

## Knoxville-Knox County Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes

Date & Location: Wednesday, December 17, 2025; United Way of Greater Knoxville

Type of Meeting: Educational

Recorder: Sara Keel

Attending Appointed (Voting) Members <b>Bolded names in attendance</b>	Bruce Crabtree <b>Femeika Elliott</b> <b>Bailey Foster</b> Brett Foster Laura Deubler <b>Sara Keel</b> <b>Marisa Moazen</b> <b>Rylan Thompson</b> <b>Lauren Woods</b> Donna Wright <b>Sarah Dewitt</b>
Attending Associated (Non-voting) Members <b>Bolded names in attendance</b>	Trace Bateman John Camp <b>Nicole Gross</b> Julia Stewart Judith Pelot Adam Caraco <b>Travis Henderson</b> Marsha Spence Marissa McKeague Charlotte Rodina Hailey Lewis Caesar Stair Sandra Wairimu Becky Hooper Jen Russamano <b>Jasmine Bryant</b> Jen Durant
Staff Support <b>Bolded names in attendance</b>	<b>Ariel Allen—United Way Greater Knoxville</b> <b>Kimberly Pettigrew—United Way Greater Knoxville</b> <b>Madelyn Howe—Knox County Health Department</b> <b>Jessie Hillman—Knoxville-Knox County Planning</b> Kara Finger—City of Knoxville
Other Attendees (all names listed were in attendance)	<b>Other Attendees:</b> Noah McBrayer Jones, Bridge Refugee Services Jenna Bailey, KCDC Denarius Ross, Wesley House Liliana Burbano, UTMC Choe Mowry, Carex Design Group

	Rhea Joshi, UTK Public Health Jodie Johnson, KCDC AmeriCorps
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1.	<b>Reflection and Introductions – Marisa Moazen</b>
3.	<p><b>Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Business Updates – Marisa Moazen</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Approval of the Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Meeting minutes from June 2025 – Nov 2025 approved</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Organizational &amp; Committee Updates – Marisa Moazen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CJ Butcher Policy Update: New SNAP Waiver – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DHS seeking broad based categorical eligibility for SNAP, increases asset limit. Seeking governor's approval. Those participating in TANF will automatically be enrolled in SNAP.</li> <li>▪ TN Expansion Waiver will exclude high sugar food and include prepared food.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Bridge Refugee Services: Working on food resources for clients who are no longer eligible for SNAP. Also seeking coats.</li> <li>○ Femeika Elliot, Knox County Harden Alliance/Rooted East: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Working on a defensive campaign regarding HB295, reach out to help.</li> <li>▪ Seeking health-related vendors for their Black Maternal Health Conference. Conference will be a full week but vendors are needed for Sunday. Details here: <a href="#">Home - Knoxville Black Maternal Health Conference</a></li> <li>▪ EAST TENNESSEE COMMUNITY, HOUSING &amp; FARMLAND COMMONS, a Black-led community centered, democratically run, limited scope 501(c)(25) non-profit established to hold title to land, and to steward and convey secure and affordable lease for housing, food growing, community health and justice.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Women with Vision – seeking decorations/art supplies, hot cocoa station, and small boxes for upcoming Winter Bash</li> <li>○ Mobile Meals received Trinity Health Phase II grant</li> <li>○ MLK Youth Summit session on Jan 17 8:30-1:30 at Austin East, seeking volunteers</li> <li>○ American Heart Association – expanding cold storage initiative. Hosting Kids Cook with Heart program, aligning cold storage needs for Vine Middle. Recruiting cold storage participant to support national data collection.</li> <li>○ UTMC – Finished community health needs assessment, available online.</li> <li>○ KCHD – Diabetes management series starting Jan 8</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Knoxville-Knox County Planning agency is developing a new, long-range comprehensive plan to guide land use, transportation, and infrastructure development through 2050.</li> <li>○ Knoxville Botanical Garden – New slate of teachers and classes for 2026. Hosting a forest bathing session for veterans.</li> </ul>
4.	<b>Meeting Adjourned</b>

Upcoming Meetings:

- Weekly Food Access Committee Call – Mondays at 9am via Zoom
- Food Policy Council Meeting – Jan 21 from 8:30am-10am at United Way of Greater Knoxville