

# Hunger Free Communities Network™

December 2021



**Hunger Free  
Communities  
Network**

## QUARTERLY BULLETIN

### **2021 Hunger Free Communities Virtual Summit**

The annual Hunger Free Communities Virtual Summit was held on November 3rd and 4th. Over the course of two days, speakers presented updates on WIC, veteran food insecurity, innovative tools on how to track hunger, and more. The importance of including advocates with lived experiences of hunger and poverty was highlighted throughout multiple sessions, as well as addressing racial inequalities and the impact of hunger on mental health.

The summit was made a success through our sponsors General Mills, Share Our Strength, Bread for the World, Feeding America, Islamic Relief USA, Congressional Hunger Center, and Poetry x Hunger. Share Our Strength presented on school nutrition, Feeding America presented an update on SNAP, and Poetry x Hunger shared inspiring poems during the networking sessions. Bread for the World presented on the Build Back Better Act and on interfaith engagement, alongside Islamic Relief USA.

The summit was a great opportunity to learn about community efforts addressing hunger; I learned a lot about the different approaches organizations have nationwide, and I look forward to next year's conference!

If you missed any of the sessions, you can watch the recordings [here](#) or on our [website page](#).

-Sara Ashraf (Hunger Free Communities Associate, VISTA)

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The Alliance to End Hunger is helping the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics identify and review programs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that provided innovative solutions to feeding food insecure people. Please contact [Minerva Delgado](#) if you would like to submit your program for review.



### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **NEXT HFC QUARTERLY WEBINAR**

**Tuesday, December 14  
02:00 PM – 03:00 PM EST  
Register [HERE](#)**

*Please note we moved our webinars to Zoom. Participants must now register for each Webinar via the links provided.*

### **ARCHIVED EVENTS**

September Quarterly Webinar  
Recording [Here](#)

June Quarterly Webinar  
Recording [Here](#)

March Quarterly Webinar  
Recording [Here](#)

*If you have any questions or if you'd like to share any news with the HFC network in our next quarterly bulletin, please reach out to [Sara Ashraf](#).*

## **UPDATES TO OUR RESOURCE LIBRARY!**

**“City of Indianapolis Racial Equity Goals & Strategies Toolkit” by Indy Food Council**

**“Your Guide to Gleaning” by Feeding America**

**“Why College Students Face Hunger” by Feeding America**

**“Still Minding the Grocery Gap: A 2021 Update” by DC Hunger Solutions**

**“New Research Shows SNAP Reduces Hospital and ER Visits, Lowers Medicaid Costs by \$2,360 per Person Annually” by Benefits Data Trust (BDT)**

**“Racially equitable responses to hunger during COVID-19 and beyond” by Bread for the World Institute**

## **NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK**

### **Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger**

The Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger’s Annual [Race Against Hunger](#) is coming up Spring 2022. Details will be announced soon! [Learn more](#) about the great work the Coalition Against Hunger does in their 2020-21 annual report, and get all the latest updates by signing up for their [Coalition Community Updates](#) or following [@GPCAHunger](#) on social media.

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### **Hunger Free New Jersey**

In New Jersey, like many states, federal nutrition programs are underutilized, partly because people either do not know they exist or they think they do not qualify because they work. To help increase awareness and reach of these programs – which provide food aid for everyone from infants to older adults – Hunger Free New Jersey has launched a new campaign called [Hungry? Get Help](#). Hunger Free New Jersey will be distributing messages via its website, e-news and social media (including a flyer and graphic that can be downloaded and shared) and is calling on its many partners to do the same.

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### **Arizona Food Bank Network**

Read AzFBN’s [Fall 2021 Newsletter](#) to learn more about their ongoing response to Covid-19 and their advocacy efforts. AzFBN also recently did a month-long Native American food sovereignty blog series in November. Read the blog posts [here](#).

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### **Announcing New HFC Partner!**

The [Carolina Hunger Initiative](#) at the UNC Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention has now joined the HFC Network. The Carolina Hunger Initiative partners with school systems, state agencies, community organizations, local businesses, and more to expand access to healthy meals year-round for North Carolinians.

They use programming, applied research, and compelling communications to support policy, systems, and environmental changes to more readily connect people with the food they need. Carolina Hunger Initiative welcomes and embraces ideas for the tough challenges we face now and tomorrow. Their goal is to incubate sustainable solutions for expanding equitable food access.