



Food & Nutrition Coalition Meeting Minutes September 12, 2018 8:30am – 10:00am

Attendees: Bethany Joseph, Cait Melamed, Carola Carassa, Chelsea Totten, Connie Bellows, Danielle Simmons, Deanna Howland, DeDe Esque, Gordie Moeller, Heather Hughesian, Jenny Kinne, Karrie Brown, Linda Jones, Mark Lubberts, Maridell Gracias, Nicole Karl, Shay Krick, Stephanie McKendry, Susan Cervantes, Brittany Mastenbrook, Emily Schichtel

I. Introductions:

- Minutes Date: August 8, 2018
Motion Passed, No Amendments

II. Policy Updates: Jenny

- Immigration Policy: proposed rule change (federal level) tied up in “Public Charge” (allows the federal gov’t to consider whether or not people are likely to become dependent on public service programs (for example cash assistance, and used to determine acceptance or denial of visa application); public charge could be moved to the top of priorities for visa applications and could include any type of public assistance program; for the first time it would also include US born children of immigrants (may need to decide whether or not to apply for public assistance since it might impact visa application); as a “Rule Change” it only requires posting for public comment (30-60 days); the fed government needs to reply to each individual comment – organizational and individual comments are extremely important.
- FLORA Agreement: proposed rule change – currently states that children can not be detained for longer than 90 days. The administration wants to change that so that children can be detained for an undefined length of time. Also will go through the public comment process;
- Jenny will send information as soon as these public comment items are dropped
- Ballot Initiatives:
 - State Legislature took up paid sick leave and minimum wage issues as bills, so they will be on the ballot but efforts will be in place to undermine the final legislation

III. FNC Journey

- Review of the process so far: Launch, Gain Clarity, Find Leverage, Act Strategically, Learn and Adapt
- Education: Program awareness focus (understanding who is providing classes and participate in the activities); utilizing the results of the surveying to identify the needs; potential evaluation and funding for some of the classes that are offered
- Policy: Legislative event to promote systemic change



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- Health: Looking internally and at community impacts: the foods that are provided in health care organizations, the sourcing of food products; the health and access of the employees of health care companies
- Community Power: Outreach and communication efforts through local media and materials, meeting people at the pantries, growing the “community”

IV. Gallery Walk

- Each group posted their strategies and briefly explained them to the others from the other groups; everyone added comments, insights (asked questions and gave suggestions, using post-it notes)
- Groups went back to their own tables and discussed the feedback

VI. Next Meeting/Adjourn

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10, 8:30am – 10:30am

Location: Mercy Health Lacks Grand - Lacks Center, Lower Level, 250 Cherry St. SE Grand Rapids, MI 49503