

**Agenda**  
**Health & Human Services Committee**  
**West Olive Administration Building – Board Room and YouTube**  
**12220 Fillmore Street, West Olive, Michigan 49460**  
**Wednesday, December 8, 2021**  
**9:30 AM**

**Public Comment**

**Consent Items:**

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Proposed Minutes from the [November 10, 2021](#) Health and Human Services Committee meeting

**Action Items:** None

**Discussion Items:**

1. [Ottawa Food Annual Update](#); Sierra Schuetz, Health Educator for Ottawa County Department of Public Health
2. Department Updates

**Public Comment**

**Adjournment**

**Comments on the day's business are to be limited to three (3) minutes.**

## HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

### Proposed Minutes

DATE: November 10, 2021

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Fillmore Street Complex

PRESENT: Allen Dannenberg, James Holtvluwer, Kyle Terpstra, and Randy Meppelink (4)

ABSENT: Joseph Baumann (1)

STAFF & GUESTS: John Shay, County Administrator; Rachel Sanchez, Chief Deputy; Lynne Doyle, Community Mental Health Director; Patrick Cisler, Human Services Coordinating Council Executive Director; Sylvia Rhodea, Public; Emily Underhill, Public; Zoom attendants: Lisa Stefanovsky, Health Officer; Jen Brozowski, Community Action Agency Program Director; Kendra Spanjer, DHS Director; Gwen Unzicker, Medical Director; Heather Alberda, Public Health Educator

#### SUBJECT: CONSENT ITEMS

HHS 21-026 Motion: To approve the agenda of today.  
Moved by: Meppelink

UNANIMOUS

HHS 21-027 Motion: To approve the minutes from the October 13, 2021 meeting as presented.  
Moved by: Meppelink

UNANIMOUS

#### SUBJECT: ACTION ITEMS

None

#### SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Migrant Health Survey and the Ottawa County Department of Public Health Cross County Collaboration Grant-Heather Alberda went through a power point on the Cross County Collaboration Grant and then went over the Migrant Health Survey, highlighting some key points. Both are included in the packet.
2. Healthy Ottawa Plan-Patrick Cisler gave a presentation on the 2021 Healthy Ottawa Plan. He highlighted the details of the plan.
3. Department Updates
  - a. Community Mental Health-Lynne Doyle gave a mental health update.
  - b. Public Health Department-Lisa Stefanovsky gave a public health update.

- c. Department of Human Services – Kendra Spanjer had to leave the meeting at 10 a.m. so she left her update in the chat, which John Shay read out loud.
- d. Community Action Agency-Jen Brozowski also had to leave before her update, so John Shay gave her update on the Walk for Warmth date next year.

Mr Dannenberg has request that next month's meeting, December 8, 2021, be moved to 9:30 a.m., due to a prior commitment. The committee agreed to this new time.

The meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

# Ottawa Food Annual Update

Health Promotions, Ottawa Food Coordinator, Sierra Schuetz [sschuetz@miottawa.org](mailto:sschuetz@miottawa.org)

1. Currently have about 45 agencies and individuals signed on as active members. We are wrapping up year the final year of our current 3-year strategic plan. Through strategic planning meetings with active members and data gathered through our 2021 Food Access survey, data gleaned from United Way's 2021 ALICE report, and the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessments, we have created a new strategic plan that will guide our work for the next three years. The strategic plan will be viewable by February. Our priority areas include:
  - Eliminating hunger
  - Encouraging healthy eating by all
  - Increasing the sourcing of local food
  - Diversity, equity, and inclusion

Much of this year was spent in uncertainty as things started to open up apprehensively and programs were scaled and operated differently.

2. Our Real Food Campaign has been encouraging residents to consume more fruits and vegetables. The *Real Food Can* campaign addresses identified barriers to fruit and vegetable consumption, including cost and lack of knowledge about how to prepare these items. Educational messages are being disseminated through print and social media. Social media and other ads link viewers to [www.RealFoodCan.org](http://www.RealFoodCan.org), where they can find tips, recipes, videos, information about local produce, and other resources related to fruits and vegetables. These materials are helpful for other organizations to promote as well, which works to establish a unified message that

Real Food Can Be: affordable, Accessible, Convenient, Simple, Safe

See image

3. Ottawa Food has been promoting the Community Action House's new Food Club. We worked closely to help CAH gain donations, wrote letters of support for grant funding, continue to educate the public, and we have made a commitment with the Michigan Health Endowment Fund to gather best practices to help other food pantries replicate the Food Club model.
4. Ottawa Food has also worked closely with Lakeshore Food Rescue, which exists as a partnership between CAH and Harvest Stand of Zeeland. LFR has created an efficient logistical framework for rescuing food access and getting it to our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. Ottawa Food has written letters of support for grant, contribute to LFR strategic planning, and will work actively in the future to build a strong volunteer basis to ensure the success of this program which dramatically reduces food waste, helps those in need, and turns produce into compost instead of filling up our landfills.

See Image

5. Ottawa Food distributed 300 Senior Project Fresh vouchers to 265 eligible seniors in OC. The vouchers could be used to purchase \$20 in Michigan-grown produce at local farmers markets. Thanks to Senior Resources West MI for funding this program that supports local growers and provides healthy food for low-income seniors!
6. Ottawa Food helped coordinate and promote Meet Up and Eat Up sites in OC again this year. Due to COVID-19, this program looked drastically different than in years past. Instead of serving meals on-site to kids throughout the week, sites elected to distribute multiple days' worth of packaged meals at one time. This year's total of 479,444 meals distributed in OC is significantly higher than in previous years for many reasons, including this new distribution method as well as the economic impacts of COVID-19. Excitingly, we helped the Ottawa Community Schools Network obtain a grant that will fund a staff person and pay for game and sport equipment to be used at 7 Meet Up Eat Up sites. We are excited to offer a hybrid approach to this program, giving convenience to parents who need to pick up meals on the go but also get kids exercising and socializing in a safe, outdoor environment this next summer. Main Report: [MUEU.2021.MainReport.pdf](#)

See Image

7. Many Ottawa Food programs provided fresh, local produce to those in need during the growing season. Pick for Pantries brought in 679 pounds of fresh fruit. The Gleaning Program at the GH Farmers Market resulted in 1,484.57 pounds of donated produce. In addition, farmers market shoppers donated 2,501.13 pounds of beautiful local produce to food pantries.
8. Ottawa received a \$3,500 grant from the Michigan Local Food Council Network to begin the process of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work, both internally within membership and in the programs we support. Using this grant, we contracted two leaders in the Latino community to identify area 30 organizations and individuals to explain Ottawa Food's work and explore how we can work together to improve the local food system. They also identified the value Ottawa Food can bring to those not already participating in Ottawa food and identified the barriers to participation. Beyond this grant, Ottawa Food continues to meet with community leaders every two weeks to work together towards targeted projects and build relationships.
9. Ottawa Food hired a Food Navigator (FN) to work at the Holland Farmers Market on Saturdays from August-October. The FN provided shoppers with nutrition info and recipes aligned with produce seasonality, provided tours, and helped shoppers understand the food assistance programs available at the market. He also promoted these farmers market food assistance programs to target populations within the community.

Resources to check out:

[ALICE Project – Michigan \(unitedforalice.org\)](#)

[PowerPoint Presentation \(miottawa.org\)](#) – CHNA 2021 Report

[Hunger & Poverty in the United States | Map the Meal Gap \(feedingamerica.org\)](#)

[Ottawa Food | Reduce Food Insecurity in Ottawa County, Michigan](#)

**Questions?**



\$3.99

**real food can**

\$2.85



Be Affordable.

LEARN MORE AT  
**RealFoodCan.org.**



This project was partially funded by The Greatest Needs Fund of the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation and The Michigan Local Food Council Network Seed Grant Program





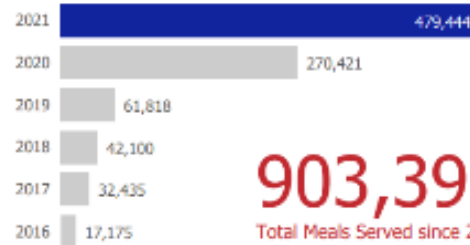


# 2021 Report



Meet Up and Eat Up in 2021 looked drastically different than in years prior to COVID-19. Similarly to 2020, instead of serving meals on-site to kids throughout the week, sites elected to distribute multiple days worth of packaged meals at one time. As a total from all sites combined, this year's meal count is significantly higher than in previous years for many reasons, including this new distribution method as well as the economic impacts of COVID-19. Because of this difference, 2021 data cannot be effectively compared to previous or upcoming years.

### Total Meals Served by Year



**903,393**  
Total Meals Served since 2016

### Total Meals Served by Community in 2021

Allendale Christian School, Allendale Public Schools, and Jenison Christian are brand new sites for 2021! Meet Up and Eat Up continues to grow as COVID-19 continues to have an impact on our communities.

