

LEGISLATIVE

# 120138A

**From:** [Rodney J. Long](#)  
**To:** [citymgr](#); [Murry, Fredrick J.](#); [mayor](#)  
**Cc:** [Jack Donovan](#); [Diyonne McGraw](#); [Carole Martin Long](#); [Kersandras Hightower](#); [Yvonne Hinson](#); [Susan Bottcher](#); [Thomas Hawkins](#); [Randy Wells](#); [Park, Michelle A.](#); [Phillips, Steven R.](#); [Hawkins, Jr., Thomas](#); [Poe, Lauren B.](#); [Rawls, Yvonne H.](#); [Chase, Todd N.](#); [Bottcher, Susan W.](#); [Wells, Randy M.](#)  
**Subject:** 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive  
**Date:** Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:41:31 AM  
**Attachments:** [2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive.docx](#)  
[Strike Out Hunger Recognitions-Outcome.pptx](#)  
[Official Articles of Incorporation Received Filed 2.2.12.pdf](#)

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Hello Mayor Lowe, Russ and Fred,

I hope this email finds each of you well. This email serves as a request for the City of Gainesville to participate again this year in the 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive as a co-sponsor. **The City of Gainesville** has been a committed partner in the effort to reduce poverty in Gainesville/Alachua County. Under the leadership of former Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan, current Mayor Craig Lowe, and Assistant City Manager Fred Murry, the City has been a major partner in the creation of the Hunger Abatement Plan (HAP) and a major player in the 2011 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive. It is our desire to continue this much needed outreach effort for our food banks, pantries, citizens in need and the Alachua County Nutritional Alliance (ACNU) with the City of Gainesville by offering them the opportunity to continue its partnership in the 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive as a co-sponsor.

As a former colleague and champion of many of these efforts, I am as committed now as I was on the Board of County Commission to address these critical issues and have created **The Long Foundation, Inc.** to continue these efforts in our community through private/public partnerships.

As a former county commissioner and Champion of the Strike Out Hunger Food Drive for the past four years, I will be the primary organizer and contact person for **The Long Foundation, Inc.** As you know, I am knowledgeable of the inner workings and the coordination needed, as well as the stakeholders involved to make the event a success.

As such, **The Long Foundation, Inc.** responsibilities will include but not be limited to serving as the principal organizer and coordinator of the 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive. Will be responsible for scheduling meetings/workshops, including locations, contacting stakeholders regarding all meetings/workshops, recording minutes at all meetings/workshops, provide audio visual equipment and printed meeting materials at all meetings/workshops, coordinate all fundraising activities, coordinate volunteers for the meetings/workshops and food drive at the fairgrounds, coordinate pick up and drop off of food items for beneficiaries and benefactors at the fairgrounds with the co-sponsors, coordinate publicity with the co-sponsors, coordinate with stakeholder groups regarding strategies for a successful food drive, provide a final report and presentation including the outcomes and stakeholder recognition to the co-sponsors, Alachua County, City of Gainesville and the Martin Luther King, Jr., Commission of Florida, Inc. Drop off 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive Boxes to participants throughout the community. **The Long Foundation, Inc.** will provide whatever resources and or coordination needed to ensure the success of the 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive.

**The City of Gainesville** played an important role last year as a co-sponsor and is being asked to participate as follows; allow as they did last year, the use of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Multi-Purpose Center for planning meetings/workshops on the following days and times: Tuesday, July 24, 10:00 am -12:00 noon; Wednesday, September 26, 10:00 am-12:00 noon; Wednesday, October 24, 10:00 am -12:00 noon and December 5, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon (**dates and times have been confirmed at the MLK Center**). Issue a proclamation at the October 18, 2012 City Commission Meeting in recognition of National Hunger Month. And, receive a presentation at the Thursday, December 20, 2012 City Commission Meeting regarding the outcomes and recognition of stakeholders and participants in the 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive.

I have asked **Alachua County Government** to be a co-sponsor again this year by providing as they did last year, the use of the Alachua County Fairgrounds for this year's food drive (November 1-8, 2012). Allow as was last year the participation of social services staff, facilities staff, solid waste department staff and communications staff as outlined in the attached proposal. The County Commission issue a proclamation at the October 22, 2012 Board Meeting in recognition of National Hunger Month. Appoint a County Government liaison to attend the planning meetings/workshops and to keep the County Commission informed of the progress of the 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive and personal participation in the food drive at the fairgrounds if possible. And, to receive a final presentation at the Tuesday, December 10, 2012 Board Meeting regarding the outcomes and recognition of stakeholders and participants in the 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive.

Our final co-sponsor this year is **The Martin Luther King, Jr., Commission of Florida, Inc.** They will serve as the fiscal agent for **The Long Foundation Inc.**, for receiving and disbursements of funds for turkeys and other food drive items until the approval of **The Long Foundation Inc.**, 501 C3 Designation by the Internal Revenue Service. **The Martin Luther King, Jr., Commission of Florida, Inc.** will also provide volunteers to assist with staffing the planning meetings/workshops and volunteers to assist with the sorting of donated foods and items at the fairgrounds building during drop off and pick up by the beneficiaries and benefactors. The Martin Luther King, Jr., Commission of Florida, Inc., will provide additional assistance as needed to ensure the success of the 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive.

In closing, as you can see from the overview above and the more detailed proposal attached, we are ready and excited to assist The City of Gainesville, Alachua County Government, our local food banks, food pantries, our needy citizens and the Alachua County Nutritional Alliance (ACNU) in addressing our food security needs by sponsoring the 2012 Strike Out Hunger Food Drive.

As outlined in the proposal, we are ready to begin notifying our participants about the upcoming meetings and soliciting out benefactors regarding their participation again in this year's food drive. Since this has been a work program for the City in the past, approval from Mr. Blackburn will allow us to begin immediately. I look forward to hearing from you very soon and working with you again in this private/public partnership as we continue our efforts of reducing poverty in Gainesville and Alachua County.

Respectfully, I am

Rodney Long, President & CEO, The Long Foundation, Inc.