

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

ATTENDANCE SHEET

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| 1) Vivian Ortiz – POTS | 12) Kiana Davis – Bronx Defenders |
| 2) Brenda Williams – HRA SNAP Outreach Services | 13) Tom Furstenberg-Carroll – Met Council |
| 3) Milagros Rodriguez – HRA SNAP Outreach Services | 14) Colleen Donovan – Hunger Solution NY |
| 4) Emanuel Negrón – FBNYC | 15) Mathew Mobley – Empire Justice Center (via teleconference) |
| 5) Lauren Phillips - FBNYC | |
| 6) Susan Salari – DSS | |
| 7) Dawn Secor – Hunger Solutions NY | |
| 8) Long Ho – Live-On NY | |
| 9) Derek Singh - HRA | |
| 10) Marta Mychak – NYLAG | |
| 11) Ceclia Riera – Bronx Defenders | |

The meeting began at 1:16 PM

Emanuel Negrón opened the meeting by welcoming the participants and introducing all attendees. After giving an overview of the meeting's agenda Emanuel presented USDA updates. Full summaries of each of these items are available on pages 3-4 of the March 2018 Research Packet (RP).

1. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- Press Release: USDA Seeks Ideas to Help SNAP Participants Become Independent
- Characteristics of Abled-Bodied Adults Without Dependents
- Nutritional Quality of Food Acquired by Americans

2. New York State Office of Temporary Assistance (OTDA)

Emanuel summarized policy items released by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA). Full summaries of each of these items are available on pages 5-6 of the February 2018 Research Packet (RP).

- Press Release: Governor Cuomo Calls on Congress to Protect New York Families and Reject Federal Government's Devastating Cuts to SNAP

- 19-INF-06 SNAP National Directory of New Hires (NDHN) Matches Added to Verified Employment Data (VED) Resource Within Resource File Integration (RFI)

3. Mediation

Mediation Analysis Report for February 2018

Emanuel Negron (FBNYC) highlights from March 2018 Mediation Analysis Report. The report is based on 110 mediation requests submitted by Mediation Model participants in the month of February 2018. Emanuel thanked the 11 organizations represented in the report for submitting their issue logs, and opened the floor to discussion for Task Force participants. In addition, Emanuel informed participants that Call-On-Demand expanded on March 1st to include Manhattan and Staten Island to initiate interviews.

Document Issues:

Kiana Davis (Bronx Defenders) reported having issues when submitting a POS change form. The workers are seeing the change form and not the documents. Kiana asked if CBO should be submitting changes in another way. No one is seeing documents but see the change form when submitting via POS. The issue has been happening and is trend.

Kiana Davis (Bronx Defenders) asked if it is not the client's responsibility, and they did not report the change in immigration status, will retroactive benefits be issued for legal permanent residents who recertify.

Long Ho (LiveOn NY) reported a client submitted recertification where a case was wrongfully closed due to failure to submit verification already submitted. In addition, Long reported the issue of clients mailing change report to local SNAP center and report's aren't being logged in for several months taking longer than anticipated six weeks period. Documents received but no change has been made on case.

Customer Service Related Issues:

Tom Furstenberg-Carroll (Met Council) asked if a client is applying for benefits but due to safety issues wants to use an address outside of NYC as a mailing address. Derek (HRA) responded that is no problem just as long the client can verify residency. In addition, home visit/reasonable accommodation will be made.

IV. Human Resource Administration (HRA)

Emanuel Negron (FBNYC) summarized the following policy bulletins released by HRA in February 2018 RP on pages 7-8.

- Policy Bulletin #18-03-ELI: Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other Tax Credits
- Policy Bulletin #18-09-OPE: Closing of the Hurricane Relief Center, Service Transferred to Designated Home Base Locations

V. Reports and Notable Items from Other Sources

Emanuel Negrón (FBNYC) summarized the following reports included in the February 2018 RP on pages 9-10.

- Reports From Food Research and Action Center: SNAP Benefits Need to Made Adequate, Not Cut or Restricted
- Making SNAP Work Requirements Harsher Will Not Improve Outcomes for Low-income People.

The Meeting Adjourned at 2:40 PM