

**Attendance and Minutes of
The SNAP Task Force Meeting of November 15th, 2018**

ATTENDANCE SHEET

- 1) Long Ho – LiveOn NY
- 2) Brenda Williams – HRA-SNAP
- 3) Joyce Williams – FBNYC
- 4) Brady Koch – FBNYC
- 5) Milagros Rodriguez – HRA-SNAP
- 6) Sophie Kreitzberg - UJC
- 7) Jane Coyne – Benefits Data Trust
- 8) Nancy Miranda – FBNYC
- 9) Ellen Vollinger – FRAC (*via teleconference*)
- 10) Yessenia Mendez - Brooklyn Legal Service
- 11) Amy Nunez - Riseboro
- 12) Derek Singh – HRA-FIA
- 13) Marta Mychak – NYLAG
- 14) Jane Coyne – Benefits Data Trust
- 15) Dawn Secor – *Hunger Solutions NY*
- 16) Leah Starbuck – *Sanctuary for Families*
- 17) Jeff Lin - FBNYC
- 18) Benson Chan – *Hunger Free NYC*
- 19) Yoon Ji Kim – *Minkwan*
- 20) April Torre – HRA

The meeting began at 1:15 PM

Brady Koch (FBNYC) opened the meeting by welcoming the participants and asking that all in attendance introduce themselves. After giving an overview of the meeting's agenda, Brady introduced Ellen Vollinger from the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) who presented national updates.

Ellen Vollinger (FRAC) with national SNAP updates:

1. Public Charge - Public Comment period has begun regarding the DHS proposed rule to include public benefits i.e. WIC and SNAP. Public Charge rules have not changed.
 - a. Organizations need to check internally to confirm what role staff can take in making and promoting Public Charge comments.
 - b. Individual comments on Public Charge are needed more than larger sign on letters.
2. Farm Bill Reauthorization - The Federal Government is still in the process of Farm Bill Reauthorization. The bill is potentially coming to closure in December 2018 and needs to reconcile the Senate and House version of the legislature. The House is proposing cuts to SNAP that will affect the program drastically and the Senate is posing a bill that will improve SNAP over time.

Research Packet Review

Brady (FBNYC) reviewed the full contents of the monthly Research packet. For the full packet, please download from FoodBankNYC.org (<https://www.foodbanknyc.org/nyc-snap-task-force>)

Mediation Analysis Review For October 2018

Brady (FBNYC) highlights from October 2018 Mediation Analysis Report. The October report is based on 95 mediation requests submitted by Mediation Model participants submitted by 9 Organizations.

Questions/Concerns –

- Hunger Free NYC reported Americorps workers stipends is being processed as income. Additionally recertification's are being rejected even though the applications complete.
- Hunger Free NYC also reported that some first time applicants are not receiving Expedited and/or Ongoing benefits and its goes past 30/40 days.
- Derek (HRA) updated the task force on changes made to Brooklyn Center that closed (S-21) working with center S-28 to help.

- Jeff (FBNYC) asked how long does it takes case changes to go into effect once changes are provided. Derek from HRA stated changes takes place after
- a month after changes provided. Ex. If changes provided at the end of the month, changes will be the other following month.
- Dawn (Hunger Solutions NY) shared an update that the Hunger Solution website has the SNAP changes as of October 01, prescreening guide. Additionally Dawn informed the group of an upcoming Hunger Solution webinar on Public Charge, November 19 to register on hunger solution website.

SNAP Task Force Activity

Brady let the group in an exercise to discuss enhancements that participants wanted to see in the Task Force Meeting. Here is a summary of the recommendations from the group:

- Earlier sharing of the research packet and Mediation Analysis.
- Opportunity to share best practices from participants.
- Share a profile of each participating group's program model.
- Share success stories from SNAP clients.
- Continue to use the group to identify new and recurring SNAP barriers for applicants.
- Continue to get local and national SNAP policy updates.

The Meeting Adjourned at 2:15 PM