



Time: 10:00-11:00 am

Date: January 15, 2025

Place: [Virtual](#)

Council Members in Attendance: Dani Perez (for Natalie Loots), Cassidy Dragunat, Natalie McHale, Paula Scott, Lea Palmer, Neil Rickard (for Gina), Aubree Thomas, Sarah Adams, Natalie Loots, Nisay Lao, Kamalie Tripp, Rachel Bowman, James Toledo, Frank Vega

Council Members Absent: -

Total number of attendees: 43

Agenda Items	Discussion Items	Actions/Suggestions
Welcome Palak Gupta		
Roll Palak Gupta		
Approve Previous Meeting Notes		Vote to approve: Aubree Thomas Second the motion: Lisa Thomas
Sub-committee updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications Frank Vega • Mapping Lea Palmer • Policy Gina Cornia • Local Food Promotion Natalie McHale • Food Recovery Sean Damitz, Carrie Durward • Evaluation Palak Gupta • NourishCommunities Lea Palmer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication – No Updates • Mapping – No Updates • Policy – No updates • Local Food Promotion – Host a virtual meeting to review the action plan where sub-committee members provided feedback and thoughts • Food Recovery – Helen from Summit Community Gardens & Eats shared at last meeting; plans to review at action plan in the next month • Evaluation – Need to find a new time to meet • NourishCommunities - We had our kickoff in December, assigning leads this month, and will start our sub work groups next month. If anyone would like to focus on a specific population, let Lea (lea.palmer@usu.edu) know and she can add you to the correct group
Policy update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Policy project on free lunches: HB0100 (Neil Rickard/Gina Cornia) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative Clancy is sponsoring the bill • Directing the state in Utah to participate in the summer EBT program • Communication with parents about meal debt • Eliminating the reduced-price category is a step towards universal meals

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign on letter circulating (see chat – as an individual or on behalf of an institution or organization)
Share work presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NourishSmart: Food Waste Reduction program (Carson Johnson/Palak Gupta) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed to reduce food waste and food insecurity in Utah • Focus on methods focused on the green side of the EPA Food Waste Scale • Grant Timeline: January 2024 – January 2025 (writing curriculum, reviewed by experts, and working on trainings) • Curriculum: (<i>Lesson 1</i>) – Exploring Where Our Food Comes From; (<i>Lesson 2</i>) – The Impact of Food Waste on Environment; (<i>Lesson 3</i>) – How to Prevent Food Waste a School; (<i>Lesson 4</i>) – How to Prevent Food Waste at Home • Based on Fall 2024 trainings: 96% of participants were satisfied with training providing information relevant to their teaching needs; 93% of educators agreed that food waste was an issue in their school • Hoping to integrate into already existing programs (like CBH, 4-H Youth) • Barriers to Food Waste Reduction: lack of administrative support, state or local laws and policies, logistics, student participation, combining concepts with existing curriculum • Website: https://extension.usu.edu/hsi/nourishsmart • Suggestion: market analysis for an online course for adults? Potentially apply for funding through USU Extension online to create the course
Partner updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared work (Google document) • Hunger Solutions Podcast- Sign up • NourishTank sign up to review student proposals (link to sign up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Security Symposium @ USU (Rose Judd-Murray) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted on USU Main Campus (Logan, UT) • Conjunction with NourishTank Student Competition and other organizations on campus • Thursday, April 17 begin at noon (keynote will be a later in the day) • Theme: Breaking the Cycle, Poverty's role in Shaping Food Insecurity in Utah • Invited to attend, participate, and highlight many wonderful partners (if you

		<p>want to have a table at the ECC, please let Rose Judd-Murray know)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expect an email in the listserv for more information and registration link
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition Hub (Carrie Durward) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USU’s application to become a USDA Nutrition Hub has been ACCEPTED! • Idea: similar to what we do in this group with an emphasis on bringing together researcher and community and educators • Palak will be leading the efforts to create the Western Region Nutrition Security Collaborative and how that collaborated with this group; bringing in additional stakeholders from other states • Big Thanks to Utah Heart Association, Utah Food Bank, Utah Department of Health and Human Services, and MWHFC for letters of support • Extension arm (adapting existing toolkits and developing new tools and looking for new partners to implement nutrition security projects) and education arm (Jayme Walters TCI– developing toolkit for community gauged research, service learning; Rose Judd-Murray will provide input or pilot testing) • Reach out to Carrie Durward if you are interested in partnering (\$5,000-10,000) to work on a food security project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steve Prater with VA (Food Hub in SLC) ○ Mountain West Health Food Collaborative
Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation indicators • Progress updates timeline • Wilder Survey to learn how collaboration is doing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palak will be sending out the Wilder Survey to the listserv
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 19, 2025 Shared work: Food Environment Working Group: Davis County 	

Approved by Heather Crockett, Seconded by Natalie Loots, February 19, 2025

Roll call for members (or designee)

1. The Executive director of Department of Health and Human Services or designee- **Natalie Loots**
2. The executive director of the Department of Workforce Services or designee: **Frank Vega**
3. The state superintendent or designee: **Kimberly Loveland**, USBE
4. The commissioner or designee: **Cassidy Dragunat**, Utah System of Higher Education
5. The commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Food or designee: **Natalie McHale**
6. Member representing USU Extension: Justen Smith, *Representative: Ashley Butler*
7. Member who represents Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program: Paula Scott, *Representative: Heidi LeBlanc* (for this meeting: Kristin Hoch)
8. Member who represents the Utah Women, Infants, and Children Program: **Rachel H. Bowman** (for this meeting: Jacob Newman)
9. Member who represents the Utah SNAP-Ed program: **Lea Palmer**
10. Member who represents a food assistance organization: **Nisay Lao**, Granger Community Christian Church, (for this meeting: Unavailable)
11. Member who represents an advocacy group that addresses federal nutrition program: **Gina Cornia**, Utahns Against Hunger
12. Member who represents an organization that promotes healthy eating and active lifestyles in the state: **Kamaile Tripp-Harris**, University of Utah School of Medicine, Community Health Workers Program
13. Member who represents an organization that provides refugee resettlement services in the state: **Sarah Adams**, International Rescue Committee
14. One member who represents the Utah Farm Bureau Federation: Spencer Gibbons, *Representative: Clayton Beckstead/ Aubrey Thomas*, Utah Farm Bureau
15. One member who represents a tribal government in the state: **James Toledo**, Utah Division of Indian Affairs