

**AFC Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 10, 2005
3:00-4:00 at the Food Bank of Alaska**

Members Present: Jim Crockett and Susannah Morgan were present at the Food Bank of AK. Dan Stellar, Linda Swarner, Louise Charles, Julie Beatty, and Trevor Jones participated by teleconference due to distance and weather conditions.

Staffing Issues: Julie Beatty shared that she will be stepping down from her position as AFC Coordinator due to family reasons and a need to pursue full-time employment. Julie and Susannah introduced the Committee to Dan Stellar who will be stepping in as Coordinator until September. Dan has worked with the Food Bank of AK in the past and has been helping recently with the Hunger Study 2005.

Fish Project: Trevor Jones gave an update about the Fish Project and the meeting that he and Julie attended in Victoria, BC with the International Halibut Commission. The project was not approved. Trevor shared about the barriers faced while presenting, as well as the failure of the fishing industry to support the project. The Executive Committee agreed with Trevor's recommendation not to pursue this project further. Trevor may continue to work on this project on his own time.

Mini-Grants: Julie gave an update in the mini-grant program. The deadline for applications was January 28. Forty-four applications were received; the total amount requested was over \$87,000. Currently, AFC has a panel of 5 reviewers who have volunteered their time to evaluate the applications. Julie will be checking in with panel members to see if the March 1 deadline is still feasible due to the volume of applications or if AFC will need to extend the review process by a week or so. Due to the volume, plans were made to discuss the number of requests at the spring meeting to see if AFC should ask for more money from the State to help build the infrastructure of food assistance programs.

Hunger Study: Julie and Susannah gave an update on the progress of the Hunger Study 2005. There is currently a delay; Mathematica is sending a list of Alaskan programs that will be a part of the new study sample. Once the list is received, AFC will then need to provide additional information that will assist with the coordination of the face-to-face client surveys. Plans are to set up volunteer trainings within the next week and to complete the mailing for the agency study once the materials are received from A2H. Louise shared that there are volunteers in her community who may be interested in helping with the surveys if programs from her region are selected. Plans were made to contact her to coordinate volunteer trainings if this is the case.

Bethel: Louise shared about the work being done in her region to put together a food bank. Susannah shared that this is a Food Bank of Alaska topic and can be discussed further with her. Louise also shared about her program's need for more protein i.e. fish and moose meat. Plans were made to bring up the topic of what is a food bank issue and what is an AFC issue at the spring member meeting in Fairbanks.

Kodiak: Trevor shared about the recent crisis that occurred in Kodiak when a fish processing company referred workers to local agencies for support. Trevor shared about his wish to have emergency food released when situations like this arise. Plans were made for this to be a topic at the spring face-to-face meeting. Also, the Committee discussed the need to talk about AFC's role in relation to emergencies at the next member meeting.

Agenda for Spring Member Meeting: Reviewed the details of the spring member meeting including hotel arrangements through Best Western and a possible discount on airfare through Frontier Flying Services. Discussed agenda items for the Fairbanks meeting. Guest speakers will include a representative from A2H. Susannah also proposed that Linda Stone from Western Region Anti-Hunger Consortium be available to present for an honorarium of \$200. Executive Members were in agreement. In addition, it was decided to put together a slate for officers. Individuals selected include the following:

President: Linda Swarner
Vice-President: Jim Crockett
Treasurer: Susannah Morgan

For the position of Secretary, Linda will contact Julie Yoder from Nome and Jetta Whittaker from Juneau about their level of interest. Julie will send Linda their contact information. Plans were made to have this slate as part of the meeting agenda.

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:00.

Minutes prepared by Julie Beatty