

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

	Rhea Joshi, UTK Public Health Jodie Johnson, KCDC AmeriCorps
--	---

1.	Reflection and Introductions – Marisa Moazen
3.	Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Updates – Marisa Moazen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approval of the Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting minutes from June 2025 – Nov 2025 approved • Organizational & Committee Updates – Marisa Moazen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CJ Butcher Policy Update: New SNAP Waiver – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. ▪ TN Expansion Waiver will exclude high sugar food and include prepared food. ○ Bridge Refugee Services: Working on food resources for clients who are no longer eligible for SNAP. Also seeking coats. ○ Femeika Elliot, Knox County Harden Alliance/Rooted East: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working on a defensive campaign regarding HB295, reach out to help. ▪ Seeking health-related vendors for their Black Maternal Health Conference. Conference will be a full week but vendors are needed for Sunday. Details here: Home - Knoxville Black Maternal Health Conference ▪ EAST TENNESSEE COMMUNITY, HOUSING & 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. ○ Women with Vision – seeking decorations/art supplies, hot cocoa station, and small boxes for upcoming Winter Bash ○ Mobile Meals received Trinity Health Phase II grant ○ MLK Youth Summit session on Jan 17 8:30-1:30 at Austin East, seeking volunteers ○ 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. ○ UTMC – Finished community health needs assessment, available online. ○ KCHD – Diabetes management series starting Jan 8

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

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