# Yavapai County Food Safety Industry Council

## Making Yavapai County a Safer Place to Eat

#### Mission

The Mission of the Yavapai County Food Safety Industry Council is to promote and maximize food safety to protect the public through education, research, and policy with the leadership of representatives from the food industry, consumer, academia, and regulatory agency.

#### Yavapai County Food Safety Partnership

The Yavapai County Food Safety Partnership began in 1999 and brought together the University of Arizona Yavapai County Cooperative Extension, which provides research and education for foodservice professionals, and the Yavapai County Community Health Services Environmental Health Unit, which handles licensing, regulation, and inspection. Together, they formed the Yavapai County Food Safety Industry Council to promote safe food practices.

## **History and Description**

The Yavapai County Food Safety Industry Council (FSIC) was established in 2001 to bring together a variety of voices, people from the food service industry, consumers, academic experts, and regulatory agencies, to work toward a common goal. That goal was to improve food safety in Yavapai County. The FSIC acts as an advisory group to the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension and the Environmental Health Unit of Yavapai County Community Health Services (YCCHS).

The FSIC focuses on identifying food safety concerns in the community and finding practical ways to address them. Part of this work includes recognizing the educational needs of both food service workers and the public, recommending programs that help fill those gaps. The council also reviews current food safety education efforts and looks at how effective they are across the county. In addition, the FSIC helps evaluate existing and proposed food safety policies in the Yavapai County Health Code and offers thoughtful recommendations to the Environmental Health Unit.

One of the most important roles of the council is serving as a bridge by connecting regulatory agencies, educators, and those working directly in the food industry. The FSIC also provides input on state and local food safety initiatives and helps guide the content of the county's Food Safety newsletter. The council is committed to promoting strong food safety practices and making sure that efforts to protect public health are practical, effective, and responsive to the needs of the community.

### **FSIC Membership**

The FSIC is composed of thirteen members, including two food establishment representatives from each of the five Yavapai County Board of Supervisors (BOS) districts. In addition, three at-large consumer representatives serve to represent the interests of Yavapai County residents.

All FSIC members are officially appointed by the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors. The University of Arizona and Yavapai County Community Health Services (YCCHS) serve as exofficio members. Link to FSIC members and districts: https://tinyurl.com/yrwap6uk

#### **FSIC Nomination Form**

The Yavapai County Food Safety Industry Council occasionally has vacancies when a member relocates, retires, or otherwise steps down. New members are selected through a nomination process, ensuring that we continue to bring diverse expertise and fresh perspectives to the council.

If you or someone you know is qualified and interested in joining the council, we encourage you to complete the nomination form. The form will guide you through the submission process.

#### **How to Nominate:**

- 1. Review the eligibility criteria on the first page of the nomination form.
- 2. Follow the instructions provided to submit the form for consideration.

For more information on the member criteria, please refer to the **Council Policies** and **Procedures** link below.

Link to nomination form: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ybdhnsss">https://tinyurl.com/ybdhnsss</a>

### **Meeting Dates and Minutes**

The Yavapai County Food Safety Industry Council meets quarterly via Zoom. These meetings are typically held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month in January, April, July, and October.

All FSIC meetings are open to the public. To join the meetings or access further details, please refer to the meeting information provided in the link below.

https://www.yavapaiaz.gov/Resident-Services/Health-Services/Public-Health-Meetings/Food-Safety-Industry-Council

## **FSIC Policies and Procedures**

The Yavapai County Food Safety Industry Council has established a set of Policies and Procedures to ensure smooth operations, maintain transparency, and uphold the standards of food safety within our community. These guidelines provide clarity on membership, council roles, and the overall functioning of the group.

For detailed information, including eligibility criteria for potential members and other council-related procedures, please review the document linked below.

Link to FSIC policies and procedures: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ykcydvjs">https://tinyurl.com/ykcydvjs</a>