



Nevada Council on Food Security
Local Food Policy Council Updates
Wednesday, November 6, 2019

Southern Nevada Food Council Report

Membership

- A new SNFC member representing food production was approved.
- The Curriculum and Instructional Technology Manager from the Culinary Academy of Las Vegas applied for SNFC membership.

Activities

- The SNFC chair was one of two representatives from NV attending the *State Food Plan Summit* hosted by the Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems in Detroit, MI on Sept 17-19, 2019.
- The SNFC chair presented at the Health In All Policies, Nevada Public Health Association Annual Conference, "Envisioning a Local Food System that Helps All People in Las Vegas Achieve their Fullest Potential," on the SNFC recommendations for the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan developed from the visioning session.
- The SNFC REACH project partnership conducted focus groups at three community sites (HopeLink, Acelero Learning Henderson, and Heritage Park Senior Facility) located in zip code area 89015 for a total of 28 individual focus group participants. The ages ranged from 23-years to 90-years old. Forty-eight percent (48%) reported yearly income below \$12,000, and 40% reported yearly income below \$24,999. A preliminary focus group summary report, was submitted to the SNHD in September, and the final report including the quantitative and qualitative analyses, will be provided by the end of Nov.
- The SNFC provided a letter of support for the City of Las Vegas Office of Community Services *Local Food Local Places* technical assistance grant application to help start a vertical farming project in the Historic Westside neighborhood. The City received a confirmation email confirming the application is under review; semi-finalists will be contacted for phone interviews by the end of 2019, and then applicants will be notified of their final status by February 2020.
- Presentations at SNFC meetings include:
 - *Garden Farms of Nevada* on the establishment of their community organization and some NDA funded projects underway, including a virtual farmers market.
 - Three Square on the methodology of the *Food Insecurity Data Map* accessible on the website.
 - The City of Henderson on their *Grocery Store Feasibility Study-Adding Food Access in Underserved Communities*.
 - The Southern Nevada Health District on the REACH Year Two Sponsorship.
- The SNFC hosted a field trip on October 11th to Republic Services Southern Nevada Recycling Center (the largest residential recycling facility in North America) for approximately 20 Council members and supporters. A tour to Oasis Biotech is scheduled for Nov-. <https://doodle.com/poll/8qznp6e5wzf93ema>

Successes

- The SNHD has provided the SNFC with \$17,000 in operating funds for year two of the REACH grant.

Barriers

- Continued efforts (paid contract) are underway to secure a web designer for the SNFC website.