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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM THE CHAIR, FIRST LADY OF NEVADA KATHLEEN T. SANDOVAL**

This past year has demonstrated the power of collective impact and is a testament to why we continue to come together and do the work we do – support the elimination of food insecurity in Nevada. With the passing of SB503, Breakfast After the Bell has resulted in 3,618,093 more meals to children. This effort has led to more children at school ready to learn, more children with access to the nutrition necessary for proper development, and more caretakers at ease knowing their children have the option of another nutritious meal. There is much more to this program than the impressive numbers shared in this report. The impact is deep and these activities are crucial to provision of adequate nutrition and better learning outcomes for children of all ages.

Despite monumental efforts over the past few years, one out of six Nevadans still do not know where they will get their next meal. Our fight is far from over. Hunger represents a vital societal issue and requires a multidisciplinary approach to address the various aspects of poverty. Together, we can continue to influence and ignite change so that year by year, we can better the health and welfare of Nevadans and their families for generations to come. This work does not begin or end with the Governor’s Council on Food Security. It requires collaboration and alignment of efforts from every corner of the state. The seeds of change have been sown, and collectively we can continue to break down barriers and increase access to and availability of food for all Nevadans.

The Governor’s Council on Food Security, as well as many other community agencies and stakeholders, continue to propel these efforts forward. I am inspired and humbled by your unrelenting efforts which influence and directly contribute to the betterment of Nevadans. You are true ambassadors of this work and are wholeheartedly committed, fueled by a deep yearning for all Nevadans to have the proper resources for a healthy, happy life. This report highlights a snapshot of those accomplishments. Together, we will continue to explore the determinants and consequences of the complexities of hunger, and we will continue to build upon the progress demonstrated in the past year.

With deepest thanks,

Kathleen T. Sandoval
Chairperson, Governor’s Council on Food Security
First Lady of the State of Nevada
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To address food insecurity throughout Nevada, Governor Brian Sandoval established the Governor’s Council on Food Security in March 2014 via Executive Order. Since its establishment, the Council has worked to implement the goals and activities of *Food Security in Nevada: Nevada’s Plan for Action* to improve the quality of life and health of Nevadans by increasing food security throughout the state.

In spring 2015, the 78th Nevada Legislature heard and passed three bills relating to food security in Nevada: SB503, Breakfast After the Bell (BATB); AB107, regarding the annual accountability report for public schools (includes breakfast and lunch eligibility and participation counts); and SB206, Cottage Food Bill/Pickle Bill. SB503 mandates all Nevada schools with 70 percent or greater free and reduced meal eligibility to implement an option for students to have access to breakfast after the start of the school day. The bill was championed by the Council and signed into law on June 12, 2015. The bill set aside $2 million in grants to be used over a two-year period to provide fiscal support for qualifying schools. In its first year, SB503 increased breakfast participation by 50% and helped schools build program capacity and sustainability.

The Council has spent 2016 discussing legislation, policies, and programs that will ensure food security for Nevadans and establishing the foundation for evaluating plan activities. In 2016, SB503: BATB was implemented.

This report provides information on the focus and successes of the Governor’s Council on Food Security for 2016.
HISTORIC TIMELINE OF FOOD SECURITY IN NEVADA

October 2011: Southern Nevada Food Council (SNFC) and the Washoe County Food Policy Council were established, providing a forum for all members of our food system to collaborate, network, examine systems, and provide recommendations for change.

April 2012: Results of the Nevada Office of Food Security Community Needs Assessment were published, showing one in six Nevadans to be food insecure. A Food Security Steering Committee was created to oversee a strategic planning process and address policy issues.

August 2013: First Lady of Nevada, Kathleen Sandoval, hosted A Place at the Table, an event which engaged stakeholders in a broad community conversation about hunger issues in Nevada. A Food Summit was hosted which resulted in significant input from 165 participants and representatives on food systems, food security, and healthy communities.

February 12, 2014: Governor Sandoval signs an Executive Order creating the Governor’s Council on Food Security.

March 27, 2014: The first Governor’s Council on Food Security met in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Spring 2015: The 78th Nevada Legislature heard and passed three bills that would have a positive impact on food security in Nevada: SB503, Breakfast After the Bell; AB107, Report of Accountability for Public Schools (includes breakfast and lunch eligibility and participation counts); and the Cottage Food Bill/Pickle Bill.

Throughout 2015: The Governor’s Council on Food Security met for planning and actions regarding food security.

Throughout 2016: The Governor’s Council on Food Security met for planning and actions regarding food security. The Council used the year to evaluate and work on reassessing the Food Security Action Plan.
FOCUS OF THE COUNCIL

In 2013, a Food Security Steering Committee was created to oversee the strategic planning process. In addition, four workgroups were created to address specific core areas of food security in Nevada. The workgroups include: Grow Nevada, Feed Nevada, Lead Nevada, and Reach Nevada. The goals and broad direction of each core area are as follows:

LEAD
- Goal 1 – Establish the systems and positions necessary to implement a permanent, sustainable, accountable state leadership structure for food security to increase all Nevadans’ understanding, value, and support of food security solutions.
- Goal 2 – Promote a policy agenda to increase food security in Nevada.

FEED
- Goal 1 – Maximize participation in each federal nutrition program available to the State.
- Goal 2 – Establish and integrate an actual or virtual “one-stop-shop” system to increase access to food and other services for food insecure Nevadans.

GROW
- Goal 1 – Increase the number of servings of nutritious foods consumed by Nevadans with emphasis on foods produced in Nevada.

REACH
- Goal 1 – Change the current models of purchase (commodities) and distribution of nutritious foods to increase economies of scale, and link frequency of deliveries and availability of local food to the specific needs of communities throughout the State (rural, urban, and food deserts).
- Goal 2 – Develop the technology to connect and share data among multiple state agencies, regional food banks, community agencies, and faith-based organizations for efficient and effective targeting of services and populations.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2016

LEAD

The Nevada Food Security Action Plan was updated to include measures to quantify progress. The updated plan will allow for the development of a comprehensive report including baseline data, lead organizations, and a reporting protocol to help track and communicate plan progress.

The Department of Health and Human Services Director’s Office supported the formation of a Nutrition Unit consisting of the Office of Food Security (OFS), the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Education (SNAP-ED). This unit has been created to encourage alignment of efforts and collaboration.

FEED

In its first year, SB503: BATB has proven to be a great success. In 2015, bipartisan support led to the passage of SB503. SB503 measures success in three key areas of policy implementation: 1) increased participation in breakfast statewide, particularly among free and reduced lunch-enrolled students; 2) increased federal funding via United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) reimbursements for breakfast meals consumed by participating students; and 3) private/public partnerships that leverage federal funds with private, charitable funds to further the Breakfast After the Bell initiative and ensure positive community perception of the effort.

The Nevada Department of Agriculture’s 2015-2016 School Year Final Report shows 3,618,093 more breakfasts were served compared to the 2014-2015 school year, and breakfast participation doubled (from 20% to 44%) among qualifying schools over the same time. 109 of 111 Nevada schools received a total of $1 million in grant awards, increasing access to breakfast to more than 84,000 students statewide. BATB also brought in an additional $8 million in federal breakfast reimbursements to Nevada schools.

See appendix A for more information regarding year one BATB data.
FUTURE FOCUS

A survey was issued to Council members and members of the public to reassess priorities of the Governor’s Council on Food Security. The results of the survey will identify the top ten activities which will be used to develop a 2017 Action Plan.

MEMBERS: THE GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY

Kathleen Sandoval  
Nevada First Lady  
Chair

Steve Fisher  
Administrator  
Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Sarah Adler  
State Director  
Nevada USDA Rural Development

Jim Barbee  
Director  
Nevada Department of Agriculture

Matthew Tuma  
Industry Specialist – Natural Resources  
Governor’s Office of Economic Development

Cody Phinney  
Administrator  
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Christy McGill  
Nevada Department of Education

Jodi Tyson  
Director of Government Affairs  
Three Square

Chuck Duarte  
Chief Executive Officer  
Community Health Alliance

Vacant  
One of three members representing community-based services (Rural Nevada)

Vacant  
One of three members representing community-based services (Southern Nevada)

Donnell Barton  
Administrator  
Nevada Food and Nutrition Division

Mary Liveratti  
Nevada State President  
AARP

Vacant  
One member representing University of Nevada: Cooperative Extension

Amy Hill  
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Kenneth Osgood, MD, MPH  
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Vacant  
One member representing non-food manufacturing business
Vacant
One member representing the executive administration in the gaming and hospitality industries

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SPECIAL THANKS

We extend our special thanks to the following individuals:
Beth Handler, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Jennifer Bonk, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Michelle Walker, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health
APPENDIX

A. SB503: Breakfast After the Bell 2015-2016 School Year Final Report

Nevada Department of Agriculture
SB503: Breakfast After the Bell

2015-2016 School Year Final Report

Senate Bill 503, also known as the Breakfast After the Bell Bill, was signed into law by Governor Brian Sandoval on June 12, 2015. The bill required all Nevada schools with 70 percent or greater free/reduced lunch eligibility implement an option for students to have access to breakfast after the start of the school day. The bill also set aside $2 million in grant money to assist in implementation over two years. The following data shows participation success, progress in grant applications, awards and implementation in the 2015-2016 school year.

2015-2016 SUCCESS

+ 109 schools (of 111) in all eight eligible districts received $1 million in grant awards, increasing access to breakfast for more than 84,000 students statewide.
+ 3,618,093 more breakfasts served compared to 2014-2015.
+ Double breakfast participation (from 20% to 44%) among qualifying schools over the same time in the 2014-2015 school year.
+ Additional $8 million in all federal breakfast reimbursements into the state of Nevada
+ Increased access to breakfast in high-need schools is important because extensive research has shown that students who eat breakfast succeed academically, have fewer behavioral issues and fewer visits to the school nurse.

FUNDING REQUESTS

TOTAL GRANT AWARDS: $1 million
- Clark County - $813,554
- Elko County - $40,000
- Humboldt County - $11,000
- Mater Academy - $7,470
- State-sponsored charter school
- Mineral County - $3,000
- Nye County - $23,908
- Pershing County - $2,567
- Washoe County - $87,500

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