

General Focus Check-In Meeting – May 20, 2025

Please note that at this time AI programs are not allowed at WSDA hosted meetings and they will be denied or removed from the meeting.

F2FP SFY 26-27 Applications and Updates – David Bobanick and Olivia Jackiewicz, HAH

- Farm to Food Pantry is a WSDA program with HAH as the Lead Agency. The program provides funding for hunger relief organizations to develop contracts and make purchases from small local growers to increase the amounts of fresh, nutrient dense produce into the hunger relief system.
- Operates on a biennium, grantees will receive funding for both state fiscal years 2026 and 2027.
- Unsure of funding until the budget is confirmed. Hoping for individual award amounts \$2500-\$7500.
 - Funding will be retroactive
- Eligibility
 - Be a public agency, tribe or tribal organization, or a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.
 - WA SOS Registration
 - If an EFAP Sub Agency, applicant must notify their EFAP Lead Agency of their intent to apply.
 - Not currently suspended or debarred
 - Insured up to \$100,000 per occurrence if annual budget is \$200,000 or more.
 - Or up to \$500,000 if annual budget is less than \$200,000
- Duties
 - Develop and maintain relationships with your local growers
 - Distribute to folks who can't access this food otherwise
 - Maintain reporting and attend cohort meetings
 - Follow food safety practices
- HAH provides
 - Technical support
 - Reporting tools
 - Monthly cohort meetings
 - Upfront payments (not reimbursement based) to organizations
 - HAH is reimbursed from WSDA
- Application
 - Eligibility Check
 - Scope of Services
 - Local Activities and Partnerships
 - Rubric can be found on the Outreach Letter (link in chat)
 - Opened May 5th and closes Friday June 6th at 11:59pm
 - Successful applicants will be notified the week of June 30th
 - Drop in Q&A this Friday 5/23/25 from 11-12pm
- **Questions/Comments:**
 - Could you please send a Q&A meeting invite to me please?

- Yes!
- If you have questions about F2FP, you can email me at olivia@harvestagainsthunger.org
- This clear and concise overview is exactly why Olivia's making it. It would have taken me a good 20-25 minutes...
 - <https://www.harvestagainsthunger.org/farm-to-food-pantry/>

WSDA Focus on Food & Other Updates – Katie Rains, WSDA

- Long legislative session adjourned Sunday, April 27, 2025.
- Thanks to your hard work advocating, legislature has put historic appropriation for sustained enhanced food assistance.
- [ESSB 5167](#) was signed by the Speakers of the House and Senate and delivered to Governor Ferguson on April 25, 2025.
- Governor Ferguson has until Tuesday May 20th to take action on bills, which may include line-item vetoes.
- Once the budget is signed, [the Office of Financial Management](#) advises agencies on exact funding levels and sources.
- WSDA may be slow to make announcements, but it is because we wait to have final information. Please go to advocacy partners or media outlets for forecasting or policy maker's conversations.
- WA state agencies administer programs and provides services on behalf of USDA through Cooperative Agreements, some of which have been impacted by DOGE and other federal changes:
 - Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA25)
 - Local Food in Schools (LFS)
 - TEFAP Commodity Credit Corporation Food
 - Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- **Contact:**
 - Katie Rains, Food Policy Advisor to the Director
 - krains@agr.wa.gov
 - 360-688-4549

Washington Food Coalition – Trish Twomey

- This is the last week to get best practices in for the WFC manual to get printed in time.
- WFC has put in an order for the red "know your rights" immigration cards. Contact us to request some (can send a couple hundred per organization).
- Have started working on 2026 calendar, would love to see picture submissions.
 - Theme is "planting the seeds to success"
 - Would like seeds, growing, plants, produce, etc.
- Nancy Bacon training June 18th program evaluation. 2-3:30 registration ([link in chat](#))
- Conference scheduled for September 17-19, 2025.
- **Questions/Comments:**
 - Evaluation Made Practical: Tools to tell your story and track your impact. Wednesday, June 18th, 2025 2:00PM-3:30PM Register here: <https://washingtonfoodcoalition.growthzoneapp.com/ap/r/b78ee605c86e4be2ba7e5fc851e8f14f>
- **Contact:**

- Trish Twomey, Executive Director
- trish@wafoodcoalition.org

Harvest Against Hunger – David Bobanick and Olivia

- Small Scale Capacity Grants – emails sent for reimbursement requests before the deadline
- Please make purchases, send in invoice.
- HAH will be making an overview report and would like photos of projects, purchases, or services funded by the small scale grants.
- **Contact info:**
 - David Bobanick, Executive Director
 - david@harvestagainsthunger.org

Advocacy Updates – Claire Lane, Aaron Czyzewski, AHNC

- House Ag committee voted on party lines to approve cuts to SNAP \$290B in cuts. Going through budget reconciliation which needs a simple majority to pass. Congressman Newhouse is on the Ag Committee and voted for the cuts. Constituents should call his office.
 - The cuts expands the time limit and requires working 20 hours a week year round.
 - Rolls back exemptions agreed to 2 years ago
 - Homeless,
 - Veterans,
 - Former foster youth up to age 25,
 - Those in high unemployment/low job areas,
 - Changes the work requirements:
 - Redefines definition of a dependent to children under 8
 - Extends able bodied work requirement to age 65
 - Limits access to only green card or U.S. citizen immigrants.
 - Prohibits the increase of benefit levels beyond the annual price of food, will not adjust based on the thrifty food plan
 - The thrifty food plan sets benefit levels for SNAP, TEFAP, and summer EBT
 - Changes how people can use utilities and LIHEAP to create a standard deduction
 - Currently costs are split States/Federal 50/50 admin costs and Federal 100% for food costs for SNAP,
 - Would change to State/Federal 75/25 admin costs and State 5-25% food costs.
 - Using 2024 as an example, would have cost WA \$432M using this formula.
 - Eliminates SNAP-Ed
- Thank you to those who have taken action so far.
- Call to action: Sign on letter ([link in chat](#)) for businesses and organizations
- FRAC Webinar “SNAP 101” ([link in chat](#))
- Virtual summit last week with Senator Murray, thank you to those who participated. 8 cohosting orgs: Food Lifeline, Second Harvest, Northwest Harvest, WA Food Coalition, Harvest Against Hunger, East/West Food Rescue, Feeding the Northwest, Anti-Hunger Nutrition Coalition. 389 RSVP’d, recording of the summit is available to view.
- Call to actions will continue and we need to move together as one and send messages to elected officials.
- There will be another virtual event on May 21st with Senator Maria Cantwell geared toward the press.

- **Questions/Comments:**
 - Is that \$432M more or total?
 - In addition to what we pay for SNAP. SNAP would no longer be an entitlement, and there is no explanation for how states who can't afford it. WA hasn't budgeted for something like this.
 - How quickly would these cuts take place if passed
 - FRAC is hosting a "SNAP 101" advocacy training webinar today. Registration may still be open here:

https://frac.salsalabs.org/webinar_snap101052025?eType=EmailBlastContent&eid=1f542fbb-ab95-4eea-acb4-4fe5ead4c457
- **Contact:**
 - Aaron Czyzewski, aaronc@foodlifeline.org (813) 503-3535
 - Claire Lane, Claire.Lane2@gmail.com (206) 446-0966
 - Craig Gibson, craigg@foodlifeline.org

Resiliency Grants – Britt Beug, WSDA FA

- Round 5 (July 1, 2025-June 30,2026)
 - Application closes May 22, 2025 at 11:59pm.
 - See webpage for application link and additional information
 - 320 applications in progress
 - 60 applications completed
- **Contact:**
 - Anna Berrey Hamill and Britt Beug: foodassistancegrants@agr.wa.gov
 - [Resiliency Grants Webpage](#)

Farm to Community Updates – Jeff Mathias and Elise Levesque, WSDA FA

- **WA Commodities Donation Grant Program Updates**
 - The WCDGP is funded by the Climate Commitment Act.
 - I-2117 (to repeal the CCA) was rejected in November's election, enabling funding for this program.
 - 6-month duration: Jan 2025-June 2025. Program was not renewed and will end in June.
 - Purchasing began in February.
 - Purpose of WCDGP:
 - To procure Washington-grown produce, grains, and proteins otherwise at risk of ending up as food waste, to be distributed to Washington hunger relief organizations.
 - Organizations involved are East West Food Rescue, Feeding the NW, and NW Harvest.
 - Snapshot of Program Impact (Feb and March).
 - 2,973,126 lbs of edible food (at risk of food waste) rescued.
 - \$537,507.76 = value of edible food rescued.
 - GHG Emission Reduction of 2,646 MTCO2 equivalent to 575 cars off the road for a year.
 - 2,644,650 lbs of food at risk of food waste distributed.

- Food has been distributed to 500+ locations in 37 counties.
- 78% of funding has gone directly to food purchasing.
- Expect we can expand the greenhouse reduction 4-5 times by the end of the program.

- Comments**

- Really interested in seeing the distribution divided out by each agency. NWH, East West, Feeding the NW.

- Contact info:**

- Jeff Mathias, jeff.mathias@agr.wa.gov, (360) 515-6875
 - Elise Levesque, elise.levesque@agr.wa.gov, (564) 200-4304
 - <https://agr.wa.gov/services/food-access>

Food Updates – James Scovel, WSDA FA

- Food Update May 2025

May		
Material	Material Desc.	# trucks
100207	APPLESAUCE CAN-24/300	4
100242	BLUEBERRY WILD FRZ CTN-8/3 LB	3
100289	FIG PIECES PKG-24/1 LB	2
100322	SOUP TOMATO CAN-24/1	4
100323	SPINACH CAN-24/300	1
100337	POTATOES DEHYDRATED FLKS PKG-12/1 LB	5
100441	OIL VEGETABLE BTL-9/48 OZ	5
110345	FISH AK PLCK FILLETS FRZ PKG-20/2 LB	5
110361	APPLESAUCE CUP-96/4.5	5
111060	BEANS GARBANZO CAN-24/300	3
111063	BEANS PINTO DRY PKG-24/1 LB	2
111280	FISH AK POLLOCK NUGGETS FRZ PKG-20/2 LB	4
111540	PEACHES FRESH BAG PKG-12/2 LB	4
Total Trucks		47

June		
Material	Material Desc.	# trucks
100283	ORANGES CTN-34-39 LB	5
100298	CHERRIES DRIED PKG-8/2 LB	3
100337	POTATOES DEHYDRATED FLKS PKG-12/1 LB	1
100400	FLOUR ALL PURP ENRCH BLCH BAG-8/5 LB	5
100893	APPLE JUICE PLST BTL-8/64 FLOZ	7
100936	EGGS 15 DOZEN	1
110021	BEANS PINTO CAN-24/300	3
110511	PASTA MACARONI PLAIN ELBOW BOX-20/1 LB	4
111051	GRAPES VARIETY FRESH CTN-19 LB	7
111060	BEANS GARBANZO CAN-24/300	3
111069	BEANS DRY GARBANZO PKG-24/1 LB	4
111102	LENTILS DRY PKG-24/1 LB	1
111323	SHRIMP PEELED & DVND 31-50 PKG-10/2 LB	1
111325	SHRIMP PEELED & DVND 51-70 PKG-10/2 LB	1
111531	NECTARINES FRESH BAG PKG-12/2 LB	3
111630	SHRIMP PEELED & DVND 21-30 PKG-10/2 LB	1
Total Trucks		50

- One load of eggs was not cancelled.
- We will be getting grapes every month through Dec, please get them out and keep them moving.
- Expect more fresh produce in July through the summer. So keep the produce moving.
- RW purchases TEFAP

US Foods orders											
ITEM	Cal		Pack Size	Price	Number of cases per truck	# of Trucks	Recived	Ordered	Over/Under	Value recived	Total value of order
Del Monte Diced Mango - light syrup	Fruit	112352	12/15.25 oz.	\$ 31.68	3264	2	6112	6528	-416	\$ 193,628.16	\$ 206,807.04
Contadina Diced Tomatoes	Veg	112353	12/14.5 oz.	\$ 19.29	3264	1	3118	3264	-146	\$ 60,146.22	\$ 62,962.56
Chicken of the Sea Tuna	Meat	112351	48/5 oz.	\$ 49.29	2240	2		4480	-4480	\$ -	\$ 220,819.20
Bush's Black Beans	Non Meat Pro	112354	12/15 oz.	\$ 17.26	3672	1		3672	-3672	\$ -	\$ 63,378.72
SPAM	Meat	112355	24/12 oz.	\$ 89.04	2100	2		4200	-4200	\$ -	\$ 373,968.00
Skipppy Peanut Butter	Non Meat Pro	112356	12/16.3 oz.	\$ 32.01	3213	2		6426	-6426	\$ -	\$ 205,696.26
Stokely Green Bean cut no salt	Veg	112357	24/#300	\$ 36.75	1564	1		1564	-1564	\$ -	\$ 57,477.00
Stokely Carrots Sliced no salt	Veg	112358	24/#300	\$ 36.30	1564	1		1564	-1564	\$ -	\$ 56,773.20
Stokely Corn	Veg	112359	24/#300	\$ 35.30	1564	2		3128	-3128	\$ -	\$ 110,418.40
						14			Totals	\$ 253,774.38	\$ 1,358,300.38

- RW purchases LFPA

US Foods orders												
ITEM	Cal		Pack Size	Price	Number of cases per truck	# of Trucks	Recived	Ordered	Over/Under	Value recived	Total value of order	
Del Monte Diced Mango - light syrup	Fruit	112686	12/15.25 oz.	\$ 31.68	3264	1		3264	-3264	\$ -	\$ 103,403.52	
Take Root Organic's Diced Tomatoes	Veg	112688	12/14.5 oz.	\$ 25.20	3264	1		3264	-3264	\$ -	\$ 82,252.80	
Chicken of the Sea Tuna	Meat	112690	48/5 oz.	\$ 49.29	2240	1		2240	-2240	\$ -	\$ 110,409.60	
Bush's Black Beans	Non Meat Pro	112691	12/15 oz.	\$ 17.26	3672	1		3672	-3672	\$ -	\$ 63,378.72	
SPAM	Meat	112692	24/12 oz.	\$ 89.04	2100	2		4200	-4200	\$ -	\$ 373,968.00	
Hormel Chili	Meat	112693	12/15 oz.	\$ 29.34	3168	1		3168	-3168	\$ -	\$ 92,949.12	
Stokely Green Bean cut no salt	Veg	112694	24/#300	\$ 36.75	1564	2		3128	-3128	\$ -	\$ 114,954.00	
Stokely Carrots Sliced no salt	Veg	112695	24/#300	\$ 36.30	1564	1		1564	-1564	\$ -	\$ 56,773.20	
Stokely Corn	Veg	112696	24/#300	\$ 35.30	1564	1		1564	-1564	\$ -	\$ 55,209.20	
Tendersweet Vegetable Blend	Veg	112697	24/#300	\$ 42.44	1564	1		1564	-1564	\$ -	\$ 66,376.16	
						12			Totals	\$ -	\$ 1,119,674.32	
												\$ 1,129,532.21

- RW purchases will be arriving in July
- LFPA dairy products BOL emails soon
- Food Order Work Group
 - May 28, 2025 10-11am
 - Entitlement orders for Oct-Dec 2025
- **Contact:**
 - James Scovel – jscovel@agr.wa.gov, 360-725-5641
 - John Carney – john.carney@agr.wa.gov, 360-485-1258
 - Website: <https://agr.wa.gov/services/food-access>

Reminders – Kyle Merslich, WSDA FA

- Spenddown Reminder
 - Funds expiring:
 - Costs incurred during the budget period SFY25.
 - Goods and services received by June 30th 2025
 - Timely spenddown
 - Goods and Services received by 6/30/25
 - If you can't spenddown, reach out to your Lead Agency
 - Looking ahead:
 - New EFAP Agreements.
 - Updated Participating Agency Contact Info.
 - EFAP Closeout Reports.
 - Client Data, Match, Expenditures.
 - Equipment and Capital Improvement Inventories.
- Food Assistance Compliance Reviews
 - FA to conduct annual Lead and Sub Agency site visits
 - EFAP, TEFAP, CSFP, Other.
 - Spring/Summer 2025.
 - Regional Representative email.
 - Sub Agencies:
 - 20+ TEFAP Sub Agencies (Risk Assessment Identified)
 - 5 CSFP Sub Agencies
 - Lead Agencies:
 - CSFP every 2 years.
 - EFAP/TEFAP every 4 years.
 - More often due to Assessed Risk Level or Compliance issues.
- Contact your Lead Agency or Regional Representative with additional questions.

Updates – Kim Eads, WSDA FA

- Not receiving communication from USDA regarding proposed changes.
- Possible impacts related to FFY2026 President's proposed budget:
 - Eliminates the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (seniors) but does reference alternative "Make America Healthy Again" (MAHA) farmers to families food boxes.
 - TEFAP operational funding reductions to one-part of the TEFAP funding if SNAP cuts go into effect
 - About 50% of our TEFAP operational funding is tied to SNAP funding levels.

- Anticipate new round of CSFP and TEFAP Gap State Funding – July 1, 2025
 - State is working to cover funding reductions to Lead Agencies.
- FFY 2025 TEFAP Budget (current)
 - Still not final.
- **Questions/Comments**
 - Are you saying that 50% of the TEFAP food and operations is funded through SNAP?
 - No. Only talking about TEFAP operational funding 40-60% (average 50%). Part of the TEFAP funding coming from SNAP allows us to convert food funding to operational funding.
 - Any word on the 400% of poverty level for WA
 - No. Working with USDA on a Management Evaluation review and told to continue as is.
 - Will those gap funds come from new state funds?
 - Not the plan. Will come out of anticipated ongoing funding.
 - Link to meeting notes page?
 - <https://agr.wa.gov/services/food-access/hunger-relief-resources/general-focus-meeting-information>

Office Hours & Trainings – Kim Eads, WSDA FA

- LFPA
 - Quarterly open office hours: June 17, 2025, 1-2pm
 - Quarterly reports were due July 20th
 - Farm to Community Team
 - Contact Jeff Mathias – jeff.mathias@agr.wa.gov
- Lead Agency – Core Programs
 - 1st Tuesday of the month, 9:30-10:30am
 - Q&A, info sharing, problem solving
 - Contact your Regional Representative
- Resiliency Grant
 - Open Office Hours TBD
 - Contact Anna Hamill or Britt Beug – foodassistancegrants@agr.wa.gov
- Food Order Work Group Meeting
 - May 28th 10:00-11:00am
 - Contact: James Scovel – jscovel@agr.wa.gov, 360-725-5641 or John Carney – john.carney@agr.wa.gov, 360-485-1258

Upcoming:

- Lead Agency Check-In Meeting
 - Friday, June 6th 9:00-10:00am
- General Focus Check-In Meeting
 - Tuesday, June 24th 9:00-10:00am