

**Mult. Co. Child & Family Food Security Coalition**  
**Wednesday, January 23, 2019**  
**Meeting Notes**

*Mission: A collective voice to increase food security for families navigating poverty, focused on communities of color in Multnomah County.*

Task	Notes
<p><b>Welcome &amp; Intros</b></p>	<p>Attendees: Fatima Jawaid (Partners for a Hunger-Free OR), Anna Walter (Met. Family Service), Jason Skipton (Growing Gardens), Emily Wilson (Mult. Co. DCHS), Christy Sweany (IRCO), Alison Killeen (Partners for a Hunger-Free OR), Danielle Solomon (Portland Parks &amp; Rec), Maureen Quinn Lores (OSU Ext. SNAP-Ed), Maritza Perez (Meals on Wheels People), Jamison Holtz (Portland Parks &amp; Rec), Sophia Ferere (Boys &amp; Girls Club), Elizabeth Jimenez-Lopez (Boys &amp; Girls Club), Maria Velez (Latino Network), Frances Hall (Mult. Co. DCHS)</p>
<p><b>Partial Gov't Shutdown Impacts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SNAP, WIC, school meals</li> <li>- Housing, immigration</li> </ul>	<p>Check-in question was "how is partial government shutdown affecting services and programs?" Answers included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lots of questions; contingency plans for food assistance at end of Feb. when SNAP benefits are low/gone</li> <li>• Confusion around early release of SNAP benefits and SNAP enrollment</li> <li>• Trying to stay ahead of panic- what is happening and what will happen if it continues</li> <li>• Farm to School funding through Farm Bill is affected and Growing Gardens' services in federal facilities impacted</li> </ul> <p>Frances shared resources from Mult Co, Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon, and Home Forward about timeline and funding for federal nutrition programs and affordable housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ February SNAP benefits were disbursed on Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>. March SNAP benefits are being release March 1<sup>st</sup> for all SNAP participants (instead of March 1-9<sup>th</sup>).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Oregon Legislative Session!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy education subgroup update</li> </ul>	<p>The Oregon legislative session began Tuesday, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are tracking housing, anti-hunger, early childhood, DV, immigration and anti-poverty bills.</p> <p>The Coalition's policy education subgroup is presenting to parent groups this winter/spring. Will develop a menu of policy issues for parents to choose from that we can speak to during workshop.</p>
<p><b>NEW! Coalition Name, Mission, Principles</b></p>	<p><i>New name: <b>Child &amp; Family Food Security Coalition</b></i></p> <p><i>New mission: <b>A collective voice to increase food security for families navigating poverty, focused on communities of color in Multnomah County.</b></i></p> <p>See attached document for guiding principles.</p> <p>The aim of the session was to make decisions about changes to name, mission and guiding principles. Frances sent a survey to the Coalition ahead of the meeting and 22 people responded. Between the survey and the folks in attendance on 1/23, we had a good representation of which options people favored.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ First, we discussed if attendees were comfortable with majority (or voting) vs. consensus. The group was okay with majority.</li> <li>✓ Small groups looked over survey results and discussed which name and mission they favored and why.</li> <li>✓ What is the audience for this name? Family members, organizations, or other community partners? We decided all groups listed.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Top choice for name was Family Food Security Coalition. Groups discussed and decided on adding “Child” to the title to honor the experience of youth who may not identify with a family unit.</li> <li>✓ Include details in mission statement option that isn’t our final choice (increase food security through <i>elevating voices, policy education, and coordination of efforts</i>) in deliverables or objectives on Coalition’s materials.</li> <li>✓ Guiding principles unanimously agreed upon.</li> </ul> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a new website on Mult Co’s Dept. of County Human Service website</li> <li>• Recruit more members</li> </ul>
<p><b>PHFO Hunger Free Schools Campaign</b></p>	<p>Alison Killeen and Fatima Jawaid from Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon shared information about the <a href="#">Hunger-Free Schools campaign</a>.</p> <p>The bills introduced are (from PHFO materials):</p> <p><b>HB 2760: Universal School Meals.</b>  School meals help every student learn, grow, and succeed. Yet one in three kids living in a food insecure household doesn’t qualify for school meals. Oregon can become the first state to offer meals to all kids at no charge.</p> <p><b>HB 2765: Offer Breakfast After the Bell in high-poverty schools.</b>  Students who eat breakfast at school are more likely to have better attendance, graduate, and earn more as adults. High-poverty schools should ensure that breakfast is available after the bell and gives schools the flexibility using the model that makes sense for them.</p> <p><i>Why are these bills important?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Reduces stigma of participating in breakfast and lunch at school</li> <li>✓ Both bills a result of listening circles- these ideas came up at listening sessions</li> <li>✓ Equity- all kids have access to meals, including undocumented families and application issues</li> <li>✓ Addresses families who are just above 185% Federal Poverty Level and don’t qualify for free/reduced lunch</li> </ul> <p>How to get involved with this work and Hunger-Free Schools Coalition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Sign on!</a></li> <li>- Endorse one or both policy concepts</li> <li>- Monthly phone calls to get updates and opps for testimony and hearings.</li> </ul> <p>How would families be involved in this coalition?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Day of action in April – can share detailed agenda when it’s available. Let them know what the language needs are.</li> <li>- Would like to have grassroots participation. PHFO could provide transportation and translation</li> <li>- The group discussed how to respectfully involving parents? What resources would be helpful from PHFO?</li> </ul>

**Next Coalition Meeting:**

Thursday, March 21, 2019 OSU Extension office, 3880 SE 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Questions or suggestions? [frances.hall@multco.us](mailto:frances.hall@multco.us) (503) 988-2470