

Governor's Council on Food Security
Draft Minutes
August 16, 2016

The Governor's Council on Food Security held a public meeting on August 16, 2016, beginning at approximately 1:00 P.M. at the following locations:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health
4150 Technology Way Room 303
Carson City, NV 89706

Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health
Services
6161 W. Charleston, East Hall
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Board Members Present

Kathleen Sandoval, Nevada First Lady
Christy McGill, Healthy Communities Coalition
Cody Phinney, Administrator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) proxy for Richard Whitley, Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
David Weaver, US Foods
Sarah Adler, Nevada State Director, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Development
Steve Fisher, Administrator, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS)
Jodi Tyson, Director of Government Affairs, Three Square
Donnell Barton, Administrator of Food and Nutrition Division, Department of Agriculture
Judy Osgood, Nevada Department of Education
Mark Walker, Dean, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
Cherie Jamason, CEO, Food Bank of Northern Nevada
Chuck Duarte, CEO, Community Health Alliance
Kenneth Osgood MD MPH, Southern Nevada Health District, Board of Health
Mary Liveratti, President, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Nevada State

Board Members Not Present

Mike Wurm, CEO, Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows
Jim Barbee, Director, Department of Agriculture
Matthew Tuma, Governor's Office of Economic Development
Amy Hill, Government Relations
Denise Peri, Nevada Fresh Pack, Sales, Walmart

Also Present

Linda Anderson, Deputy Attorney General
Beth Handler, Bureau Chief, BCFCW, DPBH
Michelle Walker, WIC Program Manager, DPBH, BCFCW,
Cailey Hardy, Office Manager, BCFCW, DPBH
David Ramirez-Silva, WIC Administrative Assistant III, DPBH, BCFCW,

Jennifer Bonk, Section Manager, BCFCW, DPBH
Darlene Dougherty, SNAP-ED Nutrition Specialist and Outreach Coordinator
Joseph Turner, WIC Program Officer, BCFCW, DPBH
Megan Schwartz, University of Nevada, Reno (UNR)
Tiffany Lewis, Manager for Reimbursement and Analysis and Payment Unit, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP)
Marti Cote, Social Services Chief with the Clinical Policy Team, DHCFP
Jan Prentice, Reimbursement and Analysis and Payment Unit Chief, DHCFP
Laura Urban, Food Security and Wellness Manager, CDPHP, BCFCW, DPBH
Dr. Steve Shane, Pediatrician, Community Health Alliance (CHA)
Barbara Paulson, Nevadans for the Common Good

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Announcements

Mrs. Kathleen Sandoval, Nevada State First Lady, called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm.

Roll call was taken, and it was determined a quorum of the Governor's Council on Food Security was present.

2. ACTION ITEM: Approve Minutes of April 19, 2016 Council Meeting

Mrs. Sandoval asked if there were any corrections to the draft minutes from the April 19, 2016 meeting.

MS. ADLER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE April 19, 2016 MEETING. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY MS. CHERIE JAMASON. MS. CODY PHINNEY SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

3. Let's Go! – Presentation

Dr. Steve Shane overviewed the "Healthy Weight Program" which is currently being developed at CHA. He explained CHA is using the "Let's Go" program as the basis for their prevention and therapeutic forms of their program. Dr. Shane presented the most recent statistics from Washoe County School District from the 2014-2015 school year which can be found in the meeting materials under Attachment for Agenda Item #4.

Sarah Adler thanked Dr. Shane for his presentation and asked if the clinic's approach focused primarily on children's weight, or if the whole family could be serviced through "Let's Go."

Dr. Shane explained "Let's Go" is primarily focused on children, however, the six class curriculum will be primarily for family education. Dr. Shane hopes they will be able to educate the whole family through the child patient, but the medical care is only for the child patient.

Dr. Kenneth Osgood asked if Dr. Shane could come back to present to the council on the fiscal aspect of the program and provide a cost per unit amount to get an idea of the fiscal impact of rolling the program out in the private sector.

Dr. Shane stated Costa Contra County Health Services provides a cost breakdown and analysis on their website. He stated he could provide the link to this data to the council through Cailey Hardy or Laura Urban.

Chuck Duarte explained Dr. Shane has been focused on achieving healthy weights in children as a preventive measure for resulting health complications.

Cherie Jamason asked if there was a plan to begin implementing this program in the school district.

Dr. Shane explained he doesn't have a specific plan to implement in the schools, however the materials included in the toolkits for schools contain the curriculum used in the clinic. The toolkits provide some guidelines and material teachers could use in their curriculum.

Mrs. Sandoval asked if the questionnaires come in different age ranges.

Dr. Shane explained there are two different questionnaires, one is for ages two through nine and the second is for ten through 18.

Mrs. Sandoval asked what it means when Dr. Shane stated they were going to become certified.

Dr. Shane explained they are tracking body mass indexes (BMIs), getting the message out with posters, and assessing healthy habits at each well visit.

4. Medicaid Presentation on Reimbursement for Nutrition Counseling Services

Tiffany Lewis reported Nevada Medicaid does not currently offer coverage for medical nutrition therapy. Diabetic self-management education training is being reimbursed at \$30.89 per 30 minute unit for individual classes and at \$17.82 per 30 minute unit for group classes.

Marti Cote explained Nevada Medicaid covers diabetic outpatient self-management education training under the policy for Physician Services, Medicaid Services Manual, Chapter 600. Prior authorization is not required unless the ten hour limitation has been exceeded. The coverage and limitations includes diabetes review, stress and psychological adjustment, family involvement, social support, medications, monitoring blood glucose and interpretations, relationships between nutrition, exercise, activity, medication and glucose levels, behavioral changes, benefits, risks, etc. Indications for repeat training are as follows: if the patient's A1C is 8.5 or greater, if they have four or more hypoglycemic episodes where the blood sugar goes too low, two or more hospitalizations for uncontrolled diabetes in a six month period, if a patient has had any ketoacidosis, a pregnancy with previously diagnosed diabetes, or if they are a diabetic beginning initial insulin therapy. The Medicaid Billing Guide lists covered services and diagnosis codes. Medical nutritional therapy is not currently covered.

Dr. Osgood asked if the Stanford trained self-education program is covered. Services must be billed under a physician as dieticians cannot currently bill independently, but the DHCFP has

a budget request to determine the feasibility of allowing dieticians to be independent billers of Medicaid.

Ms. Cote replied the program is covered.

Services must be furnished by a certified program which meets the National Diabetes Advisory Board (NDAB) and holds an education recognition program certificate from the ADA or the American Association of Diabetic Educators.

Mary Liveratti asked how many people are taking advantage of this service. She went on to address the First Lady and stated they can have a representative of Nevada Medicaid attend future meetings in case the council has questions pertaining to services or reimbursements covered by Medicaid.

Mrs. Sandoval asked what the role of a registered dietician would be with Medicaid and which services would be covered.

Ms. Lewis stated there would be about four codes which dieticians could bill.

Mr. Duarte asked if certain services provided by dieticians were anticipated to be covered, specifically some of the services mentioned by Dr. Shane, assuming the budget request is approved.

Ms. Lewis stated the services referenced by Dr. Shane would be covered if the budget request is approved.

Ms. Sandoval asked if Ms. Lewis could provide the four codes which would be covered for dieticians, and Ms. Lewis stated she could.

5. Presentation on SNAP benefits

Steve Fisher stated during the last council meeting there were several questions regarding the employment training program, Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWDs), along with other questions pertaining to areas of DWSS. The ABAWDs program is currently operating under a waiver which was set to expire in December, 2016. A request to extend the waiver to December, 2017 was requested and approved, as approximately 60,000 people would have lost Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits if the waiver had ended. In addition to this extension DWSS has been working on their community partnerships. There is a fifty/fifty opportunity, meaning if there is a community partner providing employment and training services, 50% of that is reimbursable if requirements are met. Currently DWSS is working with 13 community partners to bolster the program. Regarding DWSS and employment training, DWSS has pulled numbers from Medicaid regarding direct certification into the Free and Reduced Lunch Program. This category is made up of 369,000 recipients on SNAP who are eligible for both programs. The employment training programs have exemptions. Mr. Fisher explained DWSS has applied to become a demonstration project participant. Approximately 54,821 children in Nevada would be eligible for the free lunch program, and approximately 18,248 children would be eligible for the reduced price lunch program. Mr. Fisher stated DWSS has been working with

Aging and Disability Services staff who do home visits with senior citizens. Senior citizens represent some of the lowest SNAP participation rates of this specific population and this partnership is hoping to address the issue and increase participation within this population. SNAP trained eight staff members from Aging and Disability Services. While they are doing a home visit, they also assist the client with filling out a SNAP application. The program started a couple months ago. There are no official numbers, but the program appears to be working very well. Mr. Fisher reported through the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid, they started stationing eligibility staff in hospitals and promoting enrollment while in the actual community. DWSS not only determines Medicaid eligibility, but also provides Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and SNAP certifications. Mr. Fisher explained they currently have 13 offsite partners with permanent staff. They also have itinerate runs one day a week. Mr. Fisher announced they also partnered with Veggie Buck Truck, who provides fruits and vegetables and accepts SNAP benefits. The Veggie Buck Truck goes around to DWSS offices and parks in the parking lot to service participants in a convenient location. Mr. Fisher explained that a non-profit grocery store is anticipated to be getting off the ground in the next year in Reno. Mr. Fisher stated he would like to begin discussions with this store to get them SNAP and WIC eligible. Mr. Fisher indicated he has reached out to Amazon.com's corporate office to see if they can setup certain foods to be eligible to pay with a SNAP card. This would be very helpful to the senior citizen population, along with people who live in areas without local access to food.

Mr. Fisher outlined the Healthy Hungry Free Kids Act (HHFKA) and the breakdowns among the different groups. The control group will only receive the current SNAP benefits for the family. Group one is comprised of approximately 2,500 children between the ages of zero and five years of age who will get an additional \$40 on their SNAP card on a monthly basis. Group two is made up of about 2,400 children between the ages of zero and five who will get an additional \$40 on their SNAP card along with case management services including nutrition education for the family. In June, just over 4,000 children received the additional \$40 on their SNAP cards. Participation numbers remained the same through July and August. East Valley Family Services and Lutheran Social Services are providing the case management aspect of the program. They have provided case management to over 200 households thus far, and their first education class is scheduled in September.

SNAP education and outreach FY17 plans were submitted to Food and Nutrition Services on April 18, 2016 for review and approval. The outreach plan requested just over \$2 million which includes funding for the demonstration project, which is in its second year of five years with the Food Bank of Northern Nevada and Housing, Emergency services, Life skills and Prevention (HELP) of Southern Nevada. This project allows for SNAP outreach teams to fill out the SNAP application and do the interview, which is tracked with in the DWSS application software. Additionally, DWSS employees can see if the application was completed at one of these agencies which would indicate the interview was already completed. DWSS added one new partner, Access to Healthcare Network, to the group of ten other partners who are already assisting with outreach.

The SNAP education FY17 plan requested approximately \$2.4 million. The SNAP Education needs assessment is underway and is in its third phase and scheduled to be completed in late 2016.

Mr. Fisher went on to explain that SNAP will be collocating SNAP education with WIC and there are also plans to collocate the Office of Food Security in the same facility.

Ms. Jamason asked about stationing eligibility workers in the WIC clinics or training WIC employees on how to complete SNAP applications.

Mr. Fisher explained stationing eligibility workers in WIC clinics is not a plan DWSS has in the immediate future, but stated he believes it is a good idea.

Sarah Adler asked about the restrictions on the types of food for HHFKA and if DWSS is able to track the types of foods families buy and the patterns of their purchases. She also asked if the families who are receiving case management were having their BMIs tracked and/or any other measures that could monitor if they were getting healthier.

Darlene Dougherty explained the additional \$40 for the HHFKA program has the same restrictions SNAP funds have, human non-taxable food. Mathematica is tracking expenditure of funds and any changes which occurred as a result of the extra \$40. She stated much of the tracking will be conducted after the program is completed. BMIs are not being tracked within the case management group as the overall goal of this program was to decrease food insecurity.

Jodi Tyson asked how long the study was for the SNAP expansion.

Ms. Dougherty stated the funding is for 12 months.

Ms. Tyson asked if all of the people who received the extra \$40 were families with children.

Ms. Dougherty stated all of the recipients who received HHFKA money were families with children ages zero to five in the household. The household would not qualify unless it had at least one child within that age range.

Ms. Dougherty added she recently learned Lutheran Social Services (LSS) was awarded a grant for grocery delivery to shut-ins in Southern Nevada. She does not know the amount of the grant but will learn more after LSS's kickoff meeting.

6. Report on and make recommendations regarding consideration of new appointees

This agenda item came after agenda item # 9

It was stated there are currently two member openings to be appointed by Governor Sandoval. One of which is Cody Phinney, and the other is a representative from the Department of Education. Steve Canavero, Superintendent of Public Instruction, will be asked to serve on the council, or if someone else will be serving.

Additionally, it was discussed there are three council-appointed openings. It was made known Mike Wurm had resigned, and his position for a community-based services representative in Northern Nevada will need to be filled. The other vacancies are for a

member representing community-based services in Southern Nevada, and one member representing the executive administration in the gaming and hospitality industries.

7. Review, discuss and make recommendations on Senator Reid's Response Letter regarding Children Nutrition Programs

This agenda item came after agenda item # 6

Senator Reid's response letter was briefly discussed but no formal action or recommendation was taken or put forth by the council.

8. Status update on the Food Security Plan

This agenda item came after agenda # 10

Laura Urban, Food Security and Wellness Manager, introduced herself and gave a brief history of her career. Ms. Urban overviewed updates for the Food Security Work Plan, (Agenda Attachment #9). She explained the stakeholder interviews had been conducted and the suggestions had been incorporated into the plan. Ms. Urban stated she sent out the previous draft to council members this morning for review and suggestions. The work plan will be considered for a future agenda item to accept the proposed changes. Finally, Ms. Urban explained she would like to develop an annual action plan to establish priorities to accomplish this upcoming year. Ms. Urban stated she will follow up with a survey to identify the priorities for further discussion.

9. USDA Report

This agenda item came after agenda item # 8

Ms. Adler overviewed the document for agenda item #10 which covered a USDA multiagency training for USDA staff and small farm/local food communities. This training applies to "Grow", the fourth part of the food security plan. Six USDA agencies along with Nevada Department of Agriculture, WIC and other State partners who are engaged with delivering USDA programs will meet to create greater access to USDA resources.

Ms. Sandoval asked Ms. Adler if she could provide an update of the results of this training at the next meeting.

Ms. Adler stated she would be willing to provide and update at the next meeting.

10. Update on the Nutrition Umbrella Committee

This agenda item came after agenda item # 5

Cody Phinney provided a brief update on the Nutrition Umbrella Committee. Ms. Phinney stated much of what she planned on discussing was already covered by Mr. Fisher. She believed collocating the office for WIC, SNAP and Food Security it is an excellent message to send to the public. She elaborated the collocation shows DHHS is focused on the issue of food insecurity. Ms. Phinney explained the Division will be exploring coordination efforts between SNAP education and WIC. She stated DPBH will also look into whether the Division can assist with delivery of the services Mr. Fisher discussed.

Ms. Jamason asked about assessing the WIC and SNAP databases to determine if there were people on WIC, who might be eligible to receive SNAP, but is not currently enrolled.

Ms. Phinney stated DHHS continues to look for a way to find a single patient identifier that would allow the department to assess enrollment not only between those two programs, but also between several other programs. This would maximize the benefits any individual person is receiving with minimum impact to the individual. She explained there are a couple ways the Division is pursuing the goal including technological solutions and working on organizational structures and assessment centers with the help from the First Lady.

Ms. Adler asked if there is a navigation function which can be developed out of these collaborations. She explained this could be used as a tracking tool to see where progress is in relation to the goals which have been set.

Ms. Phinney stated she will add to the agenda how to institutionalize the navigation piece as they are developing the structure to insure any community's need or opportunity can be addressed across the full spectrum of programs.

11. Potential Policy Priorities for Nevada Legislative Session 2017 for discussion and possible vote to recommend

This agenda item came after agenda item # 7

Jodi Tyson discussed the items detailed within the white paper attachment for agenda item #12. Ms. Tyson discussed what the implications may be for reducing the previous established threshold of 70% Free and Reduced Lunch enrollment at schools in Clark County and requiring them to provide Breakfast After the Bell. The white paper outlines the millions of additional meals served as a result of this program. Nevada has approximately 33,000 breakfast meals that would need to be added each day in order to reach the three year goal. The first year of the grant was the same year as SB503, which included Breakfast After the Bell. This helped Three Square to exceed their first year goal of 71,000 breakfasts served per day. The first year, approximately 74,000 breakfasts were served per day. At the end of the school year, there were participation rates as high as 79,000 breakfasts. After averaging across the timeline, credit for 74,000 breakfasts was given. In order to meet the established benchmark of 90,000 breakfasts per day, Three Square needs to look into a couple of other strategies. As schools mature with lessons learned from this program, they tend to do better. Another area to explore is the feasibility and sustainability of expanding the pool created during Senate Bill (SB) 503 in order to serve more kids. The preliminary analysis shows if

the threshold is reduced to 60%, the program could remain sustainable. Three Square would like to establish a pilot project with Clark County School District to voluntarily reduce the percentage to 60%. There are 38 schools that would come into the program and become eligible for the breakfast program. This could add 8,000 kids to the program, which would bring Three Square much closer to its three year goal of 90,000 breakfasts. Share Our Strength has been working with Three Square on the white paper and had meetings with the Nevada Department of Agriculture, the First Lady, and Governor Sandoval.

Cherie Jamason commented she was happy to see the pilot would be conducted in Las Vegas which can have the biggest impact within the state. When she discussed the program with Washoe County School District she discovered something surprising. Schools which instituted Breakfast After the Bell, had a decreased number of lunches being sold.

Ms. Tyson replied she appreciates Ms. Jamason mentioning this because it is a regional difference, as in Las Vegas the more breakfast served, the more lunches were also served.

Ms. Barton stated there are 62 schools across the state falling within the 60-69% range of eligible kids. This translates to 30,113 children who would be impacted if the threshold was lowered. There are 39 schools within Clark County, representing 24,874 children who would become eligible if the threshold was lowered. Ms. Barton explained 4,297,691 more breakfast meals were served, bringing in an additional \$8,038,490. Because of the increase in the number of breakfasts, 792,509 meals brought in an additional \$6,011,241. This brought in an additional \$14,049,731 in additional funds to the state.

Ms. Adler asked Ms. Barton if she was pleased with the reimbursement numbers and if the additional money was providing more funding to schools to serve more kids.

Ms. Barton replied they are very pleased with the numbers as they exceeded the goals set. Ms. Barton noted because Clark County is an economy of scale, the more kids they serve, the better deal they can get on the products they are purchasing. Additionally, Clark County School District has a new dietician who is working on improving their breakfast menu. Ms. Barton believes due to the work being done on the menus, they will see increased participation within Clark County.

Mary Liveratti discussed the AARP's concern with nutrition and seniors. Ms. Liveratti stated approximately 18.8% of seniors are deemed food insecure in Nevada. Many depend either on the congregate meals provided by the Older Americans Act or the Meals on Wheels Program. There are nearly one in five seniors age 60 or older who are marginally food insecure. The State of Senior Hunger in America 2011, an annual report, ranked Nevada the fourth highest percentage of seniors who are marginally food insecure. The Nevada Meals on Wheels program is serving about 4,000 homebound meals per day. Currently, the waiting list is over 600 people long in Clark County for the Meals on Wheels Program. Seniors who are disabled are three times more likely to be food insecure.

Ms. Liveratti explained seniors do not access benefits for a number of reasons including lack of knowledge of eligibility, stigmas of going to a Welfare office, and lack of outreach. Ms.

Liveratti went over the information contained within the handout titled Meal on Wheels in Nevada.

Barbara Paulson introduced herself, explained she is a registered dietician and gave a brief history of her career. Ms. Paulson stated one area of emphasis for Nevadans for the Common Good is Senior Health. They have been primarily looking at issues which affect the ability of seniors to maintain their independence. They are also exploring provider rates who provide community-based health and home care services. Ms. Paulson also reviewed information outlaid in the document titled Meals on Wheels in Nevada.

Mr. Duarte asked if Meals on Wheels can accept SNAP for payment for meals.

Ms. Liveratti stated there is currently no process in place to allow SNAP payment.

Ms. Paulson explained Meals on Wheels is not an income-based program though many people who use Meals on Wheels are from a lower socio-economic backgrounds. Eligibility is based on the client's ability to get out, the state of their health, and their certified homebound status.

Christy McGill reported a new program has been initiated named MOST, where a health caretaker pairs up with a firefighter or a sheriff deputy to do well checks on people who frequently call 911. There is a concern of people utilizing 911 too often need to be hospitalized or put in jail if an intervention doesn't happen. Clarity data shows more than 50% needing this attention are seniors. Nutrition is a big part of this. Ms. McGill offered to share the data if useful. Lyon, Storey, Douglas, Carson, and Churchill County have started the MOST program.

Ms. Liveratti added in Winnemucca there is a program where Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) visit seniors after they are discharged from the hospital to do wellness checks.

Ms. McGill confirmed the program is called Community Paramedicine. She emphasized the importance of connecting the dots between these different programs to empower seniors to remain independent as long as possible.

Ms. Jamason stated she has been in contact with Stacy Dean, Vice President for Food Assistance Policy, and said Ms. Dean has offered to present to the council.

Ms. Barton stated the Department of Agriculture has three programs addressing senior food insecurity, and her staff can present on those programs at the next council meeting.

Ms. Sandoval said when considering what the next focus area should be, it's important to also consider the target population.

Ms. Jamason volunteered to head a working group to see which populations should be targeted for outreach.

Dr. Osgood stated there were discussions regarding which age adjusted-gap is the most in need. He said he was unable to identify this himself due to a lack of data. He asked if anyone would be able to help identify gaps in coverage.

Jodi Tyson added senior programs are not listed in the plan, but child programs are listed due to lack of participation among existing children's programs. From the perspective of the plan, the council had talked about achieving greater synergy between existing programs and increasing participation.

Dr. Osgood confirmed integrating and coordinating existing programs is still a top priority.

12. Acknowledgement of Senator Debbie Smith's work regarding nutrition programs and anti-poverty policies and discussion/vote on commemoration of her work

This agenda item came after agenda item #13.

Ms. Sandoval asked if anyone had any ideas on how to acknowledge Senator Smith's work.

After a short discussion it was decided something food related should be considered. Ideas such as a fruit tree or bench in a community garden were proposed. Urban Roots was mentioned as a good contact group for assisting with the garden.

13. Council discussion to identify what the next focus areas should be

Mrs. Sandoval stated a working group will be developed to identify target population for the focus area(s) of the plan moving forward. This group will be led by Ms. Jamason. She requested someone from Aging and Disability present on their programs, and confirmed Ms. Barton and team will also present on senior programs offered through the Department of Agriculture.

Using the survey results, data from working group, and strategic plan, the council will work forward in identifying what the next focus area will be.

14. Public Comment

Ms. Liveratti stated if a loved one needs to be hospitalized, a caretaker must be identified for the hospital's records. If the individual is discharged or moved to another facility, the caretaker must be informed. Additionally, it is important for hospitals to train the caregiver, through video or a one-on-one, so they have more information on how to support their loved ones at home.

15. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

There were no closing remarks.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P.M.