

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

KARA HAHN

MAJORITY LEADER
LEGISLATOR, FIFTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE CHAIR

ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING
& AGRICULTURE



COUNTY LEGISLATURE

VICE-CHAIR

PARKS & RECREATION

MEMBER

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION & INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
PERSONNEL & HOUSING
PUBLIC SAFETY

**TO: Members of the Food Policy Council:
All interested parties**

FROM: Honorable Kara Hahn

DATE: 8/15/17

RE: Food Policy Minutes

INTRODUCTIONS:

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LI Cares
Leg. Hahn
LI Cares

I. PRESENTATIONS:

1. 2015-2016 CAPACITY & DISTRIBUTION SURVEY REPORT – Presentation by Michael Haynes, Chief Government Affairs Officer, Long Island Cares.

a. Purpose:

- i. To measure the capabilities of the LI cares network to effectively serve the hungry and food insecure population in the region
- ii. Shows stabilization in the number of LI residents experiencing high food insecurity.
- iii. Shows that Long Islanders are still struggling to access nutritious food on a regular basis.

b. District Member Agencies: 357 total in LI

- i. Agency Types:
 - Government (1.1%)
 - Community Based Nonprofit (44.8%)
 - Faith Based (54.1%)
- ii. Agencies utilize several mechanisms to address food insecurity:
 - Pantry & Fixed Site
 - Home Delivery
 - Prepared & Served on Site
 - Mobile Pantry
- iii. Primary function of member agencies
 - Child Nutrition Site 7 Day Care Centers (0.9%)
 - Residential Programs (9.5%)
 - Shelters (10%)
 - Soup Kitchens (8.1%)
 - Pantries (71.4%)
- iv. School districts with food Pantries:
 - Wyandanch
 - Brentwood
 - Riverhead
- v. 21 privately funded after school kids café's and mobile breakfast food trucks

c. Findings & Facts:

- i. Shows stabilization in the number of LI residents experiencing high food insecurity.
- ii. Long Islanders are still struggling to access nutritious food on a regular basis.
- iii. Over 300,000 people rely on support of member agencies including 89,000 children and a growing number of seniors, homeless, and veterans.
- iv. The agency categories showing the largest increases in the last 3 years are shelters and residential programs.
- v. LI Cares supports its average member agency with 50.3% of food it distributes.
- vi. LI Cares agencies also distribute school supplies, baby items, pet products, and clothing.
- vii. Demand has increased for more than 76% of member agencies, with 67.2%, reporting increases of up to 50%.
- viii. Common barriers to service expansion are insufficient levels of volunteers, paid staff, and a lack of storage space

II. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

1. Community Gardens:

- a. Website is up: <http://ccesuffolk.org/gardening/community-gardens-in-suffolk-county>

2. Food Equity

- a. New corner store in Southampton - La Tienda Latina
- b. Looking for a location in western Suffolk

3. Why Buy Local?

- a. Meat Processing RFP release

4. Agricultural Education

- a. Block Grants for federal food programs – Congressional leadership is proposing to set of programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), housing vouchers, child care, and more, and turn them into a consolidated block grant, which means providing states with a fixed amount of funding to run the programs.

III. OUTSTANDING:

1. Troy - no update

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Vacancies in Community Garden's Sub-Committee

V. ADJOURNMENT



