

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) Food Package Review Workgroup Meeting Minutes: September 25, 2025

Voting Members

Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Mary Greene-Trottier <i>(NAFDPIR President)</i>	X	Vacant <i>(Mountain Plains Nutritionist)</i>	
Rex Hailey <i>(NAFDPIR Parliamentarian)</i>		Joe Van Alstine <i>(Midwest Region Vice President)</i>	X
Jaime Prouty <i>(NAFDPIR Treasurer)</i>		Gloria Goodwin <i>(Mid-West Region Representative)</i>	X
Marisa Fuller <i>(NAFDPIR Secretary)</i>	X	Tonya Laurent <i>(Mid-West Nutritionist)</i>	X
Debbie Reyes – Gardipee <i>(Western Region Vice President)</i>		Anna Sterner <i>(Southwest Region Vice President)</i>	
AC Sanchez <i>(Western Region Representative)</i>	X	Lorraine Davis <i>(Southwest Region Representative)</i>	
Carla Patterson <i>(Western Region Nutritionist)</i>	X	Connie Black <i>(Southwest Region Nutritionist)</i>	
Blake Garrison <i>(Mountain Plains Vice President)</i>	X	Janell Conway <i>(USDA Food and Nutrition Service Nutritionist)</i>	X
Nathaniel Brown <i>(Mountain Plains Representative)</i>		Reena Oza-Frank <i>(HHS Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Nutritionist)</i>	X

NAFDPIR stands for the National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations.

Non-Voting Attendees

FNS National Office Support Staff	Additional USDA Support Staff
Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs (SNAS) Front Office: Claire Brown	FNS Regional Offices: Devin Wilcox-McCombs, Courtney Coffman
Food Safety and Nutrition Division: Daniel Karlstrum, Pia Rose	FNS Tribal Affairs: N/A
Operations Division: Laura Castro, Christina Riley, Jaimie Griffin	Agricultural Marketing Service: Denise Glover
Policy Division: N/A	
Funding and Technology Division: Jerilyn Malliet, Katie Clifford	
Program Integrity and Monitoring Division: Shenique Bridges, Barbara Lopez, Kathleen Staley	

I. Welcome and Attendance

- a. USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) confirmed attendees and introduced two new members of the Workgroup - Anna Sterner, Southwest Region Vice President (succeeding Perry Martinez) and Nathaniel Brown, Mountain Plains Representative.

II. NAFDPIR Conference Follow-up

- a. FDPIR Food Package Review Workgroup Charter



- i. FNS shared the draft charter during the USDA Foods General Session presentation at the 2025 NAFDIPR Annual Conference. FNS confirmed that conference attendees did not provide any additional feedback on the charter.
- ii. The Workgroup requested a copy of the charter, and FNS agreed to resend a clean copy of the draft charter, a marked-up version with tracked changes, and a link to previous Workgroup meeting minutes. The Workgroup will vote to finalize the charter at the January 2026 meeting.
- iii. The Workgroup expressed concern that they haven't worked on specific food package activities this year. FNS encouraged the Workgroup to identify goals and objectives for 2026 before the next meeting to assist in generating priorities for the Workgroup.
- iv. The Workgroup inquired about the list of foods they have shown interest in as potential items to add to the food package in the last few years. FNS confirmed the list is current and will resend the list to the Workgroup to discuss in conjunction with Workgroup priorities for next fiscal year during the January 2026 meeting.
- v. FNS informed the Workgroup that the top five foods the Workgroup voted to add to the food package were added in fiscal years 2023 and 2024, and this year's priority was to assess how those foods were received and their overall take rates.
- vi. The Workgroup wanted to confirm there was a representative from USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) on the call and if they were familiar with the list of foods they were interested in.
- vii. AMS confirmed attendance at the meeting and intent to review the list in preparation for the January 2026 meeting.
- viii. The Workgroup inquired about the frequency of meetings and expressed a desire to have meetings more often.
- ix. FNS noted the frequency of meetings is included in the charter and if the Workgroup prefers a different meeting cadence, the topic can be discussed during the January 2026 meeting.
- b. Vacancies in the Workgroup
 - i. The Workgroup filled two vacancies - Anna Sterner, Southwest Region Vice President from Muscogee Creek Nation, and Nathaniel Brown, Mountain Plains Representative from Standing Rock Nation.
 - ii. FNS confirmed the Mountain Plains Nutritionist position is the only remaining voting member vacancy in the Workgroup.
 - iii. The Workgroup indicated there is someone interested, and they will follow up once the person is confirmed.

III. USDA DoD Fresh Updates

- a. FNS reminded the Workgroup that if they do not see products in the catalog that are on the Guide Rate, they should contact the vendor and request it be added to the catalog. FNS is actively meeting with Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) partners and requesting that they add seasonal products to the catalog.
- b. FNS shared a list of the USDA DoD Fresh Produce Vendors contacts. The Workgroup requested to have DLA representatives join future Workgroup meetings. FNS is committed to determining if this request is feasible.



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- c. The Workgroup expressed concerns about inconsistencies in the sizes/weights of the produce received and how that makes it difficult to distribute fresh produce.
- d. FNS thanked the Workgroup for providing feedback and noting the need for consistency in unit size.
- e. FNS also reminded the Workgroup that the USDA DoD Fresh produce poster is available for order for free from the [publications warehouse](#).

IV. Next Workgroup Meeting – January 2026 (virtual)

- a. The next Workgroup meeting will be held virtually in January 2026.

V. Meeting Adjourned: Summary of Action Items

- a. ACTION ITEM: FNS will provide the Workgroup the list of foods to consider for the food package, the draft and clean versions of the updated charter, and the most recent USDA DoD fill rates via email.
- b. ACTION ITEM: FNS will identify potential dates for the January 2026 meeting and provide meeting details to the Workgroup.
- c. ACTION ITEM: The Workgroup will review the charter and be prepared to vote on it during the January 2026 meeting.
- d. ACTION ITEM: The Workgroup will discuss and identify potential food package activities to prioritize for fiscal year 2026 during the January 2026 meeting.