

SUFC Policy Working Group Meeting February 17, 2012

Participating: Gerry & Melinda, Jake, Carrie, Danielle, Jennifer, Larry

DECISIONS:

- **SUFC Advocacy agenda for March 7th** (below) is being finalized. Contact Jennifer with comments/suggestions.
- **SUFC U&CF budget recommendations** will remain at higher (\$31.3 million) level than the President's recent budget release (\$28.4 million). Letter should be send to Hill PRIOR to March 7th.
- **Future U&CF call:** Interest in SUFC hosting call/meeting to discuss U&CF budget changes (reduction in competitive funding etc.) implications among interested SUFC members in more depth (post March 15th All-Family FS Call)
- **Approx. 40 participants are signed up for Advocacy Day.** This is almost twice as many participants as last year. The WG suggested a slightly different approach to organizing the meetings and mixing up experienced Hill staff with less-experienced SUFC/ACT members.
- **March 7th Hill meetings: Set-up:**
 - 10+ SUFC Policy WG members** will participate on Advocacy Day as small group team leaders/buddies as needed
 - Each Team Leader will set up appointments for the assigned members in their group (to be assigned)
 - Once these key appointments are set up, individuals can *also* set up 1-1 meetings with their own constituents around these SUFC meetings
 - Team leads/Melinda will update master spreadsheet (ZoHo) to avoid duplication and to identify any gaps
 - Appt. with Member vs. staff left up to Team Lead based on relationship b/w advocates and Member's office
- **Pre-Training Webinar, Feb. 29th, noon:**
 - Panel: Jake Donnay (U&CF approps); Gerry Gray (Farm Bill); Carrie Gallagher and Larry Wiseman (Vibrant Cities)
 - Currently 25 participants registered for webinar
 - U&CF program expressed interest in addressing webinar audience re: Pres. Budget. Discussion re: whether this is a good fit. SUFC WILL host an all-family call on March 15th to discuss the budget in more depth.

**SUFC Policy WG members participating on March 7th include: Julia Anastasio (APWA), Jake Donnay (NASF), Carrie Gallagher (ACT), Danielle Dills (NACD), Christi Layman (TCIA), Kevin O'Hara (ASLA), Gerry Gray, Rebecca Turner & Melinda Housholder (AmF), Gary Belan (Am Rivers), Larry Wiseman (NUCFAC)

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Jake** to reach out to Jan Davis, U&CF to discuss pros/cons of FS formal participation in SUFC Pre-Training webinar, Feb. 29th
- **Jake** to review 2011 targeted Hill list (ZoHo) and revised for 2012 platform – send to/alert Jennifer & Melinda
- **Jake** to tweak U&CF letter as per WG conversation; Jennifer to do final edit and get out for FULL SUFC sign-off
- **Jake** to reach out to Bill Toomey/others re: research/funding issues
- **Jennifer** to reach out to Cynthia West, Director, Resource Use Sciences
- **Jennifer** to assign Advocacy Day participants to small teams with SUFC WG lead – communicate details/assignments; send out ZoHo invitations to view and edit master spreadsheet
- **Melinda** to oversee process as needed
- **All Team** leads to begin setting up appointments late next week after receiving info. AND update ZoHo spreadsheet
- **Larry** to draft revised language on Farm Bill
- **WG members** to comment/provide feedback on revised Farm Bill draft – and approve
- **Jennifer** to draft informational email re: Advocacy Day to all participants AND remind all participants to register for Feb. 29th webinar
- **Jennifer** to confirm refreshments and materials needed on March 7th
- **Jennifer** to draft and/or coordinate all talking points and leave-behinds
- **Jennifer** to set up All-Family U&CF budget call; SUFC call to discuss budget implications/details post March 15th