

Wisconsin Pantry Conference Call Notes
Hosted by Feeding Wisconsin and TEFAP
July 24, 2020; 10:00AM

- Wisconsin reaches new highs of pandemic transmission; reported cases up 43% in last two weeks
 - In the last seven days, a daily average 913 new cases were reported
 - Yesterday reached a new high of 974 cases
 - Hot spots include Milwaukee, Marinette and Kenosha Counties
 - 887 people have now died; this is a 9% increase from the day we last met, when we had 809 deaths.
- Food supplies from TEFAP are in record abundance; forecasts show abundance will continue through February 2021 in TEFAP. If food ordered arrives as expected, August will be the lowest volume month we will see until March 2021. There is a recurring supply from Farm to Families Food Boxes in addition to record TEFAP volumes. Be generous with TEFAP distributions and keep this food moving to the public.
- Distributions of \$600 weekly unemployment supplements for Americans out of work will end next week unless Congress acts. Policy difference is along political party lines.
- The federal moratorium that has shield about one-third of renters from eviction since late March expires today. The renters protected under this moratorium live in buildings or homes with a mortgage that has some form of government backing. Unless Congress acts, landlords in these properties are able to give renters 30 days' notice before filing an eviction complaint in court; so if nothing happens, the first eviction paperwork can be filed in late August unless the property is covered by a local eviction ban than extends it.
- De'Kendra Stamps of Feeding Wisconsin provided an update on FoodShare. Many of the federal adjustments that were made during the onset of the pandemic are fading. Increases to monthly allotments up to the maximum benefited ended in May with the last payments being wrapped up in June. Families with children eligible for free and reduced lunch may be eligible for the temporary P-EBT (Pandemic EBT) benefit. P-EBT provides an electronic benefits transfer card for families to purchase food in place of the meals missed at school. Many families were automatically sent the P-EBT card, but some families did not. Families that may be eligible, but have not received the benefit have until July 31st to apply by using this link: https://access.wi.gov/s/pebt?language=en_US
- Webinar Wednesday, August 5th from 10:30-11:30AM, Feeding Wisconsin and Covering Wisconsin are partnering to provide hunger and health benefit program information webinar to partners across the state. Objectives: 1.) Provide an overview of benefit programs 2.) Inform participants about FoodShare and Health insurance application assistance 3.) Equip participants with tools to provide effective program outreach to their clients. **Register here:** <https://secure.everyaction.com/B-AxhsgjL0uqjKX6CN304g2>.
- TEFAP costs for shipping and storage have officially increased from six cents per pound to 8.65 cents per pound for shelf-stable and frozen foods going to 71 counties. For all foods arriving in Milwaukee County, the charge is rising from 1.2 cents to 1.5 cents per pound. Still a bargain compared to other states.
- The grant application deadline from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCAP) closed yesterday at noon. DATCAP will be notifying selected applicants on August 3rd.
- Feeding Wisconsin has decided to postpone our statewide Hunger and Health Summit for 2020. We will begin planning for October 2021 in hopes that we are in a safer time to bring partners together to share best practices and network then. Updates will be sent via our newsletter and posted to our website at www.feedingwi.org.

- A pantry operator asked whether pantries can distribute food to people who live in an adjacent county. The answer was a qualified “yes.”
- Next statewide pantry call will be August 14, 2020. Reminder that the calls are the second and fourth weeks of the month; August has five.