

**Food Assistance Advisory Committee Mtg**

April 19th, 2019 • 9:00am-10:30am

Location: People for People Facility, 304 W Lincoln Ave, Yakima, WA

GoTo Meeting option (recorded)

**In attendance**: FA Staff, Jeff Mathias, Ahndrea Blue, Clark County Food Bank, Ken Trainor and Yakima group, Kris Van Gasken, Josh Martinez, Trish Twomey, Scott Kilpatrick, Bob Mark, and Terri Tuner

**Welcome and Intros**: (Jeff M) purpose of the meeting and the group explained.

**Approval of Minutes**: Scott Kilpatrick made motion to approve, Ahndrea Blue second. All approved.

**Review Work in Progress & Status**:

* Service Counts: Looking for guidance to have consistency in reporting backpack numbers.
  + Kyle referenced the conversation to-date and why we’re talking about it. Need for consistency heading into the new biennium. Everyone agrees that capturing the “backpack story” is an important one to collect information on.
  + See attached Service Counts document
  + *Scott K. motioned and Ken T. seconded the motion* which encompasses the following:

Food Assistance shall:

* + Maintain Optional Reporting Status for backpacks.
  + Maintain client count new and returning.
  + Maintain number of backpacks count.
  + Adopt a 1:1 ratio for client to backpacks statewide.
  + Add backpack pounds per month as a separate measurement.
  + Provide guidance for all changes above, in reporting workbook & procedures manuals.

**WSDA**

Kim Eads, Program Manager – WSDA Update

* There has been *so much change* the last few months. **Thank you** for bearing with us while we implement changes from the USDA audit to include new processes and forms.
* Website is going to be changing, and is moving to new look and structure, agency-wide. Contact us with any issues. Main website is [www.agr.wa.gov](http://www.agr.wa.gov) 🡪 SERVICES 🡪 FOOD ACCESS. It should be live within the next month.
* As we gear up for the WFC Conference, we plan on doing several workshops that we hope will be more interactive sessions to include discussions and input, delving deeper into different services and programs, process mapping to identify EFAP application streamlining, what constitutes a subcontract, as well as new definitions in EFAP, TEFAP and CSFP.
* High level update on Trade Mitigation forecast. For Phase 2 (April-June) we’re at about 184 truckloads of food ($368,000). We are not quite through ordering for Phase 3 (July - Sept), but so far we are looking at 147 truckloads ($294,000). We will send out an anticipated Phase 3 budget projection for you in May or June.
  + As a state we have never said NO to food. However, we are asking for your input regarding an anticipated 35 truckloads of fresh apples, right at peak apple season here. We would like your opinion on saying NO to some products and/or to request less than our full allotment. We are also asking USDA if it is okay to process Trade Mitigation apples into applesauce so we get more shelf life. There is no funding in the current structure for processing at the state level. (Update: USDA authorized processing for TMP foods, no additional funding to do so).
    - Ken T and Kris VG noted an abundance of apples and does not want any.
    - Bob (Leavenworth) what are the repercussions if we say NO? Does it impact the producers? Does it impact TEFAP down the road? (Kim) if we don’t pick up our fair share, then it opens it up nationally. We’re allotted 35, but we think we could use 10 truckloads. The 25 we didn’t pick up would go to other states. In terms of impact in the future, this shouldn’t impact future apples by saying no now. It may impact the story that we’re telling asking for better, healthier food. But that’s where the “processing” would be helpful and finding new funding for that would be essential.
    - Ken T. will call a local processor in Sunnyside.
    - Call Kim if you have other thoughts or comments. It’s ok to move away from traditional allocations for situations like this - targeting foods to those who can use it.
* Looking forward to process improvements and more interactive workshop sessions. Also revamping definitions and how that will impact contractors and subcontractors.

Katie Rains, Food Assistance Specialist - Legislative Update

* Food Rescue 1114 Bill – concurred in House yesterday. Dept. of Ecology to create state wide plan to reduce food waste by 50% by 2030. There will be a Stakeholder Advisory Group that will include WSDA and we will bring FAAC in on that conversation. Thurston leading the way with partnerships like Chipotle. Thurston Co Food Bank is committed to helping share lessons learned and give tours with technical assistance. (Bob) is gleaning included? (Katie) Yes to even include animal feed! Everywhere food waste is happening is included - focus is on how we can divert that to feed people, animals, compost, etc.
* How can we help reduce duplicative data (re: pounds of food) is there a way to roll that into EFAP so you don’t have to go through another set of hurdles?
* We are in the middle of Strategic Planning! Next week we’ll send out a draft of the updated plan. We would love your feedback and suggestions for our agency.
* Kudos to WFC for getting your website dialed in!

James Scovel, Food Assistance Specialist – Update on TMP/TEFAP Foods

* 184 trucks of the TMP is ordered for Phase 2. We won’t necessarily see them all, some will be canceled. Still going to get the TMP funds for those products, even those that are canceled.
* Next quarter we have 147 trucks ordered so far. Pork products are going to be minimal and many will be canceled.
* Fresh plums for the first time ever (in Sept!) more grapes (in Sept and Aug!) Reduced amount of beans, but will continue to get garbanzo beans every month.
* See attached file for food projections.

*Jeff M – thanks to WSDA for being so transparent and collaborative with this committee.*

**Review Goals for 2019**

* Civil Rights Training – create a task force to create that? Katie R. to send out invite to FAAC to get started in May, hoping for revised materials by beginning of Federal Fiscal year in Oct.
* Subcontractor resources – identifying compliance info and developing resources. Even if you don’t want to serve on the task force, we welcome feedback regarding your challenges and suggestions.

**Anything else for the Good of the order?**

* Kris VG – SKCFC doing work with Low Sodium, higher nutrition foods – interested in updating food purchasing food policy soon. Please add to next meeting agenda for FAAC.

**Meeting CLOSED at 10:21am**