

## Food Council Delaware County 4-16-2020

### Attendees:

Jason Newman – Boys & Girls Clubs of Muncie  
Jacquie Hanoman – Ross Community Center, weekly curbside market (now twice weekly)  
Julie Mason – Census 2020, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Whitely food pantry volunteer.  
Josh Gruver – BSU EGNR, Food Hub/Mobile Market  
John Disher – IU Health and HCA  
Jim Flatford – United Way of Delaware, Henry and Randolph counties  
Barb Wills – Grace Episcopal Church (meals on Sunday)  
Phil Wills – Grace Episcopal Church (meals on Sunday)  
Bryan Preston – county GIS, food issues research/data work  
Bob Ball – Inside Out, Blood-and-Fire Ministries  
Dawn-Marie Oberly – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday food distribution  
Heather Williams – BSU Community Engagement  
Loretta Parson – Soup Kitchen of Muncie  
Cindy Garver – Corinth United Methodist Church, food distribution in Cowan through local school  
Jenna Wachtman – Ball Brothers Foundation  
Kortney Zimmerman – George and Frances Ball Foundation  
Marci Minton – Community Foundation Muncie and Delaware Co  
Stefan Anderson – George and Frances past chairman, IU Health Foundation director  
Steven Knipp – Soup Kitchen of Muncie  
Mandy Williams – LifeStream Services  
Rob Keisling - IN Michigan Power/AEP Foundation  
Lindsey Cox – Purdue Extension, Delaware and Blackford counties

### Meeting notes:

-Introductions.

### **-Efforts:**

#### **Foundations:**

G&F Ball: granted \$ to Inside Out, Muncie Mission and 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest, Christian Ministries and LifeStream to help with food distribution. Worked with Bryan and Kyle with County Resource Hub page for food resources. Focusing on main priorities during this time – food access #1 to board.

United Way: emergency funding process to focus on need of COVID-19 crisis. Just under \$40,000 to organizations for emergent issues currently. Cap at \$5,000 for one ask. Grantees can come back more than once as needs arise.

Ball Bros: Top priority healthcare, first responders, law enforcement for PPE to meet needs to carry out immediate work. 2<sup>nd</sup> priority is food issues and childcare issues (esp for families of 1<sup>st</sup> responders). Ex: assisting Jason Rogers (emergency management for respirators for ambulant services), Meridian and Open Door move to telehealth. Food – grants to 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest and Inside Out. IU Health to make sure employees have food and snacks during shifts, support during the night when cafeteria is closed. Potentially to help hospital employees who are having food challenges in their lives. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, YWCA.

Invited organizations to apply have top priority. Others can apply, though. Funding up to \$5,000.

Community Foundation- emergency response in phases. Now in phase 3. \$37,000(?) awarded so far. Most have been \$1-2,000. Have talked to more than 50 organizations at this point through staff members to find out needs. Working in conjunction with other funders across county. Will probably include a reactive approach with application, but not happening yet. Pushing out info related to the CARES Act by leaning on Chamber of Commerce and Innovation Connector. Focus on frontline organizations whether it's food, medical supplies, childcare, county offices (ex. all of volunteer fire depts, emergency management), Boys and Girls Clubs/YMCA related to childcare. Food=Inside out, 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest, salvation army, soup kitchen of Muncie, Little Red Door for nutrition supplements. Grant for food to Alpha Center – deliver food directly to clients at home.

IN Michigan Power/AEP Foundation: food focus. Geographical reach, ECI. 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest = \$50,000. Food, housing, PPE focuses.

**Other organizations serving the community:**

Soup Kitchen: tried to do to-go meals originally, but shut down due to not enough spacing in kitchen. Have been helping others fiscally and with supplies. Meeting tonight (4-16-20) to talk about options they have to help others.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday monthly food distribution (not pantry). People drive into lot on Saturday morning (9am). Buy food on Thursday and Friday, repackage it, every vehicle gets one bag of groceries. No vouchers required, no questions asked. In past did 40 bags/month. Due to COVID, now increased to 80 bags/month.

\*\*Get added to Hub map and 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest brochure\*\*

Gathering Grace (Wills): 11<sup>th</sup> year. Every Sunday 3pm free meal. Have changed operation – take food out to visitors in to-go packages. 79 last Sunday. A lot of people don't know about this meal/don't think they are serving anymore. Usually have 100 people when they come indoors prior to COVID. Give water to take for later.

Inside Out- meals through Fresh Directions program to general population. Have served over 6,400 meals since launched. Have had great support from foundations, Soup Kitchen, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest. Distribute 200 boxes of groceries every Saturday. Some groceries available through week with to-go meal. Pantry support with BNF ministries. Through disaster relief, Somebody Cares America, did disaster relief in Nashville (tornadoes) serving meals using their smoker, then jumped into COVID response here. Secured 5,200 N95 masks and share with healthcare providers, etc. Typically (pre-COVI) feed children M-F, community meal on Saturday through BNF.

Ross Community Center – weekly community market began one year ago, more than food, ex diapers, etc with community building with conversation and coffee. Now in curbside/walkup mode. Used to serve 140 weekly, now serving twice/week 380 people each time. Tuesday and Friday. Serve what 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest gives them. Support from Ball Bros foundation, G&F Ball reached out, collaboration amongst lots of orgs (ex. Muncie Mission excess cantaloupes, Avondale UMC had lots of cabbages and lettuce. Gave away a lot last Friday.). Now going to try serving double the amount of food on Fridays only, to limit contact, starting tomorrow. Last Friday several boxes to each family; hoping for similar this week. **Really need fresh produce**, in addition to canned stuff. Also give diapers, informational flyers, educational activities, books.

LifeStream – Typically operate 21 meal sites for seniors 60+. Closed now. Now home deliver meal plan has absorbed those meals from the 21 meal sites. CARES Act and local foundations have helped. Anyone over 60 is qualified as homebound and they serve them. Ex. Grocery/pet food shopping for those who cannot get out, as needed. Trying to help more who are homebound or self-isolating.

Boys & Girls Clubs – open for first responder families. About 20 children/day. Breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack.

Want compiled list of pantries/meal sites. Informational pass-through to help families they serve. Helping families stuck at home by delivering groceries.

IU Health – Ball food pantry for employees. 2<sup>nd</sup> harvest provides food. Ball Bros support. Pantry is currently empty.

GIS – Hub website for COVID related information for the county, ex emergency response information for assistance of different kinds, including food resources. Trying to keep up-to-date with all the information.

#### **Conversation:**

Steve Anderson: From foundation end:

How do you feel about the adequacy of food related to need?

Are the sources adequate?

Do you see the need exceeding the supply?

Gruver: challenge of infrastructure of relationships and connections that haven't been established in the past, but are now being developed...how to make people aware of where/how to get food supplies. Food Council is trying to help build infrastructure.

Steve Anderson: How extraordinarily inspiring it is to think about the volunteers who deliver this food. "You are COVID-19 heroes." Don't be bashful about expressing needs to the foundations. They (foundations) can only be totally effective if totally informed.

Jacque – With Ross Center experiences/observations, there is more need for food (people are not hoarding). Aren't sure how much need there is, and how long it will be needed to provide food in these huge quantities. People have been very patient and gracious with waiting in long lines. Line starts at 1:30pm, market starts at 4pm.

Jason – 2<sup>nd</sup>s Jacque. Have been doing pantry twice/month now (not once as prior to COVID) and have seen an increase. Uncertainty of how long the slow down will last will be part of this. Would help to have an idea of timing to be able to determine what is needed.

Bob – From BNF/Inside Out perspective, have seen numbers grow: 250-275/day, Saturday 300 (up from 200 prior to COVID). Supply has been there for them from 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest. Having a weekly food giveaway has helped lower numbers from once/month like in the past. Marked sidewalk with 6 feet spacing. Vast majority of ppl are appreciative and thankful. Matter of keeping resources flowing for the hundreds and hundreds of meals going out weekly. Hope to keep rolling along as necessary to meet people's needs.

LifeStream – Duration is a big question. Seniors now qualify for things they didn't in past. If economy is "restarted," we will still have a lot of folks not comfortable renewing their way of life. Planning for longterm.

Gruver: Summary= Challenges are:

1. letting people know they (organizations) are still serving food even though it looks different.
2. Making sure people care for/communicate with the isolated and homebound folks who maybe aren't connected to any of these organizations.
3. Uncertain of how long this will last, and what needs will be. Hard to foresee future needs.

Boys&Girls Clubs, Ross Center, YMCA are calling families who are their typical clients. Some others are calling folks and/or delivering food. Getting info to client-based serving agencies and out to people – get food delivered to those who need it.

Inside Out – let us know in advance of folks who need meals. We can prepare those meals and have them packaged.

Ross Center – can prepare the boxes of food if someone else can pick up and deliver.

Gruver: Any other way we can help move things forward?

Jason: Share info/resources with people ex. Tag on Facebook and can there share on their FB pages.

Mobile Market will be operating – question of when, due to summer classes, etc. Be in operation by mid-August at latest.

IU Health Bucks – hope to still do the program and vouchers. Assessing situation as it progresses.

Makers Market is drive through.

Minnetrista Farmers Market will be drive-through at least through the month of May. They are looking at an online model for pre-ordering. Stay tuned as they figure out logistics.

\*\*\*Thanks to our donor and funder organizations for participating in this conversation. Thanks to everyone for joining the call.