

**Governor's Council on Food Security**  
**Minutes**  
**July 18, 2018**

The Governor's Council on Food Security held a public meeting on July 18, 2018, beginning at approximately 1:06 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, Building 1  
West Hall Conference Room  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

**Board Members Present**

Steve Fisher, Administrator, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) (Carson City)  
Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator, DWSS (Las Vegas)  
Jerri Conrad, Interim Director, Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) (Carson City)  
Annmarie Feiler, Executive Director, Urban Seed Foundation (Phone)  
Julie Kotchevar, Administrator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) (Carson City)  
Dana Serrata, Executive Director, Helping Hands of Vegas Valley (Las Vegas)  
Jodi Tyson, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, Three Square Food Bank (Las Vegas)  
Cherie Jamason, Director of Ending Hunger Initiatives, Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) (Carson City)  
Aurora Buffington, Faculty Instructor, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE) (Phone)  
Dr. Kenneth Osgood, Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), Board of Health (Las Vegas)  
Rob Medeiros, CEO, Boomtown Casino Hotel and Reserve Casino Hotel (Phone)  
Gillian Barclay, Healthcare Industry Specialist, Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development (Las Vegas)  
Chuck Duarte, CEO, Community Health Alliance (CHA) (Phone)  
Amber Bosket, Executive Director, State Renewable Energy (Las Vegas)  
Sarah Adler, Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon & Storey Counties (HCC) (Carson City)

**Board Members Not Present**

Christy McGill, Director, Safe and Respectful Learning Environments, Nevada Department of Education (NDE)  
Homa Anoshehpour, Administrator, NDA  
Amy Hill, Government Relations, Walmart  
Yvanna Cancela, Executive Director, Immigrant Workers Citizenship Project

### **Also Present**

Beth Handler, MPH, Chief, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness (CFCW), DPBH (phone)

Cindy Routh Smith, Social Services Chief III, Office of Community Partnerships and Grants, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Karissa Loper, MPH, Deputy Bureau Chief, CFCW, DPBH (Carson City)

Michelle Walker, RD, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Section Manager, CFCW, DPBH (Carson City)

Laura Urban, Food Security and Wellness Manager, Office of Food Security (OFS), CFCW, DPBH, DHHS (Carson City)

Joe Dibble, LD, RDN, Nutrition Coordinator, WIC, CFCW, DPBH (Carson City)

Gina Gimenez, Program Officer I, WIC, CFCW, DPBH (Carson City)

Diane Hogan, Education Programs Professional, NDA (Las Vegas)

Al Brislain, President and CEO, FBNN (Carson City)

Shane Piccinini, Government Relations, FBNN (Carson City)

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

Steve Fisher, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:06 P.M.

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

### **2. ACTION ITEM: Approve Minutes of March 21, 2018 Council Meeting**

Mr. Fisher asked if there were any corrections to the draft minutes from the March 21, 2018 meeting.

MR. FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 21, 2018 MEETING. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY CHERIE JAMASON. DR. KENNETH OSGOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

### **3. Governor's Council on Food Security (GCFS) member introductions**

All new and existing members were introduced. A roster of the GCFS can be found on the [GCFS website](#).

### **4. ACTION ITEM: Make recommendations for vacant membership representing food processing or distribution**

David Weaver previously filled the membership position representing food processing or distribution.

Mr. Fisher asked GCFS members to direct all recommendations to himself and Laura Urban.

### **5. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve updated 2018 meeting dates**

The November 2018 GCFS meeting date was rescheduled, per the March 2018 GCFS meeting. The November 2018 GCFS meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. The updated 2018 GCFS meetings save-the-date handout can be found [here](#).

MR. FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE UPDATED NOVEMBER 2018 MEETING DATE. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY DR. OSGOOD. CHUCK DUARTE SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

- 6. ACTION ITEM: Present, discuss, and approve GCFS Member Onboarding Policy**  
Ms. Urban provided an overview of the new GCFS Member Onboarding Policy. The Policy can be found [here](#).

Jodi Tyson recommended an amendment of item number six (6) of the Onboarding Policy: *Follow-up call after three (3) months of GCFS service*. Ms. Tyson recommended scheduling the follow-up call with new members after they have attended at least two (2) GCFS meetings.

MR. FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE GCFS MEMBER ONBOARDING POLICY WITH THE AMENDMENT TO ITEM NUMBER SIX (6). A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY MS. TYSON. MS. JAMASON SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

- 7. Update regarding *Food Security in Nevada: Nevada's Plan for Action Evaluation Plan***  
Ms. Urban stated the draft Evaluation Plan will be presented at the September 2018 GCFS meeting for members' consideration.

Ms. Urban added the Office of Food Security (OFS) was awarded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Education (SNAP-Ed) funding to coordinate a Statewide Food Security Summit in 2018. Coordinating a Statewide Food Security Summit aligns with the *Food Security Plan*. The Summit is expected to be held between late October and early November 2018. A Steering Committee will be established to facilitate Summit planning.

Amber Bosket and Annmarie Feiler volunteered to participate on the Steering Committee.

Aurora Buffington asked about the Summit's purpose.

Ms. Urban stated the purpose of the Summit is to enhance engagement and cross-sector collaboration within Nevada's food security network.

GCFS members discussed the Summit's location; whether the Summit will be held in Northern or Southern Nevada has yet to be decided.

- 8. ACTION ITEM: Present, discuss, and approve next steps regarding the Child and Adult Care Food Program and Summer Food Service Program**  
Diane Hogan provided an overview of two (2) NDA child nutrition programs: the Child and Adult Care Food Program and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). The handouts for her presentation can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Ms. Jamason stated Washoe County is struggling with barriers, such as park safety and high temperatures, which are affecting SFSP participation. The Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT)

Program may be a solution to overcoming such barriers. Ms. Jamason asked if the Summer EBT Program has a limited budget.

Joe Dibble stated the Summer EBT Program does have a limited budget. This program is currently still considered a demonstration project at the Federal level. In 2018, the Summer EBT Program will expand to include Washoe County urban schools. There may be an opportunity to expand the Summer EBT Program into other rural areas in the future.

**9. ACTION ITEM: Present, discuss, approve, and identify next steps regarding policy recommendations from the GCFS Policy Sub-Committee**

Ms. Jamason provided an overview of the GCFS Policy Sub-Committee recommendations. The recommendations can be found [here](#). Two (2) of the three (3) State policy recommendations were taken from the *Nutrition Programs Gap Analysis for Older Nevadans*, including 1) *establish the GCFS as a permanent body in Nevada* and 2) *increase meal reimbursement rates to create parity between child and senior meal programs*.

Mr. Fisher suggested drafting an Executive Summary outlining the policy recommendations, including background information and data. Once approved by the GCFS, the summary will be shared with Director Whitley and other food security and nutrition stakeholders.

Ms. Feiler asked if the third state policy recommendation regarding a Food Rescue State Goal Bill relates to Three Square's current food rescue program.

Ms. Tyson stated the Food Rescue State Goal Bill follows a holistic approach and will engage various sectors including retail markets, convenience stores, restaurants, farmers, and food manufacturers.

Dr. Osgood discussed the *Nutrition Programs Gap Analysis for Older Nevadans*, which was approved by the GCFS in January 2018. Dr. Osgood suggested renaming the report to *Nutrition Programs for Older Nevadans*. He stated that in his opinion a true gap analysis cannot be conducted with the information provided in the report and recommended the GCFS take the next year to gather data to determine the true gap in services.

Ms. Urban stated an action item considering changing the title of the *Nutrition Programs Gap Analysis for Older Nevadans* will be put on the September 18, 2018 GCFS meeting agenda.

Ms. Bosket asked for more information regarding the administrative policy recommendation: *Support Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) screening, referral, and outreach in inpatient settings within hospitals*.

Shane Piccinini stated The Nevada Hospital Association is creating a work group for this idea, and he will have an update in September 2018.

Ms. Jamason added hospitals are currently screening for Medicaid eligibility.

**MR. FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE GCFS POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY**

MS. JAMASON. DR. OSGOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

**10. Present Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) Medicaid reimbursement**

Mr. Dibble provided an overview of MNT and Medicaid reimbursement. The presentation can be found [here](#).

Ms. Tyson asked if interns can be used, if supervised by a registered dietitian.

Mr. Dibble stated the bill requires registered dietitians to perform the services to be reimbursed.

Ms. Tyson asked if prescription pantry services would qualify for reimbursement, if referred by the client's physician and prescribed healthy foods per their dietary needs by a dietician.

Mr. Dibble stated the dietitian is listed as an individual provider; if the dietician submits a claim aligning with the criteria for the diagnosis, then the claim should be approved.

**11. Present Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) receipt data**

Mr. Fisher provided an overview of Nevada SNAP receipt data, as requested at the March 2018 GCFS meeting. The handouts can be found [here](#) and [here](#). Mr. Fisher will share county-level SNAP data with Ms. Urban to distribute to GCFS members.

Mr. Fisher addressed members' interest in SNAP receipt data specifically for Nevadans 60 years and older. The average monthly income for this population in Nevada is approximately \$1,000. The average monthly SNAP benefit for this same population is \$102.74.

Ms. Jamason asked if Nevada has the "maximum shelter allowance" waiver for SNAP. If not, this waiver may increase eligibility among Nevadans.

Mr. Fisher and Robert Thompson will follow-up with Ms. Jamason regarding her question.

**12. Action Item: Present and identify next steps regarding Funds for a Healthy Nevada "One-Stop-Shop" grants**

Cindy Smith and Lori Follett provided an overview of the Funds for a Healthy Nevada "One-Stop-Shop" grants. The presentation can be found [here](#). Ms. Smith stated the Office of Community Partnerships and Grants would like to better align the "One-Stop-Shop" Food Security Grants with GCFS priorities.

Per the April 3, 2018 GCFS Policy Sub-Committee meeting, Ms. Smith invited the GCFS to appoint a representative to present GCFS priorities to the DHHS Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC). Additionally, Ms. Smith envisions an on-going relationship between the GCFS and GMAC, to ensure the funds are used appropriately and effectively.

Sarah Adler agreed to represent the GCFS at the September 20, 2018 GMAC meeting.

**13. Report on Senate Bill (SB) 323**

Ms. Tyson presented an update on SB 323, which revises provisions governing SNAP, including the creation of a voluntary workfare program. She stated there is a committee that meets monthly to implement the “soft landing” for Nevadans at risk of losing SNAP benefits due to the return of the SNAP work requirement. The committee is currently working on developing workfare program processes, including volunteer hour tracking mechanisms and workfare agency outreach. A workfare agency can be any non-profit agency that accepts volunteers. She asked GCFS members to e-mail herself and/or Ms. Urban with agency recommendations.

**14. Present and approve future agenda items**

Dr. Osgood recommended including an agenda item to discuss changing the title of the *Nutrition Programs Gap Analysis for Older Nevadans* and to begin discussions around conducting a true gap analysis.

Ms. Tyson recommended adding an update on the Statewide Food Security Summit.

Ms. Jamason recommended including a Summer EBT Program update.

Ms. Adler requested an update on the success of the School Breakfast Program.

**15. Public Comment**

NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN

**16. Adjournment**

Mr. Fisher adjourned the meeting at 3:35 P.M.