

**FOOD BANK OF THE SOUTHERN TIER
STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING
October 23, 2023 2:30PM-4:00PM**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89185603622?pwd=R1o4eHF2aFpuSFVwZFFyU3pOVUh1QT09>

AGENDA

TOPIC	FACILITATOR	ACTION	TIME
1. Welcome & Check-in	Erin Summerlee	Discuss	5
2. Approve August Minutes	Erin Summerlee	Decision	5
3. Foundant Grants Management Overview	Amanda Palme	Discuss	5
4. Emergency Cold Storage Grants	Randi Quackenbush	Discuss	15
5. Impact Grants Deep Dive	Randi Quackenbush	Discuss	35
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progress to date• Future plans• Successes and challenges			
6. Feb 2024 Board SIF Presentation	Mark Bordeau / Randi	Discussion	5
7. 2024 Meeting Schedule	Erin Summerlee	Decision	5
8. Next Steps	Randi Quackenbush	Decide	5
9. Wrap-up / Adjourn	Erin Summerlee	Discussion	5

Next Meeting
Jan 2024 TBD



Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2023
2:00-4:00 pm (via Zoom)

Member Name	In Attendance	Unable to Attend
Erin Summerlee (Chair)	X	
Tess McKinley		X
Jamila Michener	X	
Kathy Rasmussen	X	
Andy Fagan	X	
<i>Ex-Officio</i>		
Mary Pat Dolan	X	
Mark Bordeau	X	
<i>Staff</i>		
Randi Quackenbush	X	
Sarah DeFrank	X	
Kathryn Miller	X	
Jen Bertron	X	

1. Welcome and Check

Chairperson Erin Summerlee began the meeting at 2:00 pm.

2. Approve April 24, 2023 Minutes

*Kathy Rasmussen made a motion to approve the April 2023 minutes.
 Erin Summerlee seconded. None opposed. Minutes approved.*

3. Diaper Bank Deep Dive

Sarah DeFrank reviewed the goal of increased access outcomes and ways the Food Bank is working on that goal, both internally and externally. The theory of change for adding diapers to pantries and the onboarding timeline was reviewed. As of 2023, 52 agencies, 11 senior Mobile Food Pantries, and 5 School Food Centers now have access to diapers. Diapers are one of the top three requested items by Kitchen Stork participants.

The cost of the Diaper Bank since 2021 will be almost \$300K by the end of 2023. Projecting to distribute over one million diapers this year. Diapers are mostly bought wholesale with some Baby2Baby donations. Some diapers may come through the National Diaper Bank of which the Food Bank is a member. The cost to the Food Bank is roughly 17 cents per diaper.

The Food Bank surveyed the pantries that offer diapers with positive reports. Increases in 0–4-year-olds served in both Diaper Bank and non-Diaper Bank pantries over the time that diapers have been available make it difficult to quantify the effect of diapers. The evaluation was limited by reporting challenges. A client survey will be going out in November 2023 which will ask clients directly about the impact of diapers.

The cost to run the program has two parts – cost of diapers and personnel. What are the personnel costs in terms of distribution. Is it seamlessly integrated in operations? Also, what are the intangible benefits? Important to look at more than one year of data, and how can this be integrated into the conversation about nutritious food if funding is limited. What happens to the trust relationship if

diapers have been offered and then they disappear. The plan is to work with the Development Office to help fund the Diaper Bank.

4. Feeding America Measurement, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Grant

FBST was awarded \$30K from Feeding America to be in the first cohort of this grant. Six food banks were chosen to participate. FBST will be focusing on Community Empowerment and the Community Advocates Program. Grantees are asked to be “evaluation champions” throughout the Feeding America network. Feeding America will provide information on useful evaluation models. Next steps for the MEL grant will be to evaluate what success looks like for the Community Advocates Program from different stakeholder’s viewpoints. Professor Michener will help the group develop a workplan.

5. 2024 Timelines and Project Priorities

Internal leadership needs to work on strategic analysis for the entire organization before matrix mapping of SIF programs can continue. Connecting the Food Bank’s strategic plan with the ongoing work of the SIFs is beneficial. Frequent communication with BOD members is useful to keep the SIFs in the Board’s mind. Identify pinch points. Randi will share the quarterly SIF report templates in the Board packet. It is important to acknowledge the immense background noise of the pandemic. Projects can move at different paces. Embrace the reality that some of the grander pursuits will take longer and consider this part of Board education that some of the Food Bank’s most important work will take place over the medium and long term. Be transparent and unselfconscious about these timelines. Use the expertise of the Board members on this Committee to educate and advocate. Randi will work with Matt and Dave on a high-level, easy to understand work plan of SIF projects to present to the Board. Work on data visualization.

6. Next Steps

Impact Grants are difficult to evaluate, but there has been a lot of process learning. Might be too early to discuss in October. Randi, Kathryn and Jen will discuss possible October meeting topics. Communication with the Board can be about what staff needs guidance on or what staff is excited about, or what staff needs from the Board in order to proceed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Action Items

- Randi will share the quarterly SIF report templates in the Board packet.
- Randi will work with Matt and Dave on a high-level, easy to understand work plan of SIF projects to present to the Board.
- Randi, Kathryn and Jen will discuss possible October meeting topics.

Minutes transcribed from a Zoom recording and respectfully submitted,

Kate Paterson

Executive Assistant to the President