

*****PUBLIC NOTICE*****

Interagency Food & Nutrition Policy Advisory Council (IFNPAC)

Date: Wednesday, August 25, 2021

Time: 1:00pm-2:30pm

Location: Rhode Island Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill Providence, RI
4th Floor, Room 401

Zoom Info:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89537607486?pwd=S0s5K2M5WWNoeWdOdIFINzdjY0xXZz09>

Meeting ID: 895 3760 7486

Passcode: 096924

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Attendees:

Council Members:

Nessa, bob Ballou, Allison Montagon, Karin Wetherill, Coryanne Mansell, Deb Golding, Sara Amin, kerri Connolly, Diane Lynch, Cara Karter,

AGENDA:

NOTES:

1. Welcome & Introductions - Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH
Called to order at 1:03pm.
2. Review and approve May 2021 Minutes - Randi Belhumeur
3. Ken ayaes
Maria Cimini
4. IFNPAC Purpose, Mission, Membership - Ken Ayars
5. Ken ayars passed it around
Almost 10 years old,
Elevate food as a matter, well all touch food related programs, etc.
collaborate on issues. Built it to have structure in good times and bad.
Social determinants of health. Building a sustainable, equitable food
system n between all dederal programs there are so many community
organozations that
Find a better way to support the CBOS, who are critically important.
Challenges of funding, particularly state funding.

Important of food security. WE saw in agriculture that people amplified because people wanted local food. Farmers and fishers learned to adapt, which is a trend that continues. The closer the supply chain, the more local the supply chain the better.

Health Equity Zone work is an important structure to continue to work with and partner. Interested in how we can better produce a more resilient society with food.

GO rep: the need for quality food supply for all. Liase with fisherman to have fresh fish product to the community. Underserved communities are sometimes left out of quakity food. Create a path to create access to quality of food. Location of food stores and the quality of food that goes into the store. How this plays role into growth and development of the children living. There is a sense that government should be able to do something. Encourage local food procurement.

Dana: culturally relavnet food and checking in on folks. Wellness check ins. Connection with people.

Althea: Build on existing systems

Juli- any other meetings

Any other surges?

NAS- the delta has changed the conditions of what we are working with an increased level of d=transmissibility, it dramatically exposes those cmommnties who are most vulnerable (unvaccinated, health/social/environmental issues). Doing everything possible to not have as bad of a surge. With the right mitigation (indoor masking, vaccinating Potential to flatten the curve, less impact cases/hospitalization/deaths with a shorter time. Focus on vulnerable/ next serval months will be a very critical time period.

Emergency network response. Tapping into all aspects of the supports

6. Covid-19 Pandemic: lessons learned, surge preparation - Ken Ayars
7. RI Food Strategy Update - Julianne Stelmaszyk
8. State of the State of Hunger in RI, Andrew Schiff, RI Community Food Bank

Trends are improving with hunger.

Number of people coming to food

Things are getting better... why?

The economy is improving, unemployment is down and more peoplw are back to work. Struggling famikies are receiving federal benefits. Adiotnal SNAP families, Pandemic EBT. Unemployment insurance increased benefits. Tjose programs eased burden, fewer people repoting food insecurity, and less people needing of food pantires

Prediection for the fall?

When extra dbenefits end in September we anticipate this will rise up again. Impact when SNAP benefits.

Very ahpy to see that biden administaryion is updating snap benefit for reciepents.

Maria- preparing for increase in RI Workd program for cash support and skill builing supports. General assembly and Governor increased FU workd benefits. The state is committed to request the SNAP supplemental benefit

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| <p>as other federal benefits may go away in time. Wil continue to do that when we are still feeling the effects of the long term health emergency.</p> <p>HFTF: Key themes: Get document</p> <p>Juli reviewed slides. Key learnings is we knoe the local food economy is critical infrastructure. Currently being review by OMB and GO. Juli requested feedback: Randi asked about farm to school -questioning about farm to institution. Is there an opportunity?</p> <p>Ken said we need to advance in the area of instutional to encourage local buying. When the demand is there, it creates. Need for innovation.</p> <p>Universities are buying 20% local</p> <p>Juli would like to connect to talk about Build in value based</p> <p>RIDOH to colabortae Food Avess/Insecurty Manager sing covid-19 funds. Stay tuned. Presentation by Deb Golding</p> <p>9. Open Discussion/Comment of food pantries.</p> <p>Next meeting: November 16: 9:30am-11:00am Location: TBD</p> | |
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ACTION ITEMS:

Nessa: farmt o instutt

Open comment:

Chris- RI is getting more and more diverse. Need for culturally appropriate foods for all.

Jessica: agreed that child nutrition program- kosher meals. didn't know they were failing.

Culturally relevant food and having

Staffing is always an issue in school food service workers.

Food and manufacturing labor storages

ARPA request_ goal is to put together a grant program to figure out organizations to figure out.

Jessica: hopes that we can find a way to find more resiprical way to access food programs. Build a web of food securirtyl asking as one unit.

Community resource platform that Medicaid is using. Unite RI?? Referral mechanism. Electronic refefferal

Maria – in addition to Unite US, there are sevela initiatives where state agencies do direct outreach to participation lists. Present on this at future meeting? Data migration to do direct outreach. Families have to know where to go, etc.

Open discussion:

LASA update: DEM

Helps entrepenerial fishers who are trying to find ways for connectivity. Just about to announce 20 grant reciepentnts. Great projects. Excited to let applicants know shortly. Request 60+ applicants, many more eligible projects but just don't have enough funding for. If ARPA funding is approved, may be able to fund more.

Diane Lynch:

Referrals came u as a widespread need. Staff at RIFPC what o should be included, talked to 2211, explored how to leverage. Strong need for that.

Sara Amin shared food access stakeholder voices.

Nessa:

Put out a summary of yhr HETF meeting and will share.

Randi to find out if HEZ should be included for HEZ connection.

Continue t

Lisa, hope and Main.

Issue of ramping up the pathways for small farmers and producers. Access ro

Deb had a hard time hearing. Look forward to meeting.

Public comment

Meeting adjourned at 2:28pm.

Public comment via email?