



Wisconsin Food Pantry Conference Call
Hosted by Feeding Wisconsin and TEFAP
Thursday, January 12th, 2022

More information: https://feedingwi.org/programs/pantry_network_engagement.php

Notes and recordings can be found here: https://feedingwi.org/programs/pantry_call_notes.php

1. Introductions: please type your name, food pantry/organization in the chat

2. TEFAP Updates (Carol Johnson, WI DHS)

- a. FoodShare Emergency Allotment update will be shared by the FoodShare policy team on this call. Note from TEFAP: Food pantries are likely to see an increase in demand because of this change in benefits. If pantries run into food shortages, pantries can adjust household allotment of TEFAP food.
- b. Reach and Resilience Grant Part 2
 - i. Round 2 grants have the same key objective as Round 1 grants; thus they are intended to *expand TEFAP's reach into remote, rural, Tribal, and/or low-income areas that are underserved by the program*. Round 2 grant funding will provide TEFAP State agencies with another opportunity to work with currently participating organizations and/or new partner organizations, to reach underserved populations.
 - ii. [USDA webinar recording for partners to learn more](#)

3. WISCAP Updates (Jonathan Bader)

- a. "CCC" Foods - The USDA recently announced that the Commodity Credit Corporation (aka 'CCC') will fund the purchase of additional foods for the nation's emergency food system to supplement regular TEFAP resources now that the 2022 'Build Back Better' program has ended. Wisconsin expects to receive \$10.6 million in CCC foods throughout 2023 and 2024. WISCAP, in consultation with DHS and TEFAP network partners, has already placed orders for 94 truckloads worth \$3.6 million dollars for statewide delivery to counties through August 2023. Products include rice, canned pork, frozen pork products (pulled pork, patties, and loins), canned salmon, whole bagged chicken, block & shredded cheddar, canned vegetables (green beans, collards and mixed veggies), as well as perishable products like shell eggs, fresh milk, mixed fresh produce, fresh apples and pears.
- b. New Staff – We have just hired Jorey Dvorak (jdvorak@wiscap.org) to join Jonathan at WISCAP in providing support to TEFAP operations. Hillary Johnson relocated to Romania in November to assist Ukrainian refugees and has been working remotely for WISCA

part-time until we could hire new staff. Jorey is a DePaul University graduate who recently worked as a technical support engineer at a software company and has experience in non-profit logistics. She also has experience with Salesforce, the relational database WISCAP has begun using to better manage TEFAP shipments, funding, and reporting. We're excited to have her as part of WISCAP's team. Welcome Jorey!

4. Future Call Topics - Based on Pantry Coordinator Survey

January 2023	DHS Emergency Allotment
February 2023	TBD
March 2023	Mobile and outdoor pantry best practices
April 2023	Food safety
May 2023	Culturally appropriate food options

5. Department of Health Services - Emergency Allotment Ending after February 2023

a. Information on the end of Emergency Allotments

i. Extra FoodShare benefits ending February 2023

FoodShare members have been getting an extra \$80 million dollars in additional benefits each month because of a federal program during the COVID-19 pandemic. Those extra benefits have been provided separately from members' regular monthly benefits. The federal government is ending that program. Starting March 1, 2023, members will only get their regular FoodShare benefits.

For example: In February 2023, a one-person household will get \$281 in regular FoodShare benefits plus \$95 in extra COVID-19 FoodShare benefits for a total of \$376 in FoodShare benefits. Starting in March 2023, the household will no longer get the extra \$95 of benefits. Instead, that household will only get \$281 in regular FoodShare benefits.

ii. FoodShare members are encouraged to report any changes in income and expenses so that they receive the benefit that they are eligible for. This includes reporting and providing proof documents for medical expenses for those household members who are Elderly (60+), blind, or have a determined disability.

iii. Members have the ability to rollover FS benefits 12 months from the last transaction. As long as members are using their card, that 12 month clock resets.

b. Resources shared by DHS

i. FLIER <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03357.pdf>. Spanish and Hmong will be available to come. If organizations are having a hard time adding their logo at the bottom (or doing it in a way that looks good) they can email

- DHSDMSCommunications.wi.gov and our comms team will help.
- ii. FOOD RESOURCES PAGE:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare/resources.htm>. If there's other resources that may be useful to add, send them our way!
 - iii. DHS WEBPAGE <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare/news.htm>. This is the page that was previously known as the COVID-19 page. We're transitioning it to a "news" page so there is a public place for members to go and get updates. The only link will route to this new one.
 - iv. PARTNER TOOL KIT "[Unwinding" Partner Toolkit for BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid Programs | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#). The EA ending flyer isn't posted yet, but we're working on it. There's a lot of good materials there like the Med Expense guide, flyer, poster and materials about Access and DHS emailing/texting.
 - v. Medical Expense Deductions Flier:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03315.pdf>
 - vi. Medical Expense Deductions and How They Impact FoodShare Benefits:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/p-03315b.htm>
 - vii. DHS Stakeholder Call Information:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dms/policycalls.htm>
 - viii. 1/13/2023 Partner Email: [Extra FoodShare COVID-19 Pandemic Benefits Ending February 2023](#). This communication is direct communication to our partner listserv.
- c. Contact Information
 - i. Stevey Poppe, FoodShare Policy Section Manager, WI DHS
Stevy.Poppe@dhs.wisconsin.gov
 - ii. dhsforwardhealthpartners@wisconsin.gov
 - d. Q&A
 - i. Will the outreach flier be shared?
 - DHS Flier: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03357.pdf>
 - Feeding Wisconsin will have a flier and social media post available after DHS review
 - ii. Will TEFAP allotments change because of this. No, Emergency Allotments ending will not change the federal funding and TEFAP allotments. Jennifer Putzer added that Jonathan Bader has done a great job and ensuring that Wisconsin accepts all bonus product that it is able to.

6. Ongoing Monthly Calls in 2023

- a. Will occur the Second Thursday of the month at 11am
- b. You can find more information, including call recordings and meeting notes on the Feeding Wisconsin website:
https://feedingwi.org/programs/pantry_network_engagement.php
- c. Notes can be found here: https://feedingwi.org/programs/pantry_call_notes.php

- d. You can register for the calls to get a calendar invite here:
https://secure.everyaction.com/gQfwP1eFGkO-Ri_RQ808IQ2
- e. NEXT CALL - February 9th at 11am

Thank you all for joining the call and for all that you do to support ending hunger in your community.