Indiana SNAC Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: November 3rd, 2021

Meeting time: 1:00-3:00 p.m. EST

Attendees (56)

Samantha Schaefer, Healthy IU

Nathan Schaeper, Community Hospital East

Seth Grant, Eskenazi Health

Erin Sharrow-Hayse, Purdue Extension

Erin Slevin, Purdue Extension

Emma Smythe, IDOH

Jenna Sperry, IDOH

Shellye Suttles, Indiana University

Marcia Sweet, Purdue Extension

Lacy Wilson, Purdue Extension

Antonia Sawyer, Hoosier Health and Wellness Alliance

Megan Henderson, Anthem

Eric Hills, Purdue Extension

Veronica Jalomo, Purdue Extension

Chelsie Jaramillo, Purdue Extension

Jeff Walker, Purdue Extension

Jess Klien, Bloomington Parks and Rec

Jill Tuley-Walters, Purdue Extension

Kayla Bledsoe, Immigrant Welcome Center

Kilah Kuiper, MCPHD

Kylee Bennett, Parkview Health

Megihann Leininger, Purdue Extension

Beckie Lies, Purdue Extension

Mary Tyndall, St. Joseph Community Health Foundation

Joe Ryan, IDOH WIC

Julia Brunnemer, IDOH

Amy Rupp, IDOH

Ashley Roberts, Purdue Extension

Joyce Robertson, FNS

Robin Mallery, Urban Seeds

Terri Saltzman, Purdue Extension

Linda Adams, Purdue Extension

Fern Bachner, IDOE

Jared Blanchard, Purdue Extension

Lindsey Bouza, IDOH

Lindsey Caterina, Purdue Extension

Holly Catron, Purdue Extension

Claire Rivron, Purdue Extension

Blake Connolley, Purdue Extension

Katie Davidson, Purdue Extension

Deanna Reinoso, Eskenazi Health

Debbie Mix, Purdue Extension

Mindy Duckett, Purdue Extension

Annie Eakin, Purdue Extension

Eddie Cozart, Purdue Extension

Elise Gahan, MCPHD

Tope Erinosho, Indiana University

Allison Finzel, Purdue Extension

Naima Gardner-Rice, IDOH

Michelle Bojrab, Parkview Health

Jennifer Nugent, Anthem

Katherine Pope, Indiana University

Sarah Wilson, Gleaners Food Bank

Action Items are highlighted in yellow

SNAC Updates

* *SNAC website-* We are in the process of uploading information to submit to Grapevine Local so they can begin creating the website
	+ Grapevine Local designed the Indiana Grown for Schools website and they do a fantastic job
	+ Once the website draft is complete, we plan to garner feedback from the group
* *SNAC Steering Committee restructure*- Over the next year, we are going to be expanding the steering committee to include more statewide representation
	+ Working to also amplify the voices of those with lived experiences who we serve through programming
	+ The last meeting is in December and we have invited our CWC Specialists to be a part of the meeting
* *Dialogue Sessions*
	+ Every month next year, we are going to be offering a platform for professionals to come and share their experiences with a pre-determined topic (see topic calendar below)
		- These will be one hour long on the last Thursday of each month (registration links to come)
	+ We will have a presenter come to share their experience to ground the conversation
	+ Then there will be breakout rooms to discuss experiences and brainstorm ideas to address challenges
	+ If you would like to present your experiences at these meeting related to a topic below, please contact Julia or Amy!



* *Listening Sessions*- We are currently working with external partners to determine the logistics behind these sessions
	+ Looking to fund 6 sessions in the next year. If you perform listening sessions in your organization, we might be reaching out to you to compare processes
* *Student Networking Opportunities*- We are offering student the opportunity to attend our quarterly meetings and hear from our partners at a panel in February
	+ If you are interested in speaking about your work at a student panel in February, please contact Julia or Amy! (Specific dates to come)

Organizational Updates

*WIC Commodities Updates- Joe Ryan-* *jryan@isdh.in.gov*

* WIC benefits for the next couple of months starting on October 1st – December 31st, 2021- see the graphic that was shared on the recording
* FMNP (Farmers Market Nutrition Program)- received two potential electric solutions- MarketLinc and Solei System
	+ First earliest implementation will be FY23
	+ Contracting with bank for accounts and check production, but doing most of the administrative tasks in house (check issuance, reporting, vendor approval)
	+ Looking to bring in a new staff member with this transition
* CFSP (Commodity Supplemental Food Program)- case load went down severely in 2021
	+ Only able to hit 87.6% participation compared to minimum participation of 96%
	+ Began service in Crawford, Clark, Harrison, Floyd, Washington, and Scott Counties in November (Jefferson County was planned, but was delayed)
* Likely getting a Farm to Food Bank grant for $144,000
	+ Support Gleaners Fresh Connect Efforts- Fair share funding among all food banks and a 50% support for harvesting, processing, and delivering agricultural products
* TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program)- Reach and resiliency grant opportunity coming soon!
* Working with state agencies to apply for a local food purchase assistance cooperative agreement program grant
	+ Acquiring, processing, and distributing agricultural products – targeting rural and communities experiencing low-income

*Dr. Reinoso – Eskenazi Medical Director of the SDOH Division-* *dreinoso@iu.edu*

* Officially opened the “fresh for you market” outside of the Eskenazi Health main campus-Innovative approach combining market access to food as well as food pantry model for health system
	+ Our attempt to provide access to areas that don’t have an accessible market while also utilizing a food pantry with a voucher system
		- Located outside the hospital, so will be able to accept SNAP and partner with outside organizations who are running the same voucher system
	+ Inpatient and outpatient access (Through Federally Qualified Health Centers)
	+ Opened the market portion within the hospital in 2017, and piloted with primary care site on campus the pantry hybrid in 2019
		- Rolling out the market specifically to oncology and emergency department
		- Also implementing universal screening for food insecurity to participate in the voucher program
* In 2020 & 2021, they opened the car distribution line sites in collaboration with Gleaners using USDA Farmers to Families boxes
	+ Eskenazi distributed ~2 million meals and ~31,000 gallons of milk
	+ Moving away from the car line distributions as the pandemic has changed, and many pantries are starting to open
* Food as Medicine
	+ Originally did Food as Medicine group visits with primary health center
		- Grant through Feeding America and Anthem
		- Provided food for families with diabetes and pre-diabetes
	+ Partnering with Gleaner’s for a virtual nutrition education programming
		- Providing home food delivery with medically tailored food boxes
	+ Early in the process but going very well, working with different ways to overcome transportation barriers that overlap with food access barriers

*Mary Tyndall – St. Joseph Community Health Foundation-* *MTyndall@sjchf.org*

* Started the Double Up SNAP matching program, the grant started late last year but started matching SNAP purchases last July
* 1 year-round retail location and 5 farmers markets on board
* So far this year they have matched $50,000, hoping to ramp it up next year
* POS continues to be a challenge
* Partnership with HEAL market and Parkview Health is going well
	+ HEALing kitchen classes- serving more than 400 people and with a curriculum that was created in-house

*Margarita Heart – Esperanza Ministries-* *esperanzaministries@gmail.com*

* I serve at Esperanza Ministries who serves the immigrant population in Southern Marion and Johnson County.  We serve immigrants with end of life support, advocacy and assistance with bills due to prolonged illness.  I also serve at Indiana Community Health Workers Association (INCHWA) serving across the state to support the Community Health Worker workforce, through advocacy, specialty education and leadership development.  We have about 2,000 members in our INCHWA membership.

*Marcia Sweet – Purdue NEP-* *sweet10@purdue.edu*

* Starting the new senior curriculum – Eat Smart, Live Strong
* Also introduced the Teen Cuisine curriculum which has been immensely successful
* All programs are free and are available in-person and virtually
* CWCs are continuing to welcome new partners and building new connections
* Hiring 4 new CWCs

*Sarah Wilson – Gleaner’s Food Bank of Indiana-* *swilson@gleaners.org*

* Developing nutrition policy for organization, internal staff members working on it and an external group who is advising
	+ Make sure we are providing the most nutritious food possible and a making variety of options available
* Inventory is being ranked in alignment with the Supporting Wellness at Pantries (SWAP) nutrition guidelines

*Emily Bryant – Feeding Indiana’s Hungry-* *ewbryant@feedingindianashungry.org*

* We have SNAP resources in English and Spanish on our website for general populations and college students, and we’re still waiting on the Building Back Better plan to be finalized--it’s been a very long work in progress—but last we were updated, there are $10B in nutrition resources included:
	+ Reducing child hunger by extending through 2024 a summer grocery benefit to families with children who typically receive free or reduced-price school meals during the school year (currently called P-EBT).
	+ The package also would expand the number of schools serving large numbers of low-income students that are able to offer free school meals to all students through the 2025-2026 school year under the Community Eligibility Program.

Nourish Presentation- [https://nourishevv.org/](https://nourishevv.org/%29)

Lacy Wilson (wilso766@purdue.edu ) and Casey Williams (will1582@purdue.edu )

* Promise Zones- high poverty areas where the federal government partners with local partners to leverage opportunities to better the economic outcomes.
* Promise Zone Focus on Food Meetings
	+ How can we ensure that people still have access to food?
		- The area had lost grocery stores- in 2021 they are down to one grocery store
* Nourish Club Information
	+ Got in one session in before the pandemic hit.
	+ Now offers boxes- well rounded boxes and themed boxes (will be launching a holiday box).
	+ Accepts SNAP, Cash or Credit
	+ Ordered by Tuesday of that week is the last week that you can order to pick up Thursday (every other Thursday).
	+ Trinity United Methodist Church Partnership
		- Aggregate, store, prepare, and pick up location
		- Puts extra on Facebook for free pick up
		- Gets volunteers to help with the packing and preparing of the box with congregation members
	+ Offers nutrition education through Cooking Matters
	+ Incentive points can be redeemed for cooking/kitchen supplies (cookbook up to an instant pot)
	+ At 6-month survey, access to nourishing foods was up but the consumption of fruits and veggies was down.
		- Hypothesis is COVID-19 effects on people food/consumption patterns.
* Questions
	+ Urban Seeds is the organization that accepts SNAP benefits
	+ Open to the general public and will serve anyone
		- Do give presentations that service low-resourced individuals and ALICE populations

Shelly Suttles- Assistant Professor at the O’Neil IU Bloomington- shelsutt@iu.edu

<https://oneill.indiana.edu/faculty-research/directory/profiles/faculty/full-time/suttles-shellye.html>

* Facts and Figures
	+ Food Systems has two large buckets: supply and demand sectors
		- Most people think of farmers and consumers, with those more savy thinking more about retail food, food and beverage sites, and emergency food assistance
	+ Sustainable Food Systems Policy
		- Food System
			* Food Policy in ag and food safety
			* Governance at multiple levels
		- Sustainability
			* Environmental: economic, energy, environment, and forestry
			* Socioeconomic: social, economic, cultural, education, transportation, tax, and labor
			* Public Health: public health, public safety, preparedness, cultural, education
	+ Race and Quality of Food Environment
		- There is a positive relationship with increased food environment and increased white population.
			* The whiter the county population, the better the food environment (increased food quality and decreased food insecurity)
	+ Direct to Consumer Sales
		- Farms that are selling directly to consumers for human consumption!
			* The number of farms selling directly to consumers is decreasing (2012-2017), but the profits from the sales are more than doubling ($1.3 billion - $2.8 billion)
			* This is important because it is the same trend that traditional agriculture has followed.
	+ Definition of “local”?
		- Reports looking to understand what the UDSA defined this as
		- 200 miles from your community is considered local
		- Local foods often time used as a proxy for xenophobia
		- Can use local as an exclusionary device
		- There is a space to do better with equity and diversity in local and conventional food system
		- People will no longer tolerate racism and lack of diversity in the US food system
* Diversity in U.S. Food and Farming
	+ There are twice as many male non-minority businesses compared to female minority businesses
	+ White male businesses are earning $1million annually to the $178,000 of the female minority businesses
	+ 14% of the US population is foreign-born, 19% of the US population is now Hispanic (they are the majority minority)
* Open Discussion
	+ When we think about sustainability, particularly public health sustainability, are there challenges in creating that sustainability within the health system?
		- Naima: One that has been top of mind for me is specifically the relationship between food systems, food systems sustainability, and public health is the fickleness of funding sources. We spend a great deal of time looking for ongoing and new funding for projects.
		- Sarah Wilson: Storage capacity has been a challenge for our network of food pantries- especially refrigeration and freezer space to support the more nutritious products we are trying to get out to the community.
	+ What are some opportunities that your project, or other projects, have?
		- Increased storage capacity is an opportunity for growth.
	+ Your thoughts on diversity and equity in current food system solutions?
		- Naima: This is a bit high level, but what I am ruminating on with his prompt, I am thinking that equity and diversity are often an afterthought with programming. We do not center it at the beginning of programmatic work. Until we bring an equity lens to every aspect of the food system and programming, we are stuck in the cycle of repeating best practices and then tacking on equity and diversity at the end.
		- Michelle Shippy: It got me thinking, something that we see with our SNAP matching program at farmers markets and expanding it at the retail level because our markets are largely in white communities, we hit barriers through paperwork at the federal level to get into the retail space. It is something that Marion Co. Health Department must undertake.
			* The policy that exists creates structural/policy barriers to creativity and innovation.
		- Clarie Rivron: One personal observation from living in different parts of the state is that in neighborhoods with more diversity among residents, the corner store model is more prevalent (Hammond in Lake County, for example). This walkable and small-scale food resource is in contrast to more suburban and rural areas that rely on large supermarket retailers and Dollar General stores. Personal transportation and walkability are huge factors in food access.
	+ What are your thoughts on improving diversity and equity in your nutrition work?

Kayla Bledsoe- Immigrant Welcome Center

* Immigrant Welcome Center Connect
	+ Find Help (formally Aunt Bertha)
	+ Please view the recording for a step-by-step look at the database
* FindHelp Tool- [https://immigrantwelcomecenter.auntbertha.com/](https://protect2.fireeye.com/v1/url?k=d0444d37-8fdf747c-d0400437-867c6b071c6f-6411619e08223ad3&q=1&e=e5ae5c15-ee27-428a-b9b9-7d961118baf8&u=https%3A%2F%2Fimmigrantwelcomecenter.auntbertha.com%2F)
* Immigrant Welcome Center- <https://www.immigrantwelcomecenter.org/who-we-are/about-us/>

Announcements and Reminders

* Please send Julia your new or updated SNAC profile by December 17th to have you information included in the January update
* Please fill out the evaluation survey by December 17th to help us learn how to improve the group in the coming year

**Next Meeting: February 2nd at 1 p.m.**

We will be sending out a link to register rather than calendar invites for the meetings next year.

 Have a wonderful holiday season! 😊