



Food & Nutrition Coalition Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2020, 8:30am – 10:00am

Facilitator:	Eleanor Moreno and Kam Sudberry		
Meeting Attendees:	Julie VanGessel, Julie Brunson, Aly Rickman, Eleanor Moreno, Carola Carassa, Cait Melamed, Jennifer Smith, Erin Skidmore, Tracey Booth, Kelly Hagemeyer, Taylor Hartson, Nancy Cromley, Emily Schichtel, Kam Sudberry, Jim Holkeboer, Gordie Moeller, Austin Roelofs, AJ Fossil, Sydney Watson, Alycia Moore, Heather, Tanya Henry, Jayme Vosovic, Abby LaLonde, Shawn Keener, Colene Johnson, Amy Klinkoski, Austin Roelofs, Janelle Johnson, Jennifer Smith, Julie Brunson, Mandy Joslyn, Beverly Bouma, Kimberly Buskirk, Heather Milks, Wende Randall, Brianne Czyzio Robach		
Time Convened:	8:40	Time Adjourned:	10:05

<b>Introductions</b>		
Eleanor shared a reflection on the Growing Connection Food Summit hosted by GVSU and asked those who attended to share their reflection.		
<b>Host Remarks: Community Food Club</b>		
Discussion		
Community Food Club celebrated their 5 <sup>th</sup> birthday in January. They exist to be a grocery store for those in the community under 200% of poverty level. Once a month, members pay a sliding scale fee and receive points to shop. Point don't expire. Fruits and vegetables are the lowest point levels in the store to encourage healthy consumption. 49.9% of the food that goes out their doors is a fruit or vegetable. The sliding scale fee covers about \$80-100 of retail value products. In the past, there was a referral process and waiting list. Now, any interested participants can come directly to the store with an ID (this can be a piece of mail or letter from a school) for everyone in their household and proof of income.		
<b>Shadowing Experience: Report-Out</b>		<b>All</b>
Discussion		
Members had the opportunity to share reflections and learnings from their experiences shadowing other members of FNC. Overall, those who took part in a shadowing experience found it was extremely helpful in building relationships and establishing potential connections.		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>Action Teams: 2020 Planning</b>		
Action Teams were given time to discuss goals and action steps for 2020. Groups reported out on their goals for the next few months.		
<u>Education</u>		
The group would like to have a networking event for all of ENTF's subcommittees where members can come together and learn about initiatives in different subcommittees.		
<u>Health</u>		
The action team has been updating their problem and hope statement. This quarter they will be compiling information around social determinants of health. Then, they will be working on sharing		



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this with residents and organizations. If you have any Social Determinants of Health information, please send it to Kam ([kamara.sudberry@spectrumhealth.com](mailto:kamara.sudberry@spectrumhealth.com)). The group also discussed addressing root causes.

Policy

The group discussed hosting a training on lobbying versus advocacy to empower nonprofits to talk to legislators and advocate for programs. They also discussed tabling at Disability Awareness Day to help stimulate conversation. In addition, will be determining priority areas before meeting with legislators. Michigan League for Public Policy offers on-site trainings for organizations for free, connect with Jayme ([jvosovic@mlpp.org](mailto:jvosovic@mlpp.org)).

Community Power

They are continuing moving meeting locations throughout the community. Also, are working on understanding community engagement strategies and will be developing a procedure on how to do this and how to weave this into meetings.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

**Organizational Updates/Opportunities**

Discussion

**Kids Food Basket:** Access hosting poverty simulation for staff and volunteers on March 9, they have a limited number of spots they are opening to ENTF members. If you are interested, please reach out to Julie ([julie@kidsfoodbasket.org](mailto:julie@kidsfoodbasket.org)).

**UCOM:** is doing free income taxes for community members. Call for more information (616) 241-4006

**Michigan League for Public Policy:** They will be hosting a webinar on February 26<sup>th</sup> with budget updates. Jayme will send information to the group.

**Equity Toolkit:** The Economic and Workforce Development subcommittee worked with a consultant to develop tools that can be used as a conversation starter for equity discussion within organizations and in the community. There is an opportunity to provide feedback and share additional resources. The toolkit can be found on ENTF's website: <http://entfkent.org/about/equity-resources/>

**Adjourn**

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 11.