



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor

Michael Traylor  
Director

Mission Statement

*The Council exists to help end hunger in Arizona by providing a forum for the development and advocacy of strategies to end hunger, with particular attention to empowering the disenfranchised in order to attain food security for everyone; and to promote cooperation and collaboration among all agencies and decision makers (both public and private) to eliminate the causes of hunger and reduce hunger where it exists.*

**DES HUNGER ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**February 15, 2019**

**MINUTES**

**In Attendance:**

Angie Rodgers, Harvey Grady, Jayson Matthews, Meghanne Bearden, Ray Ostos, Danielle McMahon, Sharma Torrens, Shelly Pfuhl, Kate Thoene, David Schwake, Jesse Davenport, Ashley St. Thomas, Betsy Long, Kelli Shepard, Heather Sanabria, Frank Migali,

Via Phone: Tamara Zivic, Tim Amlaw, Natalie Shepp, Jessie Gruner, Kelly Foster, Robin DeWeese, Sterling Hancock, Nancy Gottschalk, Brianna Rade, Alison Ozgur

Meeting Minutes

Heather Sanabria

**Call to Order/Introductions**

Meeting was called to order at 12:37 pm by Angie Rodgers, Chair of Hunger Advisory Council. Each attendee identified themselves both in person and on the phone, and those present signed the sign-in sheet.

Ashley St. Thomas made a motion to approve the October 26, 2018 meeting minutes.

Harvey Grady seconded the motion. **Motion approved.**

**Open Meeting Law:**

Kelli Shepard gave an update regarding Open Meeting Law. The DES Policy regarding Arizona Open Meeting Law was handed out and provided in the calendar invite for those on the phone.

**Purpose of Hunger Advisory Council:**

Chair Angie Rodgers reviewed the mission statement. Discussion ensued regarding the what members want to achieve with the council. The following ideas/concerns were addressed:

1. To seek a small grant for mileage reimbursement for those who travel to the meetings. Kelli shared that travel reimbursement for mileage is available.

2. Take the HAC on the road and visit other parts of the State. We don't always have to meet at DES.
3. Regarding SNAP battles/challenges, would like to see the number of individuals terminated from SNAP as it has a lot to do with the effectiveness of the program.
4. Hunger Relief Program (HRP) oversees SNAP-Outreach while the Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility (DBMD) owns the SNAP eligibility program. HRP will teach out to get a DBME representative to assist further with these requests.
5. To see how Food & Agriculture Policy Advisory Committee (FAPAC) and HAC can work together.
6. Would like time with the Director to communicate directly with him and to find out what is possible, including connecting with other groups, such as housing.
7. Regarding food insecurities in schools: would like to get a cheat sheet to hand out to teachers or possibly get something on AZ merit test about nutrition and locations to find food.
8. To find an aspiration for council. What goals can we contribute? What action can we do to move forward to add value and energize group?
9. Transportation issues.
10. Hoping to build connections throughout state. Also looking to increase capacity to work with youth/teens directly and build support within their communities. Possibly administer 4H youth led projects to address hunger and nutritional deficiency.
11. Make data driven decisions and any data driven info shared from DES would be helpful.

#### **HAC By-Laws:**

Angie Rodgers asked the Council to review the Bylaws and suggest any changes to be made by the next meeting.

We are looking for representative from Department of Education.

If you are representing a Director from another State Agency, you will need a letter naming you as the designee. Please send letter to Kelli Shepard.

Angie will not call for approval of By-laws today- as she wants everyone to have the opportunity to review. Can submit formal comments to Kelli via email.

#### **Arizonans Preventing Hunger Action Plan:**

Reviewed Arizonans Preventing Hunger Action Plan 2017- Nine Strategies to Increase Food Security.

HAC Action Plan Ideas:

1. Evaluate cost of production and access to food. How can we encourage use of locally grown food versus transported food?
2. Transportation in rural areas makes clients unable to get to grocery store on regular basis. Also need to get healthier food on shelves in stores.
3. Students are not aware what is available. Need more participation from education systems. It would be great to do backpack program at college level or give funds anonymously to another student like swipe out hunger program.

4. Making one website with all information, instead of having to look on different websites.
5. SNAC- state nutrition action committee. One goal is to update resource and use more broadly.
6. Engaging new logistics of food delivery. Get them engaged for food delivery to interrupt the food insecurity.
7. Looking at ideas from other states. Our goals could be based on what is successful other places, for example, getting approved for multiple things from one application.
8. How can we streamline bringing the backpack program to students who are on the food program?
9. Cultivate a strong food system. There are hundreds of agencies, with thousands of people. Wouldn't it be amazing to have committees, like the food banks work together through AAFB? Put together subgroups of functioning organizations to coordinate efforts. Come together to leverage resources. Take trucks that are parked from one group and have another group that is in need for more trucks utilize them.
10. Outside participation does not need to always be members of HAC. Sub-committee members working on the "Arizonans Preventing Hunger Action Plan 2017" do not need to be official members of HAC.
11. How can we formalize between meetings to make these action meetings? Make a sheet to let Kelli Shepard know what areas are of your interest.
12. Sharing Community Needs Assessments. The Center for Livable Future has great information. Data is an important consideration for this group.
13. Create a group email list. Send things you would like to share with the group to Kelli Shepard.

#### **Meeting Schedules:**

We are required to meet 6 times a year. Will meet every other month.

Fridays from 12:30PM-2:30PM works for most. Kelli to put together 3rd Friday calendar to approve at next meeting- go over any conflicts.

#### **Board Chair:**

Need to formally approve a chair and vice chair. Angie Rodgers will be happy to be chair for next meeting.

#### **Call to the Public**

No issues were brought forward from any attendees.

**Next Meeting:** April- 3rd Friday of the month

**Meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm**