

**Governor's Council on Food Security**  
**Minutes**  
**January 16, 2019**

The Governor's Council on Food Security held a public meeting on January 16, 2019 beginning at approximately 1:05 P.M. at the following locations:

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

Rawson Neal Hospital  
1650 Community College Dr.  
Training Room B193  
Las Vegas, NV, 89146

**Board Members Present**

Steve Fisher, Administrator, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) (Carson City)  
Homa Anoshehpour, Administrator, Division of Food and Nutrition Services, Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) (Phone)  
Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator, DWSS (Carson City)  
Christy McGill, Director, Safe and Respectful Learning Environments, Nevada Department of Education (NDE) (Carson City)  
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)  
Kenneth Osgood, MD, Board of Health, Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) (Las Vegas)  
Rob Medeiros, CEO, Boomtown Casino Hotel and Reserve Casino Hotel (Phone)  
Sarah Adler, Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon & Storey Counties (HCC) (Las Vegas)  
Jodi Tyson, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Three Square Food Bank (Las Vegas)  
Chuck Duarte, CEO, Community Health Alliance (CHA) (Phone)  
Annmarie Feiler, Executive Director, Urban Seed Foundation (Phone)  
Deacon Tom Roberts, President and CEO, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada (Las Vegas)  
Marcia Blake, Executive Director, James Seastrand Helping Hands of North Las Vegas (Las Vegas)  
Amber Bosket, Executive Director, State Renewable Energy (Phone)  
Amy Hill, Government Relations, Walmart (Phone)

**Board Members Not Present**

Jerri Conrad, Interim Director, NDA

Gillian Barclay, Healthcare Industry Specialist,  
Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development  
(Las Vegas)

Julie Kotchevar, Administrator, Division of Public and  
Behavioral Health (DPBH) (Carson City)

### **Staff Present**

Beth Handler, MPH, Deputy Administrator, Community Health Services, DPBH

Karissa Loper, MPH, Deputy Bureau Chief, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness  
(CFCW), DPBH (Carson City)

Jeff Duncan, Social Services Chief II, Planning, Advocacy and Community Services Unit, Aging and  
Disabilities Services Division (ADSD) (Las Vegas)

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

Gina Gimenez, Program Officer I, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Section, CFCW, DPBH  
(Carson City)

Cathy Wright, Administrative Assistant III, WIC, CFCW, DPBH (Carson City)

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

Chair Fisher called the meeting to order at 1:05 P.M.

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

Chair Fisher called for public comment. Chair Fisher stated all Supplemental Nutrition Assistance  
Program (SNAP) February benefits will be issued early on January 20, 2019 due to the Federal  
Government shutdown. SNAP will continue throughout the shutdown and until February 28, 2019.

### **2. ACTION ITEM: Approve minutes from the November 13, 2018 Council Meeting**

Chair Fisher asked if there were any corrections to the draft minutes from the November 13,  
2018 meeting.

CHAIR FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE  
NOVEMBER 13, 2018 MEETING. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY CHERIE  
JAMASON. KENNETH OSGOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED  
UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

### **3. ACTION ITEM: Update regarding two (2) Governor's Council on Food Security (GCFS) Subcommittees: 1) Technology and 2) Research and Analysis**

Jodi Tyson stated the GCFS Technology Subcommittee met November 27, 2018 and is scheduled  
to meet again January 23, February 25, and March 27, 2019. The three (3) goals of the Technology  
Subcommittee are to:

- 1) Learn about partners' existing database systems, national best practices, and the perspective  
of statewide agencies on technology use. Ms. Tyson suggested the Subcommittee assess  
potential system add-ons to track service needs and outcomes.
- 2) Identify a conduit and develop a reporting process for the frequency of statewide  
partner/program data collection which will be presented to the GCFS for consideration and  
approval, if applicable.

- 3) Create a database systems/add-ons table or decision tree to present to the GCFS for consideration and approval, if applicable.

Ms. Tyson stated the Technology Subcommittee would be hearing presentations from vendors of the following systems: E-Logic, SAMS, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), Oasis, and Link to Feed.

Deacon Tom Roberts encouraged the Technology Subcommittee to ensure the systems assessed and recommended have data bridging capabilities.

Ms. Tyson stated the Technology Subcommittee is assessing the number of current Nevada users per system, if any, and cross-walking systems' capabilities with a set of standards established by the Technology Subcommittee. Standards include report customization, data bridging capabilities, and programs supported, as examples.

Chuck Duarte stated the Reno Area Alliance on Homelessness (RAAH) worked with the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee to develop a screening tool for patients discharged from the hospital and emergency room. This screening tool includes demographics and social determinants of health questions and is intended to help refer discharged patients to social services, as needed. Additionally, Washoe County Health District (WCHD) is coordinating a presentation for the system The GoodGrid. The GoodGrid is a community platform for requesting and delivering social services, used by many other states to manage social services case management.

Deacon Roberts stated systems should also be able to develop a client profile to assess clients' needs, whether those are clinical, medical, etc. The system must be capable of tracking services beyond food security.

Ms. Tyson clarified the Technology Subcommittee will not be recommending a single system all food security partners use, but will ultimately recommend a few systems to support partner agencies in identifying a system which will meet their specific needs and which have data bridging capabilities to foster data sharing where applicable.

Chair Fisher thanked Ms. Tyson and asked Dr. Osgood to provide an update on the Research Subcommittee.

Dr. Osgood replied he is currently the only member of the Research Subcommittee, which is on hold until the Technology Subcommittee accomplishes its goals.

Chair Fisher requested GCFS members interested in participating on the Research Subcommittee connect with Laura Urban.

**4. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve the 2018 Governor's Council on Food Security [Draft] Annual Report**

Ms. Urban presented the updated [\*2018 Governor's Council on Food Security \[Draft\] Annual Report\*](#). The revised report includes a summary of the following: 1) 2018 Food Security Summit; 2) Policy Subcommittee; 3) Technology Subcommittee; and 4) the Research and Analysis Subcommittee.

Deacon Roberts asked if the “Future Focus” outlined on page five (5) should mention specific initiatives?

Ms. Urban replied this section’s language aligns with that in previous reports, as the general focus is to implement the goals of *Food Security in Nevada: Nevada’s Plan for Action*. However, the GCFS could choose to identify specific goals for 2019.

Sarah Adler stated the 2018 Food Security Summit developed potential future action items which could help identify future GCFS focus areas.

Ms. Urban stated the 2018 Food Security Summit Final Report will be presented at the March 20, 2019 meeting.

Ms. Adler requested the *Food Security in Nevada: Nevada’s Plan for Action* be included in the footnotes of the Annual Report.

CHAIR FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2018 STATE OF NEVADA GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY ANNUAL REPORT UPON INCLUSION OF *FOOD SECURITY IN NEVADA: NEVADA’S PLAN FOR ACTION* REFERENCE IN THE ANNUAL REPORT’S FOOTNOTES. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY MR. DUARTE. DR. OSGOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

**5. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve updates to the GCFS Policy Recommendations Executive Summary**

Ms. Urban stated finalization of the GCFS Policy Recommendations Executive Summary is pending data regarding the total anticipated cost of creating parity between child and senior nutrition programs. Once the data is received, the Executive Summary will be updated and shared with GCFS members.

No action was taken.

**6. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve changes relating to the *Food Security in Nevada: Nevada’s Plan for Action* Evaluation Plan**

Ms. Urban presented the evaluation indicators for the newly added activity, [FEED 1.9](#), relating to older Nevadans. This new activity was approved at the November 2018 meeting.

GCFS members recommended additional indicators be added for FEED 1.9, including: 1) the Nevada Home Delivered Meal (HDM) reimbursement state ranking; 2) the reimbursement rate for transportation relating to HDM; 3) all social determinants of health supported by social services; and 4) homemaker services.

No action was taken. GCFS members approved updates to the Evaluation Plan via group consensus.

7. **Update Regarding the Office of Food Security, GCFS, and the Office of Community Partnerships and Grants collaboration efforts**

Chair Fisher stated Amber Bosket agreed to serve as the GCFS and Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC) dual member. Her GMAC appointment is in process. Ms. Bosket's membership will provide expertise to the GMAC relating to food insecurity and related issues in Nevada.

8. **Present 2019 Bill Draft Requests (BDRs) related to food security**

Chair Fisher presented the [GCFS 2019 Legislative Session Bill Tracking](#) chart. This is a living document which will be updated frequently.

Ms. Urban will update GCFS members once the BDRs outline in the chart become bills.

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

Chair Fisher called for future agenda items.

Mr. Duarte requested a presentation on the Community Health Alliance Program, 5-2-1-0.

Ms. Adler requested a presentation regarding Child Nutrition Programs from the Nevada Department of Agriculture.

Chair Fisher requested presentations from the two (2) local food policy councils.

It was confirmed the 2018 Food Security Summit Final Report and Recommendations would be on the March 20, 2019 agenda.

Aurora Buffington stated she would like to revisit the issue of Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) capabilities at Farmer's Markets. She offered to present on this topic.

Christy McGill requested a presentation on rural school gardens.

10. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Tyson stated the Senate Bill (SB) 323 Committee continues to meet. As of January 1, 2019, Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) SNAP recipients in Washoe County are limited to three (3) months of SNAP benefits for every three (3) years unless the individual is working. There is a workfare program for individuals to volunteer time in lieu of formal work to continue receiving SNAP benefits. The Food Bank of Northern Nevada and the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services can be contacted for more information.

Robert Thompson stated if there is interest in joining the SB323 Committee to contact himself or Ms. Tyson.

Mr. Thompson added there are currently no discussions regarding SNAP benefits past February should the Federal Government shutdown continue.

Homa Anooshehpour stated the School Lunch Program will continue through February with no interruption.

Beth Handler stated the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program will also continue through February with no interruption.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Fisher adjourned the meeting at 2:25 PM.