



Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Food Package Review Work Group

November 13, 2024

Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 FDPIR Food Package Review Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Voting Members		Voting Members	
Mary Greene-Trottier (NAFDPIR President)	X	Joe Van Alstine (MWR VP)	X
Rex Hailey (NAFDPIR Parliamentarian)		Gloria Goodwin (MWR)	X
Jaime Prouty (NAFDPIR Treasurer)	X	Tonya Laurent (MWR Nutritionist)	X
Marisa Fuller (NAFDPIR Secretary)	X	Perry Martinez (SW VP)	
Debbie Reyes – Gardipee (WR VP)	X	Vacant (SWR)	
AC Sanchez (WRR)		Connie Black (SWR Nutritionist)	X
Carla Patterson (WR Nutritionist)/ Alisha Vallee on behalf	X	Janell Conway (NO FNS Branch Chief & Nutritionist)	X
Blake Garrison (MP VP)	X	Reena Oza-Frank (CDC Nutritionist)	X
Vacant (MPR)			
Vacant (MPR Nutritionist)			

Non-Voting Attendees	Non-Voting Attendees
FNS HQ Support Staff	Additional FNS/AMS Support Staff
Food Safety and Nutrition Division: Kristin Garcia, Katie O’Donnell, Kati Burton, and Lisa Mays	FNS Regional Offices: Ashton Tongco (MPRO), Devin Wilcox-Mccombs (WRO), Holly Williams (SWRO), and Courtney Coffman (MPRO)
Operations Division: Danielle Lyons and Jaimie Griffin	FNS Tribal Affairs: Joseph Geary and Heriberto Martinez
Policy Division: Samantha Prins	
Funding and Technology Division: John Enggren and Katie Clifford	
Program Integrity and Monitoring Division: Shenique Bridges, Kathy Staley, and Barbara Lopez	

I. Welcome and Attendance

- a. FNS confirmed attendees and provided an overview of the agenda.

II. Workgroup Membership and Updates

a. Vacancies

- i. FNS acknowledged that there are currently three vacancies on the Workgroup, which include the Mountain Plains Representative and Nutritionist, and the Southwest Representative.
- ii. Workgroup members from the Southwest Region confirmed that Lorraine Davis from Navajo Nation will be the new Southwest Representative.
- iii. NAFDPIR President confirmed that the Mountain Plains Nutritionist has vacated her position, and a replacement will be identified soon.



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b. Workgroup Charter

- i. FNS initiated the process to update the Workgroup Charter during the March 2023 in-person Workgroup meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, but an updated Charter was not finalized.
- ii. Prior to the meeting, FNS shared a summary of proposed changes to the Workgroup. After the meeting, FNS shared a draft copy of the Charter with tracked edits and Workgroup members were encouraged to review the documents before the next Workgroup meeting. This topic will be included as an agenda item during the next Workgroup meeting in February 2025.

c. Meeting Cadence

- i. The Workgroup met six times in FY 24 and FNS requested that the Workgroup establish a meeting cadence to ensure food package needs are addressed timely.
- ii. Workgroup members agreed to hold regular virtual calls but reiterated the need to continue annual in-person Workgroup meetings, preferably at a tribal venue every other year.
- iii. FNS collected each Workgroup members preference for the location and date for the next in-person Workgroup meeting.
- iv. Workgroup members shared potential conflicts in Spring 2025, including the SWIFT meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma in March, and the Western Regional meeting and Tribal Self-Governance Conference in April.
- v. The Workgroup collectively agreed that March or April 2025 are preferred for the next in-person meeting and strongly recommended that it is held at Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation with lodging at Prairie Band Casino and Resort.
- vi. FNS distributed a digital feedback form with suggested dates to the Workgroup after the meeting.

III. Workgroup Goals

- a. FNS presented two recommendations for the Workgroup to prioritize in FY 25:
 - i. Update the Workgroup Charter, and
 - ii. Understand data needs to make informed decisions about the FDPIR food package. The Workgroup has requested regional take rate data at previous Workgroup meetings.
- b. The Workgroup expressed their interest in receiving data on fresh produce offered and the percent that is available to ITOs.
- c. FNS shared that DLA is reviewing what products are being offered, their seasonality, and the notification process when other pack sizes are available. The Workgroup noted that the recent food package update to increase pack sizes offered increased opportunities for the vendors to offer a greater variety of products.



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- d. The Workgroup expressed concerns about the distribution of produce that arrive in larger pack sizes.

IV. Next Workgroup Meeting

- a. The next Workgroup meeting will be held virtually in February 2025.

V. Meeting Adjourned