**SNAP Partner Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, January 23, 2025**

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| **Meeting Leaders:** | Meorah Solar, Heather Miles, Jean Cubic | **Zoom** |
| **Date:** | January 23, 2024 |
| **Time:** | 2:05 – 2:55 p.m. PST |
| **Location:** | Virtual Meeting: Zoom |

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| **Agenda Item** | **Purpose** | **Who** |
| **Welcome** | Welcome & Introductions | Meorah Solar & Heather Miles |
| **Updates** | Program Updates | Meorah Solar Heather Miles & Jean Cubic |
| **Grow this!** | Presentation | Christine Mouzong |
| **Community Partner Time** | Standing agenda topics | Community Partners |
| **Announcements** | Community/ Partner announcements | All |

SNAP Program Updates-

* SNAP will be hosting the SNAP Partner meeting moving forward!
* SNAP replacement during a disaster form has been simplified!
  + This form will be translated

Grow This! – Christine Mouzong

* [Grow This](https://foodhero.org/growthis) is 6 years old!
* Grow This! Background
  + Started in 220, based on West Virginia Grow This!
  + Bi-Mart Seed donations (2020- 2024), 1st year 900 seed packets
  + Starting in 2025, using farmer-grown Oregon seeds from the Territorial Seed Company and seed potatoes
  + 3 ways to sign up: households, classrooms, groups/programs
    - This year Food Grow will not be able to provide big quantities of seeds to groups/programs.
  + Tied to food hero social marketing messages
* Grow this works for Oregon- Far Reaching
  + 120,000 Oregonians participated in some way with Grow This! 2024.
  + In multiple ways: home gardens, teachers seed starting with classrooms, Head start Programs, Public libraries, 4-H clubs, Gril/boy/Club scouts programs and other youth groups
  + Reach to 36 counties plus most Tribal locations
  + Students in over 100 different school districts
  + Built awareness for the Food Hero Brand
* Grow this works for Oregon- Building our Brand
  + 2020 FH Brand recognition = 2,821 households, 25% said at least once
  + 2024 FH Brand recognition = 4314 households, 47% said at least once
* Grow this works for Oregon- Building confidence
  + From 2024 feedback survey (early Access) n = 1,276 returning
    - 89% planted seeds received, put them in the soil
    - 75 % tasted what they harvested form their home gardens
    - 93% reported an increase in using their garden harvest in a meal
* Grow this works for Oregon- Building Champions
  + Teacher as champions
  + Workplace wellness
  + Group leaders for Spanish-speaking communities
* What is new for Grow This! 2025
  + Seeds from territorial seed company
  + Households: everyone is growing the type of plants
  + Schools: Increased focus on pollinators, same plants
  + Community programs: mini kits for working with school-age children and teens
  + Everyone: grow along with your own seeds; monthly growing tips and recipes