

Dear Agency Partners,

PLEASE respond to the survey regarding these conference calls. Your input is important! Take the survey here: <https://forms.gle/HBYdFF4qM56VrWKB8>

To maximize the safety of staff and volunteers, and to ensure we are able to provide the service you rely on, Feed My People has implemented new protocols.

- **NEW!** The office staff has been split into two teams to minimize exposure. One team works in the office while the other team works from home, then we alternate. Warehouse staff continue to work onsite 5 days a week.
- FMP staff and volunteers are all wearing **masks** while in our building and on official FMP business.
 - We have reduced the amount of people in our building, suspending parts of our volunteer program and have greatly limited the number of people in our building. This may result in some products taking longer to be available.
 - Food donations are being placed in a bin just inside our door or taken directly to the warehouse.
 - Agency pick-up goes directly to door 10 and calls to let us know they are here. Our warehouse staff then brings the food out to them.
- We have a sanitizing protocol we continue to follow throughout the building.

We recommend:

- Continue to maintain social distancing (encourage your staff and volunteers to do the same both when working with your program and when they're away)
- Wear a mask, wash your hands and don't touch your face
- Sanitize workspaces and common areas frequently (surfaces, doorknobs, bathrooms, etc.)
- Stay home if you don't feel well.

September is Hunger Action Month!

- Feeding America recognizes September as Hunger Action Month, a nation-wide campaign to end hunger
- A package of material to help 'celebrate' was sent by email to each agency last week
- If you ordered T-shirts. We expect them to be delivered to FMP Sept. 1 – we'll get them to you asap after that.
- **ORANGE** is the color of hunger action – **send your pictures of staff or volunteers with oranges or something orange to susie@fmpfoodbank.org**

Google Digital Campaign

- Feed My People has engaged with a company for targeted digital outreach. Our hope is to reach people who may be in need for the first time and to direct them to resources
- Google search and Google display ads direct people to the FMP Get Help page, which lists our service counties and all our programs.
- If you have questions, please contact Susie@fmpfoodbank.org

Farmers to Family boxes:

- FMP continues to receive Farmers to Family boxes – we've increased the quantity by 50%.
- We currently have produce, dairy and 2 different protein boxes available.
- You may hand out the entire box to a family or break it down to distribute items separately.

DATCP Grants: Food Security Initiative –

- Feed My People applied through Feeding WI and we were awarded about half of what we requested. You should be hearing from one of us soon!
- We are applying for others grants, also, to benefit our partner programs.

FoodShare Update

- NEW!! WI DHS approved additional benefits for July and August! Recipients will receive the maximum amount allowable based on the number of eligible people in their households.
- July benefits were available on cards August 9th and additional August benefits were available on QUEST cards on August 23rd. THIS MAY IMPACT THE NUMBERS YOU SEE THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS.
- Current FoodShare outreach is through YOU - our partners - distribution of flyers to your clients
- Nick and Maureen are receiving many referrals from these flyers! Please continue to encourage people to call if they may be eligible.
- If you are in Barron, Washburn, Sawyer, or Rusk Counties, please encourage people to call or text **Maureen Wilson at (715) 496-3121**. If in other counties, contact is **Nick Bursaw at (715) 450-2656**. They are both available to help people apply for benefits and to answer questions.

Backpack and School Programs – Please continue to engage with your schools regarding their plans for getting food to families. Here are some questions to consider:

- How to provide food for students who are attending only part of the week?
- How to get food to families who have students attending virtually?
- What are school food services doing?
- What are schools able to accommodate?

Winter Weather - It's important to begin thinking about how you will serve safely when winter weather arrives. How are you planning to modify what you do for winter weather?

- Can you/should you engage new volunteers to help with new tasks (because your process is different this winter)?
- How will you keep volunteers warm?
- Will parking or lining up be a concern?
- What are your other concerns?

We will host the next call on WEDNESDAY, September 2 at 10:00 am.

Call in Number - (267) 930-4000 Passcode 789-222-531#