Wisconsin Food Pantry Conference Call Notes, Friday, December 10th, 2021

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Funding: Build Back Better Supplemental TEFAP Funds
 - a) Allocation of Supplemental Food and Administrative Funds from Division B of the CARES Act
 - i) Administrative
 - (1) Planning for fresh and perishable distribution plans underway.
 - ii) Additional funding support for EFOs pending—should be receiving in the early part of 2022
 - b) Additional Build Back Better funds discussion (American Rescue Plan Funds)
 - (1) Reach and Resiliency grants-RFA (Request for Application)
 - (a) Intended to expand TEFAP's reach into remote, rural, Tribal and low-income areas that are underserved by the program
 - (b) \$50M of grant funding being provided to TEFAP State Agencies –competitive process
 - (c) More information will be released soon-Webinar on Tuesday
 - (2) Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA)
 - (a) Intended to expand local and regional markets; emphasis on historically underserved farmers and ranchers—2 harvest seasons
 - (b) \$400M of funding for the emergency food assistance purchases of domestic local foods
 - (c) More information to come
- 3) TEFAP COVID Recommendations
 - a) Previous recommendations still in place
 - i) Review memo if necessary
- 4) Food Benefits and <u>FoodShare updates</u> (Stephanie)
 - a) FoodShare Benefit Updates
 - Individuals enrolled in FoodShare, are getting additional Emergency Allotments of FoodShare benefits in December to help during the COVID-19 pandemic. Starting in April 2021, all FoodShare members are getting at least \$95 in additional benefits each month. Some households will get more to bring their benefit amount to the maximum monthly benefit amount for their household size.
 - ii) The benefits will be put on member QUEST cards on December 19. They will be sent a letter the week of December 20 telling them that they got the additional FoodShare benefits and how much was put on their QUEST cards.
 - iii) DHS is also doing a catch-up run of benefits ensuring that everyone that should have received additional benefits got them. As a result, some members may get their October benefits on December 10. This was originally scheduled for December 11.
 - b) Pandemic EBT (P-EBT)

i) Wisconsin DHS likely submitted their P-EBT plan to FNS for the 2021-2022 school year. This will eventually result in P-EBT benefits being issued starting in March 2022. More to come as this plan is finalized and approved.

5) Governor Evers, DATCP Announce \$30 Million Investment in Food Pantry Network

The \$30 million will be used to ensure food-insecure residents in rural communities, urban centers, Tribal Nations, and Wisconsinites in every corner of our state receive much-needed hunger relief. To help achieve this goal, Gov. Evers is building on the strong partnership established last year with Hunger Task Force and Feeding Wisconsin to deliver these resources across the state. Through this program, each feeding organization will be eligible for \$15 million to purchase food resources and may use up to \$5 million to invest in storage, distribution, and cover transportation costs.

- 6) Hunger and Health Summit April 24-26th at the Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells
 - a) <u>Call for Proposals</u> is live, proposal deadline is January 18, 2022
 - b) Sponsorship Solicitation is also live
- 7) Monthly Calls in 2022
 - a) Moving to the Second Thursday of the month at 11am
 - b) You can find more information on the Feeding Wisconsin website: <u>https://feedingwi.org/programs/pantry_network_engagement.php</u>
 - c) You can register for the calls to get a calendar invite here: https://secure.everyaction.com/gQfwP1eFGkO-Ri_RQ808IQ2

Next Call: Thursday, January 13th 11am CST

Join via Google Meeting: Google Meeting Link: <u>meet.google.com/prt-ceov-iaa</u> Dial In: (US)+1 415-604-0562 PIN: 544 585 865#