



Food & Nutrition Coalition Committee Meeting August 10, 2016

Present: Tracie Coffman (ENTF Director), Tiffany Page (Catholic Charities West Michigan), Emma Garcia (Access of West MI), Emily Schihtel (Heart of West Michigan United Way), Deanna Jacobs (Salvation Army), Kristi Ayers (CAA), Susan Cervantes (ASCET), Brianna Marshall (Calvin College), Allison Rudi (Calvin College), Neil Carlson (Calvin College), Charlotte Reynolds (Calvin College)

1. Tiffany Page welcomed the group.
2. Emily discussed the idea of moving food response from emergency to sustainable long-term solutions. The question, how do we move people from crisis to long-term solutions? was posed to the entire group for discussion and ideas. Emma asked Emily to explain current state to what it might look like. HWMUW only funds emergency response and is considering what long-term solution might look like for funding. Tracie explained HWMUW current funds emergency relief services versus agencies who are addressing long-term, sustainable programming. Sheri shared that she would like to provide more empowerment to clients and implement policy changes. Sheri shared that most funding/grants are designed to be reactive (*i.e. must have shut-off notice, eviction notice, 2 weeks before*).

Emma shared some models tend to be more transactional vs equitable distribution. Preventative food system would be moving from talking about food to talking about nourishment, establishing a local, sustainable food system, moving from calories (*more food to more people- mentality*) to a public health framework around malnourishment vs calories. A successful program is the Double up Food Bucks as it promotes local farm system and promotes accessibility to local models.

Tiffany shared what work is being done in other counties. Ottawa County has very forward-thinking and a holistic approach to food system. Group would like to request if Lisa Uganski from Ottawa County would come to speak at meeting about Ottawa Counties strategic plan and the work groups established.

Emma shared info related to Good Food Charter; there are a lot of models and collaboration in Traverse City, Kalamazoo and Detroit. Tracie shared how all conversations need to include food pantries in order to flip funding to preventative vs reactive. Deanna reminded group that clients need to have a stakeholder in the conversation, so they can buy-in and use programs.

Neil shared measurement of energy efficiency, related to access (*ncbi.nlm.nih.gov*) and how the condescending charity model exploits and provides a superficial dignity to address client's "misbehavior". Equity model would provide access to same food as those in higher socioeconomic groups, have access to. Neil referenced Bob Lupton's work.

Currently, HWMUW funds approximately 10 agencies for food in Kent. Additional discussion to be continued at September meeting.

3. *Calvin College Center for Social Research, F&NC Goals & Data:*

Overview

- Overview of KConnect dashboard: k-connect.org
- Trello is the tool used for communication and management of the project – connect with Brianna if you are not connected to this tool. Further discussion will take place about the proposed success measures on Trello.
- Calvin- using it and reiterated having group use Trello for meetings. Consider attaching agenda, minutes to board.
- Success Measures:
 - F1: Review of F1 Metric: Where to level set the threshold for map of produce retailers and driving time. Each block is a census block. Still trying to get bus network up, pedestrian data is posted. Link on tableau public shown, for success

measure F1. Drive time vs walk time is significant (*walkability should be a consideration, i.e. may have to cross US131*). Idea is to use this for multiple purposes such as workforce development. How to draw a line between urban and rural? Emma inquired about possibly overlay poverty density map? Discussion around perceived accessibility and actual, may skew data. The intent to increase action ability of this data. What are we doing to get more produce in the orange area on map? Acknowledging North County looks different due to rural landscape. Tracie concerned about Northern communities has been precluded from the solution of the work. Establish 5 minutes for core communities and 15 minutes for rest of county to demonstrate at September meeting, to show filters. Neil will review food balance data and how it links.

- F2: Demo VoicesGR Tableau as potential F2 measurement, current data is not available yet. Option on site is to select questions that may be applicable to group. Data includes other counties.

4. Agency Updates:

Susan Cervantes (ASCET): Agency is making some changes through TEFAP Distribution, in which a handout was provided to group. ASCET visits to pantries have found some concerning findings (*i.e. expired foods*). A reminder USDA product must be distributed first. ASCET will reevaluate pantry needs based on units. Notify ASCET if product is not moving so re-distribution can be made throughout other pantries in county. A mandatory meeting will occur in September for training, notification will be made. Handout includes locations, dates/time for distribution information. Kristi Ayers will be new contact for TEFAP distribution. She can be reached at 616.336.4188.

5. Adjournment

Next Meeting:

**Wednesday, September 14th, 8:30 am-10:00 am
Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller Ave NE**