



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

Facilitator:	Eleanor Moreno and Kam Sudberry		
Meeting Attendees:	Julie Melia, Colene Johnson, Kelly Hagemeyer, Taylor Hartson, Phillip Greene, Abby LaLonde, Jayme Vosovic, Julie VanGessel, Julie VanderMolen, Gordie Moeller, Tim Novak, Aly Rickman, Nicole Hansen, Kamara Sudberry, Linda Jones, Carola Carassa, Eleanor Moreno, Deanna Howland, Erin Skidmore, Tracy Booth, Liz Gordillo, Jennifer Smith, AJ Fossel, Kelly Glas, Wende Randall, Emily Madsen, Brianne Czyzio Robach <i>(List may not be complete- please contact Brianne if you were on the call but are not listed here.)</i>		
Time Convened:	8:35	Time Adjourned:	10:00

Welcome and Reflection	
ENTF Strategic Design and Implementation Update	
Discussion	
Liz Gordillo, from Liz G Consulting, overviewed the strategic design and implementation process that ENTF is undertaking. Liz G and her team reviewed Trello boards, interviewed ENTF members, and analyzed survey data to create a strategic design process as well as a metrics and learning plan. They will be gathering feedback from full ENTF group likely in early August.	
FNC Co-Chair Experience	
Discussion	
Eleanor Moreno has served Food and Nutrition Coalition co-chair for the past two years. She highlighted some of the great opportunities she has had with the group over the past few years. She shared that recently she has been thinking a lot about FNC's "why". She encouraged the group to be bold in working to create a process that allows the future of the food system to be deeply owned and design by neighbors and built by their strengths.	
Eleanor will be transitioning out of the co-chair role but will still be present in the group. A huge thank you to Eleanor for all her leadership with the group and inspiration to think boldly, take risks, and be vulnerable.	
Co-Chair Nomination and Election Process	
Discussion	
Co-chairs rotate through 2-year terms. Kam will continue serving in her co-chair role for the next year alongside a new co-chair. If you or someone you know would be a good fit for the co-chair role, please submit their name via the nomination form. If you nominate someone else, please get their permission before submitting their name.	
If you have any questions, around the position feel free to reach out to ENTF staff or to Eleanor or Kam to hear more about their experience. In addition to the co-chair role, there are other opportunities for leadership within the group! Please reach out to ENTF staff if you are interested in leadership.	
Group Discussion: Current Food Assistance Narrative	

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This topic arose from previous conversations around the narrative surrounding food access, food security, and food assistance in the community. Recently the leadership group talked about the narrative that exists during the time of COVID-19 and that has existed for years prior to COVID-19. Kam asked the group to think through how to know that the narrative needs to be changed and opportunities that are available to change the current narrative in the food systems and food assistance space. Attendees reflected on the following questions:

What are things you are tired of seeing?

- Staff working in the food systems space not receiving a living wage.
- Language around food insecurity - defined terms and phrases lead to shared understanding
- Equating success with pounds of food distributed to how many people –measurements should measure what outcomes we want to see (e.g.: food justice, sovereignty, or liberation) Through nonprofits lens, how can we base work in value as opposed to outputs?
- “Hunger” as the frame
- Seeing the white savior complex played out over and over in the charity food system
- scarcity mentality – reacting instead of thoughtfully engaging/investigating/responding
- not defining community members by their challenges, which often tie to policy (e.g.: minimum wage), check out [this link asset framing link](#) - language is powerful and can activate biases

What things have you been excited to see?

- Due to COVID, have seen some system aligned to end-user convenience (e.g.: transportation and/or convenient options for pick up)
- Finding healthy ways to stay engaged with neighbors
- Collaborations and partnerships to try new things (e.g.: Access partnering with resource centers to start community markets which source food locally and sell at an affordable cost)
- Increase in community members using their assistance to purchase healthy, local food.
- Excited to see plant sharing across organizations
- Breaking down barriers, both self-imposed or systemic

What actions can be implemented to shift the narrative?

- address the root causes and the issues. MLPP has been focusing on the state budget and advocacy. Looking at budgets across the board – are there places we can shift money to address root causes? Where do we want our dollars to go?
- As we build relationships with our constituents, ask them what it would look like for them to be food secure? How would they like to get to that point? What would help them thrive?
- We cannot address systems change in the food system and the charity food system without addressing racism

If you have additional thoughts, please share with Wende and Kam

Community Partner Updates

Discussion



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Latino Community Coalition – candidate forum tomorrow at noon on [facebook live](#).

GRPS – continuing summer feeding program, 6 sites are open Mondays and Thursdays thru August 6th.

MLPP – Link to federal funding fact sheet: <https://mlpp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/michigan-federal-relief.pdf>

DHHS – emergency allotment for food assistance for households not receiving the full amount during the month of July.

Adjourn

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 12 at 8:30am.