COVID-19 Check-In Meetings
Tuesday - November 30, 2021

Welcome!!!!

Schedule:
Tuesday – General Focus Meeting – Once per Month

Updates
WSDA Focus on Food – Katie Rains; We Feed Washington & DP Update
Washington Food Coalition – Trish Twomey
Harvest Against Hunger – David Bobanick
Advocacy Update – Aaron Czyzewski, Christina Wong, Claire Lane

FA Updates
FA Internal Changes (Kyle); Inventory, Expiration Dates, Food Ordering (James);
Flexible Funding Grants (Lindsey); F2FP, F2FB (Nichole); Legislative Update,
USDA Grant Local Purchasing (Kim)

Next Mtgs.
No Meetings in December – Happy Holidays!
January Meetings – New Invites will be sent in December – Teams Meetings
We Feed WA Pilot Food Program Updates

• 26 Contractors ranging from produce companies, to family farms to NGOs
• $13M in contracts for food boxes or food box equivalents; 4 contractors serving highest need geographic and tribal communities in Food Assistance network are receiving 30% of total funding allocation
• All out of network providers allocations have reduced significantly from May 2021 levels and these organizations have been encouraged to assess their long-term delivery plans, pursue additional funding from other sources, and develop relationships with Food Assistance network providers
• Like USDA program, food is low-barrier: no intake requirements or means testing
• Food safety standards, from produce safety to retail food code compliance, have increased and monitoring visits commence in December
• Looking Ahead: Over the remainder of the biennium, WSDA will analyze how and why these dual networks emerged, some prior to COVID and many as a result of COVID, and will work to bring them into alignment under one program
As you may recall, WSDA submitted 2 Decision Packages to the Governor’s Office for consideration in the supplemental budget process:

- Food Assistance Capacity Funding (*Kim will discuss this one later*)
- We Feed WA Enhanced Funding

After evaluation of rising costs across the supply chain, including:

- Labor
- Freight
- Food Costs

We increased our request 25%, ↑ to $74.8M for the same level of service
Changes to Our Team!

Food Assistance is adding two new people to our team!

• Welcome to Anna Berrey who is now assisting our team with grants, special projects, and more!

• Heidi Cobun will join our team on 12/1/21 as a regional representative!
  • Transition period for affected contractors will be 12/1/21-1/1/22
  • If your region is changing reps, you will receive further information including contact information for your new rep.

Check out our new draft Regional Map!
Questions asked after the Subcontractor Inventory Training

- **What are contractors doing with the Subcontractor inventory report?**
  - Contractors are using the report to track the on hand inventory to make sure subs don’t have more than the three months supply of any TEFAP item
  - Contractors are using the report to track loss, damage, and inventory adjustments
  - Contractors are using the report to track Household Numbers

- **What are contractors doing with loss reports?**
  - All loss must be investigated
  - Loss reports are matched to the inventory report
  - Tracking value of loss

- **What should we be doing with expired TEFAP food?**
  - If a TEFAP item is past its expiration date, it shouldn’t be distributed
  - If you have an item that is past the expiration date, it is considered a loss – a loss form will need to be filled out
  - Best by dates and use by dates are the same as expiration date
Food Ordering Work Group

We will have a Food ordering work group GoToMeeting on Friday, December 3rd at 9:00 am, we will cover the following topics:

• TEFAP entitlement vs TEFAP bonus items
• Items available to be ordered for TEFAP entitlement orders
• Yearly entitlement Fruit and Vegetable orders
• Quarterly TEFAP entitlement orders
• Providing feedback on TEFAP items
• April to June TEFAP entitlement orders
**WSDA Food Assistance Flexible Funding Grants Overview**

**Application & Award Timeline (Subject to Change)**

- **Grant overview released by WSDA**: September 29, 2021
- **Applications open**: September 29, 2021
- **Q&A sessions**: Weekly and on demand
- **FAQ**: Updated weekly
- **Applications due**: November 15, 2021
- **Selection time period**: November 16-26, 2021
- **Notifications of applicants**: December 6, 2021
- **Projects complete**: June 30, 2022
- **Final reports due**: July 15, 2022

**Updates:**

- 156 applications received
- **Project Size:**
  - 16: under <$5,000
  - 69: $5k-$50k projects
  - 71: Over $50k projects
- From 121+ agencies
  - 49 out-of-network
  - 4 Tribes
- Over $16.8M project costs

**Stay Tuned:**

Round 2 coming Spring 2022

**Questions:**

Lnrobinson@agr.wa.gov
Farm to Food Pantry SFY22-23 Application

- Last Q & A Session – 11/24/21
- Application Closes – Nov. 30
- Funding Decisions Made – Mid. Dec.
- Contracts will run from 1/1/22 – 6/30/23 with biennial funding allocated by SFY
- Allocations ~$3.5K - 35K per SFY to buy local farm food
  - 10% admin, up to 30% non-produce

Eligibility:
- 501(c)3, tribe or public agency
- Registered w/ SAM, SOS, hold a Statewide vendor #
TEFAP Farm to Food Bank Projects

$140k 2022

Supports the harvest, processing, packaging, or transportation of unharvested, unprocessed, or unpackaged commodities donated by agricultural producers, processors, or distributors for use by emergency feeding organizations.

Purpose:
• Reduce food waste
• Build relationships
• Provide food to individuals in need

Grant opens early December until January 31, 2022

Grant period April 1st – October 30th, 2022

Eligibility:
• 501(c)3, tribe or public agency
• Registered w/ SAM, SOS, hold a Statewide vendor #
2021-23 Supplemental Budget Session – WSDA Food Assistance Capacity Decision Package (DP) Amendment

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<th>Dollars in Thousands</th>
<th>Original DP Request</th>
<th>Additional DP Request</th>
<th>Total Revised DP Request</th>
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<td>Total SFY22</td>
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<td>$ 500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total SFY23</td>
<td>$ 3,675</td>
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<td>$ 17,125</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$ 3,675</td>
<td>$ 13,950</td>
<td>$ 17,625</td>
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*Additional funds requested for SFY22 in anticipation of early action bill and/or expedient budget process.

• Updated based on the Capacity Survey:
  • 75% of Survey less Infrastructure = $17,625,000

• Strategic Plan Development for Capacity in the next Biennium:
  • Starting in January 2022
USDA Local Purchasing Cooperative Grant

USDA Status – Still Pending No New News:

- **Amount of funding**: $8 million estimated (for Washington State) over 2 years
- **Purpose of funding**: Building, strengthening relationships between farmers/ranchers/producers and local food systems, including BIPOC farmers and expanding the reach to underserved communities.

Met with Local Purchasing Cooperative Grant Discussion Workgroup:

- Data Points
- Funding Ideas
- Approach to Allocation Ideas

Next Steps:

- Meeting with Tribes and Tribal Organizations
- Meeting with Farmers
Questions/Feedback?

We welcome and will continue to seek feedback and ideas! We have gathered a lot of input along the journey and have implemented many improvements but always recognize that there is room to grow – YOUR voice matters.

Thank YOU!
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Be Flexible</th>
<th>Situations Change</th>
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<tr>
<td>Change is Inevitable</td>
<td>Goals Remain Steady</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changing Landscape</td>
<td>Adapt and Overcome</td>
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**NEVER GIVE UP**

"Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it."

- Michael Jordan