



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

*Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona*

Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor

Michael Wisehart  
DES 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 Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2021

### Attendees

Jayson Matthews, Brooke Lipsitz, Gloria Garcia-Hernandez, Laura Walsh, Ray Ostos, Tasha Williams, Martha Franquemont, Ashley St. Thomas, Alicia Kenney, Arturo Hernandez, Mayra Gomez, Jessie Gruner, Danielle McMahon, Jess Gibbs, and Jocelyn Beard.

### Meeting Minutes

Mayra Gomez, Hunger Relief Coordinator, Division of Aging & Adult Services (DAAS).

Call to Order

Jayson Matthews, Valley of the Sun United Way

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 pm by Jayson Matthews, Chair of Hunger Advisory Council. Each attendee identified themselves over the phone.

HAC Agenda

Jayson Matthews, Valley of the Sun United Way

Chair reminds committee members in attendance that we must follow listed agenda items to comply with the Open Meeting Law (OML) requirements. HAC agenda documents, HAC Power Point were all provided to HAC members in meeting invite and/or Data Portal.

HAC Meeting Minutes

Jayson Matthews, Valley of the Sun United Way

Chair reminds committee members the Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2021 were attached to March 12, 2021 meeting invite.

Ray Ostos motion to approve January 8, 2021 meeting minutes.

Ashley St. Thomas second the motion.

All in favor: Jayson Matthews, Brooke Lipsitz, Ray Ostos, Tasha Williams, Martha Franquemont, Ashley St. Thomas, Alicia Kenney, Jessie Gruner, Danielle McMahon, Jess Gibbs, and Jocelyn Beard.

Opposed: NONE

Motion approved

## HAC Data Portal Information/Q&A

### Coordination Programs

Mayra Gomez, Department of Economic Security

A summary of Coordination Programs and quarterly data was provided in the Data Portal. There were no questions asked.

### SNAP Client Participation

Martha Franquemont, Department of Economic Security

A summary of the SNAP Client Participation information provided in the Data Portal is presented. There were no questions asked.

### Woman Infant and Children BNPA Partner Update

Tasha Williams, Department of Health Services

A summary of the BNPA information provided in the Data Portal is presented. There were no questions asked.

### Food Administration

Laura Walsh, Department of Economic Security

A summary of the TEFAP and CSFP information provided in the Data Portal is presented. There were no questions asked.

### Commodities

Art Hernandez, Department of Economic Security

A summary of the Commodities information provided in the Data Portal is presented. There were no questions asked.

### Pandemic EBT

Jess Gibbs, Department of Education

Provides a summary of the continuance of the P-EBT updates and Summer Food Program.

## HAC Briefing with DES Director

Jayson Matthews, Valley of the Sun United Way

The Chair informs HAC members that there will be an annual update to share with the DES Director. The update will begin with the HAC Strategy Plan. The second component will highlight the events in the last year and will be concluded with future steps. The Chair encourages the council to include areas from the council perspective to share and to maintain the report to about two pages for the Director's review.

## Federal Update

Ashley St. Thomas, Arizona Food Bank Network

The Co-Chair provides an update of various nutrition provisions that will have positive impact on many vulnerable communities with the recent approval of the American Rescue Plan.

## Call to the Public

Council member recognizes how significant the assistance of the National Guard has been for food banks and hopes that the efforts can continue to assist. Chair mentions the new five-year strategic plan from Valley of the Sun United Way and the intersection points between hunger, food insecurity, and housing. Co-Chair mentions the National Anti-Hunger Conference occurs the following week virtually and if anyone would like to attend the Arizona Food Bank Network is offering scholarships for those that may be interested.

## Next Meeting

Friday, May 14, 2021, at 12:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 1:47 pm