Food Forecast: As of now, The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) projects roughly 22 million pounds of foods coming from MPI to counties next year. This compares to 12 million pounds we received before the Trade Mitigation Program began (in early 2019), and the nearly 40 million pounds we were receiving at the height of Trade Mitigation. New in FFY 2022: USDA will be offering Wisconsin an additional $6 million in frozen, fresh and perishable foods. We plan to accept as much as you can use. When we get FRESH offers, your EFO will survey you. We need you to respond quickly so we know how much to order without waste. We’ll be getting help from Feeding Wisconsin food banks so that this fresh food reaches your pantry as much as possible. (There will be no costs to your pantry.)

COVID Protocols: Regrettably, no change. TEFAP strongly recommends you continue “No Contact” outdoor distribution through the fall and winter. This is NOT what we’d hoped or planned. But the Delta variation of the virus is so much more easily spread and dangerous that the Advisory Council reached unanimous agreement that the safest path is to stay the course. If you need some equipment or supplies to help you with fall and winter distribution, tell your EFO. We will keep an eye on this and adjust as safety allows.

TEFAP Eligibility Levels: The Advisory Council recommends we maintain the current 300% of the Federal Poverty Level and revisit the question in March. So no change for now.

TEFAP Applications Forms and Participant Records: Since we recommend continued outdoor distribution, we will also continue using the form that allows you to load multiple households on a single form. However, we wish to modify it slightly and restore age categories so you report seniors, children and adults between 18-59. We will revise the form for your use beginning October 1, 2021.

TEFAP Annual Renewal: We will again waive that requirement. However, remember that at each food distribution, you are asking the household if there are any changes to the names and numbers of persons in the household, and where they live. Remember that homeless and undocumented households and those experiencing partner abuse can use the local library or public building as their address.

TEFAP Food Match Requirement: No change. We continue to suspend this requirement until further notice. In future, we plan to ask your help in measuring the food volume you supply to households, but we will not add to your chores without simplifying other things we ask of you.

No change to Civil Rights training or TEFAP Manual: USDA’s most recent civil rights training contained no changes in the content. Therefore, the slides at the back of your TEFAP manual remain current. TEFAP Manual content remains the same; FFY 2022 version will be ready 10/102021.

Questions? Please consult with your EFO. Thanks for all you do!