

THE NYS CFP 2014 LISTENING TOUR

Hauppauge Session * September 30th, 2014

MEMBER UPDATES

Dawn Secor - Hunger Solutions (see attached document)

- Anti-Hunger Task Force – developing prelim recommendations
- Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP)
 - Connect 30,000 households to SNAP benefits
- Completing year 3 Anti-Hunger Initiative
 - Connects national, statewide and local organizations to conduct targeted outreach efforts
 - Coordinate messaging via social media
 - 1,000 households connected to SNAP as a result
- Summer Food Service Program
 - Working with Senator Gillibrand to provide localized statistics
- Contributed to the establishment of 70 new summer program food sites this year
- Conducting SNAP outreach with food industry alliance
- Planning an anti-hunger conference – March 2015

Brendan Sexton – Local 1500

- Coordinating with other groups to combat food deserts

Linda LaViolette – Empire State Development

- Fresh Connect Checks and Grant Program have been a great success

Challey Comer – NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets

- Promoting local food and agriculture through taste NY
 - Taste NY stores opening in Javits Center and Grand Central
- Developing consistent food procurement standards for NYS
- Upstate/Downstate Summit to occur before the end of the 2014

Amy Koren-Roth– NYS Dept. of Health (see attached documents)

Liz Neumark – Great Performances and the Sylvia Center

- Continue to see local food and sustainably raised meat and seafood
 - Price has been an issue but is getting better
 - GrowNYC doing deliveries 5 days/wk – makes a difference
- Katchkie Farm
 - First year of economic green
 - Workplace CSA model (including mayor's office, Martha Stewart, etc)

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sean Barrett – Dock to Dish (see attached document)

- 100% seafood sourced from NYS waters
- Unsupported from any Government entity
- No more processing facilities; using Amagansett
- Has high volume restaurant members that support program
- Would like to create community supported fishery (sustainably sourced)
- Volume: 14 million lbs seafood per year – sustainably raised
 - Less than 2% being processed at local facility
- Only using one processing facility that is far from Montauk;
- Lost skilled filet labor in NY
- How do you envision CSA portion to be successful?
 - Would need about 350-400 members (currently have 110) for CSF to be economically viable → biggest barrier is processing/filet

Bill Ayers – www.whyhunger.org (see attached document)

- Working with organizations that promote food justice
- Need to promote self reliance – economic justice
- Developed hunger hotline
- Worked with Dept. Ag and Food and Nutrition Service to:
 -connect individuals with benefits
 -create emergency food programs
- SNAP Pilot project
 - For SNAP eligible families, added \$60/ month for single child to receive summer meals → cuts hunger by 1/3
- Not just connecting people with meals, but also connecting them with CSA's, gardens, etc.
- Changing the emergency food system in our country -- engaging with people and asking the “why” question: why is there hunger in the richest country in the world?

Zahrine Bajwa – CCE of Suffolk County (see attached document)

Suffolk County Food Policy Council (see attached documents)

- October 14 @ 9AM – Suffolk County Food Policy Hearing
- Facebook Page and Twitter : <https://twitter.com/SCFoodCouncil>
- November 10th – Movie showing about Veterans going into community gardens

Erin Thoreson – Sustainable Long Island (see attached document)

- Review of projects
- Food insecurity
- Healthy corner store initiative

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Gwen O'Shea – Health and Welfare Council of Long Island (see attached document)

- With support of Hunger Solutions, administered NOEP in Nassau and Suffolk County
- Convened Anti-Hunger task force
- Convened LI anti-hunger task-force initiative – leverage federal dollars to look at innovative ways to effectively reach out to communities
- Integrate SNAP benefit into Exchange portal

Diane Shulman and Janet Sklar–Jerry Shulman Produce Shipper (see attached document)

- Team Nutrition—USDA—free resources for schools
- Local Potato project
- Local Beef project

Michael Haynes – The Chapin Center for Public Policy; Long Island Cares, Inc. (see attached document)

- Feature veterans services

August Ruckdeschel (see attached document)

- Speaking on behalf of Joseph Gergela, Long Island Farm Bureau
- Personal comments:
 - Question on Food Metrics Bill- status update- how is it being implemented?

Randi Dresner – Island Harvest (see attached document)

- SNAP benefits being under utilized by eligible Long Islanders
- SNAP outreach program
- Healthy Foods Initiative

George Proios – Chair of Local Soil and Water District Committee

- NRCS promoted the development of the local soil and water district
- Trying to address massive pollution problem
 - Methane digesters, etc
- Hunts Point- needs more attention- where is the food coming from? How much are the farmers getting paid?
- Need to produce new and better crops; need to provide technical assistance for farmers
- Should refurbish dams
- Every pesticide banned in this country is exported to developing countries – should develop a bill to ban this practice
- Farm Development Agency – provide new equipment to farmers, including improved irrigation system and pesticide sprays to decrease amount coming out of sprays onto food products

Talking Points for September 30, 2014 NYS Food Policy Council Meeting

Summary for Hunger Solutions New York:

Governor's Anti-Hunger Task Force: Along with some members of this Council, we are a member of the Governor's Anti-Hunger Task Force and serve as a co-lead for the Health and Access Workgroup of the Task Force. The Task Force has been meeting throughout 2014 and has developed preliminary recommendations. Final recommendations expected by the end of the year. We believe that several of the recommendations will be of interest to this Council and we look forward to working together on those recommendations.

NOEP results: Hunger Solutions New York is the statewide administrator of the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program through a contract with OTDA. In the year ending June 30, NOEP services helped connect almost 30,000 households to SNAP benefits across NYS bringing almost \$79 million in SNAP benefits into NYS. This provided NYS with a 26-fold return on its investment in the NOEP. NOEP is currently available in 56 counties across the state including all 5 boroughs in NYC. We are very pleased that as of July 1, there are 4 NOEP Coordinators on Long Island.

The Long Island Anti-Hunger Initiative: Hunger Solutions New York, in partnership with the Health and Welfare Council of Long Island and other Long-Island-based partners is just completing year 3 of the 5-year Long Island Anti-Hunger Initiative. This program is unique in that it brings together national, statewide and local organizations to conduct this very targeted effort. Also unique to this project is the coordinated messaging used by partners and the use of social media as an outreach method. Approximately 1,000 households have been connected to SNAP as a result of this effort and we are very excited about what the next two years will bring.

Summer Food Service Program :

In June, Senator Gillibrand introduced The Summer Meals Act of 2014, a bi-partisan bill to expand and improve the Summer Food Service Program. We partnered with Senator Gillibrand's office to provide localized statistics for her 5 press conferences around the state. Senator Gillibrand is a champion of anti-hunger efforts and we look forward to working with her throughout the Child Nutrition

Reauthorization process. In addition, through direct efforts as well as indirectly through our many partnerships, Hunger Solutions New York contributed to the establishment of approximately 70 new Summer Food Service Program sites this summer to ensure that more children had access to free summer meals.

SNAP outreach with Food Industry Alliance, Eat Smart New York, and NOEP - this year, after a successful SNAP outreach pilot coordinated by OTDA between the Food Alliance Industry, Eat Smart NY, and NOEP, we are pleased to be working to expand this partnership to more regions of the state and are looking forward to building on the successful model developed by OTDA.

Anti-Hunger Conference in 2015 – Hunger Solutions is very excited to be planning a statewide Anti-Hunger Conference which is tentatively scheduled for March of 2015. We will be keeping you posted with updates as the conference details come together and certainly would welcome all of you to the conference.

**NYS Department of Health – Division of Nutrition
Updates for NYS Food Policy Council Listening Session in Long Island
September 30, 2014**

Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP)

During the 2013 - 2014 HPNAP contract period (July 2013 – June 2014) there were more than 31 million Requests for Food Assistance, duplicated counts of persons seeking food at the 2,422 emergency food program sites (Food Pantries, Soup Kitchens and Emergency Shelters). Approximately 29% of requested food assistance was for children below the age of 18.

During this period, HPNAP funds supported the provision of more than 26.5 million nutritious meals to persons seeking emergency food assistance. HPNAP contractors reported spending almost 30% (\$1.5 million) of funds targeted specifically for fresh produce on New York State grown vegetables and fruit. The produce is provided to food pantries and soup kitchens statewide.

A recent survey conducted by HPNAP of 597 food pantries found that there is a high level of interest in providing healthier food options. In addition, almost half of the respondents said they were providing food packages to individuals with diabetes or hypertension.

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

In 2014, the WIC program provided supplemental food, participant-centered nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding support, and linkages with health and social services to 484,030 participants at approximately 565 local agency sites throughout the state.

Recently published research has shown that changing WIC foods changes what children eat. On March 4, 2014 USDA released the Final Food Package Rule for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children. The rule revised WIC food packages to align more closely with updated nutrition science and the American Academy of Pediatrics. New foods which can be allowed in the final rule include:

- yogurt, whole wheat pasta, dried fruits and vegetables, banana substitution for infant fruits, and jack mackerel. Yogurt may not be added before 4/1/15 and must be less than or equal to 40 grams sugar/cup.
- Effective 5/31/14, cash value vouchers for vegetables/ fruits for children increased from \$6 to \$8 per month.
- In addition, soy beverages and tofu will no longer require a prescription from a health care provider and women will be allowed a larger amount of tofu as a milk substitute.
- Other changes include formula issuance amounts which promote and support the establishment of successful long-term breastfeeding.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

CACFP improves the nutritional quality of meals and snacks served in participating day care programs serving low-income children by establishing minimum standards for items served, providing reimbursement for qualifying meals and snacks, and mandating ongoing monitoring of food service programs and training of program staff. It also administers the At Risk Suppers program for programs located in low income areas. Eligible after school programs must provide educational or enrichment activities to children in an organized, structured and supervised environment at the end of the school day, or weekends or holidays during the school year. Currently, more than 1,400 sponsoring organizations representing 14,000 licensed or registered center-based or family day care sites are participating statewide. **On average, day care providers serve approximately 330,000 meals to children and adults each day.**

From implementation in 2006 through 2014, CACFP's *Eat Well Play Hard in Child Care Settings*, an intensive obesity prevention intervention, has been provided to more than 101,531 children, family members and child care center staff in 38 counties of the state. *EWPH in Day Care Homes* focuses on the meal time and physical activity environment of the family day care homes and has reached beyond the day care provider to 5369 (duplicated) Registered Dietitian contacts with children while conducting nutrition and movement activities during in-home lessons. In 2014, CACFP's Farm to Preschool project expanded to include the New York City Area, Nassau County, Rochester, and the Capital Region.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

New York State's Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) offers nutritious foods and nutrition information to approximately 34,000 low-income individuals aged 60 years and over in Nassau, Suffolk, Kings and Queens counties. In the very recent past, children under age 6 and postpartum women no longer eligible for WIC were eligible to receive supplemental foods from CSFP. **Effective February 6, 2014 federal regulations changed to restrict CSFP participation to those aged 60 years and older.**

NYS Department of Health Comprehensive Cancer Control Program

Summary of Community Demonstration Progress on Food Procurement Initiative by Contractor

Schenectady and Broome have been working with both municipalities and community organizations to implement food procurement standards ensuring there are healthier food options available for employees and consumers.

We use a multi-pronged approach to garner support for the food procurement policy initiative:

- **Educating and Engaging Communities** refers to conducting targeted activities that educate the public (or subsets of the public) about chronic disease issues with the intention of raising awareness and influencing individual opinions, beliefs, attitudes and behaviors. Community education may involve discrete events, earned and paid media, and other types of information dissemination.
- **Mobilizing and Empowering Communities** refers to engaging influential community members and organizations to publicly support and call for actions to advance chronic disease prevention and control policies.
- **Educating Government Decision Makers** refers to educating local, state, regional or national policy-makers about chronic disease issues, and the implications of policy change.
- **Engaging Organizational Decision-Makers** refers to strategies undertaken to influence organizational decision makers to change their organizations' policies, programs, or practices.

Ideally, these are all working in concert with one another, building support for the policy on many levels.

Outcome 1: By June 2015, at least five community based organizations will adopt policies that require the implementation of food procurement standards.

Outcome 2: By June 2015, at least two municipalities will implement one jurisdiction-wide food procurement policy.

Broome County Health Department

The Broome County Health Department has been able to work with five entities since January 2013 interested in adopting and implementing food procurement guidelines. Two sites have adopted and implemented food procurement policies, one has drafted a food procurement policy and two are working on a draft policy. None of the sites had existing food procurement standards in place prior to the work of the county contractor. Broome County Central Foods, the municipality, serves approximately 1.8 million meals annually at Willow Point Nursing Home, Senior Centers, to Meals on Wheels recipients, children's centers, and at the Broome County Jail. As part of the implementation process, the county hired a temporary fulltime employee to conduct a nutritional assessment of their most current grocery bid products listing. Meals on Wheels of Western Broome is a private not-for-profit organization that provides home delivered meals service, Monday through Friday, to homebound elderly and handicapped adults. They serve a total of 400 people each year. Changes to the food they serve are being implemented using the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010 and the latest therapeutic diet guidelines from the Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics, American College of Gastroenterology, and the American Diabetes Association, and other professional organizations. The YMCA of Broome County provides meals and snacks to 215 youth through their childcare programs. The YMCA Board of Directors voted to accept a new food procurement policy that aligns with the NYS Council on Food Policy developed standards. The Broome County Council of Churches' CHOW Community Food Bus provides access to low-cost fresh fruits and vegetables and distributes 1,600 USDA lunches over the summer to youth and their families in rural areas of Broome County and the All Saints Catholic School serves approximately 500 lunches a week to students from preschool to sixth grade throughout the school year.

Table 1. Broome County – Food Procurement Progress by Site, January 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

Site Name	Type ¹	Existing Food Procurement Policy	Estimated Reach ²	Status
Broome County Central Foods	Municipality	No	5,000	Policy Drafted

Meals on Wheels	CBO	No	180/day	Policy Implemented
YMCA	CBO	No	215/day	Policy Implemented
Broome County Council of Churches' CHOW Community Food Bus	CBO	No	1,600/summer	Working on policy draft
All Saints Catholic School	CBO	No	500 lunches per week	Working on policy draft

1-CBO=Community-Based Organization

2-Contractors provide information on the potential reach of each policy. For the food procurement initiative estimated reach includes the number of employees at a site and/or the number of individuals served by food and nutrition programs through each site.

Schenectady County Public Health Services

Schenectady County Public Health Services has not had any sites adopt the food procurement policies but the county has actively worked with six organizations in their community during project and as of June 30, 2014 three sites had drafted food procurement policies.

Conifer Park is a substance abuse treatment facility. Over 200 meals are served daily to the participants in this facility. Development of a food procurement policy is currently in progress. Glendale Home is a county owned skilled nursing facility that has 200 beds. Several meetings have occurred with the County Manager's office as well as Director of Purchasing for the County. A nutritional analysis was completed which compared the current purchasing practices with the New York State Council on Food Policy's recommended food procurement guidelines. Areas of improvement with regard to changes in purchasing as well as changes in food preparation were identified. Next steps include, presenting a draft policy to the county manager and a presentation to the Public Health Advisory Board which consists of the CEO's and Medical Directors of the Federally Qualified Healthcare Center and Ellis Family Health Center as well as County legislators, the President of Schenectady County Community College and the Executive Director of the Schenectady Free Clinic.

Schenectady County Public Health Services is also working with the Town of Niskayuna Senior Center, they have drafted a food procurement policy and obtained support from the Town Supervisor and Town Board members. A taste testing event was held to try new recipes and work began with a local Cornell Cooperative Extension to make changes to their menu.

Table 2. Schenectady County – Food Procurement Progress by Site, January 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

Site Name	Type ¹	Existing Food Procurement Policy	Estimated Reach ²	Status
Schenectady ARC	CBO	Yes	150	Dropped
Schenectady County Glendale Nursing Home	Municipality	Yes	200	Policy Drafted
Catholic Charities	CBO	Yes	170	Dropped
Schenectady County Long Term Care	Municipality	Yes	Unknown	Dropped
Conifer Park	CBO	No	Unknown	Policy Drafted
Niskayuna Senior Center	Municipality	No	5	Policy Drafted

1-CBO=Community-Based Organization

2-Contractors provide information on the potential reach of each policy. For the food procurement initiative estimated reach includes the number of employees at a site and/or the number of individuals served by food and nutrition programs through each site.