

## **BANPAC Food Systems and Food Security Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** 03/12/2008

**Time:** 1:45-3:45pm

**Location:** Oakland Asian Cultural Center

### **Expected Meeting Outcomes:**

1. Participants will have increased knowledge of the Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act.
2. Participants will have discussed possibilities for BANPAC Food Security Committee work with the Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act.
3. Participants will have increased knowledge of food security projects in the 6 Bay Area Counties represented on the Coalition.

### **Meeting Summary:**

1. Colleen Kavanagh, Executive Director of Campaign for Better Nutrition, gave a presentation on child nutrition legislation, specifically the Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act and the National School Lunch Act. Main points covered included:
  - All child nutrition legislation is covered under the Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act (CNRA) and the National School Lunch Act (NSLA).
  - The CNRA will be on the table until the end of 2009: reauthorization of both CNRA and NSLA occurs every 4-5 years.
  - CNRA covers the following programs: 1) Child and Adult Care Food Program, 2) School Breakfast Program, 3) After-school Snack Program, 4) Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), 5) Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).
  - Possible ways for BANPAC to work with CNRA include: 1) make contact with California Food Policy Advocates (Kumar Chandran, schandran@cfpa.net) and attend regional meetings, 2) make contact with National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity (NANA) <http://www.cspinet.org/nutritionpolicy/nana.html>
  - (Margo Wootan, mwootan@cspinet.org), 3) contact California WIC Association (Lori), <http://www.calwic.org/>
  - 4) create a succinct position paper with 3 points and circulate regionally/nationally, 5) attend conferences put on by the School Nutrition Association or the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) or 6) attend lobby days organized by the same organizations. Colleen also encouraged us to consider: what can we say as a group that other groups can't or won't?
2. Heather Wooten mentioned that funding is needed to set up infrastructure for local WIC vendors to be able to sell products in new WIC package, including fresh fruits and vegetables. Committee may be able to work with CA WIC Association around this topic.
3. Discussion of food security projects across the 6 county Bay Area was postponed until more members were represented (only 3 members present at this meeting).
4. The next BANPAC Food Systems and Food Security Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, 4/18, from 10am – 12noon, at 1000 Broadway, Oakland. Invitation will follow.

5. It should be noted that only 3 members of the committee attended this meeting. Discussion was had about low attendance at BANPAC Committee meetings held after BANPAC general meetings, and how to increase attendance at committee meetings. This is why our next meeting is planned on 4/18, separate from a BANPAC general meeting.

### **Other Information related to the Child Nutrition Program Reauthorization Act**

In 2009, Congress will debate changes and revisions to the act that deals with child nutrition programs, such as school meals, summer food, after school snacks, child and adult care food, and WIC. Generally occurring every five years, this process is often referred to as "reauthorization". The child nutrition reauthorization debate provides the opportunity for making significant changes to these important programs.

For more information about Child Nutrition Program Reauthorization Act. Check the Food Research and Action Center. This is a new center for updates on the Child Nutrition Program. The website provide anti-hunger advocates, child nutrition officials, policymakers, the media, and the public with information on the reauthorization of child nutrition programs-what's needed, the legislative process. Website :[http://www.frac.org/html/federal\\_food\\_programs/cnreauthor/cnrc.htm](http://www.frac.org/html/federal_food_programs/cnreauthor/cnrc.htm).

**California Food Policy Advocate** has a lot of important information about the Child Nutrition and Program Reauthorization. I have attached some of the information Available. I am a member of the advisory board and will be glad to work with them In the Child Reauthorization Act. California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) is interested in gathering input from the wide range of groups, organizations, and agencies that work on or with these various child nutrition programs. Working with partner organizations in California and nationally, we plan to advocate for a policy platform to improve the health and nutrition of California's kids. Website: <http://www.cfpa.net/>

***What can I do now?***

- Join CFPA's new Child Nutrition Reauthorization listserv to discuss the upcoming issues that will affect the child nutrition programs. [Click here](#) for more information or simply join by sending an email.
- Join CFPA in asking California's Congressional delegation to: 1) increase academic success for hungry learners, 2) feed more kids while processing less paper, and 3) help kids prevent obesity.
- Support **S.1007 (Leahy) and S.1392 (Harkin)** – allow USDA to regulate foods sold in school all day.
- Encourage the California Caucus to work with Sam Farr's office and urge USDA to support California's proposal for fruits and vegetables in the WIC food packages.