# Food Access and Security Coalition 08.21.23



## **Agenda**

Meeting Type:	Standard
Facilitator:	Honor Crawford
Recorder:	Rotating* Please volunteer when you can!
Pre-meeting materials:	July Meeting Recording

#### I. Welcome and Introductions

- Introduction of the chairperson/facilitator
- Rotating notetaker
- Introduction of coalition members in attendance and icebreaker

#### Ice breaker:

1. What role does nutrition illiteracy play in perpetuating the cycle of food insecurity, and how can we empower communities with knowledge to break free from this cycle?

#### II. Old Business

- Gratitude!
- Member Spotlight: <u>Sign Up Genius</u>
- Community Spotlights: Think about and refer potential speakers to Honor.
- Reminder: Recording available: Dropbox link in minutes
- Correction: July Minutes: Section IV. Member Spotlight, error in the hotline number for truckers regarding rejected load food donations. The correct number is 509-252-6299, Tony Cook at Second Harvest
- Edits to the Distribution List
- Cooling Centers

#### III. New Business

- Toxic Algae Alert
- Air Quality Alert
- Nutrition Education/Literacy/Cooking Classes: Second Harvest, Kadlec Healthplex, Mid-Colombia Libraries Kitchen/Space

## IV. Member Spotlight OR Topic Spotlight

- August: National Breastfeeding Month
- Brief conversation on the first 1000 days of life/Epigenetic Epidemiology

## V. Updates on Current Activities

- Food as Medicine: Produce Rx Program: Diana Henning, Kadlec
- Food Access and Equity: Presentation next month...
- Reducing Food Waste:
- Food access, equity, system policy review, and advocacy: TBD
- Food/nutrition security comprehensive assessment: TBD

#### VI. Action Planning/Future Collaborative Efforts

Using data to inform action: WAFOODs, SNAP, school meals, WIC

#### VII. Partnership Building

- Identification of potential partners and stakeholders not present: Send Honor referrals to add to the distribution list.
- Discussion of strategies for engaging partners and building effective partnerships.

#### VIII. Open Floor

- Organization round-table updates...
- Opportunity for attendees to bring up any other topics or issues they would like to discuss that were not previously covered on the agenda.

#### IX. Action Items and Next Steps

- Summary of the outcomes of the meeting
- Determination of next steps and action items
- Assignment of responsibilities and deadlines

#### IX. Adjournment

Next meeting is September 18, 2023

#### Other Information

#### **Guests:**

N/A

#### **Resources:**

- 1. Washington 2-1-1 | Search (wa211.org)
- 2. <u>Second Harvest Kitchen</u>

## **Additional Resources:**

- 1. Resources for Understanding the Food System in Washington
- 2. Spokane Food Policy Council

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

Next meeting is September 18, 2023

#### **Notes:**

## **Senior Hunger**

### "New Study Shows a Link Between Food Insecurity and Cognitive Decline in Older Adults,

According to a study published in *JAMA*, there may be a correlation between hunger and mental decline in older adults in the U.S. The 18-year research project concluded that food-insecure participants experienced a slightly faster cognitive decline, as measured on a variety of validated word recall tests."

#### Sign On Documents and Opportunities for Input

"USDA is interested in learning from stakeholders how we can better meet the needs of customers seeking kosher or halal foods through The Emergency Assistance Food Program (TEFAP). So far, USDA has held discussions with several advocacy organizations, 9 State Agencies, and food banks in those states that serve communities with kosher and/or halal food needs. USDA is reviewing the information gathered through these conversations to determine some actions and next steps we can take to better meet the needs of customers seeking kosher and halal foods. USDA is interested in feedback from States and

food banks in all States and territories about how to best meet their customers' needs. Feedback can always be shared with your State Agency or sent to <a href="https://useas.com/useas.c

#### **Legislative Updates**

## **FY 2024 Agriculture Appropriations**

"Senate and House appropriators have developed very different versions for the FY 2024 Agriculture Appropriations bills. The Senate has cleared all 12 appropriations bills out of committee and plans to move these bills to the Senate Floor in September. Efforts in the House to move any spending bills to the floor have stalled due to infighting within the Republican ranks. FRAC adamantly opposes the House FY 2024 Agriculture Appropriations bill. Failure to reach agreement on the House spending bills coupled with the vast differences between the House and Senate versions increases the likelihood of a government shutdown. Government funding runs out September 30."

### On the Road to the Farm Bill

"This week, House Agriculture Committee Ranking Member David Scott (D-GA) led all committee Democrats in a letter to Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) warning that attacks on SNAP, and continued proposals by House Republican leadership to weaken the program, will derail passage of a Farm Bill. Read letter here. This followed an earlier press statement, Ranking Member David Scott Slams Republican House Leadership Attacks on America's Hungry Families, where Ranking Member Scott stated, "I urge my Republican colleagues to proceed with caution. If they want to pass a farm bill that supports America's farmers and families, they need to keep their hands off SNAP." Click here to learn more about the Farm Bill