# NATIONAL CSFP ASSOCIATION

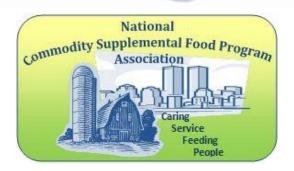
2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

October 26–28, 2014

Wyndham Philadelphia Historic District 400 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

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# National CSFP Association 2014 Annual Conference

### Sunday, October 26

2:30—3:30 PM: Closed Conference Committee Meeting (Adams)

3:30—4:30 PM: Closed Board of Directors Meeting (Adams)

5:30—7:00 PM: NCSFPA Conference Evening Reception (Philabundance—Departs from Wynd-

ham at 5:00 PM and 5:30 PM)

### Monday, October 27

7:30—8:15 AM: Optional Introduction to Philadelphia (Hotel Café)

8:30—9:30 AM: Keynote Speaker: Lydia Hernández Vélez (Franklin/Jefferson)

9:30—10:30 AM: Operations: CSFP & NCSFPA: History, Present, and Future Roundtable Discussion (*Franklin/Jefferson*)

9:30—10:30 AM: Advocacy: NCSFPA Hill and Hunger Legislation Update (Sherman)

**10:45—11:45 AM:** USDA General Session (*Franklin/Jefferson*)

12:00—1:00 PM: Lunch with Board of Directors and Trivia (Franklin/Jefferson)

1:00—2:00 PM: Keynote Speaker: Maggie Biscarr (Franklin/Jefferson)

2:00—3:00 PM: USDA Nutrition Panel (Franklin/Jefferson)

3:15—4:30 PM: Meetings with Regional Offices (See Nametag for Room Assignment)

4:30—5:30 PM: Mandatory NCSFPA Business Meeting (Franklin/Jefferson)

4:30—5:30 PM: USDA Staff Meeting—Closed to NCSFPA members (Sherman)

5:30—7:00 PM: The Constitutional Walking Tour of Philadelphia (Departs from Wyndham)

### Tuesday, October 28

8:30—9:30 AM: Operations: CSFP Food Ordering and Inventory Management Update (Franklin/Jefferson)

8:30—9:30 AM: Advocacy: Legislative Strategy Session (Franklin/Jefferson)

9:45—10:45 AM: Operations: Operations Panel (Franklin/Jefferson)

9:45—10:45 AM: Advocacy: Advocacy Panel (Sherman)

10:45—11:45 AM: Best Practices (Franklin/Jefferson and Sherman)

12:00—1:00 PM: Lunch and Recognition (Franklin/Jefferson)

1:00—1:45 PM: Hunger Partners Update (Franklin/Jefferson)

**2:00—3:00 PM:** Networking and Farewell (*Franklin/Jefferson*)

#### Sunday, October 26, 2014

2:30—3:30 PM: Closed Conference Committee Meeting

3:30—4:30 PM: Closed Board of Directors Meeting

#### 5:30—7:00 PM: NCSFPA Annual Conference Evening Reception at Philabundance

Philabundance Hunger Relief Center—3616 S Galloway St, Philadelphia, PA 19148

Buses to depart from the Wyndham Philadelphia Historic District at 5:00 and 5:30 PM

Please join the National CSFP Association and Philabundance for an evening reception at the Philabundance Hunger Relief Center in South Philadelphia. Celebrating the city of Philadelphia, the evening reception will feature hors d'oeuvres and desserts catered by the **Philabundance Community Kitchen**, colonial dancers heralding Philadelphia's historic past, and a bar menu featuring local brews. In addition, Philabundance staff will be on hand to guide attendees on tours of the Philabundance warehouse.

George Matysik, Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Philabundance, and President, NCSFPA

Melanie S. Cataldi, Philabundance Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Patricia Dombroski, Administrator, USDA FNS Mid-Atlantic Region

Diane Kriviski, Deputy Administrator, USDA FNS

### Monday, October 27, 2014

# 7:30—8:15 AM: Optional Introduction to Philadelphia

Please join NCSFPA President George Matysik for an unofficial "Introduction to Philadelphia" session at the Wyndham hotel cafe. George and the rest of the staff at Philabundance have been drafting a guide to their favorite features of the City and would love to share their perspectives as locals with you.

8:30—9:30 AM: Keynote Speaker: Lydia Hernández Vélez, Philadelphia Mayor's Commission on Aging (See page 7 for description)

# 9:30—10:30 AM: Operations: CSFP & NCSFPA: History, Present, and Future Roundtable Discussion

Those new to the NCSFPA and those looking for a refresher will hear from several NCSFPA board members about the history of the organization, our current organizational foci, and our long-term goals. In addition, our presenters will plot the trajectory of CSFP, from its beginnings as the precursor to WIC to the nation's only federally funded senior hunger relief program.

George Matysik, Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Philabundance, and President, NCSFPA

Barb Packett, CSFP Food Distribution Coordinator, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

# 9:30—10:30 AM: Advocacy: NCSFPA Hill & Hunger Legislation Update

With the passage of the 2014 Farm Bill and the expiration of the ARRA boost to SNAP, we have seen a great deal of changes that directly impact the landscape of hunger relief legislation since last year. This session will provide an update regarding the changes in funding and programs that will directly impact those working to increase food security for individuals and communities in need.

Caryn Long, Executive Director, Feeding Pennsylvania

Mark Lowry, Director, Orange County Food Bank Roger Szemraj, Principal Attorney, OFW Law

#### 10:45—11:45 AM: USDA General Session

In the USDA General Session, USDA FNS representatives will discuss issues applicable nationally, including but not limited to caseload and participation, funding, program policy, and operational updates on topics such as food availability and ordering.

Laura Castro, Director, Food Distribution Division, USDA FNS

#### 12:00—1:00 PM: Lunch with Board of Directors 4:30—5:30 PM: NCSFPA Business Meeting and Trivia

member for lunch and a game of trivia!

1:00—2:00 PM: Keynote: Maggie Biscarr, Hunger Programs Manager, AARP (See page 7 for description)

#### 2:00-3:00 PM: USDA Nutrition Panel

A panel of three nutrition professionals will present practical information that local agencies can use to provide nutrition and referral services to CSFP participants. Akua White will highlight USDA'S new recipe search site, "What's Cooking? USDA Mixing Bowl." The site features a searchable database of healthy, low cost recipes and other features that can serve as the basis for nutrition education activities. Mary Clare Rieschl will discuss how to find local people and agencies with the skills and abilities to help with providing nutrition education and referrals. Rena Quinton will talk about a tool she uses with her students when teaching how to purchase nutritious foods with SNAP benefits. Local CSFP staff may find it helpful to tailor the tool to use when working with program participants. Session attendees will have an opportunity to share their experiences with providing nutrition information to participants. Rena Quinton, PhD, Professor of Nutrition, Immaculata University

Mary Clare Rieschl, CSFP-MAC-NAPS Consultant, Minnesota Department of Health, and Chairperson, NCSFPA Nutrition Committee

Akua White, Nutritionist, USDA FNS Program Support Branch

#### 3:15—4:30 PM: Meetings with Regional Offices\*

Based on feedback from the 2013 NCSFPA Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, the NCSFPA has set aside this time for attendees to gather by region to discuss pressing issues in CSFP affecting their geographical area. State and local agencies, as well as any USDA staff in attendance, will be included by regional group.

\*See your nametags for your Regional Office and room assignments

Hear directly from the NCSFPA about the activities Please join your state's assigned Board of Directors that we have been working on over the past year. Please note that this session is mandatory.

#### 4:30—5:30 PM: Closed USDA Staff Meeting

This session is closed to the NCSFPA membership but is mandatory for all USDA attendees.

5:30—7:00 PM: Constitutional Walking Tour Join the **Constitutional Walking Tour** for a trek around Old City, Philadelphia's Historic District. Departing from the hotel, our tour guides will walk with you through 20 historical sites, giving you a flavor for Philadelphia's role in the founding of our country. Tours are expected to last approximately one hour and fifteen minutes, and are able to accommodate individuals with ambulatory disabilities.

#### Tuesday, October 28, 2014

#### 8:30—9:30 AM: Operations: USDA Update: **Food Ordering and Inventory Management**

USDA FNS staff will provide an overview of ordering and management of USDA Foods inventories in CSFP. This session will cover the USDA regulatory requirements, ordering and planning, and CSFP food inventory management best practices.

Special Allen, Program Analyst, Household Operations Branch, USDA FNS

Lauren King-Dillon, Senior Program Analyst, Household Operations Branch, USDA FNS

Carolyn Smalkowski, Program Analyst, Policy Branch, USDA FNS

#### 8:30—9:30 AM: Advocacy: Legislative Strategy Session

Over the next year, the NCSFPA has several concrete goals for CSFP, including expanding CSFP to admit states with approved state plans and without funding, changing the name of the program, and lessening the recertification burden across the country. However, the NCSFPA wants to solicit feedback and ideas from its member agencies: what do you want to see the NCSFPA accomplish over the next year? Please join us and provide us

with your ideas for making a better, stronger CSFP.

Mark Lowry, Director, Orange County Food Bank George Matysik, Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Philabundance, and President, NCSFPA

#### 9:45—10:45 AM: Operations Panel

This panel will include organizations and offices that have extensive experience or who have developed innovative methods in administrating CSFP. This conversation will include all aspects of supply chain management, from inventory control to logistics to the direct distribution of CSFP commodities.

Lauren King-Dillon, Senior Program Analyst, Household Operations Branch, USDA FNS

Jenna Linke, Senior Manager of Direct Programs, Philabundance

Trudy Wilson, CSFP Program Manager, Orange County Food Bank

#### 9:45—10:45 AM: Advocacy Panel

What's the best way to advocate for senior citizens in need? What can you do from your office and what must be done from Capitol Hill? How can you make your voice heard? Join our Hunger Partners for a session on the most effective methods of advocacy, particularly now that CSFP has become the nation's only hunger relief program accepting only senior citizens as applicants.

Jasmine Dickerson, Policy Analyst, Feeding America
Roger Szemraj, Principal Attorney, OFW Law
Ellen Teller, Director of Government Affairs, FRAC
(Food Research and Action Center)

Jennifer Wright, Assistant Manager—Public Policy, Philabundance

#### 10:45-11:45 PM: Best Practices

In this session, the NCSFPA will divide into local and state agency section to discuss practices for administrating CSFP. Hear from other NCSFPA member agencies working to better the program, and take some of their ideas back with you after you depart from our conference.

#### State Agencies—Sherman:

Tamara Dangerfield, Manager of Louisiana Commodity Supplemental Food Program DHH/Office of Public Health, State of Louisiana

Mary Clare Rieschl, CSFP-MAC-NAPS Consultant, Minnesota Department of Health, and Chairperson, NCSFPA Nutrition Committee

#### Local Agencies—Franklin/Jefferson:

Carolyn Fansler, ElderShare Program Manager, Central Pennsylvania Food Bank

Missy Rice, Agency Relations & Programs Director, Southeast Missouri Food Bank

#### 12:00—1:00 PM: Lunch and Recognition

The NCSFPA will divide its membership by agency size to allow for agencies to compare notes on how to administrate CSFP based on the sizes of their caseloads.

#### 1:00—1:45 PM: Hunger Partners Update

Hear from our Hunger Partners at FRAC and Feeding America about the work they have been doing over the past year and how they are fighting senior hunger from their unique vantage points.

Jasmine Dickerson, Policy Analyst, Feeding America Ellen Teller, Director of Government Affairs, FRAC (Food Research and Action Center)

#### 2:00—3:00 PM: Networking and Farewell

Before you depart the conference, we have set up a final farewell snack and time for networking.

### National CSFP Association Board of Directors



**George Matysik** *President*Philabundance (PA)



Lewis Clarke, III Vice President New York State Dept. of Health, Bureau of Nutrition Risk Reduction



Melissa "Missy" Rice Secretary Southeast Missouri Food Bank



Vanessa Franco Local Agency Director San Diego Food Bank (CA)



**Stephanie Gaush** *Local Agency Director*Weld Food Bank (CO)



Mark Lowry Local Agency Director Orange County Food Bank (CA)



**Matt McElhaney** State Agency Director Texas Dept. of Agriculture



Barb Packett
State Agency Director
Nebraska Department
of Health and Human
Services



**Kevin Peach**State Agency Director
Kentucky Dept. of
Agriculture



Pat Pearson
Local Agency Director
Second Harvest
Heartland (MN)



Carol Richburg
Local Agency Director
Atlanta Community
Food Bank (GA)



**Tim Robertson**Local Agency Director
Catholic Charities
Food for Families
(LA)



Lisa Satin Local Agency Director God's Pantry Food Bank (KY)

### Keynote Speakers

### Lydia Hernández Vélez

# Deputy Managing Director for Aging—City of Philadelphia Mayor's Commission on Aging Monday, October 27, 8:30 AM—9:30 AM

Lydia will be discussing how the partnership that led to the creation of the Senior Hunger Task Force and the creation of the Food Resource Guide occurred as a way of illustrating the importance of public/private partnerships to move the city's agenda to become an age friendly city. She will also share where the City of Philadelphia is in the World Health Organization process.

Lydia was appointed by Mayor Michael Nutter as Deputy Managing Director for Aging in November of 2010. She previously served as Executive Director of the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the Leukemia Lymphoma Society and Deputy Secretary of Banking for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. She attended Barnard College of Columbia University and Hofstra University School of Law.

Born in New York to Antonio Hernández Arocho and Lydia Vélez Aquino of San Sebastian, Puerto Rico, Ms. Hernández Vélez attended public schools and graduated from William Howard Taft High School in the Bronx, NY. She was active in her high school Aspira club then served on the Board of Directors of Aspira, Inc. of Pennsylvania for 29 years, more than twenty of those years as Chairperson during which Aspira grew to operate two charter schools and a large leadership development program in 18 local high and middle schools.

#### Margaret Ernst—Communications Director, POWER

From 2011 through 2013, Margaret Ernst worked as an AmeriCorps VISTA with the Mayor's Office of Civic Engagement and Volunteer Service. Her work during that time led to the creation of the Mayor's Commission on Aging's Senior Hunger Task Force, which developed and distributed over 10,000 food resource guides and increased collaboration between hunger and aging networks. She now brings experience in research, writing, and grassroots volunteer management to her role as Communications Director for POWER, a Philadelphia-based, interfaith community organizing group.

### Maggie Biscarr

#### **Hunger Programs Manager—AARP**

Monday, October 27th, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

Maggie Biscarr from AARP Foundation's Hunger Impact Area will discuss the causes and effects of food insecurity among low-income older adults, including the health implications. She will highlight some of the most highly effective solutions to fighting senior hunger, and lead a discussion about the opportunities for innovation and collaboration among practitioners, policy makers and other key stakeholders.

Maggie is a Program Manager with AARP Foundation's Hunger Impact Area. In her position, she is responsible for program development and grants management, and manages key strategic partnerships with Meals on Wheels Association of America, The Campus Kitchens Project, Fair Food Network, and others. Maggie has over 15 years of experience serving low-income and vulnerable populations of all ages. She has been with AARP since 2005, where she has worked on issues including grandparent caregiving, economic security and work, public benefits access, and most recently Hunger, which she has worked on since its inception with the Foundation. Maggie has a master's degree in Social Work from the University of Georgia and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Mercer University, and has prior direct service experience in both mental health and child welfare.

### **Speaker Bios**

### Melanie S. Cataldi, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Philabundance

Mrs. Cataldi oversees all Philabundance programs including job training, meal production, and all community food programs - both direct and through its network of 400+ member agencies. Mrs. Cataldi has been with Philabundance since 2000, first serving as Program Director of the Delaware Valley Community Kitchen, now the Philabundance Community Kitchen. As Program Director she was responsible for locating and allocating community resources, curriculum development and the teaching of food service. Her subsequent positions at Philabundance have included Nutrition Services, Director of Programs and Senior Vice President of Programs and Operations. Prior to Philabundance, Mrs. Cataldi served as a nutrition educator at Temple University and Life Sport Fitness Facility in Philadelphia where she provided exercise and weight management recommendations for members.

Mrs. Cataldi received her Master of Public Health from Temple University and her Bachelor of Science degree from Drexel University. She currently resides in Philadelphia.

#### Lewis H. Clarke, III, Director, Bureau of Nutrition Risk Reduction, New York State Department of Health, and Vice President, NCSFPA

Lewis has a long history with public health programs in the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). Lewis is currently the Director of the Bureau of Nutrition Risk Reduction (BNRR) and the Director of the NYS Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). He also continues to direct the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as HPNAP, and has had that assignment for over 20 years. He has experience with other programs within the Department of Health as well, including functioning as Director of the Asbestos Control Program and the Toxic Substance Assessment Program within the Division of Environmental Health. In addition, Lewis worked as a research scientist for Johnson & Johnson and Colgate Palmolive Companies and, in the New York State Department of Health's

Wadsworth Laboratories. He is a graduate of Princeton University and completed the master's level curriculum in Public Health, State University of New York, and the Department of Health's School of Public Health.

#### Tamara Dangerfield, Manager of Louisiana Commodity Supplemental Food Program DHH/ Office of Public Health, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

Tamara is a Native Louisianan and has worked for the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Office of Public Health a total of 11 years. Since 2007, she has been the State Agency Program Manager for CSFP. The Louisiana CSFP Program is the third largest program in the nation serving a caseload of over 65,000. Tamara is passionate about Public Health as she strives to incorporate her Master in Business from Southeastern Louisiana University and training received from the Tulane South Central Public Health Leadership Institute into managing the CSFP Program.

#### Jasmine Dickerson, Policy Analyst, Feeding America

Jasmine is a Policy Analyst for Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief charity. In this capacity, she works on Federal commodities (including TEFAP and CSFP) and on annual Agriculture Appropriations.

Dickerson has a diverse background in both the policy and political sectors. Prior to joining Feeding America in August 2012, Dickerson worked as a legislative assistant for Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey, where she handled several issue areas. most notable as the agriculture, hunger, and nutrition staffer. She was responsible for advising the Member on critical voting decisions, establishing and maintaining relationships with federal agencies and commodity organizations, and advancing the Member's legislative agenda. In this role, Dickerson was able to include two provisions in the 2010 child nutrition bill. The first authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to create a pilot program that offers competitive grants to schools to access organic foods from their local or regional

farmers. The second provision raises the nutrition standards of competitive foods and drinks sold alongside school meals in cafeterias, vending machines, and school stores.

Before Representative Woolsey, Dickerson worked in the legislative office of Representative Elijah E. Cummings. Dickerson also has experience working on congressional campaigns and with Leadership Political Action Committees, including for the Assistant Democratic Leader James E. Clyburn and Representative Chaka Fattah.

Dickerson began her career as a legislative assistant at the National Alliance of State and Territory AIDS Directors and as an intern in the Office of Representative Stephanie Tubbs-Jones.

Dickerson is native of Cleveland, Ohio. She holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from Trinity College in Washington, DC.

### Carolyn Fansler, ElderShare Program Manager, Central Pennsylvania Food Bank

Carolyn is the ElderShare Program Manager for the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank. She oversees the Commodity Supplemental Food Program as well as the Food Bank's private ElderShare Program, which provides a monthly box of food to participants on the CSFP Waiting List. Carolyn, who has a background in project and process management, has been with the Food Bank since January 2010. Prior to that, she worked as a healthcare management consultant for a national professional services organization.

## Jenna Linke, Senior Manager of Direct Programs, Philabundance

Jenna has been with Philabundance for over 5 years, and is currently the Senior Manager of Direct Programs. Upon her arrival at Philabundance, she was responsible for monitoring all member agencies, which was great background for the position of managing CSFP. The current CSFP caseload of 9146 boxes is distributed through approximately 110 member agencies and 11 direct sites. Currently, along with CSFP, she oversees Philabundance's Fresh For All and KidsBites programs. Jenna has a wealth of varied experience in the non-profit world, with previous positions at the Houston Food Bank, Houston Area Women's Center, and PA Guild of Craftsmen.

Jenna holds a Bachelor's Degree in English from Loyola University New Orleans. A native of the Philly suburbs, she lives in Abington, PA with her husband, two cats, and one dog. They are all looking forward to the arrival of her baby next month!

### Caryn Long, Executive Director, Feeding Pennsylvania

Carvn is the Executive Director of Feeding Pennsylvania. Caryn brings to Feeding Pennsylvania extensive knowledge about anti-hunger policy and legislation, having previously served as a Senior Policy Analyst in Feeding America's Washington, D.C. office and as a Congressional Fellow in the Office of Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. (PA) during the consideration of the 2008 Farm Bill. Prior to these experiences, she spent more than 6 years with the United States Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service. Caryn holds a Bachelor's degree with honors in English and Communication/Journalism from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, and a Master's of Science degree in Management from the University of Maryland University College. A native of Pennsylvania, she currently lives in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania with her husband Matt and their two sons.

#### Mark A. Lowry, Director, Orange County Food Bank—Community Action Partnership of Orange County

Mark Lowry is director of the Orange County Food Bank. During his 22-year tenure, the quantity of food distributed by the Food Bank has grown from two million pounds per year to nearly 20 million pounds annually. Over 160,000 vulnerable people now receive food from the Orange County Food Bank each month.

Mark launched the Commodity Supplemental Food Program in Orange County, providing over eight million pounds of food annually to the local community. Mark also established a summer meals program providing lunch to school-aged children when school is not in session. He worked with the USDA to provide lower fat cheese in a federal nutrition program for seniors.

Mark has served on the NCSFPA for many years, most active on the Education/Public Policy Committee.

#### George Matysik, Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Philabundance, and President, NCSFPA

George is a lifelong resident of Philadelphia and has dedicated his career to fighting for the disadvantaged through leadership roles in non-profit, political, and community organizations. George currently serves as Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy at Philabundance, the Delaware Valley's largest hunger relief organization. In that position, he has helped develop multi-million dollar public/private ventures to alleviate poverty from our region, while raising issue awareness to political and philanthropic leaders. George also serves on the boards of the Pennsylvania Resources Council, Mercy Vocational High School, the National CSFP Association, the Philadelphia Daily New People's Editorial Board, and the Friends of Thomas Mifflin School. George will also be a candidate for Philadelphia City Council in 2015. An avid traveler, photographer, and reader,

George resides in greatest neighborhood in the known universe—East Falls—with his wife Alix.

#### Rena K. Quinton, PhD, RD, LDN, Professor of **Nutrition, Immaculata University**

Quinton is an Associate Professor and Director of Dietetic Internship at Immaculata University. Courses taught include Nutrition in the Life Cycle. Culture and Diversity in Foods and Nutrition, Honors Cultural Anthropology of Food, and Community Nutrition. She is also a presenter for EPIC® (Pediatric Obesity: evaluation, treatment and prevention in community settings) PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics. From 2005-2007 she is a former Assistant Professor and Director of Dietetic Internship at Texas A&M University. Quinton has served as a Nutritionist for the Eat Well Program under the Health Promotion Council in Philadelphia. She was also a Consultant Dietitian for the North Central District AIDS Coalition in Lock Haven, PA.

Quinton received her BA in Anthropology in 1974 from Princeton University. She received her MS and PhD in 1994 and 2004 in Dietetics and Nutrition from Florida International University, with her dissertation titled: Eastern Orthodox Christian fasting in northeastern Pennsylvania.

#### Melissa (Missy) Rice, Agency Relations & Programs Director, Southeast Missouri Food Bank

Missy has been with the Southeast Missouri Food Bank for six years. She is the Chief Administrative and Programs Officer and serves as the direct liaison for over 180 partner agencies across the sixteen-county service area. She oversees Food Bank programs such as the Truck to the Table Mobile Food Pantry, BackPack for Fridays, A Better Childhood School Pantry, and so many more. Missy is an advocate for those who are in need and recently spoke about hunger and poverty on Capitol Hill. She has served as the Missouri State Co-Coordinator for the Mississippi Delta Grassroots Caucus since 2012. Born and raised in Southeast Missouri, she worked as an insurance agent before sharing her spirit of service with those served by the Food Bank. In her free time, Missy enjoys Broadway plays, traveling, shopping, spending time with her friends and shamelessly spoiling her cat Elphaba.

#### Mary Clare Rieschl, CSFP-MAC-NAPS Consultant, Minnesota Department of Health, and **Chairperson, NCSFPA Nutrition Committee**

Mary Clare has been responsible for statewide management of the Minnesota Commodity Supplemental Food Program since 1993. The Minnesota CSFP operates from the WIC Section of the Minnesota Department of Health. Mary Clare has continuous membership in the National CSFP Association, has served several terms as a state agency director, chaired the Nutrition Committee and has served on the Education Committee and many NCSFPA Annual Conference Committees.

Mary Clare graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1980 and was the Director of a large 3 county WIC Program in central Minnesota for 13 years. She also worked part time with families enrolled in EFNEP while going to college. Another USDA Nutrition Program connection is membership on the Minnesota Food and Nutrition Network (MFNN), which was part of the Minnesota SNAP-Ed Program.

#### Roger Szemraj, Principal Attorney, OFW Law

Szemraj is a principal at OFW Law. Szemraj has more than 30 years experience on Capitol Hill, concentrating on agriculture including agricultural appropriations; Farm Bills; food assistance programs; international food aid and development programs; food safety issues; trade issues; biofuel opportunities; and research programs. He has served as chief of staff to Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur of Ohio (senior member of the House Appropriations Committee, ranking member of the Energy and Water Subcommittee, and former member of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee), former Congressman Bob Traxler of Michigan (former chairman of the Veterans, HUD, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, as well as former majority ranking member of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee), and former Congressman Jim Barcia of Michigan. He has worked on the CSFP program since 1976.

Szemraj was born in Buffalo, NY. He received his B.S.F.S. from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in 1975, and his J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1982. He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar.

## Ellen Teller, Director of Government Affairs, FRAC (Food Research and Action Center)

As Director of Government Affairs, Ellen Teller directs the development and implementation of FRAC's legislative agenda. Working with Congress, national organizations, and FRAC's diverse state and local grassroots field network, Ellen advocates for improved access and participation to domestic anti-hunger programs for low-income individuals and families.

Ellen joined FRAC in 1986 as a Staff Attorney and had previously worked at the American Bar Association's Section on Individual Rights and Responsibilities, the Center for Science in the Public Interest and the Consumer Federation of America. Ellen has a B.A. in Political Science and English Literature from the State University of New York at Oneonta, and a J.D. from Western New England University School of Law. She is a Member of the DC Bar and serves on the Boards of the Coalition on Human Needs (Chair); ActionAid USA; and the Congressional Hunger Center's Bill Emerson Hunger Fellows Advisory Committee. Ellen has been honored by the National WIC Association and the National Commodity Supplemental Food Program Association and has received the Congressional

Hunger Center Emerson Fellows' Fairy Godmother Award.

#### Barb Packett, CSFP Food Distribution Director, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Barb Packett as been with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for 33+ years and is currently the Nebraska Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) Director, a position she has held for the last 29+ years.

She has served on the NCSFPA Board of Directors in the following roles: Vice President, President, Past President, and State Agency Representative along with several NCSFPA committees.

Barb also has served on three 3-year terms as the CSFP State Agency Representative to the Nat'l Advisory Council on Maternal, Infant and Fetal Nutrition.

#### Trudy Wilson, CSFP Program Manager, Orange County Food Bank—Community Action Partnership of Orange County

Trudy Wilson has been with Community Action Partnership of Orange County for almost 11 years and has spent the past 5 years as the CSFP Program Manager in the Orange County Food Bank. After a long career in Chamber of Commerce management, she wanted to do something more meaningful by helping those in need. She was able to enter into the 501c3 world and took the position of Emergency Assistance Program Director for Lutheran Social Services, prior to her current employment. She was born in Sweden, grew up in Denver Colorado and has spent most of her life in Orange County California.

# Jennifer Wright, Assistant Manager—Public Policy, Philabundance

As Assistant Manager of Public Policy, Jennifer manages strategic partnerships, develops policy positions, and supervises Philabundance's Ameri-Corps VISTA program. Jennifer has also served as the NCSFPA Conference Committee Co-Chairperson in 2013 and 2014, and led the 2012-2013 NCSFPA Senior SNAP Survey. Jennifer graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 2012 with a bachelor's degree in anthropology.

### **USDA FNS (Food and Nutrition Service)**

#### **FNS National Office**

# Diane Kriviski, Deputy Administrator, Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs

Diane M. Kriviski is currently the Deputy Administrator for the Supplemental Nutrition and Safety (SNAS) Programs of the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). She is responsible for the administration of the Food Distribution Programs including USDA Foods for school lunches, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and the Emergency Food Assistance Program; the Supplemental Food Programs Division including the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), WIC and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Programs; and the Office of Food Safety. These programs are part of the nutrition safety net that FNS provides to children and needy families through better access to food, a more healthful diet and nutrition education.

Ms. Kriviski has served FNS for over 30 years at all levels of the organization. Early in her career, she worked with various FNS programs while in the Child Nutrition Division and Food Distribution Division and as a grant officer, assisting in the creation of the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program and the awards of the first grants to help implement WIC EBT. She has also held key positions in Financial Management, serving as Acting Chief Financial Officer and Budget Officer as well as Deputy Budget Officer. In that capacity, she provided leadership in the development and submission of the FNS annual fiscal budget for its 15 nutrition assistance programs, totaling over \$60 billion at that time. Prior to her current position, Ms. Kriviski served as the Deputy Associate Administrator for Special Nutrition Programs at FNS, helping to lead the effort to implement the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, the legislative centerpiece of First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! Initiative.

### Laura Castro, Director, Food Distribution Division

Laura Castro is currently Director of the USDA FNS Food Distribution Division. In this position, she is responsible for administration of several key nutrition assistance programs, including distribution of USDA Foods in the National School Lunch Program, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, the Emergency Food Assistance Program and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.

Prior to joining FNS in 2003, Ms. Castro held positions in the Secretary of Agriculture's budget office and the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). Ms. Castro has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the Ohio State University and earned a certificate in public accounting. She also holds a Master of Public Administration degree from The George Washington University.

#### Dana Rasmussen, Chief, Policy Branch

Dana Rasmussen is currently the Policy Branch Chief for the USDA FNS Food Distribution Division. In this position, he is responsible for development of regulations and policy for several key nutrition assistance programs, including the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. He has been with FNS since 2003.

Prior to joining FNS, Mr. Rasmussen obtained a Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree from the University of California, Irvine. He also served as an Individual Program Coordinator with the State of California's Department of Developmental Services. Mr. Rasmussen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology from Florida State University in Tallahassee.

#### Carolyn Smalkowski, Program Analyst, Policy Branch

Carolyn Smalkowski is currently a Program Analyst in the Policy Branch for the USDA FNS Food Distribution Division. In this position, Ms. Smalkowski provides policy support for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and the distribution of USDA Foods in the National School Lunch Program. She started at FNS in the fall of 2013.

Prior to joining FNS, Ms. Smalkowski served in the Peace Corps in Nicaragua from 2008 to 2010 and worked for several nonprofit organizations targeting poverty alleviation, food and nutrition, and human rights. She holds a Master of Arts degree in International Development Studies from the George Washington University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Vermont.

### Akua White, Nutritionist, Program Support Branch

Akua White is a Registered Dietitian (RD) working as a Nutritionist for the USDA FNS Food Distribution Division. She is the nutrition lead for the CSFP and TEFAP programs, the lead for the Food Distribution Program Nutrition Education grant for the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), and conducts special nutrition initiatives for FDPIR. Ms. White earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nutrition from New York University and a Master of Science degree in Nutrition from The School of Health Sciences, Hunter College.

### Special Allen, Program Analyst, Household Operations Branch

Special Allen has worked in the USDA FNS Food Distribution Division since 2005. She manages the ordering for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program for the Nampa Multi-food National Warehouse. She orders the Fruit and Vegetables for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, the Emergency Food Assistance Program and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. Special has a Bachelor of Science in Government Management and a Masters in Business Administration from Southeastern University. She is

also a native of Washington, D.C.

#### Lauren King-Dillon, Senior Program Analyst, Household Operations Branch

Lauren King-Dillon graduated from the Pennsylvania State University in 2004 with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Sciences. After college she began working with the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service where she procured beef and fish products for the National School Lunch Program and other Federal nutrition programs from 2004 – 2007. In 2007, Lauren joined the FNS Food Distribution Division and is currently a Senior Program Manager with the Household Operations Branch. Lauren is responsible for managing the CSFP program, managing the Kansas City and Syracuse National Multifood Warehouses and is a Contracting Officers Representative for the National Warehouse Contracts. Her goal is to continue improving access to a healthier food for participants in the USDA's food distribution programs. Lauren currently lives in North Carolina with her husband Michael and their 1 year old daughter Lilliana. She very much enjoys her new role as a mother.

#### **FNS Mid-Atlantic Region**

### Paulette Buszko, Senior Program Specialist, CACFP, FDP, CSFP

After many years of working in private industry and as a business owner, Paulette began her Federal career with the USDA, FNS in June 1997. Throughout these past 17 years, she has held numerous positions in Financial Management, Field Operations, and SNP, before settling into her current role as Senior Program Specialist for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Food Distribution Program's (FDP) CSFP.

After visiting several regional CSFP distribution sites and talking with some of the CSFP participants at those sites, Paulette feels she has finally found her niche in FNS.

#### Patricia Dombroski, Administrator

Patricia Dombroski is the Administrator of the Food and Nutrition Service Mid-Atlantic Region.

In that capacity, she provides leadership of 15 domestic nutrition assistance programs in six states. the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin thirteen Child Nutrition and Food Distribution Pro-Islands. Benefit and administrative funds for the Mid-Atlantic Region nutrition programs exceed \$12 billion and reach close to 30 million people each month. Prior to her current position, Ms. Dombroski served as Deputy Regional Administrator for the Mid-Atlantic Region. Ms. Dombroski has had the unique opportunity to direct all of the agency's assistance programs throughout her tenure with the Food and Nutrition Service. She has served as Mid-Atlantic Regional Director of the WIC Program, the Food Stamp Program (now known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and the Special Nutrition Programs. Ms. Dombroski also led the agency's largest field office, managing more than 15,000 food stamp retailers and the federally-operated Summer Food Service Program in New York State.

#### Donald Farrell, Senior Program Specialist, **USDA MARO**

Donald just joined the USDA FNS Mid-Atlantic Region Office as a Senior Program Specialist this October after five years as Agency Outreach Coordinator at the Community FoodBank in Hillside, NJ. At the FoodBank, Donald was responsible for starting the CSFP program in New Jersey in January 2010. With the assistance of FoodBank staff, volunteers and staff at two additional food banks, New Iersey was able to serve their full caseload allocated within six months and continued to serve close to 100% each month. Donald managed the daily CSFP operations, conducted staff and volunteer trainings and quarterly conference calls. He most enjoyed visiting the CSFP distributions and interacting with the CSFP senior participants. In July 2011 Donald joined the NCSFPA as a Board Member, marketing committee member and was named Treasurer in September 2011. Currently Donald is adjusting to his new position with the USDA and is glad that he will still be working with the CSFP program in addition to other FNCS programs.

#### Jim Harmon, Regional Director, Special Nutrition Programs

Iim Harmon is the regional director of the Special Nutrition Programs division for the USDA, Food and Nutrition Service's Mid-Atlantic Regional Office. He has held that position since 2005. In this position, lim has oversight responsibilities over grams in the nine States, with Federal financial participation of almost \$3 billion.

Jim joined FNS in 1975, spent the first 18 years of his career in school programs and the next nine as a section chief for the Food Distribution Programs. Jim worked in Financial Management for a year and a half where he was section chief for Grants Management operations. He was then promoted to regional director in his current position. Jim is a 1975 graduate of the University of Vermont where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree.

#### **Tim Walsh, Branch Chief, Community Nutrition Programs**

Tim is the Branch Chief of the Community Nutrition Programs Branch of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service's Mid-Atlantic region where he and his team work directly with 6 states, DC, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands administering the Food Distribution, Child and Adult Care, Summer Food Service and Disaster Assistance Programs. Tim has over 30 years of federal service, including 21 years with FNS where he has worked with a variety of food assistance programs, including the National School Lunch and Food Distribution Programs. Tim has also worked in the Public Affairs Office as the regional Community Relations Liaison where he fostered partnerships with various faith-based. community, and governmental agencies. He also served with the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Internal Revenue Service and the United States Air Force. Tim holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Drexel University.

#### **FNS Midwest Region**

#### Jessica Chui, Senior Program Specialist, Food **Distribution Branch**

Iessica Chui joined the USDA FNS Food Distribution division in 2011. She works in the household operations programs including the Emergency Food Assistance Program, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program for the Midwest Region. Jessica has a Bachelor of Science in Business Management and is currently pursuing her Masters in Business Administration from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois.

#### FNS Mountain Plains Region

#### **Catherine Young, Program Specialist**

Catherine (Cathy) has been a Program Specialist in the Special Nutrition Programs Division since 2007. She works in Household Programs and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. Earlier this year she took over the lead program responsibilities for CSFP in MPR. Before coming to work for the Federal Government, Cathy was a City Planner with the City and County of Denver, specializing in long-range planning and community development. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from Oregon State University and a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Colorado at Denver.

#### **FNS Northeast Region**

# Adrienne Vingiello, Community Nutrition Programs

Adrienne Vingiello has been with the USDA for 25 years. Adrienne has worked in both the policy and operation aspects of all of the FNS Food Distribution programs – USDA foods to Schools and other CN programs, FDPIR, TEFAP, NSIP, and CSFP. In addition to the FD programs, Adrienne has also been working on the SFSP in the Northeast Region for the past 10 years.

#### **FNS Southeast Region**

# John Hanna, Program Specialist, Special Nutrition Programs, Southeast Regional Office

John Hanna has been at USDA FNS for 22 years. He started his career in the Midwest Regional Office in Chicago working with several Food Distribution programs and worked with State agencies on commodity processing. In 1994, he transferred to the Southeast Regional Office in Atlanta where he has worked with the CACFP, SFSP, and is currently working with the Food Distribution programs. John has a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration from Indiana University, Bloomington.

#### **FNS Southwest Region**

## Lynn Jackson, Lead Program Specialist, SWRO Community Nutrition Program Branch

Lynn has been employed with the Food Nutrition Service (FNS) since 2010. As the Lead Program Specialist, Ms. Jackson provides support, technical assistance and team leadership for the Community Nutrition Program Food Distribution Team.

Prior to joining FNS, Ms. Jackson held various positions in marketing and customer service. For seven years she served as the Commodity Program Administrator for the Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS). While at the DHS, Lynn managed and provided guidance to a 12-member office. Her position as the Program Administrator for DHS is what sparked her love and respect for FNS and the services they provide. Lynn states she feels honored to be able to continue demonstrating her passion by providing guidance to State Food Distribution agencies within the Southwest Region of the FNS.

#### **FNS Western Region**

### Devin Wilcox-McCombs, Program Specialist, Western Regional Office

Devin began working at FNS' Western Regional Office in 2012. As a Program Specialist in the Supplemental Foods Branch, Devin provides policy guidance and technical assistance to State and Indian Tribal partners that administer CSFP, TEFAP, and FDPIR in the western United States.

Prior to joining FNS, Devin served as a Health and Community Development volunteer in the Peace Corps form 2009 to 2012 in the tiny West African nation of The Gambia. During his time in The Gambia, he worked with a local women's group to help start a community garden to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables and generate supplemental income. He also worked with the Ministry of Youth and Sports to start the Know Your Status Football Tournament, combining soccer and HIV education with the goal of empowering youth to be ambassadors of HIV awareness. Devin holds a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences from California State University, Chico. He is a California native and currently lives in Oakland.

### Thank You

We would like to express thanks to all of our to Conference Committee members and Philabundance staff who planned, executed, and volunteered during this conference.

#### Conference Committee Members

Erica Antonson

Tamara Dangerfield

Carolyn Fansler

**Donald Farrell** 

Erin Fisher

Susan Haire

George Matysik

Jerilin Nunu

Missy Rice

Carolyn Smalkowski

Jennifer Wall

Tim Walsh

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### Philabundance Staff Members

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Sean Breslin

Sarah Brookover

Breeanna Charolla

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**Emily Glick** 

**Kevin Hughes** 

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Emma Kornetsky

Samantha Strom

Lauren Lewis

Tanya Rotenberg

Special thanks to **Candace Matthews-Bass, Sunny Hassett,** and the **Philabundance Community Kitchen** team for catering the Evening Reception at Philabundance's Hunger Relief Center.



Need anything during the conference? Don't hesitate to reach out!

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