

## Rural Food Access WG (RFAWG) Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2015 2:30pm EST/11:30am PST

1. *Welcome and introductions*
2. *Presentation: **MoGro Mobile Grocery Program, by Rebecca Baran-Rees.** See separate attached files for slides.*

**For anyone wanting to follow up with Rebecca, please email [MoGro@SantaFeCF.org](mailto:MoGro@SantaFeCF.org)**

3. *Local Economies Subgroup Update (Marilyn) [standing agenda item]*

Small subgroup discussed USDA opportunities for improving rural local economies. Short turnaround time on the grant. But the emphasis on economic returns for farmers fell outside of our expertise. But Jane came forward with food box proposal. Marilyn and they are strengthening that proposal, building on Entrepreneurship article concepts. We're getting ready to submit it (Marilyn and Jane, extension contacts in CA, WA, VT). Also talking with Lisa Bailey Davis, Rebecca, Carmen Byker about opportunity to look at NIH R21 proposal for pilot/planning research grant to examine clinical or technological support for prediabetes/diabetes support with a local food access component. Geisinger Health very interested in this, and they have database with pt info they can access – with geographic and biometric data. They do a lot of health improvement, health record. But they want to have food access expertise. **Contact Marilyn Sitaker ([sitakerm@battelle.org](mailto:sitakerm@battelle.org)) if interested in participating in grant planning/writing process.**

3. *Discussion on ideas for RFAWG collaborative research projects: Topics, resources needed (Stephanie)*

Esther Thatcher laid out an idea for possible RFAWG collaboration, to identify and investigate rural US counties that have relatively low obesity/diabetes rates in spite of high risk factors. Using a positive deviance approach, we could use secondary datasets to identify counties that are positive outliers, and then do a more in-depth assessment of a sample of these counties to identify best practices or protective factors. Sheila Fleischhacker mentioned that NCCOR (National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research) is studying 4 communities (including 2 rural – Alaska and NC) who have declining obesity rates. She will help connect us to them for more information and methods. **Contact Esther Thatcher ([esthert@email.unc.edu](mailto:esthert@email.unc.edu)) if interested in participating in study planning and/or secondary data processing.**

5. *Other announcements and updates (All) [standing agenda item]*

**Next meeting: Tuesday May 19, 2:30pm EST/11:30am PST**

Presenter: Demia Wright on CDC funding programs related to rural food access