



Food & Nutrition Coalition Committee Meeting October 12, 2016

Present: Tracie Coffman (ENTF Director), Cunningham (Salvation Army), Emma Garcia (Access of West MI), Kristi Ayers (CAA), Amy Klinkoski (UCOM), Colene Johnson (Kent County DHHS), Jill Myer (Kent County Health Dept), Jim Holkeboer (Eastern Ave Food Pantry), Abigail Bishop (KCHD WIC), Amy Klinkoski (No Kid Hungry), Belisa Melton (YMCA), Cherie Elahl (North Kent Community Services), Emily Schihel (United Way), Health Hughesian (UW 211), Jane McGookey (Feeding America), Jill Myer (Kent County Health Department), Lisa Sisson (GVSU/Heartside Gleaning Initiative), Mark Logan (Kent County DHHS), Nurya Parish (Plainsong Farm Ministry), Shawn Keener (UCOM), Stephanie Marino (MSUE), Morgan Barber (UCOM), Rhiannon Bardel (Heartside Gleaning Initiative), Mandy DeWilde (United Way)

1. Darcy Cunningham welcomed the group. Each agency representative introduced themselves. The minutes from the September meeting were corrected and approved.
2. Presentation:
 - Kent County SNAP Benefit Updates, Jodi Hogsma*

The State of Michigan has had a waiver since 2003 in four counties including Kent County and this waiver will end on January 1, 2017. For Able Bodied Adults without Dependents (ages 18 to 50 years), SNAP/FAP eligibility will require that they are working 20 or more hours per week, engaged in a training program, or performing community service work in order to maintain their benefits. For each 3 year period, there will be a grace period of 3 months where an ABOD doesn't have to meet the above requirements. There are exemptions to this change which includes: pregnant women, someone with a physical or mental disability, receiving unemployment, in a drug or alcohol recovery program.

DHHS, MI Works and the Food Bank Council of Michigan will be putting out more information soon.
3. *Spectrum Health Healthier Communities Proposal Update, Tracie Coffman*

A small workgroup met to outline the proposal. Tracie wrote the proposal and submitted it to Spectrum Health Healthier Communities for a three year proposal. Tracie and Emma Garcia met with Spectrum Health and representatives from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to "defend" the proposal. We should know Spectrum's decision at the end of October with a possible start date in November/December. Total ask: \$315,000 over three years

Proposal Outline:
 - Year 1: hire part-time staff person to help facilitate workgroups and conversations in between monthly meetings, explore work in other communities, dive into data collected by Calvin, CRI, and Health Department, community education
 - Year 2: specific targeted workgroups established to work on targeted initiatives, pilots in different organizations that attempt to change the food system
 - Year 3: tweaking and expanding work from year 2
4. *F&NC Goals & Data Debrief, Tracie Coffman*
 - Need to address perceived access vs. physical access – how do we measure perceived access?
 - Physical access will decrease when seasonal markets are closed
 - Can we add seasonality as a parameter that we can click on and off on the map?
 - Can we use this data to talk with townships or farmers markets about expanding hours of availability? This may not be feasible for farmers that will have to take time to step away from farm
 - If there is more available "good food" would residents choose the healthy options vs. the non-healthy options in their area?
 - Can we map the locations that don't offer healthy food in order to advocate for funding to help retailers include healthy food options?
 - How can we align current/future grant proposals from different organizations?
 - Collaborate with Health Endowment Fund

- Connect farmers to different stores – use example of pop up markets being tested in 4x4 grant, YMCA healthy corner store program
- Workgroup volunteers: Emma G., Jill M., Cherie E., Tracie C., Nurya P., Emily S., Darcy C., Amy K.
- Next steps: small group with gather and dive into data
 - Ideas from full committee:
 - break up county in quadrants (Health Department has done some of this work, CHNA.org)
 - Consider rural vs. urban – will make a difference when taking action
 - Overlay average income
 - Briefing/report of data: Lisa Sission (GVSU faculty and public health students) and Jill Myer (Health Department)

5. Agency Updates:

Jane McGookey, Feeding America West Michigan
Map of mobile food pantries

Amy Klinkowski, No Kid Hungry

Distributed flyers about what it means for a child to be hungry in school and why breakfast is important

Emma Garcia, Access of West Michigan

Michigan Good Food Summit on Friday, October 28th in Lansing, let Emma know if you would like to ride on the bus by the end of this week
County Wide Food Campaign ongoing through the month of October – raising awareness about food insecurity, for events:

Lisa Sisson, Heartside Gleaning

Thank you to farmers for donating 23,000 pounds of produce this year – thank you event/fundraiser: October 23rd from 11 am to 2 pm

Plainsong Farm – started this past year – donated to 3 pantries this year, finished first growing season

6. Adjournment

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, November 9th, 8:30 am-10:00 am
Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller Ave NE