Conference for Food Protection – Committee Periodic Report

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COMMITTEE NAME: Food Recovery

DATE OF REPORT: Dinitial fall progress report Spring progress report Second fall progress report Date submitted:1/22/2019 Date amended (if applicable):2/20/2019 Date accepted by Executive Board: Click here to

enter a date.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: COuncil I Council II Council III Executive Board

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Co-Chairs, Sandra Craig and Mitzi Baum

COMMITTEE CHARGE(S): Food Safety Regulations for Food Donations

Issue # I-24

1. Evaluate existing materials including the AFDO guidance, Comprehensive Resource for Food Recovery, and any other relevant guidances and documents pertaining to donated food; update the CFP guidance as needed; and evaluate opportunities to better disseminate existing guidance. 2. Identify best practices for handling, storage, and labeling of food for donation.

3. Examine existing state regulations that address food safety procedures for donation.

4. Recommend any necessary language changes to the FDA Food Code to ensure the safety of donated food.

5.Report back to the 2020 Biennial Meeting.

COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND TIMELINE:

We have broken down the work into subcommittees due to the volume of work assigned to this committee. Subcommittees 1a, 1b and 1c will work on tasks associated with the development of voluntary food donation guidelines for retail food establishments, intermediary organizations, and charitable receiving organizations. Subcommittees 2 and 3 will build upon the work completed by these 3 subgroups of subcommittee 1. Subcommittee 2 will consider whether any of the guidelines developed should be considered for incorporation into the FDA Food Code. Subcommittee 3 will develop a document to be used to communicate the key concepts for consideration by CFP pertaining to the work completed in Subcommittees 1 and 2. The FRC has set a goal to accomplish the first three charges by April 1st.

The group will then begin working on the 4th and 5th charges: Recommending any necessary language changes to the FDA Food Code to ensure the safety of donated food and writing up the report. The FRC has set a goal to accomplish charge #4 by June 1st.

Draft versions of the final report will continue to be edited and shared over the summer for acceptance and timely completion by September 1st.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

Dates of committee meetings or conference calls: The whole committee is meeting on the last Thursday of each month at 1:00 CST.

1. Overview of committee activities:

Several calls of the full committee were held. We reviewed the charges and began to review literature.

We have studied many documents that have informed the work of the committee. By reviewing what already exists, the committee can glean learnings from existing regulations and information to form opinions and create the final documents to be submitted. The first need that has been identified is the need to uniformly address terms in a manner that the lay person will understand. Can we simplify the terms and yet address the food safety need?

The committee decided that it would be more efficient to break into subcommittees. All of the currently working subcommittees (1a, 1b & 1c) are working on charge #1, developing ways to better disseminate existing guidance. They are meeting by phone every 2-3 weeks between full committee calls

Subcommittee 1a – They have had a conference call and are now ongoingly interacting online. They are going to be sending out a survey to this group. This group is dealing more with creating documents for permitted food establishments, so the simplification is not a critical for their documents. They are planning to develop tools to help this group sort out donation questions.

Subcommittee 1b – This group has been using email communications and plans to have a conference call next week. Discussing the goals for this group for their target audience. Plans to send a survey to larger group on their subgroup.

Subcommittee 1c – 2 meetings (calls) This group is dealing with charitable organizations and how to define them. Has sent out a survey to the members of that group to refine this definition. Plans to send another survey to the larger committee to ensure that all are aligned and not duplicating efforts.

We identified existing regulations in several states and local jurisdictions. The ones we found and have reviewed are Texas, Vermont, Washington

and California.

The full committee was charged with reviewing documents prior to the formation of the subcommittee work groups. The full committee conference calls were and continue to be used to discuss what has been gleaned from review of these documents. It was from this review that the committee felt that the existing guidance documents are sound, provide the appropriate food safety guidance but that due to the size and scope of these documents that they needed to be broken down into manageable, teachable segments, that developing one and two page fact sheets from the materials in the guidance documents would be the best way to provide the goals set out for the committee.

When the full committee meets we go over charges and our timeline to complete the work, where we are on the projects, each subcommittee is reporting on their progress & we discuss how to not duplicate work, what the next steps are. So far, the full committee has reviewed the following documents and these are the documents that the subcommittees are using to develop the "fact sheet" guidance tools.

CFP Comprehensive Guidance for Food Recovery Starbucks Food Safety Management System for Food Donation California Retail Food Code for Food Donations Texas Food Establishment Rules Washington State Department of Health Food Rescue – donation guide for businesses; school food donation guidelines Washington Retail Food code Vermont Guidance for Food Donation – businesses AFDO Model Consumer Commodity Salvage Code Guidance for Indiana schools FSIS Directive 7020.1 Guidance and Documents pertaining to donated foods IFPTI – Kansas legislators opinions about food safety regulation of hunger relief organizations Food Safety Regulations and Guidance for Food Donations – a 50 State Survey of State Practices (Harvard)

Plus many links to food safety and donation resources

2. Charges <u>COMPLETED</u> and the rationale for each specific recommendation:

- a. Evaluate existing materials including the AFDO guidance, Comprehensive Resource for Food Recovery, and any other relevant guidance materials and documents pertaining to donated food; update the CFP guidance as needed; and evaluate opportunities to better disseminate existing guidance. The review has been completed, we did not find a need to update the CFP guidance document as the recommendations in it are sound, science based and relevant. We evaluated the opportunities to better disseminate guidance and came to the conclusion that creating simple, easy to follow one and two page fact sheets on specific food safety topics related to the handling and preparation of donated food would be our focus.
- **b.** Identify best practices for handling, storage, and labeling of food for donation. This review has been completed and we are using this review to create the fact sheets.
- c. Examine existing state regulations that address food safety procedures for donation. This review has been completed.

3. Status of charges still <u>PENDING</u> and activities yet to be completed:

- a. Recommend any necessary language changes to the FDA Food Code to ensure the safety of donated food. This charge is still under discussion, most of the committee does not feel changes to the FDA Food Code is necessary.
- b. Report back to the 2020 Biennial Meeting. Report will be written once all charges are completed.

Three charges are still in progress and are scheduled to be completed on time for submission to Council Chairs for inclusion at the 2020 CFP Conference. Future conference calls are scheduled for 3/29/2019, 4/25/2019, 5/30/2019, 6/27/2019, 7/25/2019, 8/29/2019, and 9/26/2019.

COMMITTEE REQUESTED ACTION FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD: No requested action at this time

1. Note: Lauren Bush (non-voting member), Consumer Representative, has asked Anne Dolhanyk, Consumer Representative, to take her place on this committee. Anne recently joined the CFP to fulfil this role.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Content Documents:
 - a. Committee Member Roster: See changes noted above under "requested action" D No changes to previously approved roster

"Committee Members Template" (Excel) available at: www.foodprotect.org/work/ Committee roster to be submitted as a PDF attachment to this report.

- b. Committee Generated Content Documents (OPTIONAL): INo draft content documents submitted at this time
- 2. Supporting Attachments (OPTIONAL): DNot applicable

Committee Name: Food Recovery Committee

Last Name	First Name	Position (Chair/ Member)	Constituency	Employer	City	State	Telephone	Email
Baum	Mitzi	Co-Chair	Vending and Distribution Food Industry	Feeding America	Chicago	IL	312-641-6842	mbaum@feedingamerica.org
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