



**MONTHLY TELECONFERENCE
FOOD BANK OF ALASKA
ANCHORAGE
APRIL 17, 2008
2:30 – 3:00 P.M.**

Toll Free Number: 1-866-316-1519 Participant Code: 723725

MINUTES

1. Welcome from Alaska Food Coalition President, Andrea Thistle
 - a. In attendance:
 1. Kerri Burrows, Alaska Food Coalition
 2. Andrea Thistle, Valley Open Bible Fellowship
 3. Susannah Morgan, Food Bank of Alaska
 4. Shawn Powers, Food Bank of Alaska
 5. Jennifer Nieves, Catholic Social Services/St. Francis House
 6. Heather Gallitian-Baker, Blood n Fire Ministries and Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc.
 7. Donna Williams, Naknek Native Village
 8. Laura Skiba, North Star United Methodist Church
 9. Shodie Akin, State of Alaska, Child Nutrition Services
 10. Kimberly Stryker, State of Alaska, DEC
 11. Lance Johnson, Nome Community Center
 12. Dana Paperman, Seward Senior Center
 13. Susan Smalley, Kenai Peninsula Food Bank of Alaska
 14. Claudia Vecchiarelli, Alpha Omega Life Care, Inc.
2. Member Quick Intro – Donna Williams, Naknek Native Village

Naknek, located in the Bristol Bay region of AK, is a native community that gains most of its income from salmon fishing. Donna, who has been working in her current position for several years, is in charge of the TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) food distribution. Because of a glitch in regulations, this is the only food available to native organizations that do not have 501c3 nonprofit status. TEFAP, a government agriculture assistance program that has seen a drop in pounds in the last

year, has a semi-client choice model. Families are allowed to pick what time they want, but are limited to how much they can have of that item. Donna notes that they have seen an increase of the number of people applying for TEFAP foods with the continuing increases in gas and heating oil costs.

3. Post Legislative Session Wrap-up

a. Last-minute successes

1. As expected, the School Breakfast Initiative did not pass this year, but we made excellent progress. The hope for next year is to get the initiative into the education budget.

b. Policy Committee meeting directly after teleconference

1. Shawn Powers, director of advocacy at Food Bank of Alaska emphasized the importance of keeping on the radar with legislators through the interim.

4. Summer Food Service Program, Shodie Akin—State of AK Child Nutrition Services

- a. Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) was founded in 1968 and is the largest single source of food to feed kids while school is not in session. Agencies that are interested can serve as both sponsor (the administrative side) and site (the feeding side) or can partner up with a sponsor and just serve as the feeding site. The site is reimbursed based upon how many meals are served. As with most government feeding programs, there are many regulations that have to be followed and reimbursements are given for the previous month, so agencies must have enough back-up funds to start up the program and cover any overage expenses. This is nonprofit program, so agencies are expected to just break even. Susannah Morgan, Food Bank of Alaska noted that FBA is a sponsor and breaks even only if you do not include any administrative costs to run the program. That said, the state is willing to work with organizations as the need to get this food out is critical and there is lots of room for growth in the program. The sponsor training for this year's program is already over, but if you are interested in SFSP, there are several sponsors that would gladly take on another site. If you have questions, please contact Shodie at 907.465.4788 or Shodie.Akin@alaska.gov.

5. Questions

6. Other business, concerns or issues

7. Wrap-up

With no other business or concerns, Andrea adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.