WSDA Focus on Food-Katie Rains:

We feed Washington

The needs assessment preview was on September 28 2021. We are working with our communication department to share the recording of that. It presents the findings of the University of Washington’s most recent WA foods survey along with Washington State Universities BIPOC leader’s team findings regarding food access. For those of you interested there are slides of that available and the full report will be available late in November. We will share that through agency channels.

As for the we feed Washington pilot we are in the contract negotiations phase. We received 29 application and we offered contracts to 26 organizations in total. The organizations range from large distributors like Charlie’s Produce to local food hubs, plus NGO’s like NWH, FLL, 2nd Harvest and some smaller NGO’s that haven’t previously participated in food distributions.

The budget we have for this pilot program is about 10% of the budget WSDA leveraged all of last year in our emergency food system response. It is very modest but we are stretching it as far as we can. We have used the University of Washington’s report to identify the highest need geographic areas and demographic communities. We are striving to make targeted investments to both stabilize the food supply chain in Washington and provide revenues to producers as well as to support food relief efforts broadly. A portion these contracts will be supporting food assistance network as a segue from the fresh boxes in to the pilot program rolling all of our programs together.

Washington Food Coalition-Trish Twomey:

If you attended the WFC conference, please fill out the survey

WFC is doing a training called Build an Accident Prevention Program Training Happening tomorrow (10/27) from 2:30 – 4:00 to register please see the link below.

https://www.tickettailor.com/events/nonprofitlearning/586724

Job board is still up please post any job you have, as it is free until the end of October. From November on there will be a small fee to post jobs to the job board.

Harvest Against Hunger-David Bobanick:

Capacity Survey

We would like to thank everyone for participating in the survey. We had 186 responses and we are pleased that it was from a broad range of organizations from large too small, and from all over the state. This will be important as we dig into the data to see what the responses tell us and see what kind of trends we can identify then publish a report. One of the things we are going to do with the report this year is develop some data visualizations tools that we can use that will allow different groups to access the information in different ways.

We are working to clean the data now, and hope to have an overview/Executive Summary type report within the next month (November). It may take a little longer to publish some of the more data intensive aspects and build the visualization tools, but we are hoping to get some of those components out in early December. We will work with the WSDA team and Trish at WFC to keep everyone posted.
HAH is looking to hire a Vista Team Leader. If you know anyone please direct them to the link below.

https://www.harvestagainsthunger.org/harvest-vista-program-positions/

Maddie Price Farm to food bank:
The Application is out you may have seen our info blast on social media or the website. We are hoping to expand the initiative across the state. See info below

https://www.harvestagainsthunger.org/farm-to-food-pantry/
https://agr.wa.gov/services/food-access/hunger-relief-

- $3.5K-$30K per SFY to buy local farm food

Contracts will run from 1/1/22 – 6/30/23 with biennial funding allocated by SFY

- Application Open!
- Application Closes – Nov. 30
- Funding Decisions Made – Mid. Dec.
- Subcontract Begins – Jan. 1st

Weekly Farm to Food Bank Q & A Sessions every Wed at 11 AM

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app
Click here to join the meeting
Or call in (audio only)
+1 564-999-2000,,670938044# United States, Olympia
Phone Conference ID: 670 938 044#

Advocacy Update- Aaron Czyzewski:
All the action is around the Build Back Better (BBB) negotiations. Our interest is the child nutrition assistance portion of that bill. What is good about items is that it proposed 35 billion dollar to uplift both community eligibility provision and summer EBT. Two very big priorities that look like everything we wanted to extend summer EBT and expanding community eligibility provision, but the negotiations have been rough so we have activated all of our grass roots organizations in an all hands on deck situation.

The status is not super promising the total funding for the bill has been reduced from 3.5 trillion down to 1.7 trillion so not everything will be funded. The nutrition assistance portion has been reduced to 10 to 5 billion. We are not letting up until it done. So regardless, of what the funding levels end up at we will regroup and try again because it time these two program to succeed and get the funding they need.
Claire and Christina are doing extensive outreach to our congressional delegation. They have also activated the state delegation. We have also active the governor’s office. There has been letters to the editors/op-eds. Rep. Riccelli had a wonderful op-ed on the issue. (link below)

https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2021/oct/24/rep-marcus-riccelli-we-can-end-childhood-hunger-an/?fbclid=IwAR0QfMqCzQ37f8DpHFVi2rzKal0UBCviOi3X0CSpToKyafUsIrfd1LuDnSs

This has been an important test and testament to our advocacy. In normal environment, this is highly effective advocacy; this is how we do it this is what works. This is just a unique time, as you know from the news, so we will not let up until we are clear it is done. Please continue to do your outreach as these things pay big dividend later down the road.

Coming up we will have child nutrition and the farm bill so there are other opportunities to further what we are doing.

Military family hunger is something we have prioritized there is still great need and work to be done. From a policy point of view we are pushing for military hunger prevention act to be included in the national defense authorization act. That looks likely.

Military Family Hunger op-ed link below
https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/congress-must-back-allowance-to-meet-basic-needs-of-military-families/

Soon to be introduced with Cahty McMorris Rodgers as a co-lead is the Military Dependents School Meal Eligibility Act. This Act will directly certify kids that are active duty military dependents for free school lunches if they are otherwise eligible. Again another indication of progress or work that can be done to support the 1 in 5 military families in Washington that face food insecurity.

It is time for intense contemplation of the 2020 state legislation just around the corner. This is the time when ideas are elevated State lawmakers are very interested in considering what ideas they will be taking forward. Hunger response will be a top priority. We need to be active partners with our state lawmakers and WSDA and other stakeholders. So we can go forward with cohesive message. This may be a remote session.

Maddie Price asked; how can we get involved with the Farm Bill advocacy? More to come on this topic. Later after the New Year is when a more concerted effort on the farm bill.
WSDA We Feed Washington Fresh Produce Boxes-Lindsey:

Transition to We Feed Washington – FA Portion

$4.5 M Fresh Produce Boxes/Bulk Box Equivalents/S&H Pass-through

Anticipated Vendors: Charlie’s Produce, Fo(ur) Roots, LINC, and Puget Sound Food Hub

- Ends October 31, 2021: Food Lifeline, Hopelink, 2nd Harvest
- Extension & Reduction and Ends November 31, 2021: EFN, VOA, TCFB, BHFB

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  (Note: No reductions for Contractors receiving 300 boxes or less)

- Tribes & Tribal Organizations: Extension through June 30, 2022: Kalispel Tribe, Yakama Nation, Colville Conf. Tribes, Spokane Tribe of Indians, Lummi Nation, Suck-Suiattle Indian tribe, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Tribes served through OlyCAP and Coastal Harvest.

WSDA FA Flexible Funding Grants-Lindsey:

The application period is open until November 15th 2021.

Please visit the website at the link below for the full eligibility requirements and more info on the grants. There is a lot of information on this site but we have tried to make it easy to navigate:

www.agr.wa.gov/grants

There are three project sizes

- Under $5000
  - Equipment and installation costs
- $5000 to $50,000
  - More broad then the previous category
- $50,000 and over
  - This does not have a cap and we are looking for you to tell us your needs.

The application sizes correlate to the project sizes and will be larger at the project size goes up.

The timeline we are looking is that notification of awards will go out on or around November 30th 2021 and Projects must be complete June 30th 2022

We know this is not a long time line for spending. If this is not sufficient for your project, it is our aim that this will be an annual grants program offered indefinitely. There may be an opportunity to fund your program in the future.

Sam and Duns is required for this grant.
Weekly info sessions every Friday at 10 am.

All hunger relief agencies are eligible. Remember to explore the website at the link below for full eligibility information

www.agr.wa.gov/grants

TEFAP Inventory Training-James

Things you should know about TEFAP Subcontractor Inventories.

- TEFAP inventory reports are due to contractors monthly
- Beginning inventory must match the previous months ending inventory
- Received food must match BOL received from the contractor
- Expectation is that food pantries and meal programs will do a physical count of food products every month
- Damage or loss must be tracked
  - Loss forms must be filled out
  - Physical and book inventories must match

We will be doing an in-depth training Tuesday November 2nd 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Please join us to learn everything you need to know to succeed at Subcontractor Inventories!

TEFAP Subcontractor Inventory Report Training
Tue, Nov 2, 2021 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (PDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/769073221

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (872) 240-3412

Access Code for Inventory Training: 769-073-221
Audit Requirements-Kyle & Mallorie

**Single Audit:** required if receiving $750,000 or more in federal funds. Things that count towards that threshold include (but are not limited to):

- TEFAP, TMP, or CSFP commodities
  - Unsure if this includes Farmers to Families Food Boxes (aka CFAP)
- TEFAP, TMP, or CSFP funds + amendments for FFCRA & CARES & BBB
- Federal funds awarded through WSDA state contracts
  - EFAP CARES Targeted Capacity Year 1 and Year 2
  - EFAP CARES Stabilization Year 1 and Year 2
  - EFAP Supplemental funds
  - EFAP Federal funds in the current biennium
  - Capacity Grant Funds – there have been two cycles of Capacity grants effective July 1, 2020 or later. Both cycles include federal funds.
    - Upcoming grant cycle will include some federal funds as well.

Federal funds received from other programs or sources, such as CARES funding from City or County agencies.

**Financial Audit:**

Orgs receiving at least $100,000 of state funding, but less than $750,000 of federal funding are required to get a Financial Audit at least every two years, which covers the previous two years.

**Accounting System Verification Form:**

Required for organizations receiving $20,000-$99,999 in a fiscal year and not required to get a Single Audit or Financial Audit. The form is available on the WSDA Forms and Publications webpage

All Subcontractors should be completing the Audit Requirement Form and sending it to your Contractor annually within 30 days of the close of your fiscal year to verify whether if you are exempt from a Single Audit or not.

*Additional details on audit requirements can be found in Program Procedures Manuals.*

Other?

Questions?

Future topics?

Next meetings

- Tuesday-November 30th 9:00 am – General Focus
- Friday-November 19th 9:00 am – Contractors Only (Once per Month)
No Meeting in December