounds and parks are used as wellness hubs or food distribution sites. When parks and playgrounds are well-funded, properly maintained, and designed with community input, they can serve as centralized locations that provide abundant open space and the necessary infrastructure (i.e., restrooms, lighting, seating, shade, etc.) to meet a variety of community needs.

KABOOM! is ready to work with our system partners to advocate for and implement innovative solutions to address the nutritional needs for kids and families. We are grateful for the Biden Administration's leadership in addressing food insecurity for our nation's children through a cross-sector collaborative approach. Once every child has access to healthy, filling, and culturally appropriate meals on a consistent basis, they will be able to develop the social, physical, and cognitive skills they need to thrive.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our thoughts on how KABOOM! can play a role in overcoming the challenge of food insecurity. Please consider KABOOM! as a resource in your efforts. We look forward to providing further guidance and participating in events addressing the importance of ending food insecurity for our nation's children.

Thank you,

Lysa Ratliff
CEO, KABOOM!