

SNAP TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES:
 June 17th, 2021 (Thursday) @ 1PM - 3PM EST

Attendee	FirstName	LastName	Email	Attended	Company					
1	Lisbeth	Pereyra	pereyral@dss.nyc.gov	Yes	DSS					
2	Derek	Singh	singho@hra.nyc.gov	Yes	HRA/DSS					
3	Ellen	Vollinger	evollinger@frac.org	Yes	FRAC					
4	Katarzyna	Dabrowski	kdabrowski@apicha.org	Yes	APICHA					
5	Paola	Martinez	pmartinez@hungerfreenyc.org	Yes	Hunger Free NYC					
6	Shaina	Gursky	shaina@jccrp.org	Yes	Jewish Community Council of the Rockaway Peninsula					
7	Sorah	Leser	mleser@twanyc.org	Yes	TWANYC					
8	Desire	Brazell	desire.brazell@cucs.org	Yes	CUCS					
9	Emma	lopez	elopez@riseboro.org	Yes	Riseboro Community Partnership					
10	Ailin	Liu	aliu@healthsolutions.org	Yes	Public Health Solutions					
11	Beverly	Parker	bparker@liveon-ny.org	Yes	LiveOn-NY					
12	nicauly	Andujar	nicaulya@bronxdefenders.org	Yes	Bronxdefenders					
13	Nicholas	Posada	nposada@fortunesociety.org	Yes	The Fortune Society					
14	Hillary	Hersh	hershh@dss.nyc.gov	Yes	HRA/DSS					
15	Janeth	Cambizaca	janeth.cambizaca@maketheroadny.org	Yes	Make the Road NY					
16	Dawn	Secor	dawn.secor@hungersolutionsny.org	Yes	Hunger Solutions New York					
17	Yamin	Htet	yamin.htet@ccbq.org	Yes	Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens					
18	Andrea	Cantos Avila	aavila@riseboro.org	Yes	Riseboro Community Partnership					
19	Ana	Assadourian	aassadourian@hungerfreenyc.org	Yes	Hunger Free NYC					
20	OLGA	PARRA	olga.parra@maketheroadny.org	Yes	Make the Road NY					
21	Fenny	Tineo	ftineo@riseboro.org	Yes	Riseboro Community Partnership					
22	Hope	Smith	hsmith@foodbanknyc.org	Yes	Food Bank For New York City					
23	Long	Ho	lho@liveon-ny.org	Yes	LiveOn NY					
24	Juan	Nunez	jnunez@potsbronx.org	Yes	POTS Bronx					
25	Jennifer	Gonzalez	jgonzalez@healthleadsusa.org	Yes	Healthleadsusa					
26	Sandra	Garcia	sgarcia@wscach.org	Yes	West Side Campaign Against Hunger					
27	Rebecca	Silver	rsilver04@gmail.com	Yes	Unkown					
28	Lourdes	Cifuentes	lcifuentes@foodbanknyc.org	Yes	Food Bank For New York City					
29	Kari	Stender	kari.stender@ccbq.org	Yes	CCBQ					
30	Luis	Guevara	lguevara@nycommonpantry.org	Yes	NY Common Pantry					
31	Damaris	Flores	dflores@wscach.org	Yes	West Side Campaign Against Hunger					
32	Ana	Cruz	ana.cruz@maketheroadny.org	Yes	Make the Road NY					
33	Nancy	Miranda	nmiranda@foodbanknyc.org	Yes	Food Bank For New York City					
34	Yuanjing "Jeff"	Lin	ylin@foodbanknyc.org	Yes	Food Bank For New York City					

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AGENDA:

1. National Updates- Presented by Ellen Vollinger, Food Research and Action Center (FRAC)
2. DSS – AHRA Update –Presented by Lisbeth Pereyra
3. Research Packet Overview
4. Mediation Analysis Report – May 2021

FRAC: Ellen Vollinger

1. Covid-19 three months 15% boost temporary SNAP Benefits will stop as of Sept 30, 2021
2. USDA is undertaking a review of the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) <https://frac.org/blog/why-is-the-month-of-june-important-for-snap>
 - a. A new two-part FRAC Chat <https://frac.org/blog> provides basic information about the TFP <https://frac.org/blog/thrifty-food-plan-101-part-1> and examines the flaws that keep the TFP from reflecting what families need. <https://frac.org/blog/thrifty-food-plan-101-part-2>
 - b. Blog regarding state-by-state SNAP participation rates with links to USDA national and state participation rate postings <https://frac.org/blog/the-snap-gap-a-state-by-state-glance>
3. Priority PUSH and SNAP reimbursement found in other states don't maximize like NYC (memo). Added link people to have information on Adam Bill reintroduce.
 1. Blog regarding new USDA memo on prioritizing SNAP outreach <https://frac.org/blog/prioritizingsnapoutreachjune2021>
4. Act College Student HR1919 and HR1753
 1. Link to sign on to endorse college student access to SNAP improvement bill https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScPK-8aHU_kpwANCIGFhAabujn6sAoFhqPJssyPg8VsNLYZpA/viewform
 2. EA Allotment Reopening
 - <https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/NY-SNAP-COVID-EA-Extension-June-2021-Acknowledged.pdf>
5. Characteristics of SNAP participants
 - <https://frac.org/blog/new-usda-report-provides-picture-of-who-participates-in-snap>

DSS: Lisbeth Pereyra

1. HRA changes July 10th
 - a. Added the submit cash assistance page request online tool (SNAP Closure)
 - b. Domestic Violence clients allowed to access the special grant page
 - c. AHRA client are able to view one year's worth of payments opposed to six months' previous limit
 - d. The resident address must be NYC, but the mailing address can now be outside NYC

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Nancy Miranda/ Yuanjing J. Lin “Jeff” Foodbank NYC (Research Packet Overview):

Mediation Analysis Report – Nancy Miranda

Q&A

- a. How can Client's link to orgs on the Provider Portal using the Access HRA mobile app?
 - Instructions on how a client can link to a partner organization can be found on slides 16-19 of the ACCESS HRA User Guide:
https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/hra/ACCESSHRA/pdf/announcements/welcome_english.pdf
 - This can only be done on the ACCESS HRA website, not on the app. Clients can access the website on their phone by opening up their preferred browser (Safari, Google Chrome, etc.) and going to <https://a069-access.nyc.gov/accesshra/>
- b. Having issues connecting to the automated system when attempting to call Infoline - the system said wait to speak with a representative (Queens New York).
- c. When are the local HRA centers opening?
 - HRA Centers: The Dyckman Job Center in Manhattan at 4055 Tenth Avenue will reopen on July 12, 2021. This information was shared in a communication emailed to our mailing list on June 10. We will continue to announce updates on HRA re-openings; please reach out to DSSoutreach@dss.nyc.gov if you are not receiving these updates and would like to be added to our mailing list.
- d. Is it possible to add EBT over the counter service to a SNAP center close to Upper Manhattan, the Bronx, and northern Queens?
- e. Households that participated in the COVID-19 rent relief program may apply for ERAP and are encouraged to apply, as per the ERAP Website
- f. The public charge. It is only applying for SNAP or as well as for public assistance.
A: SNAP is no longer considered public charge
- g. In order to eliminate busy signals, we have moved to a “thin layer” IVRS. All self-service options were removed and so callers will need to wait to speak with a representative. This has helped to ensure that many more callers will get through to Infoline. Self-service options will begin again once the new One Number IVRS system is launched. We will share an updated timeline with you as soon as possible.
- h. Is the update for the 15th Emergency Allotment been released?
 - Upgrade benefits got delayed due to software. Benefits go out June 15 -18, 21-25, 28-29. More dates will be added.
- i. Is the Health Crisis Declaration is going to end?
 - Will transition before ending. Delay glitch has nothing to do with Health Declaration ending