



**MONTHLY TELECONFERENCE
Meeting Minutes
FOOD BANK OF ALASKA
ANCHORAGE
MARCH 20, 2008
2:30 – 3:00 P.M.**

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

AGENDA

1. Welcome from Alaska Food Coalition President, Andrea Thistle
In Attendance:
 - Kerri Burrows, Alaska Food Coalition
 - AnnaBelle Stevens, United Way
 - Shawn Powers, Food Bank of Alaska
 - Debbie Delsie, Abbott Loop Give 'n' Take
 - Andrea Thistle, Valley Open Bible Fellowship
 - Susannah Morgan, Food Bank of Alaska
 - Nick Timurphy, Bristol Bay Native Regional Association
 - Susie Smalley, Kenai Peninsula Food Bank
 - Kenneth Farrow, Alpha Omega Life Care, Inc.
 - Michael Curran, AK Faith-Based Community Initiatives
 - George Briggs, The Glory Hole
 - Irene Lee, Catholic Social Services
 - Mike Rochin, New Hope on the Last Frontier
 - Tamara Olsen, Lutheran Social Services
 - Aaron Osterback, Southcentral Foundation Elder Services
 - Dana Paperman, Seward Senior Center
 - Donna Williams, Naknek Native Village
2. Member Quick Intro – Valley Open Bible Fellowship
After a quick introduction of everyone present, Andrea started a new tradition of introducing a coalition organization at every meeting. Andrea volunteers with Valley Open Bible Fellowship in Big Lake, AK. They have a pantry and also serve

a meal twice a week. They average about 75 at their meal services. In the last year, they have expanded their program considerably, have constructed a new facility and are now participating in TEFAP, CSFP and SFSP.

3. Annual Meeting Successes

a. Changes

1. Meeting Schedule – meetings will be held once a month now instead of quarterly. They will be held the third Thursday of the month at 2:30 and we will attempt to keep them to about a half hour.
2. Mini-grants – The scope of the mini-grants will change for the next fiscal year. Not only will capital items be allowed, but organization capital will also be accepted. Additionally, the mini-grants will be limited to members ONLY beginning with the FY09 grant.
3. FY09 Goals – The AFC goals were approved by the members. The goals and objectives can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

4. Legislative Debrief

- a. Status of the School Breakfast Initiative – Susannah gave a brief overview of the accomplishments of the School Breakfast Initiative. After a successful attempt to get our issue on minds of legislators in February, Susannah and Shawn Powers, Director of Advocacy at Food Bank of Alaska, ventured back down to Juneau on March 19. They met with several legislators that have been receptive to the initiative. It is unlikely that the initiative will get passed, but legislators gave indication that if we tried to get the initiative in the education budget next year, it would have a better chance of success.
- b. Shawn likened the legislative process to that of an athlete---success is far more dependent on what you do in the off-season. That said, the legislative session is getting ready to come to a close but we aren't going to let up on educating legislators and policymakers. We'll be calling on coalition members to help us get the word out in the upcoming months.

5. Questions

- a. Both Tamara and Dana brought up issues with one of the goals of the coalition—a capital grant request on behalf of selected coalition organizations. This pilot project is just getting off the ground. The following agencies were selected for this project based upon their participation with the coalition, length of membership and their organization's sustainability:
 1. Nome Community Center
 2. The Glory Hole
 3. Kenai Peninsula Food Bank
 4. Valley Open Bible Fellowship
 5. Bristol Bay Native Association
 6. Kodiak Island Food Bank
 7. Alpha Omega Life Care, Inc.
- b. As with any funding project, the outcome is questionable. We are unsure if we will be able to get all or any of these projects funded, but we are going to give it a shot. After all, you'll never get anything if you don't ask for it!

6. Other business, concerns or issues

7. Wrap-up – With no other business, Andrea adjourned the meeting at 3 p.m.