

**Nevada Food Insecurity Data Collection and Reporting
Project
Request for Applications (RFA)**
Division of Food and Nutrition



Background

The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) is seeking to partner with a Nevada-based organization to develop a data collection methodology to track overall food insecurity data in Nevada, including the efforts of multiple food assistance programs relative to projected need and subsequent outcomes in the state. The NDA expects this project to be an agile annual report that can be gathered as needed to get an accurate and robust picture of food insecurity statewide.

The NDA administers twelve federally funded food assistance programs and three state-supported grant programs that serve a diverse community of clients throughout Nevada, including Tribal communities, food banks and their networks of community organizations, childcare providers, schools, low-income seniors and low-income households. Data related to these programs are not currently tracked and recorded through consistent methods and measures. Measurement of these programs is currently focused on basic outputs such as number of meals served and number of pounds distributed, but not the success of these programs/funding actually having an impact on reducing food insecurity. Additionally, the NDA does not have access to data or outcomes from other critical food program sources administered by other agencies.

The NDA is seeking a request for application to develop a methodology and plan that will aggregate current data generated from multiple statewide programs and collect new data based on success measures while being able to compare the sum of the efforts of all food assistance programs and project community needs in an annual report. Example sources of data include but are not limited to, the NDA feeding and nutrition programs, school meals data, Division of Welfare and Support Services' (DWSS') Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Women, Infants and Children (WIC), the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR), the U.S. Census Bureau, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, local food banks and food pantries, and other program sponsors and community organizations that assist with poverty and food insecurity.

The Food Insecurity Data Collection and Reporting project will be funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). The NDA has allocated \$500,000 for this project and intends to partner with one vendor following a careful review of proposals.

Applications must be submitted via email to nfp@agri.nv.gov by December 29, 2022.

For questions related to this funding opportunity, please contact Shawna Sabo at: nfp@agri.nv.gov .

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Project Goal

- The goal of the Food Insecurity Data Collection and Reporting project is to reduce food insecurity and improve the performance of Nevada’s food assistance programs by providing concise and accurate data and metrics to better inform how food resources are being used and should be allocated to meet the projected need in communities throughout the state. There will be required functions for the Food Insecurity Data Collection and Reporting tool and more specific information about each of these is outlined in the Desired Specifications section.
1. Serve as the primary data collection method to gather statewide statistics on food insecurity from all available sources.
 2. Serve as an aggregation platform for the data from all sources to produce an accurate annual report that details current efforts and demographics at county, community, zip code or other levels.
 3. Serve as an aggregation platform for the data extracted from all sources to identify gaps and demographics at county, community, zip code or other levels.
 4. Provide a graphic analysis and comparison of the gaps and need data that will inform how Nevada’s programs are meeting the projected need and provide the NDA with success measures on food insecurity efforts.

Additionally, the NDA seeks to answer questions such as:

- a. Does unemployment always equal food insecurity?
- b. Who is the population that we are not serving?
- c. Are the programs/funding working to reduce food insecurity?
- d. What data is missing to make informed decisions?

Timeline

November 17, 2022 – Request for Applications released by the NDA

December 29, 2022 – Full Application due to the NDA by 5:00 pm PDT

January 11, 2023 – Applications reviewed and scored by NDA staff

January 18, 2023 - Anticipated project start date

Application Due Date

December 29, 2022, by 5:00 p.m. PDT

Funding Available

There is \$500,000 available for the development of the data collection methodology and reporting. Any ongoing fees will need to be clearly stated in the proposal and may be discussed between the NDA and the selected vendor at the time of award.

Eligibility

Any for-profit, non-profit, or publicly owned organization/company with proven experience developing research and data collection methodologies and demographic indicators for tracking and analyzing complex data and formulating key findings and indicators.

Contact

Shawna Sabo at nfp@agri.nv.gov

SECTION I – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Desired Specifications

The Food Insecurity Data Collection and Reporting tool will have four primary functions, each of which is outlined below.

1. Serve as the primary data collection method to gather statewide statistics on food insecurity from all available sources.

Utilize all available sources to gather data and demographics that reveal the true picture of food insecurity in the state, reflective of the current time period. The report may include current reach, needs, gaps, results of efforts, success, etc. Data sources may be at local, state and federal levels.

2. Serve as an aggregation method for data from all sources to produce an accurate annual report that details current efforts and demographics at county, community, zip code or other levels.

Utilizing the data and information in #1, produce an annual report that reports on current efforts to reduce food insecurity across the state at multiple levels.

3. Serve as an aggregation platform for the data extracted from all sources to identify gaps and need demographics at county, community, zip code or other levels.

Utilizing the data and information in #1, produce an annual report that identifies gaps and needs across the state at multiple levels geographically. The NDA does not directly collect need data, so data must come from external sources. The NDA currently references data from the U.S. Census Bureau, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services-Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation and Feeding America Metrics.

4. Provide a graphic analysis and comparison of the current efforts and need data that will inform how Nevada's programs are meeting the projected need and provide the NDA with a way to measure success measures on food insecurity efforts.

The culmination of this effort will be an annual report and method that compares efforts to needs at multiple levels, such as county, community, zip codes, reports on success measures and summarizes multiple key demographic indicators and reports key findings.

The graphic analysis will be the end product of the previous two functions and will be the dashboard that serves to guide future food security efforts.