NFPN June 2020 Meeting Minutes
Friday, June 26th 2020, 10AM

• June 2020 Meeting Google Driver Folder:
  https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RpW2WDcEO4sVZ0ms5KrTEvfgVwf1OQ5X?usp=sharing

• Resource Reminder
  - P-EBT Guide
    - Deadline extended to July 15th
    - Legal Aid Chicago and Illinois Hunger Hotline can provide multilingual help
  - Link Online Grocery Ordering Guide
  - Food Delivery Service Guide
  - COVID-19 Food Resource Guide

• Guest Presentations
  - Food Rescue US
    - Beta testing their food recovery app
    - Would provide NFPN member organizations with training on how to use their app
    - Would provide flyers to help NFPN member organizations recruit volunteers to deliver food rescues
    - Could provide regular/scheduled food rescue deliveries
    - Could coordinate changes in destinations for weekly food deliveries, if something came up and they had to be modified
    - Could help NFPN connect with food businesses to do fundraising
    - NFPN could use the Food Rescue US app to redistribute excess food between member organizations
    - Fluid – use app however it would be most useful for the group
    - Pick up to drop off of food rescues usually takes 30 minutes or less
    - Will have produce boxes available in July and August through the USDA Farmers to Families Food Box program
  - Humboldt Park Solidarity Network
    - Has volunteers who could assist
    - The “pop-up” volunteer opportunities presented by working with Food Rescue US are great for their volunteer base
    - Additional questions? Contact Melissa: melissa@foodrescue.us

  - University of Illinois Extension Health and Nutrition Program
    - 30 minute lessons per session to respect families’ time constraints
- Can do whatever format works best: Zoom, Webex, Facetime, etc.
- English and Spanish options
- Not judgemental
  - Doesn’t tell families how to eat or what to buy
  - Just shares info and advice backed by nutrition and experiences
  - Conversationally based, fun and personal
  - Meeting families at the knowledge and experience they have
- Participating families must have children under the age of 18 with them
- Mobile-friendly lessons – very doable via the Zoom app
- Main focus is parents, since they’re feeding their kids
- Cooking Matters: parents and kids cooking together class
- Patricia Ceja has 78 families in her network and will email Evelyn
- Understanding food labels is a big focus of the classes
- Participants almost always really enjoy the classes and request additional sessions

**Racial Equity in our Community**
- Can schedule conversations and trainings outside of monthly meetings
- Could help other black and POC led organizations get into food justice
- Could have cross neighborhood fundraising
- Share knowledge/info and volunteers with BLM organizations and networks
- Organizations we could contact
  - My Block My Hood My City
  - Block clubs
  - Organizations within the TR4IM network
    - Trauma Response and Intervention Movement
    - Jenny Merritt at The Night Ministry can help connect us with them
- May have a racial equity specific meeting in July

**CPS Families and Food Security**
- Nona and Humboldt Park Solidarity Network are working with Clemente Solidarity Fund
- There are definitely CPS families in need of support, including non-food support
- This will be a continuous conversation this summer

**Experiences with USDA Food Boxes**
- European American Association received delivery of 80 boxes
  - Went smoothly, has been working
  - Not perfect, but you make it work
- How do we get boxes?
  - Unpredictable situation
  - Deliveries are hard to coordinate
- Delivery windows often wide
- Cancellations and late deliveries occur
- Humboldt Park Solidarity Network has no permanent location, and using volunteers to receive deliveries has been a challenge
  - Marillac scrambling to source produce
    - Just got notification that they wouldn’t get boxes for July
    - Need to know what’s coming on a monthly basis to make things manageable
    - Figuring out the logistics and equipment necessary to distribute the boxes is tough
  - Onward Neighborhood House working with Gourmet Gorilla
    - Had a wonderful experience
    - Boxes were handled quickly and safely
    - GG had the equipment necessary for them to move the food

**Member Updates, Requests, and News**

- Lower than usual COVID-19 turnout recently at La Casa Norte’s Nutrition Center
  - Paul at Marillac also reports lower than average COVID-19 turnout
- In August, $600/month COVID-19 unemployment checks will run out
  - Could lead to increased turnout
- Mariano’s on Chicago Ave provided food grant to European American Association
  - COVID-19 made it hard to use
  - Mariano’s listened and helped EAA place special orders
    - Even threw in extra donations
  - Anyone looking for grocery donations should consider asking them for help
- Cermak Produce always been community oriented
- Walgreens on North Ave can help with sourcing hand sanitizer (per EAA)
- EAA got food from Walmart on distribution day via Rod
- Food delivery for seniors?
  - HP Solidarity Network is doing food delivery for seniors, they take referrals – but they have limits
  - Paul at Marillac is seeing many requests
    - 5-10 requests for senior food delivery per day
    - Requests are throughout the city (incl. Bronzeville, Rogers Park, Uptown, etc.)
    - Don’t have enough drivers to meet all the delivery demand
    - Good idea to work with seniors’ homecare aides to find food delivery solutions
  - Let HP Solidarity Network know if there are fundraisers they can help with
- West Humboldt Park Farmers Market now open on Saturdays
  - Dollar market, very affordable fresh food for the community