

Three Square's Policy Forum

Partnering to Serve and to Solve Hunger

Three Square Food Bank

October 3 & 4, 2012

Presented by:



Forum Agenda

Wednesday, October 3

8:30 AM

Registration and breakfast

9:00 AM

Three Square welcome message
Brian Burton, President and CEO Three Square

9:30 AM

“Feeding America: Map the Meal Gap”
Dr. Craig Gunderson
University of Illinois and Technical Advisor to Feeding America

11:15 AM

“Community Planning: Suburban Neighborhoods in Need”
Dr. Rob Lang, Director
Brookings Mountain West and Lincy Institute at UNLV

12:00 PM

Lunch and speaker: “Home Foreclosure Mitigation”
Christine Miller, JD
Legal Aid Clinic of Southern Nevada

1:15 PM

“Strategies for Child Nutrition Programs”
Jodi Tyson, Research and Public Policy
Three Square

2:15 PM

“Hunger Among Older Adults”
Dr. Craig Gunderson

3:15 PM

“Strategies to Address SNAP Under-utilization”
Jodi Tyson

4:15 PM

Closing remarks and networking
Wayne LeRoy, Executive Council
American Association of Retired Persons

4:30 PM

End of Day

Forum Agenda

Thursday, October 4

8:30 AM

Breakfast

9:00 AM

Welcome Message
Catherine Cortez-Masto
Nevada Attorney General

9:10 AM

“SFSP in Libraries: Alameda County Food Bank”
Cat Burton, Advocacy and Education
Alameda County Community Food Bank

10:05 AM

“Maple Heights: City Partnerships in Hunger-Relief”
Mayor Jeffrey Lansky
City of Maple Heights, Ohio

11:05 AM

“Combating Hunger: Funding Opportunities”
Panel

12:00 PM

Lunch and speaker: “State Plan to Increase Food Security”
Sarah Boxx, Principal
Social Entrepreneurs

1:00 PM

Next steps and closing
Jodi Tyson



Biographies



Brian Burton
President and Chief Executive Officer
Three Square Food Bank
Las Vegas, Nevada

Brian Burton is a native of Little Rock, Arkansas, and holds an MBA degree from LSU and a Master of Divinity from Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Brian's career began as a controller for Centex Homes, but quickly evolved into humanitarian work after serving as an associate pastor at a Baptist church in Dallas, Texas. Most recently, he served as Executive Director at the Wilkinson Center for 14 years, a faith-based nonprofit organization lifting people out of poverty through education and emergency services. Brian relocated from Dallas to Las Vegas in April of 2011 to become President and CEO of Three Square Food Bank. Only four years old, Three Square has developed into the fastest growing food bank in the nation.

When the former food bank closed in 2006, the Las Vegas community rallied and, led by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, formed a new food bank called Three Square. In 2011, Three Square distributed 24.9 million pounds of food to 600 Program Partners, including food pantries, shelters, community kitchens, senior and after-school programs. Among its programs are BackPacks for Kids, distributing backpacks of food each Friday to the most food fragile children in Southern Nevada. Three Square's "Kids Cafe®" after-school program developed by Feeding America, has an exercise and nutrition component which is in alignment with the goals of First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move!" campaign. Three Square is a member of Feeding America, a national network of member food banks that engage our country in the fight to end hunger.

When Brian is not working, he enjoys writing, reading, bird-watching, travel, and hiking up Mt. Charleston with his 70-pound basset hound named Floyd.



Biographies



Dr. Craig Gundersen
University of Illinois and
Technical Advisor to Feeding America

Craig Gundersen is a Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois and Executive Director of the National Soybean Research Laboratory. He is also a member of the Technical Advisory Group of Feeding America and is the lead researcher on the Map the Meal Gap project. Previously, he was at the Economic Research Service of the USDA and at Iowa State University. Gundersen's research is primarily focused on the causes and consequences of food insecurity and on evaluations of food assistance programs.

Among other journals, he has published in *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *Journal of Econometrics*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Journal of Nutrition*, *Pediatrics*, *Demography*, *Obesity Reviews*, *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*, and *American Journal of Public Health*. His work has been supported by over \$10 million in external funding from various government and non-government sources.



Biographies



Robert Lang
Director
Brookings Mountain West and
Lincy Institute at UNLV

Robert Lang is a nationally recognized authority on urban growth, economic development and population dynamics, including the interplay between politics and growth in the American West. Lang is often called on by national business leaders and media to provide an understanding of economic recovery in the west (including Nevada), what elements led to the region's economic decline, and what it will take to bring it back.

His research specialties include suburban studies, real estate, demographic and spatial analysis, economic development, and metropolitan policy.

He has authored over 150 academic and professional publications and has developed many new urban planning concepts such as "Boomburbs," "Edgeless Cities," and "Megapolitan Areas." His new book, *Megapolitan America* (American Planning Association), details the rise of megapolitan areas and how they will change how America plans. He is also a contributor in the new book, *America's New Swing Region* (Brookings Institution Press), which examines the profound economic, political, and social changes that continue to reshape the Mountain West. Lang's research has been featured in numerous media outlets, including USA Today, New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, NPR, CNN, MSNBC and FOX News.

Lang is a professor in the Greenspun College of Urban Affairs and serves as the UNLV Director of Brookings Mountain West and the Executive Director of The Lincy Institute at UNLV. He is also a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution and a Fellow of the Urban Land Institute, both in Washington, D.C. Lang earned a Ph.D. in Urban Sociology from Rutgers University.



Biographies



Christine Miller, JD
Legal Aid Clinic of Southern Nevada

Christine Miller is a staff attorney with the Consumer Rights Project at Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada. Christine began her practice in California gaining experience at both a nationwide insurance company and large law firm handling workers compensation matters. Several years after relocating to Southern Nevada, she joined Legal Aid Center in 2003 as a staff attorney with the Domestic Violence Project. Christine took a leave of absence when her son was born, although during this time she handled accounting responsibilities for her husband's local intellectual property law firm.

In response to the growing mortgage and home ownership crisis in Southern Nevada, Christine returned to Legal Aid Center in 2009 to provide legal counsel to homeowners and to assist victims of consumer fraud, which is a growing concern during this challenging economic period. She has been featured on local radio and news programs addressing issues concerning foreclosure and the mediation process in Nevada.

Prior to law school, Christine attended the University of California, Irvine for her undergraduate studies where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Ecology and received the Outstanding Contribution to the Community Award for her research concerning alternative means for dispute resolution. During that time, Christine was accepted into the Education Abroad Program which gave her the opportunity to live, work and study in Tokyo, Japan. She obtained her Juris Doctorate degree at Western State University College of Law in California where she was the recipient of five American Jurisprudence awards. During law school she served as a law clerk to various judges which provided her with an inside perspective into the court process and the judges' decision making process.

She enjoys spending time with her family, volunteering at church and outdoor activities. She is a member of the California and Nevada State Bars.



Biographies



Jodi Tyson
Research and Public Policy Manager
Three Square Food Bank
Las Vegas, Nevada

Jodi Tyson is the Research and Public Policy Manager at Three Square. Jodi's philosophy that "Research and well-documented needs, as well as evaluated practices should be the corner stone of policy, especially in funding for the provision of community-based safety net and public health services," is shared by many of us here today.

At Three Square, Jodi strives to conduct hunger-relief research that provides our leadership with a deeper understanding of households in need, model programs and promising practices, and how the complex web of the safety net can be strengthened to help, not only the greatest numbers of food-insecure individuals, but also the most vulnerable populations. The Research and Public Policy Department seeks to leverage the greatest amount of support, through funds, food and policy support for current hunger-relief efforts, as well as forecasting the trends in need and outreach partnerships of the future.

Jodi received her Master's in Public Health at UNLV and has worked in the provision of community-based services in Southern Nevada for fifteen years.



Biographies



Ecaterina Burton
Advocacy and Education
Alameda County Community Food Bank

Ecaterina Burton is the Advocacy and Education Associate at the Alameda County Community Food Bank, where she is in charge of education and engaging partner agencies and clients in advocacy work on policies around hunger and poverty. Through her work with the Alameda County Community Food Bank, she launched a pilot summer lunch program in collaboration with the City of Oakland and Oakland Public Libraries. Outside of summer, she spends the rest of her year organizing the people that her organization serves to participate in the policy making process that directly impacts their lives through issue campaigns, legislative visits and demonstrations. Her new project for this fall is to do voter registration at as many partner agencies as possible.



Biographies



Jeffrey A. Lansky
Mayor
City of Maple Heights, Ohio

Mayor Jeffrey Lansky has led an exceptional life in public service and has held multiple elected offices. Jeffrey was first elected as Mayor to the City of Maple Heights, Ohio in December 2007. Prior to being elected Mayor, he served 20 years on the City Council, many of which were spent as President of the City Council.

Immediately upon taking office as Mayor, Jeffrey began to see the ill-effects of foreclosures, both in the residential and business community. In 2010, under Mayor Lansky's leadership, the City of Maple Heights developed plans to open a food pantry in a particular neighborhood in his community that was hard hit by foreclosures and unemployment, yet lacked typical safety net services found in other areas.

Mayor Lansky answered the call to effectively use available government resources to increase services available to constituents.



Biographies



**Sarah Longaker Boxx, Principal
Social Entrepreneurs**

Sarah Boxx is a Principal at Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SEI), a management consulting firm providing needs assessments, strategic planning, resource management, organizational development, program development and evaluation, and management information systems training and services to nonprofit and government-based social service agencies throughout the Western United States. Ms. Boxx has more than 30 years of professional experience, of which the last 20 years involved providing direct services to a broad range of public and private organizations. Sarah has worked on over 50 strategic planning projects for clients based in California and Nevada. She is currently working with stakeholders throughout Nevada on the state food security plan. In addition, she is providing strategic and sustainability planning, evaluation, and program implementation services to more than 15 organizations, including the Nevada State Health Division, public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and multi-county initiatives. Sarah earned a Masters of Art in Pastoral Counseling from St. John's University, was given the National Governor's Association Award for distinguished service to Government, and has a mediation certification from the Neighborhood Mediation Center, Reno, Nevada.



Three Square Food Facts

55% of students in the Clark County School District participate in the “free or reduced price” meal program at school.



One in six Southern Nevadans struggle with hunger.

Three Square, through our more than 600 Program Partners, serves nearly 100,000 men, women, children and seniors each month.

\$.93 of every dollar donated goes directly to Three Square's programs.

