Hunger Relief Monthly Update
May 2022

Every month United Way of Palm Beach County (UWPBC)'s Hunger Relief Initiative provides you with the latest news about Hunger Relief in Palm Beach County. Information is current as of May 13, 2022. Check out what's new and learn about ongoing work below.

NEW FOR MAY

EVENTS

- **Hunger Relief Initiative & MacKenzie Scott:** Are you interested in learning more about the MacKenzie Scott gift that United Way of Palm Beach County received and how it impacts Hunger Relief? Join us for a lunchtime presentation about the gift and our plans to move forward on Wednesday, June 22nd at noon. You can **register for the presentation by clicking here**.
- **The Florida Project Recommendations for Healthy Eating:** Diverse stakeholders in Florida initiated the Florida Project to explore innovative strategies for strengthening the nutrition and health outcomes of SNAP participants based on the suggestions of people with lived experience. You can **sign up to join the Zoom meeting on May 18th** to hear about the project results or read the full report by **clicking here**.
- **Wellness Promotion Task Force (WPTF):** The School District of Palm Beach County's WPTF is holding their last meeting of the year on Tuesday,

June 7th. The theme to round out the school year is 'Your Time to Shine... A Year in Review'. WPTF is excited to be able to offer hybrid options for this meeting! To register for in-person attendance (limited availability) **please click here**. To register to attend virtually **please click here**.

- **FDACS Unity Garden Initiative:** Thinking about starting a garden this summer vacation? **Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services** (FDACS) and **University of Florida Institute of Food and Agriculture Services** (UF/IFAS) are teaming up to provide free starter seed packs as part of the **Unity Garden Initiative**. Floridians can pick up free seed packs and a IFAS Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide from participating UF/IFAS extension offices while supplies last.
- **2022 Disaster Cycle Training Series:** Hurricane season is getting closer, are you ready? The 2022 Disaster Cycle Training series is geared towards nonprofits and increasing preparedness in our organizations and communities. To learn more about the series, including how to register, **check out the training series flyer**.

TOOLS & SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

- **FPI SNAP Eligibility Calculator:** Florida Policy Institute (FPI) has a great new screening tool called the SNAP Calculator. The SNAP Calculator asks a few questions to help you understand if you might be eligible for SNAP. The calculator is available in both English and Spanish. To try out the calculator, please **click here**.
- **Leadership Palm Beach County Engage Forward:** Are you a nonprofit organization with a project that can use some help? Leadership Palm Beach County is looking for nonprofits with projects that can use some extra help through more people, creativity, connections, and effort dedicated to the project. Two proposer workshops will be held on June 8th and June 17th. For more information, please **view the flyer** or Leadership Palm Beach County's **website**.
- **UWPBC Food Storage Capacity Grant:** Keep your eyes out for round two of our Food Storage Capacity Grant! We are planning to open up this funding opportunity by the end of May. We will also have an information session before the grant opens to review the grant application and provide an opportunity for questions to be asked. More details coming soon!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **American Heart Association (AHA) Advocate Leaders:** Are you interested in making a difference in our community through advocacy? AHA is looking for *You're the Cure* Advocate Leaders to lead community engagement and discussions around policies that encourage healthy

eating. *You're the Cure* is a network of individuals advocating at the local, state, and federal levels for policies that will build longer, healthier lives. To learn more, take a look at the **volunteer description** or **email Sheree Wolliston**.

UPCOMING HUNGER RELIEF MEETINGS

We couldn't do our work without you! Below is a list of our upcoming work group and subcommittee meetings. Interested in attending a meeting? **Please send us an email to learn more.**

Thursday, May 19th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. via Zoom
Pantry Project Meeting
An opportunity for food providers to convene and discuss successes and challenges providing food to the community.

Monday, May 23rd from 9:00-11:00 a.m. via Zoom
Hunger Relief Advisory Council (HRAC) Meeting
Regular quarterly meeting of the HRAC to discuss Initiative activities and accomplishments and provide an update on Hunger Relief Plan progress.

Wednesday, June 1st from 3:00-4:00 p.m. via Zoom
0-4 Subcommittee Meeting
This subcommittee focuses on the food and hunger needs from pregnancy through age four. The subcommittee is currently working on outreach to encourage participation in WIC and the Child Care Food Program (CCFP).

Thursday, June 2nd from 10:00-11:00 a.m. via Zoom
SNAP Outreach & Hunger Relief Advocacy Work Group Meeting
The work group will continue to provide advocacy updates and begin working on an advocacy plan and priorities for the next fiscal year.

Friday, June 3rd from 2:00-3:00 p.m. in-person or via Zoom
Glades Work Group Meeting
The work group will have a presentation on grant writing and discuss topics for future presentations to help build capacity.

Tuesday, June 14th from 1:00-2:00 p.m. via Zoom
Weekend Backpack Program Subcommittee Meeting
The subcommittee will begin their annual self-audit of children being served by weekend backpack program providers across the County.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Partnerships and collaboration is so important to the work that we do with the Hunger Relief Initiative! The Executive Women of the Palm Beaches recently held their annual Women in Leadership Awards (WILA) and we were proud to submit nominations on behalf of three women who have been champions of Hunger Relief and the Palm Beach County community.

Non-Profit Sector Nominee: Jeri Goetz, Pan-Florida Challenge

Non-Profit Sector Nominee: Veree Jenkins, Federation of Families of Florida, Inc.

Public Sector Nominee: Nancy Bolton, The School District of Palm Beach County

Congratulations to all of our nominees, and thank you for all that you do!

We couldn't do this work without you!

*The Hunger Relief Team is so appreciative of everything you do for our community. Please feel free to reach out to us anytime by calling us at 561-375-6600 or **emailing us**.*

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The HEART of PBC
United Way of Palm Beach County

Stay Connected!