

THE NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY MEETING AGENDA

July 16, 2024

1:00 P.M. To Adjournment

Las Vegas Onsite Location:

1501 Las Vegas Blvd N, Las Vegas, NV 89101.

The location is past Cashman Field and across from Woodlawn Cemetery. Security will direct you to parking and the administrative building.

Carson City Onsite Location:

4150 Technology Way, Carson City, NV 89706.

When you arrive buzz the front door. Let them know you are here for the Nevada Council on Food Security (CFS) meeting. Someone will be in the lobby to take you to the conference room.

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 298 735 446 146

Passcode: MnDouo

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 775-321-6111, 609225494#](#) United States, Reno

Phone Conference ID: 609 225 494#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

Thank you for planning to attend this Teams meeting.

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

Note: Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, or removed from the agenda at the chairperson's discretion.

1. Call to order and roll call

Members: Allison Genco (Chair), Dr. Pamela Juniel, (Tori) Samantha Lawson-Boffelli, Deacon Tom Roberts, Vickie Ives, Jeff Duncan, Kelly Cantrelle, Dr. Dorain

Stonebarger, Dr. Julian Goicoechea, Jesus Mendoza Jr., Lisa Swearingen, and Maria Menjivar.

2. Public Comment

Public comment may be presented in-person, by computer, phone, or written comment. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comment telephonically, dial [775-321-6111](tel:775-321-6111). When prompted to provide the Meeting ID, enter [609225494#](tel:609225494#). Due to time considerations, each individual offering public comment will be limited to not more than five (5) minutes. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name. Please avoid using acronyms or define any acronyms used. A person may also have comments added to the minutes of the meeting by submitting them in writing either in addition to testifying or in lieu of testifying. Written comments may be submitted electronically before, during, or after the meeting by emailing Lori Taylor at L.Taylor@health.nv.gov. You may also mail written documents to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way, 3rd. Floor, Carson City, NV 89706, attention to: Office of Food Security.

3. Informational Item: Next Meeting Date

- **October 15, 2024, at 1:00 P.M.** (Remote Only)

4. For Possible Action: Approval of April 2, 2024, meeting minutes - Allison Genco, Chair

5. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to review and recommend applications to fill vacant council seats, per NRS 232.4966(4) – Allison Genco, Chair

6. Informational Item: Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) presentation on Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infant, and Children (WIC)- Blanca Ayala, DPBH

7. Informational Item: Three Square and Food Bank of Northern Nevada Food Bank presentation- Charlotte Williams and Shane Piccinini, Food Bank of Northern Nevada and Gabby Everett, Three Square.

8. **For Possible Action:** Nevada Revised Statutes ([NRS 232.4969](#)) Food for People Not Landfills Program (FFPNL) Subcommittee Updates and consideration for possible recommendations- Lori Taylor, Office of Food Security (OFS) Manager
 - FFPNL will be a running agenda item and a separate meeting will be held by the FFPNL subcommittee.
9. **For Possible Action:** For Approval 2024 CFS Draft Annual Report - Lori Taylor, Office of Food Security
10. **For Possible Action:** Review and possible recommendations on State Health Improvement Plan Action Steps and Objectives - Allison Genco, Chair
11. **For Discussion:** Remaining 2024 CFS Goals - Allison Genco, Chair
 - Possible topics:
 - Food Security Programs in the community and through the State (Focus on distribution, support, and general food access).
 - Subjects/Topics related to Food Insecurity Statistics, such as the pounds of food distributed, and people served.
 - Southwest Regional Food System Project
 - Home Delivered Meals Program
 - Gap Survey to determine federal standards or policies in places that are creating barriers that result in a possible increase in food insecurity. Placed on hold until after SHIP deliverables are met.
 - How food insecurity is being addressed in hard-to-reach areas and/or food deserts.
12. **For Possible Action:** Future agenda items- Allison Genco, Chair
 - Standing Agenda Item - FFPNL
 - Standing Agenda Item - SHIP Action Steps
 - 2024 CFS Annual Final Report
13. **Public Comment:** Allison Genco, Chair

14. Adjournment: Allison Genco, Chair

Note: Unless a specific time is noted, items on the agenda may be taken in any order and any agenda items not covered at this meeting may be placed on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.

This body will provide at least two (2) public comment periods in compliance with the minimum requirements of the Open Meeting Law prior to adjournment. No action may be taken on a matter raised under public comment unless the item has been specifically included on the agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. The Chair retains discretion to only provide for the Open Meeting Law's minimum public comment and not call for additional item-specific public comment when it is deemed necessary by the chair to the orderly conduct of the meeting.

Please be advised that at the discretion of the Chair, public comments may be limited to five (5) minutes.

Members of the public who are living with a disability and require accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify the Commission Secretary in writing at: Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way, 3rd Floor, Carson City, NV 89706, or by calling Sarah Rogers at 775-430-0014 no later than three (3) working days prior to the meeting date.

Supporting material for this meeting can be obtained at: Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way, Suite 300, Carson City, NV 89706, or by calling Lori Taylor at (775) 546-8512 or via email at L.Taylor@health.nv.gov.

NOTICES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS HAVE BEEN POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Nevada WIC Office, 680 West Nye St., Ste. 205, Carson City
Food Bank of Northern Nevada, 550 Italy Drive, McCarran
Helping Hands of Vegas Valley, 2320 Paseo del Prado Bldg. B Suite 112, Las Vegas
Three Square, 4190 N Pecos Road, Las Vegas
Division of Public and Behavioral Health website: [Nevada Council on Food Security Meeting Schedule for 2024 \(nv.gov\)](#)

Nevada Public Notice Website: <https://notice.nv.gov/>

Attachment for Agenda Item #4

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard Whitley,
MS
Director



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



Cody Phinney,
MPH
Administrator

Ihsan Azzam,
Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical
Officer

The Nevada Council on Food Security

Minutes

April 2, 2024

1:00 P.M.

The Nevada Council on Food Security held a public meeting on March 2, 2024, beginning at approximately 1:02 P.M. via video and teleconference.

Board Members Present

Allison Genco, Chair

Dr. Pamela Juniel, Department of Education

Tory Lawson-Boffeli, United States Department of
Agriculture

Deacon Thomas Roberts, President and Chief Executive
Officer, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada (CCSN)

Vickie Ives, MA, Health Bureau Chief, Division of Public
and Behavioral Health (DPBH)

Kelly Cantrell, Deputy Administrator, Nevada Division of
Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS)

Dr. Dorian Stonebarger, Director of Public Policy and
Government Affairs, Nevada Governor's Office of
Economic

Dr. Kenneth Osgood, Southern Nevada health District,
Director of the Advisory board of Health

Dr. Sabina Malik, Public Health Nutritionist, University
of Nevada Cooperative Extension

Lisa Swearingen, Chief, DWSS

Marcia Blake, Helping Hands of Vegas Valley

Maria Menjivar, Central Nevada Health District

Maurice Johnson, Three Square Food Bank

Julian Goicoechea, Director, Nevada Department of
Agriculture (NDA)

Jeffrey Duncan, Administrator, Aging and Disability
Services Division

Jesus Mendoza, Regional Administrator, United States
Department of Agriculture (USDA), Western Regional
Office (WRO)

Marie Baxter, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities
of Northern Nevada (CCNN)

Others Present:

Sarah Rogers, Nutrition Unit Deputy Chief, DPBH

Lori Taylor, Food Security and Wellness Manager, DPBH

Delaney Geissingen, Chronic Disease Office Manager,
DPBH

Patricia Hoppe, Administrator, Food and Nutrition
Services, NDA

Jenny Yeager, Chief Operations and Programs Officer,
Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN)

Paige Musser, Program Support Staff, DPBH

Amber Hise, Program Manager, DPBH

Board Members Not Present

None

1. Call to order and roll call.

Sarah Rogers took roll and determined quorum was met for the Council of Food Security Advisory meeting per NRS 439.518.

2. Public Comment

Chair Genco called for public comment.

Ms. Rogers let Council members know that there will be some food security presentations coming up at the next interim joint Standing Interim Committee on Health and Human Services meeting on April 8th.

Chair Genco thanked Ms. Rogers for the information. She will be in attendance and will be presenting to the committee next Monday.

Ms. Taylor dropped in the chat a link to the 2023-2028 Silver State Health improvement plan that was released to the public.

Chair Genco closed public comment.

3. Approval of upcoming meetings.

Chair Genco and the Council discussed and confirmed the next meeting date of July 16, 2024, at 1:00P.M. in person at Carson City location at 4150 Technology Way in Carson City and explain the door buzzer entry system. The second location is in Las Vegas at 1501 Las Vegas Boulevard North, Las Vegas. A remote link will be available for the public who cannot attend in person. Chari Genco discussed and confirmed the meeting date of October 15, 2025, at 1:00 P.M., which will be remote only.

Chair Genco and the Council discussed the Councils presentation for the Joint Interim Standing Committee on the Judiciary that is scheduled on April 8th. A starting time of 9:00 A.M. was confirmed with no set time for the Councils presentation on food security.

No other issues discussed or heard.

Dr. Juniell, Thank you for the information regarding the meetings. Asked if October be in-person as well?

Chair Genco No, the October meeting will just be remote through TEAMS.

Dr. Juniell asked what time the food security presentations will be on April 8th.

Chair Genco The meeting starts at 9:00 for the Interim health Committee, unsure when our presentation is slated for, asked Ms. Rogers if they clarified a specific time?

Dr. Juniel, Thank you.

Ms. Rogers stated there was no set time.

Dr. Juniel, Thank you.

Deacon Tom clarified the meeting location for the July council meeting in Las Vegas should be 1501 Las Vegas Blvd North. And Chair Genco, Thanked Deacon Tom and asked if there were more questions?

None heard.

4. Approval of January 16th, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Chair Genco, opened the floor for recommended edits or questions. None heard.

Dorian Stoneberger motioned to approve the minutes. Marcia Blake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. Certificate of Appreciation for Dr. Osgood.

Chair Genco and the Council recognize both Dr. Osgood and Jenny Yeager for their dedicated work on the Council. Dr. Osgood has served his full three consecutive terms and Ms. Yeager term has expired. Ms. Yeager wishes one of her colleagues the opportunity to participate. Both spoke about their history on the Council and were encouraged to participate as non-voting member.

Dr. Osgood provided a history of his time on the council and mentioned accomplishments.

Ms. Blake clarified she joined when there was a focus on seniors.

Dr. Osgood discussed needs based on population and age group as defined by former first lady Sandoval. Asked Deacon Tom about school population and reflected on when schools had to have different refrigerators based on SNAP requirements.

Deacon Tom agreed that there were a lot of discoveries in those early days.

Dr. Osgood confirmed Deacon Tom's comments and finished with discussing more of the history through the legislature and how different groups were addressed and barriers faced by SNAP.

Chair Genco, Thank you Dr. Osgood. Noted appreciation for his years served and encouraged him to continue to participate as a non-voting member.

Dr. Osgood added that he was willing to help with providing background information research as needed.

Chair Genco, Great. Thank you, Dr. Osgood. Asked for more comments.

Ms. Rogers recognized that Jenny Yeager's membership has also expired.

Allison Genco, recognized Jenny for her service to the council, asked if she wanted to make any comments?

Ms. Yeager stated that she loved her time on the Council. Mentioned that one of her colleagues will have the opportunity to participate. Finished by thanking the Council and that she will be available to help and answer questions.

Chair Genco, Thanked Ms. Yeager. Also, encouraged her to continue to participate as a non-voting member. No other comments or questions heard.

6. Recommendation to appoint Charlotte Williams for appointment to The Committee on Food Security to fill the position of "A person who is a representative of a food bank serving Northern Nevada."

Chair Genco, opened an agenda item by introducing a resume for Charlotte Williams to fill the position of a person who is a representative of a food bank serving Northern Nevada. This position we would be replacing Ms. Yeager for the Food Bank of Northern Nevada. Asked if approval is needed to make recommendations for appointments?

Ms. Taylor clarified that there are two resumes for consideration. One resume is for Jill Moe to fill the representative of farms seat and the second resume is for Charlotte to fill Ms. Yeager's position representing the Food Bank of Northern Nevada.

Ms. Rogers, confirmed, added a majority vote is needed for these vacancies.

Ms. Taylor goes over a list of all current vacancies and mentions other members terms are coming up and they have been contacted to start the renewal process.

Chair Genco thanked Ms. Taylor and motioned for a vote on the two resumes.

Chair Genco is voting to recommend Charlotte Williams for the appointment to the Council, so will accept a motion on this. Dorian Stoneberger moves to approve Charlotte Williams to appointment. Dr. Juniel seconds the motion which passed unanimously.

Chair Genco recommends Jill Moe to fill the seat as Representative of Farms to the Council. Dorian Stoneberger moves to approve Jill Moe to appointment. Dr. Juniel seconds the motion which passed unanimously.

7. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: Division of Welfare and Supportive Services {DWSS} presentation on SNAP updates related to Summer EBT and Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) waiver.

Chair Genco introduces Ms. Cantrelle.

Ms. Cantrelle Presents information on DWSS projects, Summer EBT which provides SNAP benefits to children who qualify for the free and reduced lunch program, \$40 per month for three months. Estimates Summer EBT will serve 350,000 children in Nevada. Added that Nevada qualified for another year of Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) waiver. Reported that DWSS is looking at completing a waiver so that SNAP applications can be taken telephonically. Discussed possible adoption of the restaurant meals program. Clarified that they are not looking to partner with fast food restaurants but hope to partner with restaurants that offer healthier options. Added collaboration efforts with WIC to reduce gaps in program participation.

The Council discussed the importance of Ms. Cantrelle's work and the importance of collaboration among partners. UNR and DWSS to meet to discuss the program further and how to get restaurants healthier options with technical assistance.

Deacon Tom stated that Catholic Charities has a WIC clinic and a food pantry which see's 4,000 WIC clients a month and there are over 150 food pantry clients a day.

Ms. Cantrelle recognized that there may be push back on this program based on what happened in other states.

Ms. Blake added that Helping Hands of Vegas Valley has a home delivered meals rule program and would also like to have a conversation with Ms. Cantrelle.

Ms. Cantrelle adds that DWSS is seeking funding in the next Legislative session for this program and mentioned they will need help with public service awareness. States she is looking forward to collaboration.

Chair Genco asks for any additional questions for Ms. Cantrelle and asks Ms. Cantrelle if she would provide an update at the October meeting? in the October meeting just reporting back and just letting us know how that is going.

Ms. Cantrelle replies, yes.

Chair Genco thanks Ms. Cantrelle for the update and states the Council can help advocate for more resources.

Ms. Cantrelle thanks Chair Genco.

Chair Genco closes the agenda item.

8. For Discussion: Home Feeds Nevada Presentation, Nevada Department of Agriculture.

Chair Genco introduces the agenda item eight and Patricia Hoppe for the presentation.

Ms. Hoppe herself as the Division Administrator for Food and Nutrition with the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NOA). Provided verbal report on Home Feeds Nevada. Updated for the time period 10/1/2022-

9/30/2023 food acquisition costs were approximately \$2,167,474, transportation costs \$10,430, and wages \$12,022. Pounds of food delivered was 1,543,460.

- Products from producers (farmers, ranchers, and processors) statewide
 - Meat/Proteins- 105,000lbs at \$490,000
 - Fluid milk- 70,8671bs total \$266,000
 - Fresh farm raised honey- 6,8361bs at \$52,000.
 - "Good" cheese (shredded and one-pound block)- 57,000lbs at \$161,000
 - Fresh Produce- 670,000lbs at \$1,070,583
 - Recognized that fresh produce is needed by food banks and Home Feeds Nevada has been able to provide.

NDA will be providing a written report to the Council going forward.

Chair Genco asks if NDA plans to ask for additional funding.

Ms. Hoppe responds, NDA is working on that. Two funding sources right now, ARPA, which is set to expire June 30, 2024, and federal funding from the USDA, Local Food Purchasing Assistance program (LFPA). On the lookout for additional funding sources.

Chair Genco responds that this was helpful. Recognizes that programs are in the middle of budget building and will keep a look out for other sources.

Ms. Hoppe confirmed that those budget conversations had not started yet.

Chair Genco Thanks Patricia for the information and asks for any additional questions.

Mr. Johnson adds he is thankful for the program, especially the proteins and fresh produce. Hope the program can continue.

Chair Genco closed agenda item 8 and moved forward to agenda item nine.

9. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to determine future presentation topics by priority.

Chair Genco defers to Ms. Taylor and Ms. Rogers.

Ms. Taylor reminds the Council of the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) timelines, requirements and presentations needed. Mentioned another presentation ask of NDA, Community Food Access Grant and referred to Ms. Hoppe.

Ms. Hoppe indicated she was not sure what was meant by the Community Food Access Project has two funded programs right now for Community Food Access through ARPA and they report quarterly to the Governor's Finance Office.

Ms. Rogers reminds the Council of WIC presentation slated for July 2024.

Chair Genco agrees with Ms. Hoppe and corrects that it is the grant not the project. Confirming that they have asked a lot from their department. Indicated a possible need to shift some presentations. Asked if presentations from each of the food banks should be added to the October meeting to help plan for 2025 priorities.

Ms. Taylor also reminds the Council of the deadlines for the CFS Annual Report. The draft is due for approval in July 2024 meeting and finalized at the October meeting. This will ensure the report is ready to submit by January 31, 2025.

Chair Genco thanks Ms. Taylor for the information and opens it up to the Council for comment.

Ms. Blake confirmed presentations from the food banks would be helpful and would help the Council during the Legislative session.

Chair Genco agrees and asks to move priorities.

Ms. Blake agrees if it can be added to the July meeting instead of October to stay ahead of the election.

Deacon Tom agrees with Ms. Blake. Highlights the needed support from the food banks but also the need to target priorities to better understand the end user.

Chair Genco confirms the food banks will present on needs at the July meeting. Clarifies with Deacon Tom if other programs should also be presented?

Deacon Tom responds that it would be helpful to hear from the food banks to hear what their focus will be and will let other programs know where they can help. Continues that end users would benefit from the food bank presentations in July.

Chair Genco agrees and mentions upcoming presentations to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services can be helpful in communicating priorities.

Chair Genco motions to restructure priorities to have Food Bank of Northern Nevada and Three Square moved to one and two and then Community Food Access Grant to number 3. Ms. Blake made the first motion Deacon Tom, seconded the motion. Motion passes unopposed.

Allison Genco closes out agenda item 9 and moves on to agenda item 10.

10. For Discussion: Nevada Revised Statutes ([NRS](#)) 232.4969 Food for People Not Landfills Program (FFPNL) Subcommittee Updates - Lori Taylor, Office of Food Security

Ms. Taylor introduces Food for People not Landfills as a standing item on the agenda. Indicates that time and capacity within the Office of Food Security has been limited. Working on hiring staff.

Chair Genco asks if there are any questions. None heard.

Allison Genco closes out agenda item ten and opens agenda item eleven.

11. For Discussion: Finalized Annual Reports, 2023 CFS, 2023 Food for People Not for Landfill (FFPNL), and SFY23 Fund for Healthy Nevada (FHN) Annual Report - Lori Taylor, Office of Food Security

Ms. Taylor reviews the SFY23 FFPNL, 2023 CFS, and the SFY23 Annual Report provided in the attachments.

Dr. Stoneberger asks clarifying question on reporting period being from January 1st or January 31st>

Ms. Taylor clarifies it is the calendar year for the report, January the 1st, 2023 to December the 31st, 2023 is due on January the 31st, 2024.

Dr. Stoneberger, thanks for the clarification.

Chair Genco asks for any additional questions for Ms. Taylor.

Deacon Tom thanks Ms. Taylor for the report. Adds on the landfill issue, that there was traction prior to the pandemic with some larger resorts with untouched food from conventions being harvested and chill blasted. Would like to see work reengaged since convention business has returned and overages in food is happening again.

Ms. Taylor responds by thanking Deacon Tom for the feedback. Adds that she will present this information to the subcommittee.

Chair Genco asks for any additional questions. None heard.

Chair Genco closes out agenda item eleven and moves on to agenda item twelve.

12. For Action: Review and possible recommendations on State Health Improvement Plan Action Steps and Objectives - Allison Genco, Chair

Chair Genco goes over objective one strategy one. Stated the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services reached out to the Council to present on Monday, completes this objective. Asks Council members if they would like to present her.

Ms. Blake asks what time?

Chair Genco answers the meeting starts at nine, plan to be there most of the day.

Ms. Blake mentions she will let Chair Genco know her availability.

Chair Genco adds she will reach out to make sure it's ok and will send Ms. Blake the slides and coordinate. Moved on to the food conference work group. The group consists of Chair Genco herself, Dr. Malik, Ms. Yeager, and Dr. Stoneberger. Met recently to develop a survey to disseminate to partners. Indicated interest in adding individuals to the work group.

Dr. Stoneberger agrees and adds the potential of planning a Northern Nevada and Southern Nevada one in separate years. For 2025 Northern Nevada and then in 2027 for Southern Nevada.

Ms. Yeager agrees with Dr. Stoneberger's statement.

Chair Genco clarifies if eleven surveys will be sent out?

Dr. Stoneberger answers yes and probably another survey in 2026.

Chair Genco agrees and states to reach out to Ms. Taylor if they would like to participate in the work group.

Ms. Taylor adds the goal is to have the survey to the work group by this Friday. Plan to send it out by the end of May.

Chair Genco asks again for those interested to reach out the Ms. Taylor.

Chair Genco presents strategy two, objective two. Due by December 31, 2024. Tasks this strategy and objective to the working group.

Chair Genco went over the rest of the strategies and objectives in the SHIP, stated the Council is making good progress.

No additional comments/questions made.

Chair Genco closes out agenda item twelve and moves on to agenda item thirteen.

13. For Discussion: Remaining 2024 CFS Goals - Allison Genco, Chair

Chair Genco went over the remaining 2024 Council on Food Security goals pulled from the 2023 annual report.

Ms. Blake stated the home delivered meals program is not sustainable due to costs. Wanted to focus on how food insecurity is being addressed for seniors in hard-to-reach areas/food deserts.

Allison Genco agrees and thinks with the emphasis on transportation the Council should start looking at food deserts.

Dr. Malik adds focus on distribution and support for general food access and food distribution and support for general food access is on here a few times and that seems to be the biggest burden on our agricultural community. They are growing all this food, but they cannot get it out to retail environments and they need support such as Home Feeds Nevada. Asked for this to be a focus.

Allison Genco asks if these are goals, we should focus on right now and if anything needs to be pushed off for now.

Ms. Blake responds with at home delivered meals program is a finance situation and would need to start talking about funding now prior to session. Would like to address home delivered meals for seniors and food waste.

Chair Genco agrees, put as 2025 goals, advocate for them as part of advocacy strategy going into the legislative session.

Ms. Blake referred to Deacon Tom on home delivered meal and congregated meal programs.

Deacon Tom agreed that home delivered meals are not sustainable but is needed. Has communicated with Legislative leaders on the issue. Mentioned it costs more for seniors to prematurely go into assisted living than it does to get home delivered meals. It is a good investment.

Chair Genco recognizes Deacon Tom's efforts last session and asks if he could remind her what dollar amount was asked for, for meals on wheels.

Dr. Osgood discussed last year's presentation and brought up the slide and we were asking for a reauthorization of the current funding of \$3.4 million for home delivered meals and congregate meals. Asked for an increase of \$8 million because of the loss of federal funds, inflation, and anticipated increased demand and we got less than half of that.

Ms. Blake adds Ms. Yeager may be able to speak to the situation in Northern Nevada, knowing that some senior centers did not reopen after the pandemic so may be able to shed some light on that situation in Northern Nevada.

Ms. Yeager adds to her knowledge all our senior centers have reopened in the North. Their capacity was impacted and some not operating at full capacity. A challenge is getting seniors back into the senior centers. When the pandemic level SNAP benefits ended, saw a huge influx of seniors almost immediately coming back to both senior centers, and other food security programming.

Dr. Malik asked - Is this funding dependent on the Farm bill?
Nods from the group, yes.

Ms. Blake clarifies partially it is also funded through Title 3 - The older Americans Act, which Nevada doesn't get.

Dr. Malik mentioned access to grad students who can potentially help and if we need to help legislators understand the programming.

Deacon Tom mentioned they got the first level of state funding increase when they showed the ranking of the state of Nevada's funding for Meals on Wheels as a it compared to other states in the nation, last.

Dr. Malik responded thank you.

JMs. Taylor Addresses duties into the chat, reminded the Council that recommendation to the Legislature is an allowable activity of the Council and can be added to the annual report.

Chair Genco confirmed that home delivered meals and addressing food insecurity in hard-to-reach areas will be goals for 2025 and priorities going into session.

Dr. Stoneberger agreed.

Chair Genco asked for any additional comments or questions. None heard.

Chair Genco closes out agenda item thirteen and moves on to agenda item fourteen.

14. For Possible Action: Future agenda items -Allison Genco, Chair; Standing Agenda Item - FFPNL, Standing Agenda Item - SHIP Action Steps, Presentations - WIC, 2024 CFS Annual Report Draft

Chair Genco goes over standing agenda items. Asks if any others should be added.

Ms. Rogers asks if there is anything specific the Council would like to hear from the WIC presentation in July. Adds that we hope to have more updates on the WIC DWSS collaboration Ms. Cantrelle mentioned.

Chair Genco adds the 2024 Council annual report draft as an agenda item. No other agenda items heard.

Chair Genco closes out agenda item fourteen and moves to public comment.

15. Public Comment: Allison Genco, Chari

Chair Genco calls for public comment.

No public comment was heard.

Chair Genco, seeing no public comment closes out public comment and opens agenda item sixteen adjournment.

16. Adjournment

Chair Genco will accept a motion to adjourn. Dr. Stoneberger moves to adjourn. Marcia Blake seconds. Chair Genco calls for vote. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 1:54 P.M.

|

Attachment for Agenda Item #5

Cassie Snow

Las Vegas, NV

SUMMARY

As a dedicated sustainability leader with a decade-long track record of spearheading transformative initiatives, I bring a deep understanding of integrating sustainability into core business processes, thereby driving significant progress on environmental, social, operational, financial, and ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) reporting goals. My expertise encompasses developing strategic frameworks, engaging employees through innovative programming, creating effective resources and training, and championing diversity and inclusion. My skill set includes implementing comprehensive carbon reduction programs, optimizing supply chain sustainability, and enhancing ESG reporting. Utilizing a data-driven approach, I aim to exceed sustainability and compliance standards. Aware of the unique yet intersecting goals of clients and investors, I excel at inspiring both internal and external stakeholders, including cross-functional teams, transcending the absence of formal authority.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sustainability Manager, MGM Resorts International

- Drove sustainability initiatives to position the company as a leader in social impact and environmental stewardship
- Advanced circular economy objectives through strategic vendor engagements, leading to substantial reductions in landfill materials, food waste and advancing the company's carbon reduction efforts in accordance with GHG protocol
- Revamped the food donations program, leading to a 70% increase in donations (YOY 2023)
- Presented on Water Stewardship to CEO Bill Hornbuckle, co-authored the MGM Resorts Water White Paper
- Authored the company's first annual GRI report, contributed to improving sustainability indices like FTSE4good and DJSI
- Quantified environmental benefits of sustainability initiatives, owned data collection and reporting
- Evaluated and implemented emerging technologies navigating a global footprint and complex labor landscape
- Mentored Climate Corps EDF Food Waste Fellow, cultivating expertise in corporate food waste diversion and fostering professional growth opportunities while adding value toward reaching company waste goals
- Served on the Community Grant Council, created and Chaired an Employee Network and Business Resource Group, served on the Women in Leadership working group, fostered community relationships and liaised with government affairs

Owner, Circular Collaborations

- Directed cross-functional teams on social responsibility and philanthropic projects focusing on strategic planning, operations, and innovation to exceed client expectations across non profit, hospitality, and sustainability industries
- Improved resource optimization, stakeholder management, donor relations, employee and volunteer training and recruitment, and managed project budgets meticulously, providing regular updates and forecasts to stakeholders

Director of Electrical Services, Edlen Electrical

**Director (May 2018 - May 2021), Senior Manager (August 2017 - May 2018), Manager (March 2016 - August 2017)*

- Successfully led a \$6M sector, overseeing the execution of 100+ projects per annum
- Generated over \$900,000 in additional net profit and expanded net profit margin across multiple segments by enhancing auditing and invoicing processes, optimizing resource efficiency and refining project tracking procedures
- Implemented comprehensive compliance protocols to adhere to national electrical codes and safety standards, significantly reducing the risk of non-compliance penalties.
- Responsible for a team of managers and electricians, guided through revenue growth and expansions
- Provided strategic planning and creative solutions to mitigate project risks and ensure client satisfaction

Cassie Snow

Las Vegas, NV

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Graduate Certificate: Sustainability & Development - University of Michigan

Relevant Coursework: Conservation & Adaptive Development • Pathways to Zero Hunger • Gender and Quality Education for Sustainability • Poverty and Inequality • Good Health and Wellbeing • Beyond the SDG's

PMP - Project Management Professional - Project Management Institute, PMI

Certificate: Social Entrepreneurship - Unite for Sight - June 2016

B.S. Meeting & Event Management - University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Relevant Coursework: Employment Law • Business Law • Hospitality Law • Human Resource Mgmt • Facilities Management • Financial Management • Cost Control • Purchasing • Financial Accounting • Managerial Accounting • Hospitality Accounting • Marketing • Organizational Behavioral • Int. Macroeconomics • Environmental Economics

A.A.T. Economics - West Valley College

Relevant Coursework: Microeconomics • Macroeconomics • Accounting • Statistics • Finite Mathematics • Calculus

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

Member, MGM Resorts Community Grant Council

- Served on the Community Grant Council, determining which nonprofit organizations to award employee donated funds
- Reviewed nonprofit financial statements, analyzed grant applications including project budget, and logic model
- Created a scoring system to streamline team feedback and keep justifications organized

Organizer, TEDxFremontEastDistrict

- Attracted over 500 RSVP's to inaugural event, a locally organized TED Countdown initiative to champion and accelerate solutions to the climate crisis including biodiversity, transportation, landfill waste, and energy
- Created press releases, marketing plan, social media campaign, handled all production elements, and speaker relations.
- Obtained necessary sponsorships, in-kind donations, and executed the program in under 100 days
- Secured speakers from The Nature Conservancy, UNLV Professors, Western Resource Advocates and Indigenous leaders

Chair, Mentor, Planet Protectors MGM Resorts Employee Business Resource Group

- Conceptualized and actualized Planet Protectors employee network group, developed strategic plan and framework, aligned goals with company commitments and transitioning into a Business Resource Group
- Developed ambassador model to reach line-level employees, executed employee roadshows, mentored leadership team
- Collaborated with leadership team to execute on property roadshows, Planet Talks, digital campaigns, volunteer activities
- Drove bespoke environmentally focused activities resulting in over 1,000 volunteer hours
- Created SOP's to support succession planning to further opportunities for professional growth for leadership team

Chair, Mentor, The Climate Reality Project Las Vegas

- Led 300+ chapter members after 9x growth in chapter size, established chapter organizational structure and teams
- Boosted engagement by 80% through a more concise communication plan and infrastructure
- Stood up initiatives including a Meaningful Movies series, and food waste diversion program at Smith's grocery stores
- Mentored 14 climate activists (2021 U.S. Training), providing support and facilitating inclusive climate conversations
- Emceed the Climate Reality Leadership Corps training sharing the stage with Vice President Al Gore

Cassie Snow

Las Vegas, NV

TESTIMONIALS

“I had the pleasure of being Cassie's manager for over two years. Cassie's ability to understand new ideas and concepts always impressed me. She is very organized and has amazing attention to detail. She is able to work successfully on many projects at once. Cassie's preparedness and execution of her programs always exceeded expectations of myself and our clients. Cassie proactively found ways to improve business practices, including labor control and audit procedures with the ultimate goal of providing better customer service. Cassie has such a heart for helping others. There were several times I had the honor of volunteering side by side with her. She carries gratitude and joy with her as she works and helps others.”

Jennifer Maloney

General Manager at Edlen Electrical

“Cassie is an incredibly intelligent and hard working person. Her organizational skills, account management, and attention to detail are world-class. I worked with Cassie for 5 years at MGM Grand. She always demonstrated tremendous leadership, operating hundreds of programs at MGM Grand. Customers always enjoyed working with Cassie, and I hope to work with her again soon in my career.”

Lee Nakahara

Executive Director of Convention Services at MGM Grand Hotel and Casino

“Cassie is a force - she is tenacious, committed and works collaboratively to advance climate efforts! The world is better off because she cares about it and lends her talent to all areas of her protection.”

Kelly Burton

VP of Sustainability and Social Impact at Blue Apron

“Cassie is a great asset to any organization she is a part of. She is a bright, responsible, dedicated, creative mind and has a lot of talent and potential to offer organizations.”

Gina Gavan

Chief Development Officer at Boy and Girls Club of Southern Nevada

(Formerly) Director of Economic & Business Development at City of North Las Vegas

“Having worked with Cassie through the Climate Reality Project Las Vegas chapter, I've witnessed firsthand how she drives collective action by creating shared vision – proactively engaging with other community leaders, businesses and elected officials to create the positive change we need. As an incredibly detailed-oriented and solutions-focused person, Cassie thrives when leading teams large and small and keeps everyone engaged through proven project management tools and transparent communication. She developed a leadership and team structure, outlined strategic priorities for the chapter, and successfully led several projects and events to educate and activate our community in environmental action.”

Jennifer Inaba

Managing Editor at Western Resources Advocates

GABRIELA “GABBY” EVERETT

Director of Advocacy & Research

Three Square

- Leads local, state, and federal advocacy efforts and engages a lobbying firm to assist with being the eyes and ears during the biennial state legislative session. Produces research and material that aids in decision-making among elected officials and produces the end of session legislative report.
- Reestablished and facilitates the routine convening of the policy subcommittee and the agency partner council that advises on the biennial state policy agenda.
- Builds advocacy coalitions, including nontraditional partners who share Three Square's vision and are seeking opportunities to take part in pursuing a hunger free community.
- Assist with identification and development of authentic and meaningful channels to recruit, train, and build a network of anti-hunger advocates that can be called upon to share information, expertise, lived experiences and stories of resilience that are powerful motivators in shaping and enacting change at all levels of society and government.

Campaign Manager

Susie Lee for Congress

- Created and managed a more than \$6.3 million budget, while also overseeing the raising of the funds
- Hired and lead a staff of more than 8 people that included finance staff, communications staff, organizing staff, digital staff, and other associated titles and roles
- Built out and managed a vast portfolio of political relationships that included union leaders, community stakeholders, elected officials, and members of integral constituency groups across the Las Vegas valley and state of Nevada
- Negotiated contracts and managed relationships with a full consultant team that included mail, digital, polling, and media consultants as well as affiliated national committee relationships, such as with the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) and Emily's List (EL)
- Established accountability mechanisms with and provided oversight of the coordinated campaign committee, Nevada Democratic Victory, from May 2022 through November 2022 to ensure top tier work was being done across the third district that would benefit the Congresswoman's reelection effort
- Worked to curate a healthy and trusting relationship with the Member/ Principal, and managed her through each circumstance and decision that arose throughout the cycle
- Given the Member's incumbency status, displayed strong communication and interaction with the official office, both locally and in Washington, DC

Deputy District Director

Office of Congresswoman Susie Lee

- Casework/Outreach Areas: Healthcare, Housing, Nonprofits, Social Services, Women
- Oversaw management of the office's outreach portfolio
 - Tracked, managed, and coached staff outreach performance
 - Spearheaded planning and execution of events for the Congresswoman, such as town halls, roundtables, mobile office hours, and coffees with the Congresswoman
- Aided with hiring and onboarding of new staff
- Served as essential counsel to the District Director on office operations, personnel matters, and more
- Lead the creation of curriculum and training opportunities for staff, particularly in the outreach and casework space

Associate Director

Office of Congresswoman Susie Lee

- Casework/Outreach Areas: Healthcare, K-12 Education, Housing, Social Services, Women
- Oversaw management of front desk operations, and by association, the staff assistant, in the district office
 - Assisted with problem-solving situations as they arose, ideating how to navigate various constituent concerns and requests for assistance through the office, and creating a variety of supplemental materials to aid those engaging in intake to provide constituents the most updated and accurate answers
- Rebuilt and coordinated the district office internship program year-round
 - Assisted with overhauling the district office internship program by developing an extensive and structured curriculum and training program
 - Coordinated two semesters of programs, totaling five interns
- Spearheaded planning and execution of events for the Congresswoman, such as town halls, roundtables, mobile office hours, and coffees with the Congresswoman

GABRIELA “GABBY” EVERETT

- Acted as a vital sounding board and confidante for the staff in the district office, often elevating their ideas, thoughts, feelings, and opinions to the role of the District Director
 - This has served a particularly imperative role through the COVID-19 pandemic as district office operations have increased exponentially

District Representative/ In-District Scheduler

Office of Congresswoman Susie Lee

- Casework/Outreach Areas: Healthcare, K-12 Education, Seniors, Social Services, Women
- Attended events on behalf of the Congresswoman, presenting certificates, providing remarks, and networking with grassroots leaders
- Acted as a liaison between government agencies, local entities, and constituents
- Planned and executed events for the Congresswoman, such as town halls and roundtables
- Acted as the clearinghouse for all event and meeting requests when the Congresswoman was in district
 - Maintained contact with requestors, gathering all the details surrounding the event, writing memos, and building the Congresswoman’s trip book

Deputy GOTV Director

Nevada State Democratic Coordinated Campaign

- Oversaw the party’s more than \$1.5 million paid canvass operation in congressional districts one, three, and four
 - Acted as the liaison between the state party and Rocky Mountain Voter Outreach, who employed over 100 canvassers during their program; knocked over 300,000 doors; had more than 78,000 conversations; and launched over 3,400 shifts

Field Director

Susie Lee for Congress

- Built a congressional campaign field program from the ground up- growing it from myself to four organizers and over ten fellows
 - Throughout the duration of the campaign, our team made over 715,000 attempts on the phones and at the doors
- Built and led paid canvass programs in both Nevada’s third and fourth congressional districts from April 2018 through September 2018
 - Registered 1,750 voters during this time—40% of which were in Nevada’s third congressional district, and 1,091 of which were people under the age of 40
- Led the transition into the Nevada State Democratic Coordinated Campaign in September 2018
 - Remained a liaison between the Susie Lee for Congress Campaign and the Coordinated Campaign- making sure our field priorities remained at the forefront

Nevada Director

Defend Our Future

- As an expansion state, helped build out a field program of an organizer, deputy organizer, and four Interns at UNLV
- Developed and facilitated earned media events like documentary screenings and stand-up pressers, including sending out press advisories and press releases to Nevada news outlets
- Handled coalition building through partner engagement meetings with local and national environmentally focused organizations, businesses, and individuals

Legislative Aide to Senator Joyce Woodhouse

Nevada State Senate

- Tracked the Senator’s 20 personal bills through both legislative houses during the 79th Legislative Session
- Wrote constituent response letters, legislative memos, and Floor statements
- Handled all scheduling and travel requests on behalf of the Senator
- Handled the workflow of the Senator’s office while also interacting with legislators, lobbyists, fellow legislative staff, and the general public

Regional Organizing Director

Hillary for Nevada

- Managed a staff of 6 organizers in Henderson, NV
- Conducted hundreds of interviews in helping hire and build the Hillary for Nevada General Election team
- Coordinated with down-ballot candidates and their campaigns in planning events and other campaign-related activities

GABRIELA "GABBY" EVERETT

- Worked on the only all-female ticket in the nation and helped secure a win for every one of those candidates in Nevada
 - See <https://lasvegassun.com/news/2016/oct/28/all-women-ticket-offers-henderson-voters-a-chance/> for more information.

Field Organizer

Hillary for America

- Traveled to Nevada, Idaho, and New York
- Made over 19,900 phone calls and knocked on over 14,600 doors to recruit volunteers and inform voters about the Nevada Caucus
- Recruited, trained, and activated volunteer captains who helped recruit more volunteers and facilitate successful caucuses in every precinct across Nevada
- Staffed principal and surrogate events, and helped recruit attendees for such events
- Educated voters about participating in the largest caucus in the country
 - Boise, ID saw 23,884 votes cast on March 22, 2016 (Caucus Day)

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Member

Enterprise Town Advisory Board

- Served unincorporated Clark County by assisting County Commissioners in governance; making recommendations; aiding in long-term planning, zoning, and recreation matters; representing the County and respective County Commissioners in the community; and addressing issues pertinent to and under the purview of the County
- Served alongside four other Enterprise residents to represent the more than 170,000 citizens of Enterprise, Nevada

Member

United Church of Christ Board of Directors

- Committee Assignment: Governance Committee
- Represented the church community in an at-large capacity for a six-year term to which I was appointed
- Acted as stewards of the money of the church; oversaw proper adherence to the church rules and bylaws; and managed the merging of regional conferences, as they arose

Member

United Church of Christ Genesis Fund Grant Application Evaluation Committee

- Read and assessed domestic and international applications for faith-based projects that are innovative or experimental, represent an initiative in Christian mission, or that may be deemed controversial
- Allocated grants ranging in size from \$2,000 to \$20,000
- Acted as the stewards of the \$440,612 in the Genesis Fund

EDUCATION

Master of Public Administration *University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Bachelor of Science *University of San Diego*

- Major: Political Science
- Minor: Gender Studies
- Minor: Sociology
- Related course work: women's rights, gay rights, government, public policy, education, and sexuality

SKILLS

- Microsoft Office Suite
- Google Suite
- Votebuilder (VAN)
- Internet Quorum (IQ)
- Warches

Carlos Carrillo

Title: Food Pantry Program
Director

Biography:

Carlos Carrillo is the Food Pantry Program Director of Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada (CCNN) where he has spent the last ten years overseeing the food pantry and developing food service programs. Under his leadership we have expanded our reach to 43 local and rural pantries in Northern Nevada. Carlos has spent the last five years creating new relationships with local vendors within the community to provide quality food and services to our clients. Carlos began his career at CCNN ten years ago as an outreach specialist for 'Kids to Seniors Corner' working in the most needed part of the community; moving on he became Program Manager for the Resource Hub (Emergency Assistance Program) and for the last 5 years he has been working as the Director of the St Vincent's Food Pantry where Carlos has institutional knowledge on logistics as well as brings creative and innovative ideas to our programs. Recently, Carlos coordinated the opening of our two new satellite Client Choice Pantries where we provide food and services for about 500 families. His formal training and degrees are in computer application and office systems from Career College of Northern Nevada (CCNN).

Roberto “Carlos” Carrillo,
Food and Wellness Program Director
Reno, Nevada

SUMMARY

Proficient in managing programs and coordinating large-scale community events. Seeking to leverage expertise in grant management and budget maintenance to contribute to the success of an organization committed to improving public health and community well-being.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada **Reno, Nevada**

Director of Wellness Center and Food Pantry, 40 hours/week

- Director of the Wellness Center, Food Pantry and the SNAP Community Outreach Programs, demonstrating proficiency in managing daily operations and ensuring program objectives were met.
- Established and maintained collaborative partnerships with vendors, clients, and government agencies such as the USDA, WCSD, Tribes, and Family Resource Center to enhance program reach and impact.
- Managed the budget for USDA and FHN grant funds on a monthly and annual basis, ensuring adherence to financial guidelines and optimizing resource allocation
- Assisted in grant writing and balanced grants to secure funding and sustain program operations.

Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada **Reno, Nevada**

Case Manager and Outreach Specialist, 40 hours/week

- Coordinated closely with customers and resource agencies, fostering collaborative partnerships to optimize resource allocation and service delivery.
- Conducted outreach initiatives to promote awareness and access to local community food pantries, facilitating community engagement and support.
- Demonstrated proficiency in inputting data into the HMIS database.

Washoe County School District **Reno, Nevada**

Re-Engagement Specialist, 40 hours/week

- Spearheaded outreach programs targeting teens, focusing on reengagement initiatives to support academic success and personal development.
- Served as a parent facilitator, facilitating communication between parents, students, and school staff to address concerns and promote collaborative problem-solving.
- Provided counseling and support services to students experiencing attendance challenges, implementing strategies to improve attendance rates and foster a positive school environment.

Licensure/Certification

- Computer Applications Systems Certification (CCNN)
- Mediator/Conflict Resolution Certificate (TMCC)
- Nevada Public Notary (2016)
- CHW 1 (Community Health Worker)
- SNAP Certification
- Active Shooter Drill at work (RPD)
- D- license High School Coaching Certification (State of Nevada)

Roberto “Carlos” Carrillo,
Food and Wellness Program Director
Reno, Nevada

- Summer Meal program for kids (NDA)
 - CCUSA National Food and Nutrition Steering Committee Cleveland.
 - Employee Safety Certificate (City of Reno)
 - CCNN Civil Rights Annual Training
 - Clarity (HMIS)
-

EDUCATION

Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno:

Career College of Northern Nevada: *Associate in Computer Application System*

SKILLS

Proficient in English/Spanish (read/write)

INTEREST

Competitive Soccer Coach for U-16 Girls and U-14 to U-19 Boys

Coordinate Tournaments, Traveling, and Season's game schedules.

UNR Man's Club Soccer Coach

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard Whitley,
MS
Director



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

 NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



Cody Phinney,
MPH
Administrator

Ihsan Azzam,
Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical
Officer

DATE: JUNE 14, 2024

RE: COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY SEEKING MEMBERS

PER NEVADA REVISED STATUTES [\[NRS\] 232.496](#) THROUGH [232.4968](#), INCLUSIVE. THE COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY IS CHARGED WITH VARIOUS RESPONSIBILITIES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE AND HEALTH OF PERSONS IN THIS STATE BY INCREASING FOOD SECURITY THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

APPOINTMENTS WILL BE MADE BASED ON REPRESENTATION WITHIN THE FOOD SECURITY ECOSYSTEM AS OUTLINED IN [NRS 232.4966](#).

"One member who is a representative of persons engaged in the business of processing or distributing food.

One member who is a representative of the gaming industry, hospitality industry, or restaurant industry.

*One member who is a representative of manufacturing that is not related to food.
A person who is a representative of a local health authority."*

CFS IS SEEKING NEW MEMBERS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING CONSIDERED FOR POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT, PLEASE IDENTIFY WHICH SEAT(S) YOU ARE APPLYING FOR, SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTEREST AND A RESUME BY FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2024, TO LORI TAYLOR, PHONE 775-546-8512, EMAIL: L.TAYLOR@HEALTH.NV.GOV OR SARAH ROGERS, PHONE 775-430-0014, EMAIL: SROGERS@HEALTH.NV.GOV OR TO MAILING ADDRESS: 680 W. NYE LANE SUITE 205 CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89703, ATTN: SARAH ROGERS. MATERIALS SUBMITTED WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE PRECEDING COUNCIL MEETING. UPON COUNCIL APPROVAL, THE CANDIDATE WILL BE PROVIDED DIRECTIONS ON SUBMISSION FOR GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT.

Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness

4150 Technology Way, Suite 210 • Carson City, NV 89706 • (775) 684-4200 • Fax (775) 687-7570 • dphh.nv.gov

ALL IN GOOD HEALTH.

Attachment for Agenda Item #6

The Nevada Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



ALL IN GOOD HEALTH.

What is WIC ?

- Nutrition education
- Breastfeeding support
- Supplemental foods
- Assessments and referrals



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH





NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The National WIC Mission Statement

To safeguard the health of low-income women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutrition risk by providing nutritious foods to supplement diets, information on healthy eating, and referrals to health care.



WIC Program Outcomes Benefiting Public Health



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Supports adequate growth and development of infants and children by providing health assessments
- Provides nutrition education to increase consumption of key nutrients and improve nutrient density of diet
- Increases breastfeeding rates
- Increases access to regular health care through outreach and referrals
- Improves cognitive development of children
- Connects families to community resources
- Promotes medical and dental health through community outreach and referrals
- Promotes health care cost savings for women, infants and children



WIC Population



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Low-income, nutritionally at risk:

- Pregnant women
- Breastfeeding women
- Non-breastfeeding postpartum women
- Infants
- Children up to age 5



Nevada WIC Participation

WIC Participation (June 2024)

Women – 12,066

Infants – 13,444

Children – 30,139

Total WIC Participation – 55,649

Nevada WIC



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Nevada WIC currently has 15 Local Agencies and 48 WIC clinics across the state. Local Agencies include:

- Carson City Health and Human Services
- Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada
- Community Health Alliance
- Consolidated Agencies of Human Services
- Family Resource Center of Northeastern Nevada
- Little People's Head Start
- Lyon County Human Services
- Nevada Health Centers
- Nye County
- Pershing County
- Ron Wood Family Resource Center
- St Rose- Dignity Health
- Sunrise Children's Foundation
- Las Vegas Urban League
- Washoe County Health District





Nutrition Education

- Provide education to participants
 - Quarterly or as needed
 - In-person, online, or via telehealth
 - Individual, family, or group education
- Provide participants with foundational learning for healthy nutritional behaviors
- Reduce nutrition risks
- Provide high risk nutrition counseling

Breastfeeding Support

- WIC addresses the social, economic and cultural barriers to support low-income women breastfeed
- Culturally sensitive prenatal and postpartum breastfeeding education and support
- Lactation consults and breastfeeding supplies, such as breast pumps, at no cost to the participant
- Clinic staff coordinate to support breastfeeding mothers, referring to the clinic's designated breastfeeding expert or healthcare provider as needed



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Funded since 2004 through a separate WIC grant administered by USDA
- WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselors (BFPC) provide peer to peer breastfeeding support to WIC mothers
- Recruited from the WIC population and trained to provide basic breastfeeding support during or after normal business hours
- Peer to peer support is invaluable as some women may have never seen family or friends breastfeed

Supplemental Foods

- Food packages based on life stages
 - Pregnant
 - Postpartum
 - Breastfeeding
 - Infants
 - Children
- Provide nutrient dense foods
- Target nutrients of public health concern
 - Calcium
 - Vitamin D
 - Potassium
 - Dietary fiber



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Assessments and Referrals



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Healthcare professionals
 - OBGYNs
 - Pediatricians
 - Dentists
- Immunization services
- Substance abuse counselors
- Domestic abuse counseling
- Other social services



Nevada WIC Vendor Support

- Nevada WIC partners with 222 stores statewide
- State office trains management and cashiers on program requirements
- Ensure stores carry WIC Approved Foods and maintain minimum stock requirements at all times
- Conduct routine monitoring, compliance buys and inventory audits ensuring Vendor program integrity



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Nevada Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) System



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- WIC participants receive their food benefits on an EBT card functions like a debit card
- Clinic staff provide instruction to participants on how to use their cards at the grocery store to redeem food benefits
- State office monitors WIC EBT Transactions ensuring food items scan and EBT transactions process correctly



Comparison Between WIC and Welfare Services

WIC	Welfare Supportive Services
<p>Funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Federal funding only; <u>not</u> an entitlement program	<p>Funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Federal and/or state funded entitlement program
<p>Food Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Only WIC approved foods allowed.</u> Food packages vary by age and specific nutrition needsRestrictions for brands, package size, quantity purchased, and priceLimited cash value benefit for fruits and vegetables only	<p>Food Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cash assistance (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) and Food Benefits (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) provides specified cash amount to spend on foods at participant's discretionNo restrictions on size, food priceRestricted only by alcohol and tobacco products
<p>Income threshold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Must be at or below 185% Federal Poverty LevelAdjunctive eligibility if approved for any Welfare program	<p>Income threshold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Income cannot exceed 130% Federal Poverty Level

Thank you!

Website: NevadaWIC.org

Email: WICgeneral@health.nv.gov

Phone: 775-684-5942

QUESTIONS?



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH





**NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

Attachment for Agenda Item #7

2025 State Legislative Priorities

Policy Priorities

Improve Accessibility and Affordability, and Encourage More Resilient Food Systems

Making it easier for everyone (individuals in urban, suburban, rural, and Tribal communities) to access and afford food.

- Ask the Director of the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA), the Governor, and the Nevada Legislature for permanent funding for Home Feeds Nevada¹-- including working with the NDA to direct future Local Food Purchase Agreement (LFPA) funds to Home Feeds Nevada and identify additional potential grant funding streams.
- Seek funding through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the State of Nevada general fund for support programs and initiatives to reduce food insecurity, expand the availability of and accessibility to food, and improve the affordability of food.
- Support an increase in the State of Nevada's matching grant fund program.
- Support the NDA and the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) to assist Nevada based agricultural producers to have access to information, capital, and programs to support food production.
- Amend the Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) to include 1 member of Nevada's tribal communities on the Council on Food Security².
- Amend the NRS to include 1 neighbor who is actively or has previously received products and services through a nutrition program or distribution on the Council on Food Security.
- Amend the NRS to include 1 member of the transportation community on the Council on Food Security.
- Coordinate with Nevada agricultural producers to expand client- and producer-centered options for those who have limited access to grocery stores or means to offload product by promoting expansion/ investment in food hubs, co-ops, or non-profit grocery stores.
- Seek increased state funding for specialty crop production (e.g. Specialty Crop Production Block Grants) and for alternative and sustainable growing operations.

¹ Nevada Department of Agriculture (2021). *Home Feeds Nevada Agriculture Food Purchase Program*. Retrieved from: https://agri.nv.gov/Food/Home_Feeds_Nevada/Home_Feeds_Nevada/

² Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public and Behavioral Health (2021). Governor's Food Security Council. Retrieved from: https://dphh.nv.gov/Programs/OFS/GCFS_Meetings/OFS_-_Governor_s_Food_Security_Council/

2025 State Legislative Priorities

Improvement and Expansion of Nutrition and Health Services

Adopt and promote strategies centered on disease prevention and management to ensure that the health care system addresses the nutritional needs of all people and provides greater access to nutrition services to better prevent, manage, and treat diet-related diseases.

- Increase opportunities in Nevada related to “Food is Medicine” approaches that focus on integrating consistent access to diet- and nutrition- related resources. These approaches are increasingly present across many communities and systems. There are multiple tools available for the state to explore to fully meet our state’s needs including:
 - The provision known as “In lieu of service. (ILOSs).
 - States’ and managed care plans’ have the ability to cover services or settings that are substitutes for services or settings covered under the state plan in accordance with 42 CFR §§ 438.3(e)(2) and 438.16. Housing and nutrition supports are allowed to be added to the state plans.
 - Combining Medicare Waiver 1115 with Social Security Waiver 1945b to allow the state to adopt a time-limited waiver from state plan requirements for statewideness, comparability, and freedom of choice.
 - 1945b waivers may be used to provide additional services that are not provided to enrollees who are not covered by the waiver, as well as limit the number of service providers.
- Seek full state funding for the requisite administrative match of the Summer EBT program in 2025 and beyond.
- Seek permanent state funding for universal school meal access statewide in public and charter schools for the 2025-26 school year and beyond.
- Encourage statewide adoption of the Community Eligibility Provision³ (CEP) to ensure Nevada is maximizing available federal funding.

³ USDA Food and Nutrition Service (2023). Community Eligibility Provision. Retrieved from: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/community-eligibility-provision>

2025 State Legislative Priorities

Nutrition and Food Waste Research

Improve nutrition and food waste metrics, data collection, and research to inform nutrition and food security policy, particularly on issues of equity, access, and disparities.

- Evaluate Nevada's food logistics, distribution, transportation, and storage systems to identify gaps, and collect data to identify unmet need, and at-risk areas that are not being served.
- Encourage inclusion of food- and plate-waste assessment for one year across all of Nevada's school districts and schools in any relevant food policy legislation to best understand the scope or relevance of this matter in Nevada.
- Analyze public funding streams and models of best practices, identify policy gaps and opportunities, and identify ways to increase public funding for programs to reduce food insecurity, expand the availability of/ accessibility to food, and improve affordability of food.

July 16, 2024

FOOD BANK UPDATE

GABBY EVERETT
DIRECTOR OF ADVOCACY
THREE SQUARE

CHARLOTTE WILLIAMS
RESEARCH & INNOVATION MANAGER
FOOD BANK OF NORTHERN NEVADA

SHANE PICCININI
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
FOOD BANK OF NORTHERN NEVADA





AGENDA

- FY24 Impact
- Current Landscape
 - FY24 Map the Meal Gap
- FY25 Projections
- Operational/Programmatic Priorities & Needs
- 2025 Policy Priorities





FY24 Impact

Food Bank of Northern Nevada

- Q1 saw a monthly average of **145,000 people** served
- Q4 saw a monthly average of **169,000 people** served
 - FY23 saw an average of **140,000 people** served
- **25.4 million pounds distributed**
 - This equates to **30.5 million meals**
- Nearly **5 million pounds** of quality food rescued from retail food partners
- More than **4,100 seniors** served each month through senior-specific programs
- Nearly **322,000 meals** provided to children, serving an average of nearly **1,780 children each month**

Three Square

- More than **328,000 people** served
 - And more than **113,000 households**
- More than **49 million pounds** distributed
 - This equates to more than **41 million meals**
- More than **14 million pounds** of quality food rescued from retail food partners
- More than **10,500 older adults** served each month
- More than **769,000 meals** provided to approximately **80,000 children**





What this looks like for the food banks

Food Bank of Northern Nevada

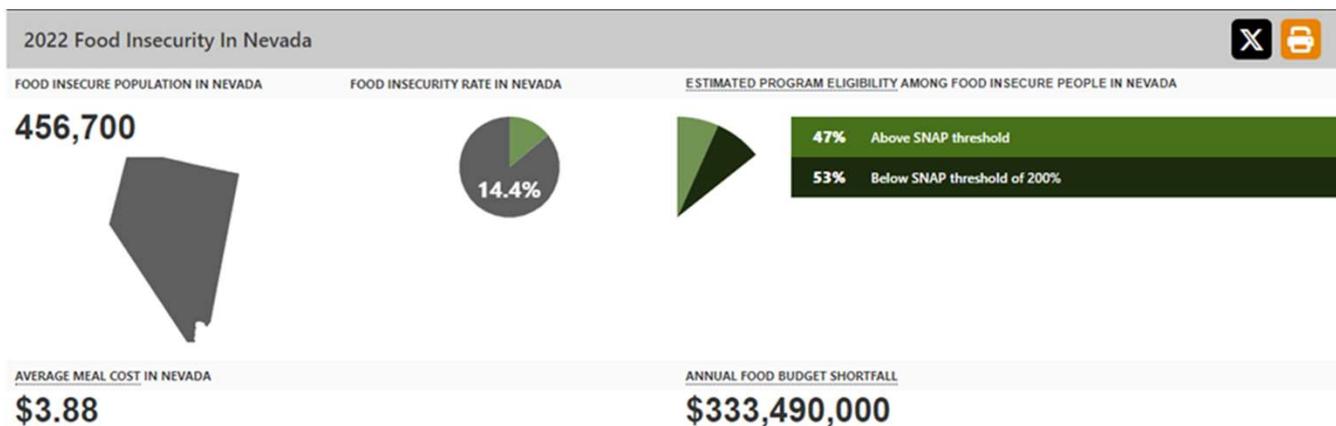
- More than 160,000 are being served each month, the highest to date. Nearly half are children and seniors

Three Square

- Need is sustaining for neighbors for lengthier periods of time than what had been observed in recent years
 - In 2023, Southern Nevadans were missing an average of 5.8 meals per week, while in 2024, that is up to 6.2 meals per week



2024 Map the Meal Gap Data



FeedingAmerica. (2024, May 15). *Food Insecurity among the Overall Population in Nevada*. FeedingAmerica. <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2022/overall/nevada>

This represents an 11.5% increase from 2023 to 2024 (up from 409k Nevadans)

Current Landscape

Food Bank of Northern Nevada

- **26M-27M pounds** are projected to be distributed
- TEFAP
 - In 2024, TEFAP CCC bonus foods were valued at nearly \$3 million, however, this program is expected to end after 2024
 - We expect to receive at least 600,000 less than we received in 2024
- As for TEFAP entitlement funding, it's too soon to project, but current estimates indicate a 25% decrease in funding between FY24 and FY25

**Note: Our leadership is looking for opportunities to make up for this anticipated gap*

 - TEFAP represented more than 26% of FBNN's overall distribution in FY24

Three Square

- **46 million pounds** are projected to be distributed
- TEFAP
 - In 2024, TEFAP CCC bonus foods were valued at nearly \$6 million; however, this program is expected to end after 2024
 - We expect to receive at least 4.9 million pounds less than we received in 2024
- As for TEFAP entitlement funding, it's too soon to project, but current estimates indicate we could see as much as a 35% decrease in funding between FY24 and FY25

**Note: Once the year begins, the entitlement funding amount is not typically as low as we are initially informed*

 - TEFAP represented more than 20% of Three Square's overall distribution in FY23



State Appropriations Priorities & Foci

Food Bank of Northern Nevada

To meet the growing need for additional nutrition support for our neighbors after the expiration of the pandemic benefits in 2023, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada has so far spent two million dollars of the legislative appropriation in the following categories:

- 44% of the 2023 legislative appropriation procured shelf stable products including tuna, cereal, canned fruits, vegetables, and skillet meals.
- 10% of the appropriation was devoted to frozen proteins like chicken, turkey, pork products, and bison.
- The remaining purchases were made up of produce, dairy, and eggs, all grouped together: fresh potatoes, mixed fresh produce, fresh eggs, half gallons of fresh 2% milk, and American cheese.



Three Square

- Senior Hunger Programs
 - Fulfilling waitlists for Golden Groceries
 - Adding mobile distributions at senior affordable housing complexes
 - Producing more frozen meals for seniors
- Childhood Nutrition Programs
 - Fulfilling waitlists for our Backpack Program
 - Piloting a DoorDash summer program for families
- Healthcare Partnerships
 - Assisted with starting emergency food pantries at VA facilities/ clinics



2025 Policy Priorities

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

FARM BILL

OLDER AMERICANS ACT

CHILD NUTRITION ACT

HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIPS AND FOOD AS
MEDICINE INITIATIVES (COULD INCLUDE, BUT
NOT LIMITED TO MEDICAID 1115 WAIVERS)

UNIVERSAL SCHOOL MEALS

HOME FEEDS NEVADA

SUMMER EBT

STATE GOVERNMENT



Attachment for Agenda Item #9

NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024



*Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Department of Health and Human Services
State of Nevada*

Joe Lombardo
*Governor
State of Nevada*

Cody Phinney, MPH
*Administrator
Division of Public and Behavioral
Health*

Richard Whitley, MS
*Director
Department of Health and Human
Services*

Ihsan Azzam, PhD, MD
*Chief Medical Officer
Division of Public and Behavioral
Health*

Table of Contents	2
Executive Summary.....	3
Introduction.....	4
Food Insecurity in Nevada	5
Food Security Assessments and Plans	8
Nevada CFS 2024 Accomplishments.....	9
CFS Future focus	11
2023 Members: NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY	13

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Governor's Council on Food Security (CFS) aims to fight hunger among Nevadans who are at increased and/or higher risk of food insecurity, including children and older Nevadans. Since the inception of the 2014 Governor's Executive Order, which established CFS and codified NRS 232.4968 into state law in the 80th Legislative Session in 2019, there have been numerous accomplishments over the years, with continued progress being made in 2024. The CFS is tasked with reviewing legislation and protocols at the federal, state, and local levels for feedback affecting food policy infrastructure. The CFS meetings are held quarterly along with special sessions, which help partners remain aware of various funding streams and assist with improving the quality of service and meals to Nevadans through education, recommendations, and feedback. Ongoing meetings also help ensure partners remain aware of emergency response plans and streamline food access to provide excellent services to Nevadans.

The CFS continues to recognize the need for systemic collaboration between all partners to adequately reduce hunger and improve a person's overall well-being. According to the [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#), in Fiscal Year 2023, 455,200 Nevada residents received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits with 62% of the participants being families with children. Participants continue to steadily increase over the years with a concern for the senior population since the rural and small towns fall behind the national average.¹

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) stunted Nevada's progress in addressing hunger and completely changed the landscape of food insecurity in Nevada. At the height of the pandemic, food security partners statewide saw an unprecedented increase in the need for food and nutrition services, due to high unemployment rates, limited access to resources, and social distancing guidelines. Assisting Nevadans navigate food-related resources has been a major activity in the state. Nevada continues to make significant strides in addressing food insecurity and has established a public database through the [DHHS Nevada 211, allowing residents to search for food banks and pantries in their area.](#)

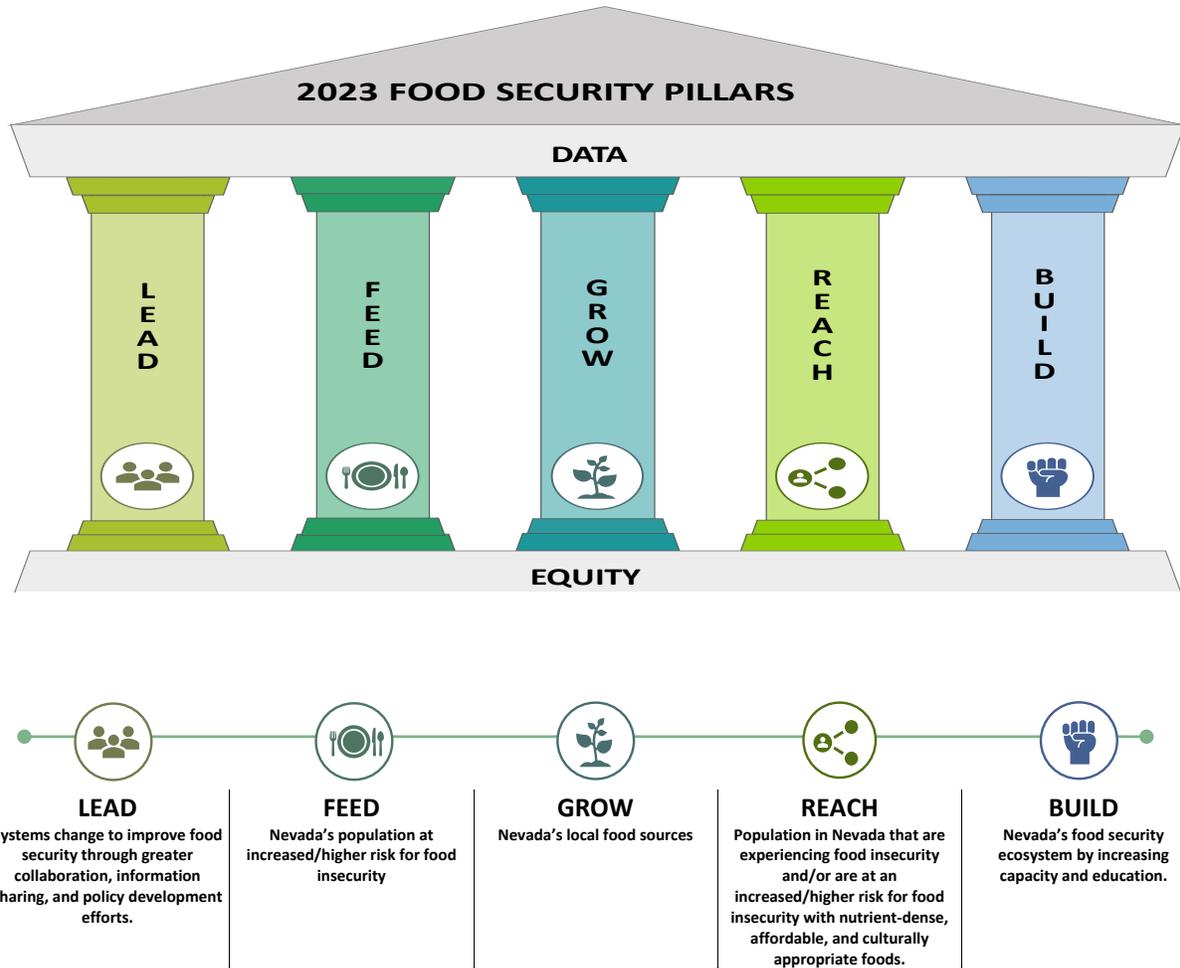
¹ 2023 Nevada Food Security Strategic Plan

INTRODUCTION

The Council was initially created by Nevada's Governor to reshape food security and help residents living in food-insecure households by implementing the goals of the 2013 Food Strategic Plan called the [Food Security in Nevada: Nevada's Plan for Action](#). In 2018, a work plan was developed with updates to the goals and objectives. Between July 2021-November 2022, a Food Security Work Group conducted a needs assessment including surveys, strategic planning sessions, focus groups, and interviews. In 2023, the Food Strategic Plan was updated and published on the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Office of Food Security (OFS) website. [The 2023 Nevada Food Security Strategic Plan](#). The Pillars (Figure 1), identified in [the 2023 Nevada Food Security Strategic Plan](#), address the root causes of hunger and to generate a healthier food security ecosystem.

Over the past eight (8) years, the CFS members have captured the council's yearly progress. Each year, CFS sends their recommendations to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau on Food Security in Nevada. This report includes information on community gardens and urban farms per [NRS 232.4968](#).

Figure 1



FOOD INSECURITY IN NEVADA

Food Insecurity is defined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or limited/uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations states a person is food insecure when “...they lack regular access to enough safe and nutritious food for normal growth and development and

an active and healthy life.”² Food insecurity goes beyond empty refrigerators, pantries, and needing food to survive. Food insecurity impacts an individual’s overall health, well-being, and culture and is influenced by the social, political, and economic environment one lives in. It is a significant public health concern associated with adverse health outcomes and a poor quality of life, including chronic diseases and mental health issues.^{3,4} For example, Feeding America indicates the total excess health care cost associated with food insecurity is \$518,266,000 in Nevada. Feeding America reports the food insecurity rate in Nevada was 13% (409,540) in 2021.⁵ To assuage these health and economic effects of food insecurity, the Funds for Healthy Nevada (FHN)⁶ agencies continue to allow for more options and availability to better meet dietary and medical needs, preferences, and restrictions. The [State of Obesity 2022 report](#) indicates, “For children and adolescents, food insecurity is associated with a lower quality diet and a range of poor physical and mental health outcomes—including higher odds of having asthma, anemia, and fair or poor health and a higher risk of cognitive issues, aggression, anxiety, depression, behavior problems, suicide ideation, and hospitalization.” Children experiencing food insecurity were also likely to repeat a grade in elementary school, experience developmental impairments in areas like language and motor skills and have more social and behavioral problems. To reduce these risks and concerns, the 2021 Universal School Meals Program Act was established. This act permanently provides free breakfast, lunch, dinner, and a snack to all school children regardless of income, eliminates school meal debt, and strengthens local economies by incentivizing local food procurement.⁷ The USDA extended these free services through the 2022 school year from the 2021 Universal School Meals Program Act. The Nevada Interim Finance Committee approved \$28 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds to continue

² <https://unric.org/en/unric-library-background-er-food-insecurity/#:~:text=A%20person%20is%20food%20insecure,of%20resources%20to%20obtain%20food.>

³ <https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/84467/err-235.pdf?v=42942>

⁴ <https://academic.oup.com/jn/article/145/3/622/4743717>

⁵ <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2021/overall/nevada>

⁶ The Fund for a Healthy Nevada (FHN) is governed by Chapter 439, Sections 620–630, of the Nevada Revised Statutes to utilize 60% of tobacco settlement monies received or recovered by the State of Nevada. The DHHS uses the FHN funds to support health and social services activities that align with legislatively defined priority areas to address gaps identified in various needs assessments across the State of Nevada to promote public health and improve health services for children, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities.

⁷ H.R.3115 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Universal School Meals Program Act of 2021 | [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) | [Library of Congress](#)

offering the free meals. This allowed Nevada students to continue universal free meals at school for the 2023-2024 school year.⁸

According to the [2023 Nevada Food Security Strategic Plan](#), there were about 80,000 Nevadans aged 60 years and older who identified as food insecure. Data projections suggest Nevada will witness a 36% increase in the older adult population over the next ten years. This older adult population faces food security challenges with an increased risk of hunger due to poor health conditions, homebound needs, low fixed incomes, and limitations impacting their ability to obtain or prepare food. Seniors with low income are forced to purchase inexpensive and less nutritious foods to financially secure their housing, utilities, and prescriptions.

As of June 2024, the USDA reports 262,890 Nevada households and 498,558 Nevadans had accepted the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, historically known as food stamps.^{9,10} SNAP assisted low-income families in purchasing nutritious foods from approved stores. In the beginning of 2024, participants continued to receive the Supplemental Emergency Allotments (SEA) that were established throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, in March 2020, following the Public Health Emergency declaration (PHE). The SEA allowed SNAP participants to receive a second monthly payment to address food insecurity throughout the pandemic. The SEA ceased on March 14, 2023, following the end to PHE (February 2023) with the Nevada Division of Welfare and Support Services (DWSS) issuing over \$1 billion to Nevada households during the PHE. This was in addition to the USDA Food and Nutrition Services bolstering budgets for food banks throughout the country following the pandemic to help further public and private funding sources used to tackle food insecurity. The public funds are obtained through federal, state, and local agencies, as well as governmental units. Private funds are identified through charitable foundations, direct giving programs, voluntary agencies, and other community groups. Nevada food banks and food pantries are reporting an increase in clients receiving food related services since the SEA ended.

⁸ <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/InterimCommittee/REL/Document/27744>

⁹ <https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/snap-households-9.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/snap-persons-9.pdf>

The State of Nevada expanded the Nevada Community Food Access (NCFA) grant through the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA). On April 1, 2022, NDA released NCFA to increase food access in underserved communities throughout Nevada, with an emphasis on food distribution, infrastructure enhancement, and the provision of food to households in need. NDA also purchases food grown and produce in Nevada for distribution through the Home Feeds Nevada program.¹¹ This program was established to help Nevada become more food secure by processing and distributing directly to food banks.¹² Throughout 2022-2023, NDA awarded \$500,000 to six (6) partners. In 2023, NDA released the second round of grant funding to fourteen (14) organizations totaling \$6 million that focused on the food distribution and food storage infrastructure enhancement for households in rural, tribal, and underserved communities.¹³ Four (4) of the eleven (11) FHN partners benefited from the NDA expansion funds to assist with increasing distribution and storage space: Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada (CCNN), Northern Nevada Dream Center, Food Bank of Northern Nevada, and the Keystone Enrichment Foundation.

NDA reported to the Council they analyzed the locations of the current meal sites and have been able to fill identified gaps. Due to the 2023 release of the rural non-congregate feeding, some sponsors could have new meal service sites that had never been serviced before, as far as eastern Nevada, with a population that had not been reached in previous years. An assessment has been completed to target other community organizations and food authorities could help fill those gaps for more rural parts of Nevada.

FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENTS AND PLANS

The [2023-2028 State Health Improvement Plan \(SHIP\)](#) was published in February 2024, and aligns with 4 strategies from [the 2023 Nevada Food Security Strategic Plan](#), address the root causes of hunger and to generate a healthier food security ecosystem. The goal is to reduce food insecurity and improve the overall food security ecosystem in Nevada to help

¹¹https://agri.nv.gov/News/2022/First_food_delivery_for_Nevadans_in_need_made_through_Home_Feeds_Nevada/#:~:text=Home%20Feeds%20Nevada%20is%20a,said%20NDA%20Director%20Jennifer%20Ott.

¹² https://agri.nv.gov/Food/Home_Feeds_Nevada/Home_Feeds_Nevada/

¹³[https://agri.nv.gov/News/2022/\\$6_million_awarded_to_community_organizations_to_fight_food_insecurity_and_improve_food_access/](https://agri.nv.gov/News/2022/$6_million_awarded_to_community_organizations_to_fight_food_insecurity_and_improve_food_access/)

eliminate the existing hunger gap. Over the years, CCNN and Three-Square Food Bank have conducted environmental scans of rural communities in Northern and Southern Nevada to assess additional existing food rescue/donation efforts and/or opportunities. The Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN), contracted with the Nevada Center for Surveys, Evaluation and Statistics (CSES) at the University of Nevada, Reno, and conducted a yearlong surveillance survey which consisted of two parts: 1) a needs assessment, and 2) a neighbor satisfaction survey. This work looked at the entire FBNN service area (13 Northern Nevada counties and parts of eight (8) counties in California).

The Office of Food Security (OFS) has partnered with the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) Public Health AmeriCorps to hire two ongoing part time workers for 2023-2024 to support the Council's involvement with [2023-2028 State Health Improvement Plan \(SHIP\)](#) food initiatives and the [Nevada's 2023 Food Security Strategic Plan](#). These positions assist the Council with the following:

- Planning, implementing, monitoring, and reporting of projects that align with three (3) of the five (5) foundational themes otherwise known as the “pillars” (LEAD, FEED, and BUILD) of the [Nevada's 2023 Food Security Strategic Plan](#) and the specific actions steps in the SHIP related to Food Security
- Reviewing processes to evaluate the effectiveness of the activities
- Designing and developing data collection and program evaluation tools
- Conducting routine analysis of program processes
- Providing outcome data to the program and stakeholders
- Monitoring, and evaluating measures on program activities
- Providing technical assistance to Food Security stakeholder

NEVADA CFS 2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2024, the CFS continued to focus on the execution of [The 2023 Nevada Food Security Strategic Plan](#). Ongoing meetings were (January 16, Feb 2, July 16, and October 15) to expand knowledge and understanding around food insecurity in Nevada and to prepare presentations for the 2025 Nevada Legislative Session.

More accomplishments are listed below for 2024:

- Established a workgroup to aim at planning and holding a statewide food security conference. The goal of the conference is to convene local food ecosystem partners,

community members, and policymakers, featuring keynote speakers and discussions while offering. The workgroup developed and distributed a survey to assist in planning the 2025 Northern Nevada Food Security Conference.

- CFS presented one (1) presentation to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services (HHS) related to food insecurity and seats needed for CFS.
- An in-person CFS meeting option, either Carson City and/or Las Vegas Office(s), to enhance collaboration, cohesiveness, and increase efforts in reducing councils' vacancies.
- Distribution, support, and general food access.
- Presentations focused on the food insecurity statistics (pounds of food distributed, people served, etc.), food distribution, general food access, awareness on food insecurity programs and existing food databases to access food related resources statewide. More specifically the following:
 - The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) on the Community Food Access Project, gaps analysis on food security, Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA), and the Summer Food Program (SFP).
 - Southwest Regional Food System Project
 - Home Delivered Meals Program
- Reviewed the Home Feeds Nevada Program Annual Report, the state nutrition statics such as the pounds of food distributed, and people served, survey to determine federal standards or policies in places that are creating barriers resulting in a possible increase in food insecurity and analyzed where the Council can advocate for change.
- Ongoing discussion on how food insecurity is being addressed in hard-to-reach areas and/or food deserts in Nevada.
- Continues to monitor the FFPNL Subcommittee reestablished by CFS in 2023 to increase the amount of food diverted from landfills and use to increase food security in Nevada. FFPNL is also intended to establish the eligibility criteria for a food donor to participate in the program and create an official seal for the program per [NRS 232.4969](#).

CFS FUTURE FOCUS

In 2025, the CFS will continue to focus on [2023-2028 State Health Improvement Plan \(SHIP\)](#) food initiatives which is aligned with the 2023-2028 SHIP, Food Security Action Plan. The CFS will continue to hold ongoing meetings to expand knowledge and understanding around food insecurity in Nevada. In 2025, the CFS in collaboration with DPBH and community partners, intends to host the Northern Nevada Food Conference focusing on Northern Nevada. In 2027, the Council on Food Security aims at holding another similar conference with a focus on the Southern Region of Nevada. An ongoing workgroup will continue to remain in place by the Council to assist in planning conferences aligned with the SHIP. The Council will also continue monitoring the progress of The Food for People Not for Landfill (FFPNL) to increase food insecurity by decreasing food waste and redirecting excess consumable food to vulnerable communities throughout the state. The CFS has selected anticipated members of the FFPNL subcommittee and CFS is working towards establishing members for the agencies identified in Figure 2.

Figure 2

Name/Agency
United States of Department of Agriculture (USDA) or Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA)
Three Square
University of Reno, Extension
Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada, Includes Food Rescue
Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada,
Food Bank of Northern Nevada, includes Food Rescue
North Gaming Industry
South Gaming Industry
Retail or Grocery
Reno Gleaning Project
A representative from an organization that does farmers market buy back and/or food rescue from agricultural producers
Helping Hands of Vegas Valley
A representative from food service

The Council would like to focus on the following for 2025:

- Deliverables for the SHIP and the 2023 Food Security Strategic plans.
- 2025 Food Security Conference in Northern Nevada.

- An in-person meeting option, either in Carson City and/or Las Vegas Office(s), for CFS meetings to further enhance collaboration, cohesiveness, and increase efforts in reducing councils' vacancies.
- Distribution, support, and general food access.
- Presentations focusing on food insecurity statistics (pounds of food distributed, people served, etc.), food distribution, general food access and build awareness on food insecurity programs and existing food databases to access food related resources statewide.
- Home Feeds Nevada Program Annual Report.
- Review and discuss the state nutrition statics such as the pounds of food distributed, and people served.
- Review federal standards or policies in places creating barriers that result in a possible increase in food insecurity.
 - Determine where the Council can advocate for change.
- Continuing the discussion on how food insecurity is being addressed in hard-to-reach areas and/or food deserts.

2023 MEMBERS: NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY

(As of 12/28/2023)

Name	Description	Position
Administrator: Cody Phinney: Designee Vickie Ives as of Nov 29, 2023	<i>Administrator of the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health or his or her designee from within the Division.</i>	Designee; Health Bureau Chief; Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Charlotte Williams	<i>A person who is a representative of a food bank serving northern Nevada</i>	Research & Innovation Manager
Deacon Tom Roberts	<i>A person who is a representative of an organization that provides community-based services, including, without limitation, services that focus on the social determinants of health, in southern Nevada</i>	President and CEO; Catholic Charities, Southern Nevada
Designee for Administrator: Jeff Duncan	<i>Administrator of the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department or his or her designee from within the Division</i>	Designee; Agency Manager; Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division, Child Services
Designee for Administrator: Kelly Cantrelle	<i>Administrator of the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services or designee from within the Division.</i>	Designee; Deputy Administrator; Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
Designee for Director: Dr. Dorian Stonebarger	<i>Director of the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development or his or her designee within the Office.</i>	Director of the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development; Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development Proxy; Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs
Designee for Governor: Allison Genco	<i>State of Nevada Governor's Designee.</i>	State Public Health Resource Officer, Governor's Office
Designee for Superintendent: Pamela Juniel	<i>Superintendent of Public Instruction of the Nevada Department of education or his or her designee within the Department.</i>	Superintendent of Public Instruction; Nevada Department of Education
Dr. Sabina Malik	<i>A person who is a representative of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension</i>	Public Health Nutritionist; University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
Jenny Yeager Term ended 02/28/2024	<i>A person who is a representative of a food bank serving northern Nevada</i>	Chief Operations and Programs Officer; Food Bank of Northern Nevada

Jesus Mendoza, Jr.	<i>Western Regional Director of the United States Department of Agriculture or designee from within the Department.</i>	Regional Administrator; United States Department of Agriculture Western Regional Office
Joe Miller	<i>One member who is a representative of farmers or ranchers engaged in food production</i>	UNR-Desert Farm Initiative
Julian Goicoechea	<i>Director of the Nevada Department of Agriculture or designee from within the Department.</i>	Nevada Department of Agriculture, Director
Kelli Kelly	<i>One member who is a representative of persons engaged in the business of processing or distributing food</i>	Director; Fallon Food Hub
Lisa Swearingen	<i>Director or his or her designee from within the Department of Health and Human Services</i>	Chief, Eligibility and Payments Unit, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
Marcia Blake	<i>A person who possesses knowledge, skill and experience in the provision of services to senior citizens and persons with disabilities</i>	Executive Director; Helping Hands of Vegas Valley
Maria Menjivar	<i>One member representing community-based services (Rural Nevada).</i>	Environmental Health Division Manager, Carson City Health and Human Services
Marie Baxter	<i>A person who is a representative of an organization that provides community-based services, including, without limitation, services that focus on the social determinants of health, in northern Nevada</i>	CEO; Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada
Maurice Johnson	<i>A person who is a representative of a food bank serving southern Nevada</i>	Director of Operations; Three Square Food Bank
(Tori) Samantha Lawson-Boffelli	<i>A person who possesses knowledge, skill, and experience in the provision of services to children and families</i>	Program Analyst – USDA Food and Nutrition Service
Dr. Kenneth Osgood, MD, MPH	A person who is a representative of a local health authority	Southern Nevada Health District Board of Health
Term end 04/05/2024		
VACANT as of 06/20/2024	A person who is a representative of those engaged in the business of processing or distributing food.	N/A

VACANT as of 06/20/2024	One member who is a representative of the gaming industry, hospitality industry, or restaurant industry.	N/A
VACANT as of 06/20/2024	One member who is a representative of manufacturing that is not related to food.	N/A
VACANT as of 06/20/2024	A person who is a representative of a local health authority	N/A