

## Food & Farm Council of Riley County & City of Manhattan

September 20th, 2021, 11:30 am-1:00 pm, Extension Office Conference room,  
110 Courthouse Plaza

**In Attendance:** Carol Barta, Megan Dougherty, Sharolyn Jackson, Jacquie Mack, David Procter, Stephanie Smith, Kirsten Spear, Vickie James (FFC Coordinator), Kate Larosh, Michael Wilson, Adrian Self, Andrea DeJesus

**Unable to Attend:** Joshua Brewer, John Green, Maureen Olewnik, Elias Martinson, Shanika Rose

**Guests:** Carol Shanklin, Carleigh Melofchik

1. As a reminder, our agenda is always in the google drive document. The one that's sent out a week in advance is sometimes updated before we have our meeting. Our google drive can be found at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vc1y8-MSYqSle5lf3b9-23j4lhPhsPp>
2. Cat Updates
  - a. Waste Cat
    - i. Restaurant Champion Program
      1. We have begun to reach out to our local restaurant contacts.
      2. Brother's Coffee was our first organization to get involved. This led to the owner talking with Vickie about their plan to include healthy menu items in the café, He is currently working with a dietetic student who has contacted FFC to get involved.
      3. Kirsten notes that restaurants are dealing with new pandemic issues – labor shortages and supply chain challenges. This may be why we're not hearing back from people right away.
    - ii. Fact sheets – Composting/recycling, food recovery (Good Samaritan Food Donation Act)
  - b. Food Insecurity CAT
    - i. Food recovery involvement
      1. Konza Student Table Konza Student Table: Konza Student Table ([signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com))
      2. Last month marked the first anniversary of the program, with 20,000 meals served. Significant donations came in after media coverage of the anniversary.
      3. We need volunteers – see linked signup sheet. 20 people are needed for each Wednesday meal.
      4. We've added 2 drive-up and 2 walk-ups to meet demand. The start time has been a challenge. If we wait to start on time, Denison Avenue can get blocked. If we start early, we may run out of meals for people coming at 6 pm.
    - ii. Northview Rising – Fact Sheets #2 Rural/neighborhood grocery stores
      1. Still In the pending mode waiting to see if funding will go through for the equipment for the kitchen in the community center.

2. The fact sheet that David put together with his colleague, Erica, was superb. The fact sheet can be used in other projects down the line—especially the grocery store information.
  3. This whole project was a really good exercise keeping with our main goals a council – advising, communicating, connecting.
- iii. Healthy Food RX. Program
    1. Andrea has seen some of the “prescriptions” come in at the market.
    2. This program will be featured in the Kansas Living magazine
    3. This is an example of how our work is expanding beyond our circle of concern. Megan has had organizations approach her about the kitchen restore and blessing box projects in other Kansas communities and other states.
  - c. Food Security Scholars
    - i. Adrian and Kate sat in on the current round of interviews for the Food Security Scholars program. 25 students were interviewed, and 15 will be selected.
    - ii. The cohorts from last year have helped with several FFC projects, including Everybody Counts and survey disbursement.
  - d. Alternative Breaks Program
    - i. This is a program that sends college students out into other communities to accomplish focused projects. The group had an “aha!” moment where they realized they could have the students work on projects in our community rather than going elsewhere. We would need one member of the FFC to work on upcoming projects with these students.
3. Education CAT
    - a. Kitchen Restore
      - i. We’re still kicking! Not many updates, but the demand picking back up again. We had a few slow months but now in need of kitchen ware and monetary donations and volunteers.
      - ii. We are seeking both monetary and kitchen item donations.
      - iii. Please send people with kitchen item donations to the shed behind the Salvation Army. It’s an all-hours drop-off point for gently used kitchen wares.
      - iv. Chase Stephens with the Salvation Army is the on-call contact in case you have a direct request for a kit. If we have refugees that come to our community, this is how we could get them kits.
    - b. Blogs, Food Skills programming
      - i. The need for food skills education has come up in our survey results. If anyone can help write blog posts for the website, we need updated information to post.
4. Grants
    - a. We are just about out of our pre-Covid funding.
    - b. A letter of intent for the Peine grant is due on 9/24. We’ve had 3 successful grant awards from them in the past.
    - c. Jacquie motions that we write a letter of intent. Andrea seconds.
    - d. All in favor. Vickie will write a letter of intent and send it to the admin council for review.

## 5. Master Food Plan

- a. Food System Survey – “Take 10!”
- b. Survey Video promotion – We need everyone to push this out to their circles if you haven’t already.
- c. Outreach is still needed (outlying communities, Hispanic, Asian, African American populations)
- d. The survey officially closes on Oct 8th.
- e. If you have completed surveys, please make sure to get them back asap – Carleigh Melofchik is inputting them by hand.
- f. We’re at 1680 total surveys at least. We’re doing great here!
- g. Mary Mertz – On Saturday, Mary went to the farmer’s market and talked with all the vendors about the survey and the upcoming summit. Everyone either took the survey there, took an orange card, and planned to do it later, or took a hard copy to complete and get back to Andrea at the next market. She also ran into representative Sydney Carlin who was interested in the program and wants to attend our summit.
- h. ATA Bus Ride - Local Food Survey Plan.
- i. We have more slots open to ride the bus and get surveys completed through the beginning of October. Please see the [Sign-Up](#) Sheet for details.
- j. Asian market table – Carol had good results facilitating surveys at a table in front of the Asian market. If anyone would like to do this again, Carol has a table they can use.
  - i. We can do the same thing at the farmers market – Mary and Andrea to connect on this.
- k. Make sure to take photos of any survey facilitating you’ve done and send them on to Vickie so we can have those in our report.
- l. Discussion on leaving the survey active.
  - i. The additional data wouldn’t be in the published results, but if we end up missing groups, this can be a way to reach them even if we miss the 10/8 date. We need to find out if our consultant company can hand over the control of the survey. To our knowledge, it doesn’t cost us any money to keep it up on survey monkey.
  - ii. Megan has Medicare enrollment upcoming. This would be a good example of a population she can reach for surveys, but they would miss the cutoff date.
  - iii. Motion made by Andrea, seconded by Mary. (Assuming that we can do this after we talk to the consulting company.)
  - iv. No discussion, all in favor

## 6. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force – Adrian, Jacquie

- a. Adrian and Jacquie attended this task force meeting representing FFC.
- b. Adrian had the opportunity to give the FFC elevator speech on who we are, what we do, and why we should be a part of this group. They will get back to us on topics that we can help with. The next meeting is this Thursday, 9/23, at 5:30.
- c. There is an event coming up on indigenous people’s day at KState that we might be asked to help with.
  - i. Oct 11, 9 am-4:30 pm. Details for the event can be found here: <https://www.k-state.edu/indigenous-alliance/indigenous-peoples-day/index.html>

7. Master Food Plan SUMMIT – October 18th, 11 am-2 pm
  - a. Invitations have gone out to our food system Network of Partners.
  - b. The doors will open at 11 am for registration, and the meeting will begin at 11:30. FFC members may be asked to arrive early to prepare.
  - c. Lunch (taco bar!) will be provided by Rockin' K's.
  - d. FFC members will facilitate small group meetings and take notes.
    - i. An email will go out to FFC members beforehand with information you will need to help facilitate this meeting. Please make sure to read it thoroughly.
  - e. We are asking our groups to only send one person, with a second on a backup list. Our max for the room is 90, but they prefer not more than 80. We would be over our max if the organizations all sent more than one person.
  - f. We will be asking for input from our stakeholders on topics related to the master food plan.
8. The summit is an invitation-only event for our stakeholders.
9. Until We Meet Again
  - a. Next FFC meeting, Monday, November 15th, 11:30am
  - b. Master Food Plan Leadership Team, Tuesday, Sept 21st, Oct 19th, 1-2 pm
  - c. FFC Adm. Council Monday, Monday, Oct 4th, 10:30 am
  - d. Master Food Plan Summit – Monday, October 18th, 11 am-2 pm instead of the FFC meeting
  - e. CATs will not meet in October.



In accordance with provisions of the American Disabilities Act, every attempt will be made to accommodate the needs of person with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of our services, programs, and activities. Please contact the Health Department Administration Office (785-776-4779) for assistance.