

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday June 7, 2012

2:00 – 3:30 pm

Cristal Thomas' Office – State of Illinois Building

100 W. Randolph Suite 16 – 100

In Attendance: Cristal Thomas, Kate Maehr, Tracy Smith, Mark Ishaug, Dawn Melchiorre (staff)

- I. Minutes from last meeting – Minutes from the last meeting were approved
- II. Update on Work Groups
 - a) No Kid Hungry – Dawn Melchiorre provided an update of the progress of the NKH Campaign

- School Breakfast – two breakfast summits were completed in April in Tinley Park and Springfield that was attended by over 100 school officials. The hope is those who attended the summit will implement the ideas discussed to increase participation in their programs.

At the Summits, the Illinois School Breakfast Challenge was announced. The goal of the Challenge is to reward those schools that have the highest increase in participation from January – May of 2012 compared to August – December 2012. School will be tiered according to their free and reduced price lunch eligibility with 3 prizes per tier of \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$1,000. NKH in partnership with ISBE and Midwest Dairy Council hope to announce the winner in March of 2013 in time for National School Breakfast Week.

- Summer Feeding – the focus is on summer feeding as we are at the beginning of programs. The goal of the campaign is to increase participation by 5% this summer. A variety of strategies have been used including small mini-grants to organizations that sponsor SFSP, outreach materials including postcards, flyers, and door hangers for all SFSP sponsors to use, the Illinois Hunger Coalition hotline, a new texting platform thanks to Share Our Strength and a website for parents to search of a summer feeding site via Google Maps.

Kate Maehr discussed the grant the Greater Chicago Food Depository received from the Chicago Community Trust to support the work of NKH. The grant includes funding for the summer feeding website, an outreach project with COFI who will employ parent ambassadors to

canvass door to door, and more resources to expand the pool of SFSP grants. Cristal Thomas asked for the links to the summer food website and texting to add to the Governor's website. The Illinois Department of Human Services and the Illinois State Board of Education are also adding links from their sites.

- b) Vulnerable Adults – Dawn Melchiorre provided the update. The work group is schedule to meet on June 11th to finish their work on developing an action plan to implement the recommendations in the Commission report. Steering Committee members discussed how to leverage current resources to enable the work groups that do not have funding (like NKH) and finding partners that are will to take a lead.
 - c) Underserved Populations – Tracy Smith provided the update. The work group will meet on June 12th and will also be finalizing their action plan. Because many of the recommendations within the scope of Underserved are related to the food bank sector, Tracy as the executive director of Feeding Illinois will lead much of the work. She is focused on researching the working of an agricultural surplus program similar to Ohio's program. Tracy is reaching out to potential partners such as the farm bureau to assess interest in this type of project.
- III. Replacement of Commissioners – Kate Maehr informed the steering committee that Kathy Ryg has resigned as the President of Voices for Illinois Children as well as chair of the NKH committee and the Commission to End Hunger. The statue that created the Commission has a specific role for someone from a statewide organization that focuses on children. It was suggested to approach Janine Lewis the executive director of Illinois Maternal and Child Health to get someone with expertise in public health to serve. The other members agreed with the suggestion and Kate Maehr will reach out and meet with Janine.

With Grace Hoe's departure from Illinois Department of Human Services, Secretary Michelle Saddler has expressed interest in taking her role. Everyone agreed that the addition of Michelle would be great. There is also an at-large opening on the Commission. Members suggested investigating either AARP or Catholic Charities to fill that role as both have major roles of working with the populations represented by the Underserved and Vulnerable Populations work groups. Kate Maehr and Dawn Melchiorre will follow-up on the recommendations.

Cristal Thomas inquired if Joe Antolin still represents the Illinois Latino Family Commission as he has step-down from Heartland Alliance. Kate Maehr will reach out to the Commission.

- a) Addition to Steering Committee –Grace Hoe also served on the Steering Committee, she needs to be replaced. Mark Ishaug recommended that we continue to have someone from the Illinois Department of Human Services as they are a key partner in the work. Kate Maehr will reach out to Secretary Saddler to ask her to serve on the steering committee.

IV. Commission Meeting Agenda setting – members discussed the agenda for the next Commission to End Hunger meeting scheduled for June 26th. The agenda will be as follows:

I. Welcome and Administrative Items – Cristal Thomas, Co-Chair

- Attendance
- Approve Minutes from Last Meeting
- Vacancies on the Commission including No Kid Hungry Committee

II. Working Group Updates - Cristal Thomas, Co-Chair

- Underserved Populations, Marla Goodwin, Chair
- Vulnerable Adults, Dan Lesser, Chair
- No Kid Hungry (formerly Children and Family at Risk), Dawn Melchiorre in lieu of chair
 - a. School Breakfast
 - b. Summer Food Service Program

III. Illinois State Budget Update –

- How will the state budget impact our work

IV. Federal Legislative Update – Farm Bill,

VI. New Business – Partner Updates, Kate Maehr, Co-Chair

V. Next Meeting Date - November

Dawn Melchiorre will reach out to Dan Lesser and Doug Schenkelberg to ask them to give presentations and will work on getting a date for the next Commission meeting in November.