



Food & Nutrition Coalition Meeting Minutes  
 April 14, 2021, 8:30am – 10:00am

<b>Meeting Attendees:</b>	Aaron Estrada, Abby Bishop, Abigail LaLonde, Allison Karl, Alyssa Rickman, Alyssa Stickney, Amy Klinkoski, Amy Kuras, Anneliese Orr, Ashley Tubergen, Bethany Joseph, Brianne Robach, Carola Carassa, Chelsea Totten, Colene Johnson, Crystal Scott-Tunstall, Danah Montgomery, Deanna Howland, Elizabeth Rinke, Emily Madsen, Emily Schichtel, Emma VanderMeulen, Erin Skidmore, Gordie Moeller, Heidi Vanderlaan, Jamie Lioy, Jayme Vosovic, Jennifer Smith, Joana Leatherman, Julie Brunson, Julie Melia, Kamara Sudberry, Karrie Brown, Kelly Glas, Nicole Driesenga, Paula Kerr, Phillip Greene, Rachel Bessire, Sarah Simmons, Taylor Hartson, Teresa Hendricks, Wafa Haddad, Wende Randall <i>(List may not be complete- please contact Brianne if you were on the call but are not listed here.)</i>		
<b>Time Convened:</b>	8:35	<b>Time Adjourned:</b>	10:01

<b>Welcome</b>	
<b>Reflection:</b>	
Discussion	
Ask all to reflect on a time when you were misunderstood. Reflect on the how you felt, what, if anything you did to clarify the intent, and how the misunderstanding impacted the relationship.	
<b>Tying the Work Together</b>	
Discussion	
A few years ago, the group developed a guiding and near star to guide the work of the coalition. Over the past several months, have been discussing how we use vocabulary and how we view our work. Topics have included decolonizing data, changing the narrative, shifting the discourse, and the conditions and stages of systems change.	
<b>Shared Vocabulary</b>	
Discussion	
<p>In November, the group discussed several terms that are used frequently within the food space and defined these terms. In addition to these 8 terms, we discussed 2 additional terms from the near and guiding star last month.</p> <p>Attendees created word clouds around the reaction and impacts of each term: Hunger, Food Insecurity, Scarcity, Charity, Food Desert / Food Apartheid, Food Access / Food Security, Justice, Food Sovereignty, Resident-Driven. View the word clouds in the <a href="#">meeting slides</a>. In breakout groups, teams drafted a few sentences describing both the positive and negative implications of each team.</p> <p><u>Call to Action</u>          Continue to reflect on how you and your organization have used the terms, what were you trying to convey, and how have people responded to these terms. Share and discuss these terms and their use with others at your organization. Identify one thing that you can do to focus your individual and/or organizational messaging on assets.</p>	



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As we move forward towards the end of the pandemic, there are many ways in which we will not be returning to “normal”. It is important to have organizations and systems reflect this mentality in their language and actions.

**Community Partner Updates**

Discussion

Amy Kuras, with Detroit Food Policy Council shared that they received a grant to encourage fresh fruits and veggies purchasing with SNAP. They are hoping to hold focus groups throughout the state and are hoping to partner with local agencies serving SNAP participants in Kent County. They hope to hold 2 focus groups, no more than 10 participants per group, would need help recruiting participants and co-facilitating groups and helping disseminating feedback. Compensation available for participants and for supporting organizations. Connect with Amy if you have questions or are interested: [amy@detroitfoodpc.org](mailto:amy@detroitfoodpc.org); 313-443-0456 (cell)

HOPE Gardens: Heirloom plant sale coming in May.

Double Up Food Bucks: Contact Gordie Moeller for this year’s DUFBI Fliers and Posters at [gordiemoeller@comcast.net](mailto:gordiemoeller@comcast.net) or 616-293-4727. This year’s DUFBI match \$50.

Crystal Scott-Tunstall, Professor and Intern Coordinator, GVSU, Environmental and Sustainability Studies. If your organization is looking for interns, please connect with Crystal: [scotttuc@gvsu.edu](mailto:scotttuc@gvsu.edu)

HealthNet is hiring a FitKids360 coordinator, connect with Carola with questions. Job posting: <https://live.dominionsystems.com/Payroll/applicantPostingListNL.aspx?code=HNO1&posting=7686>

P-EBT cards are starting to go out to families; P-EBT qualifies for DUFBI

Noord Heaven would like to participate in all programs. Email or text Wafa at [aid@noorheaven.org](mailto:aid@noorheaven.org) or 616-589-1625

Kam reflected on how ‘normalized’ language can dehumanize our neighbors. She noted that shifting this language starts with internal work starts with yourself and the language you use.

Meeting Slides:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/15sYBC9O7kHIDDGp49uuzXmrlz0yAZ7Ao/view?usp=sharing>

**Adjourn**