

**FOOD FOR PEOPLE NOT LANDFILL**  
**FOR**  
**THE COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY**  
**[DRAFT] MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 13, 2020**

The Nevada Council on Food Security held a public meeting on January 13, 2020 beginning at approximately 3:05 P.M. at the following locations:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
4150 Technology Way, Room 301  
Carson City, NV 89706

Health Care Quality and Compliance  
4220 South Maryland Parkway  
Building D, Suite 810  
Las Vegas, NV, 89119

**Board Members Present**

Jodi Tyson, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Three Square Food Bank (Las Vegas)

Aurora Buffington, PhD, RDN, Assistant Professor/Public Health Nutrition Specialist, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (Phone)

Marie Baxter, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada (Carson City)

Devin Wilcox, Social Services Specialist III, Nevada Department of Agriculture

Amanda Jerzak, Food Sourcing Manager, Three Square Food Bank

**Ex-Officio Members**

Diana Barrett, Helping Hands of Vegas Valley (Las Vegas)

Steve Schmitt, Senior VP and Chief Operating Officer, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada (Las Vegas)

Liz MacMenamin, Vice President of Government Affairs, Retail Association of Nevada (Phone)

Ashanti Lewis, Advocacy Manager, Three Square Food Bank (Las Vegas)

**DHHS Staff Present**

Laura Urban, Food Security and Wellness Manager, Office of Food Security (OFS), Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness (CFCW), Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) (Carson City)

Cathy Wright, Administrative Assistant III, Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC), CFCW, DPBH (Carson City)

**Others Present**

Shane Piccinini, Government Relations, Food Bank of Northern Nevada (Carson City)

Brittney Price, Director of Sustainable Operations, MGM Resorts International (Las Vegas)

Don Ross, Vice President Meeting Operations – Las Vegas Region, Caesar’s Entertainment (Las Vegas)

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Announcements**

Jodi Tyson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M.

Roll call was taken, and it was determined a quorum of the Nevada Council on Food Security (CFS), Food for People Not Landfills (FFPNL) Subcommittee was present, per Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 439.518 § 2.

**2. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Present Subcommittee Membership**

Ms. Tyson stated at the July 2019 CFS meeting, Chair Fisher established the FFPNL Subcommittee to guide the development and implementation of the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) FFPNL Program. Per [Senate Bill 178](#) (SB178), establishing the CFS and the FFPNL Program, the FFPNL Subcommittee consists of five (5) voting members. There are an additional five (5) ex-officio members.

Ms. Urban stated while ex-officio members can participate in discussion outside of public comment, ex-officio members do not count in quorum and cannot vote.

**3. ACTION ITEM: Discuss and approve Subcommittee logistics**

Ms. Tyson stated the purpose of the FFPNL Subcommittee is to guide/assist in the development and implementation of the FFPNL Program, including the development of goals and objectives for the ensuing five (5) years and the creation a of an official state seal for the program.

Ms. Tyson stated the FFPNL Subcommittee will meet on the months the CFS does not meet. Therefore, meetings will be scheduled for the following months throughout 2020: February, March, May, June, August, September, November.

The FFPNL Subcommittee came to the consensus that FFPNL Subcommittee meetings will take place the second Monday of each of the aforementioned months from 3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

**4. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Present and discuss existing Nevada cold food rescue programs**

Ms. Tyson stated the purpose of the next two (2) agenda items is to provide a summary of existing food rescue initiatives in Nevada. She stated the first two (2) presentations will be on cold-food rescue programs, which includes grocery store rescue programs.

Amanda Jerzak presented on Three Square Food Bank’s existing cold food rescue program. She stated retail/grocery rescue is the largest donated food source available. She stated retail/grocery food rescue is the most affordable donated food source outside of The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) at \$.09 per pound. Ms. Jerzak stated Three Square has 273 retail stores donating on a recurring basis. In addition, Three Square has 80-100 local “industry” or food service donors donating regularly. There are six (6) designated commercial driver’s on assigned daily routes that deliver to specific agency partners. There are 72 agency partners who participate in direct food rescue, where the partner agency picks

up their donated food, which decreases program costs and helps extend resources. Three Square also uses MealConnect and Middle Mile, two (2) mobile applications through Feeding America, to notify agencies when a grocery store has a donation. MealConnect also allows for real time tracking and reporting of donations that syncs daily with Three square's inventory and tracking system. In 2019, Three Square yielded 19.7 million pounds (16.4 million meals) of food through their food rescue department. This number does not account for hot food rescue, food shows, or warehouse donations.

Shane Piccinini presented on Food Bank of Northern Nevada's (FBNN) existing cold food rescue efforts. He stated in 2019, most food rescued by FBNN came from the following sources:

- Walmart Distribution Center: 5,281,169 pounds;
- Retail Grocery picked up by FBNN: 2,644,081 pounds; and
- Retail Grocery picked up directly by partner agencies: 1,778,184 pounds.

Of the total food rescued, 534,968 pounds were shared with other food banks (i.e. Redwood Empire in Sonoma County and Three Square in Las Vegas) and 552,315 pounds were disposed of or sent to a pig farm.

Mr. Piccinini stated FBNN does not rescue prepared foods – hot or cold.

#### **5. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Present and discuss existing Nevada hot food rescue programs**

Marie Baxter presented on Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada's (CCNN) hot food rescue program. Ms. Baxter stated she connected with various non-profit agencies in the Reno-Sparks area who serve meals to gather information on current food recovery efforts. She spoke with Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission, Boys and Girls Club Truckee Meadows, and the Salvation Army. She discovered prepared food rescue efforts are virtually non-existent in the Reno area. The only consistent recovery process Ms. Baxter identified is between CCNN and Greater Nevada Field with prepared food recovery following the Aces baseball games. Ms. Baxter stated she has also been working with the FBNN, who coordinates food rescue from grocery stores, manufacturing plants, etc. The FBNN has indicated they are looking to CCNN to spearhead the banquet recovery efforts in Northern Nevada, given our food services through our St. Vincent's Dining Room. CCNN has made capital improvements to accommodate receiving and processing prepared foods.

Ms. Baxter stated she has been working diligently to set up a pilot hot-food rescue program in Northern Nevada, working with the three (3) properties that comprise "The Row" – the Eldorado, the Silver Legacy, and Circus Circus. Ms. Baxter met with The Row senior leadership and found there is collective interest and a process for banquet food rescue in under development. Ms. Baxter stated Ms. Jerzak was kind enough to participate in collaborative phone calls with the principals of The Row and CCNN and shared their contract documents and Standard Operating Procedure documents. CCNN's Executive Chef has also worked with the Washoe County Health District to establish procedures for hot-food/banquet food rescue. Once a process is defined and piloted, CCNN will work with other casino properties and special event catering companies to expand the program. CCNN will

also continue to work with other Reno partners/non-profit agencies to connect them to rescued food product.

Brittney Price presented on MGM Resorts International's Feeding Forward Food Donations Program. Her presentation can be found [here](#).

Ms. Tyson asked for public comment.

Don Ross spoke about Caesars Entertainment hot food rescue program.

**6. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Discuss and make recommendations for Food for People Not Landfills Final Report**

Ms. Tyson stated per SB178, an annual FFPNL Program report is due to the Director of DHHS and the Director of the Legislative Council Bureau by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Tyson stated she will work with Ms. Urban to develop/finalize the report.

**7. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve future agenda items**

Ms. Tyson stated at the February 3, 2020 meeting, the FFPNL Subcommittee will: 1) discuss and approve food rescue industry terms and definitions and 2) discuss and approve the Subcommittee's scope of work, including identifying potential "buckets" or categories of various types of food rescue.

In addition, Ms. Tyson requested a presentation from the Nevada Department of Agriculture on the Farm to Food Bank Program.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Tyson adjourned the meeting at 5:05 P.M.