Ayesha Khan

ND 615- Community Nutrition Supervised Experiential Learning

08/21/24

**Competency 7.2**

Uses effective communication, collaboration, and advocacy skills. (D)

**Activity**

This competency was met by attending the Food Policy Council meeting of Buffalo and Erie County, held at Hayes Hall at the southern campus of University of Buffalo. My preceptor was a stakeholder in the meeting and I talked to her about the different policies that were being put into motion like the Good Food NY Bill and the 1115 Waiver of NY and why we should advocate for them.

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| The picture on the left includes a list of people who were attending this Policy meeting and what was on the “Agenda” for the entirety of the meeting (this is only one side of the page). The photo on the right is a stand that tells which Hall number the Food Policy meeting took place. | |

**Reflection**

*\*Reflection of competency 4.2: Engages in legislative and regulatory activities that address community, population and global nutrition health and nutrition policy. (D)*

\*Attending a Food Policy meeting was more different than I expected. I didn’t understand much of anything they were discussing. I was able to follow along what updates, grants, and policies were being discussed because of the Agenda/Table of contents on one of the papers they handed out. However, the contents of those updates were confusing. After the meeting, I remember asking my preceptor how she was up to date on everything and could understand it. She mentioned that her first policy meeting was her being confused by everything as well, which was funny. Then she said that if you jump right into it and continue to attend these meetings, this stuff becomes easier to comprehend.

\*She was also one of the stakeholders in the meeting. She told me to read up on the Good Food NY Bill and the 1115 Waiver of NY to get an understanding of what grants, bills, and policies are, which I ended up doing. She also gave an overview of what this Bill and Waiver were about, so I wasn’t completely lost when reading up on them.

After reading about them, I discussed the reasons for why we should advocate for both the Bill and Waiver with my preceptor, as she has an understanding of Food Policy and it ties directly into what Buffalo Go Green is trying to accomplish, in terms of providing food to the underserved community of Buffalo and these Bills will be a huge advantage for the population they are serving.

I felt like I learned a lot better when discussing the Bill and Waiver with my preceptor, than reading about it on my own. Food Policy is definitely not what I expected when I attended the meeting but I’m glad I was able to experience it.