

# APPROVED

## San Francisco Food Security Task Force

### *FOOD STAMPS SUBCOMMITTEE*

Minutes from April 26, 2006

2:00pm-4:00pm, MOCD

#### In Attendance

**Task Force Members:** Daisy Anarchy, Leo O'Farrel, and Darryl Smaw

**Public:** None

<b>Agenda Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action Item</b>
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	All members were present and the meeting was called to order at 2:15pm.	Minutes will be forwarded to Christine Wong Mineta to be sent for posting.
<b>2. Emerging Food Stamp Issues</b>	<p>Leo reported that Glide was running low on funds and was changing their meal service. They have begun a group for organizations which distribute free food and have a special interest in the Tenderloin, which includes St. Anthony's, Meals on Wheels, Project Open Hand, and the Food Bank.</p> <p>Glide has a large constituency with many depending on their services and attending their church services. The San Francisco Human Services Agency has a contract with Glide to provide emergency food, but that city money doesn't cover all the food Glide serves. Many Glide customers are also HSA customers.</p> <p>Leo sees one of the solutions as being more enrollments in the food stamp program, as one of HSA's charges is to get people involved in non-emergency food sources such as food stamps.</p> <p>Leo has an upcoming meeting with St. Anthony's- the following Tuesday, May 2 at 3pm- to pilot a food stamp enrollment program for "Food Stamps In A Day." There will be food stamp outreach workers doing pre-screening at St. Anthony's and HSA will be training St. Anthony's workers to fill out applications and get them to HSA. He doesn't believe that "Food Stamp In A Day" is enough and would like to see this (food stamp enrollment assistance) happen on a regular basis. Leo would also like to see agencies such as Glide, Project Open Hand, and Meals On Wheels trained to do food stamp enrollment. He would like to see many community agencies all over</p>	

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	<p>town doing this, so that recipients don't all have to come downtown.</p> <p>Daisy suggests that it would be great to see food stamp enrollment happen at the homeless shelters, after the shelters deal with their (the shelter's) current ongoing issues first.</p> <p>Darryl will extrapolate some things from his Food Stamp Outreach plan, which he did for the USDA grant application. The plan is citywide with community based organizations and other different groups. He suggests we "start signing them up for enrollment assistance."</p> <p>It was also pointed out that many people live in SRO hotel rooms in the Tenderloin and in SOMA, sometimes without kitchen access, and sometimes with only limited kitchen access or access only to kitchens in disrepair or which are under equipped for preparing food.</p> <p>Darryl mentioned that the city was working on a 5-year plan, McKinney, Continuum of Care.</p>	
<b>3. Food Stamp Strategic Plan</b>	Darryl will draft our Planning Framework (the plan from this subcommittee), which will be outcome-based (and include recommendations from department heads?).	None.
<b>4. News regarding Food Stamps</b>	<p>Food Stamp Grant Opportunity: \$5 million nation-wide food stamp participation grants.</p> <p>Leo would like to see SF have web access for filing food stamp applications on-line. Boston has on-line applications, as do Virginia and Indiana. Arizona had an extremely successful media campaign encouraging people to apply on the web.</p> <p>Leo is recommending that San Francisco have a website for online food stamp applications and wants to work with other city officials to do this. He suggests that</p>	None.

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	<p>the “Perfect Storm” comm. is good but also wants to see a website.</p> <p>Supervisor Sophie Maxwell and Dennis Stuart would like to see outcome-based goals come out of the Food Security Task Force and it’s subcommittees. We would like to see more food stamp eligibility workers and outreach workers hired, and would like to raise the number of San Franciscans receiving food stamps.</p> <p>Leo reminds us that “some things are out of our control” such as President Bush’s immigration policy, etc.</p> <p>There was discussion of an academic UC Berkeley study done on California’s low (47%- CFPA number- of eligible people) participation rate in the food stamp program. It was pointed out that this was flawed because of the disproportionately high number of people on SSI (who are income-eligible but ineligible for the program because of being on SSI) and the disproportionately high number of immigrants (many of whom are income eligible but ineligible for the program because of their immigration status.)</p> <p>At a California Welfare Director’s conference there were participation statistics ranging between 34% and 52%. It was also pointed out that when the Census was done in 2000 many low-income people who were not eligible then are eligible now- the 2000 Census data is now outdated. We should come up with one method that we all support (we as a community, state-wide) to define food stamp participation, and we should package methods for the larger body. Darryl suggested we break out target groups for percentages.</p> <p>Daisy will email Christine and Libby to ask that a discussion and possible action item be included on the next larger Food Security Task Force meeting to move that the Task Force supports HSA’s budget request for: 4 new food stamp eligibility workers and 2 new eligibility supervisors for a total of six new food stamp workers, and</p>	

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	<p>1 new program analyst to work on coordinating improving access to the food stamp program through a three-pronged approach: 1.) Faith and community based organizations, 2.) The phone and mail and 3.) The web. Leo says “We want to get away from the idea that if you need food stamps you have to come downtown and stand in line.”</p> <p>It was mentioned that one of the subcommittees of the Food Security Task Force has suggested that there be a city office on Food Security.</p>	
<b>5. Public Comment</b>	None.	None.
<b>6. Adjournment</b>	Meeting was adjourned at 3:05 PM.	None.