

**FOOD BANK OF THE SOUTHERN TIER  
ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING  
February 3, 2020  
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
AGENDA**

<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>TIME</b>
1. Welcome and Check-ins a. Welcome to new member Jessica Gosa!	Erin Summerlee	Discussion	15
2. Review & Approve April Minutes	Erin Summerlee	Approve	5
3. Policy and Events Updates a. SNAP commenting periods b. Commissioner Ball event on 9/25 c. Legislative Repack	Lyndsey Lyman	Discussion	25
4. Committee Members Discussion a. Committee matrix b. Issue areas c. New Committee member recruitment	Randi Quackenbush	Discussion	30
5. 2020 Action planning a. Review 2020 calendar of events and meetings c. 2020 Legislative Agenda creation	Lyndsey Lyman	Discussion	30
6. Committee member updates	Erin Summerlee	Discussion	10
7. Wrap up / Adjourn	Erin Summerlee		5

**Next Meeting**  
June 1st, 2020  
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**\*\* If you plan to join the meeting via conference call please let Lynn know. \*\***

**FOOD BANK OF THE SOUTHERN TIER**  
**Advocacy Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**  
**2:00-4:00PM**

Committee Member	In Attendance	Unable to Attend
Mark Bordeau (Chair)	<b>X</b>	
Tess McKinley	<b>X</b>	
Catherine Rogers	<b>X</b>	
Nancy Eckstrom	<b>X</b>	
Emily Hofelich-Bowler		<b>X</b>
Steve Fowler	<b>X</b>	
Maggie Coffey	<b>X</b>	
Wendy Pursel	<b>X</b>	
Erin Summerlee	<b>x</b>	
Lorna Swaine-Abdallah		<b>X</b>
<b>Ex-Officio</b>		
Natasha Thompson	<b>X</b>	
<b>Staff</b>		
Lyndsey Lyman	<b>X</b>	
Randi Quackenbush	<b>X</b>	
Jackie Bogart		<b>X</b>

**1. Welcome and Check-ins**

**2. Approve January Minutes**

*Wendy Pursel made a motion to approve the January 2019 minutes. Nancy Eckstrom seconded. All were in favor. None opposed.*

**3. FBST Department Updates**

Randi shared about Lyndsey's new role as Advocacy & Education Manager. Lyndsey will be helping plan our lobby days, events, newsletter, and support this committee.

**4. Policy & Events Updates**

Randi shared about the recent trip to the Anti-Hunger Policy Conference in DC. Eight people went this year including 5 FBST staff – Sarah Keenan, Maria Strinni, Amanda Palme, Lyndsey Lyman, Randi Quackenbush; 2 partners – Jack Seman from CHOW and Tom Lewis from the Food and Health Network; and Crystal Batista from the Speakers Bureau. The group met with Senator Gillibrand's office and with Senator Schumer and his staff, and Congressmen Reed and Brindisi's office.

Follow-up to this conference includes learning more about local –city, town, and county- budgets and where we can advocate for funding.

FBST did not participate in many advocacy activities on the state level this year due to a lot of transition.

Mark Bordeau shared about the School Nutrition Association's successful campaign to eliminate the reduced-priced category for schools meals. NYS is the largest state to eliminate this category. Mark's allies and grassroots advocates worked with the Senate and Assembly to make this happen.

Mark has also been appointed to Congressman Brindisi's local Ag Task Force. His office is very engaged with his constituents and has already held more town halls in a few months than his predecessor held during her whole term.

## **5. Fruit & Veggies Prescription Program Presentations**

Both Erin Summerlee and Tess McKinley presented on their respective Fruit and Veggies (FVRx) prescription programs. Both of these came out of the DSRIP multi-year process which seeks to improve Medicaid service delivery as well as health outcomes. Food and Health Network (FaHN)'s program is now in its third year and is modeled after Wholesome Wave's program. FaHN works with Lourdes and UHS. The program pilot began with 2 offices in Broome County and now is in 12 primary care settings in Broome, Tioga, and Delaware Counties. It is funded by Care Compass Network. Providers screen potential participants, patients then enroll, and over the course of 3 visits are given \$360 in vouchers / coupons for produce which can be redeemed at farmers' markets and some grocery stores. Nutrition counseling, cooking classes, and other education are offered to patients. The main goal is to demonstrate a health impact and to secure sustainable funding ideally from insurance companies themselves.

Turning Point in Steuben County also recently launched a similar program called "Fresh Farmacy" that is based in their main offices and food pantries. This program is funded by FLPS and a HPNAP seed grant from the Food Bank. In this model, vouchers are redeemed at the pantry itself and Turning Point staff serve as point of contact to make referrals to other programs. The program began in September as a pilot and takes 6 months to complete. Turning Point is also hiring three peer supervisors. Patients focus on wellness and create a discharge plan for the end of the program.

Natasha shared about FBST's new relationship with Partnership for a Healthier America. Matt Griffin and David Russell went to Chicago for their conference and this opens us up to access their resources.

## **6. Committee Planning**

Christina Sonsire was elected to Chemung County legislature and has stepped off the Advocacy Committee to avoid a conflict of interest. Sheri Hughey has stepped down from the Board and thus is no longer on the Committee. Both Mark Bordeau and Dave Radin termed out off the Board but continue to serve on this Committee. Lorna is now the only Board member on this Committee.

Lyndsey led the Committee through pair discussion and share out about the future of this committee. The group discussed potential new committee recruits, Committee activities

Natasha stressed that this Committee is focused on policy and not on programs and needs to think about this work in a more holistic fashion.

The group discussed potential recruits: farmers;

Activities included an invitation to the Food Bank with Broome County Executive Jason Garnar, an event with NYS Ag Commissioner Richard Ball – including a food bank tour and perhaps volunteering at a Kids Farmers’ Market,

Tess shared that the Steuben County Manager recently gave a presentation to the Rotary on how county budgets work so this could be a good opportunity for sharing that information.

The group also discussed meeting times and decided to meet in June instead of July and in early February instead of early January to have more information on state and federal priorities. The February meeting will include finalizing our advocacy priorities for the year which can then be voted on by the full Board before the DC conference and Albany Lobby Days.

**7. Wrap up/Adjourn**

The next meeting is on June 10th from 2-4pm.

<i>Follow Up Items</i>	<i>Person Responsible</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
Share press release on elimination of reduced priced category in NYS	Mark Bordeau	When available
FBST will calculate how many reduced students affected in 6 counties	Randi Q / Jen Bertron	By 4/5/19
Mark will invite Jason Garnar to FBST		

Meeting was adjourned at 4:06.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Randi Quackenbush

# Food Bank of the Southern Tier

## 2019 Advocacy Committee Matrix

Members will both inform the committee what is new with their stakeholder group as well as update us on the policy priorities from their umbrella organization(s).

Occupation Areas & Expertise Areas	Currently covered by:	Prospective Members:
Seniors	Jessica Gosa	
Schools	Mark Bordeau, Nancy Eckstrom	
Families with Children/Out of School Time		Jen Perna (Broome)
Partner Agencies		Kathy Greene (Steuben)
People with Lived Experience	Catherine Rogers, Jackie Bogart, Wendy Pursel, Lorna Swaine-Abdallah	
Farmers/Ag	Erin Summerlee, Tess McKinley	Farm Bureau rep?
Public Health (Recovery, Disability, Insurance)		Gen Meredith (To), Charles Thomas (St), Lara Parilla (To), Tom Pieklo (St)
Transportation		IHS? Mobility Managers?
Veterans		Charles Thomas (St)
Social Services/Partner Organizations	Tess McKinley (need to confirm)	
Educators / Teachers	Lorna Swaine-Abdallah	

## County Representation

Broome	Mark Bordeau, Erin Summerlee, Lorna Swaine-Abdallah	
Chemung	Dave Radin, Steve Fowler?	
Schuyler	Maggie Coffey	
Steuben	Tess McKinley	
Tioga	Catherine Rogers, Jackie Bogart, Nancy Eckstrom	
Tompkins	Jessica Gosa	

## Orgs to use as sources to inform policy priorities:

Hunger Solutions  
 NYSCAA  
 No Kid Hungry

Feeding America  
 School Nutrition Association  
 Feeding NYS

FRAC  
 Justice & Peace



## DRAFT 2020 Advocacy Committee Calendar

### January – *Heat & Eat*

- Anti-Hunger Policy Conference prep
- Prepare Advocacy Committee agenda for February

### February

**3** - Advocacy Committee (focus on legislative priorities/budget season)

**26** - Albany Lobby Day

**29 - March 3** – Anti-Hunger Policy Conference in DC (trip extends one day on either side)

### March – *National Nutrition Month*

### April – *Volunteer Appreciation Month*

**1** - NYS Budget due

### May - *Older Americans Month*

- Prepare Advocacy Committee agenda for June

### June

**1** - Advocacy Committee Meeting (plan for summer visits)

### July – *Summer Meals / Summer Hunger*

- Prepare Advocacy Committee agenda for August

### August

**3** - Advocacy Committee meeting (focus on Hunger Action Month)

**3-Sept 4** – House on August Recess (possible visits in district)

**5-Sept 6** – Senate on August Recess (possible local visits)

**September** – *Hunger Action Month*

- Voter registration drive
- Prepare Advocacy Committee agenda for October

**October**

**5** – Advocacy Committee Meeting

**November** – *Veterans*

**2-6** – House on Recess – possible in-district visits

**3** - Election Day

**11** - Veterans Day

**December**

- Holiday BackPack Repacks