



Food & Nutrition Coalition Committee Meeting November 9, 2016

Present: Tracie Coffman (ENTF Director), Tiffany Page (Catholic Charities), Darcy Cunningham (Salvation Army), Emma Garcia (Access of West MI), Kristi Ayers (CAA), Amy Klinkoski (No Kid Hungry), Colene Johnson (Kent County DHHS), Jill Myer (Kent County Health Dept), Jim Holkeboer (Eastern Ave Food Pantry), Heather Hughesian (UW 211), Jane McGookey (Feeding America), Jill Myer (Kent County Health Department), Lisa Sisson (GVSU/Heartside Gleaning Initiative), Jessica Corwin (Spectrum Health Healthier Communities), Rhiannon Bardell (Heartside Gleaning Initiative)

1. Tiffany Page welcomed the group. Each agency representative introduced themselves. The minutes from the October meeting were approved as submitted.

2. Presentation:

Ottawa County Food Policy Council, Lisa Uganski

The Ottawa County Food Policy Council is a collaboration of 40 agencies and individuals.

Timeline:

- Former in March 2011
- Strategic plan implementation 2012-2015
- Website development 2014
- Facebook page 2016

Priority Areas Over Next Three Years:

1. Eliminate Hunger
 - a. Greater awareness of food resources
 - b. Educate public
 - c. Expand utilization of SNAP benefits
 - d. Support efforts of community programs feeding kids
 - e. Extend food life/eliminate waste
2. Healthy Eating for All
 - a. Support development of policies that focus on healthy food access
 - b. Expand pantry offerings of healthy foods
 - c. Promote and expand education of food, cooking, nutrition
3. Increase Sourcing of Local Food
 - a. Policies to increase sourcing
 - b. Increase work with farmers
 - c. Working with MSUE to start farm to pantry program

Grant funded projects:

- Expand Senior Project Fresh
- Expand Eat Up and Meet Up
- Expand Prescription for Health
- Expanding CSA to Pantry projects
- Enhancing gleaning project
- Comprehensive county-wide marketing campaign

Contact info: Lisa Uganski, 616-393-5770, luganski@miottawa.org

Kent County Food Policy Council, Emma Garcia

The Kent County Food Policy Council has formed and are working on a council structure and policy agenda. This Council is under the ENTF Food & Nutrition Coalition. The Council will work on the policy issues that can be leveraged to support the food access and food insecurity work

that is being done at the Food & Nutrition Coalition. These two groups will work closely together to support the work in the county around food.

3. *Spectrum Health Healthier Communities Proposal Update, Tracie Coffman*

Spectrum Health Healthier Communities has approved the planning grant for the first year of work. Calvin has been contracted to help us with the data and analysis. A part-time consultant will be hired and Tracie is posting that position on Friday. The award for the first year is \$147,000. Tracie will send out goals of the grant to the committee.

Jill Myer discussed the work being done by the Kent County Health Department Epidemiologist. They have been in contact with Calvin and are working on food security.

The American Society of Pediatrics put out two food security questions that should be asked of households with children. Mary Free Bed has started to incorporate these into their patient assessment.

- Within the past 12 months, we worried whether our food would run out before we got money for more.
- Within the past 12 months, the food we bought just didn't last and we didn't have money to get more.

4. *F&NC Goals & Data Debrief, Tracie Coffman*

A small workgroup met to take a deeper dive into the data and maps received by Calvin. The group acknowledged that the data points need to be spilt up and analyzed for different parts of the county. The workgroup will put together a consistent plan for analysis. Lisa Sisson has a student from GVSU that is a Masters of Public Health and is interested in working on this project. The workgroup will meet with the student to talk with her about the project.

5.

6. Agency Updates:

Tiffany Page, God's Kitchen: closed Thanksgiving day and day after Thanksgiving, many resources will be available for residents in the neighborhood from other agencies

Jill Myer, Kent County Health Department: Jill will send out the American Pediatrics questions for the group to review

Jane McGooney, Feeding America West Michigan: ramping up frozen food capacity – receiving it from grocers in West Michigan and repackaging it into 3 lb bags

Emma Garcia, Access of West Michigan: reminded the group that there are a lot of great models addressing food security around the state. The MI Good Food Charter summit was successful this year – sign up for weekly emails and check out MI Good Food Charter Goals.

Holiday Giving Network is happening now. Ask clients to connect with United Way 211 for more information. Would like to encourage everyone to shift the conversation from a handout response to a response of more equitable access.

Provided an update about farm to pantry program – 5 pantries participating. The goals are to create a healthier environment at sites, provide food in a more equitable way, healthy nutrition standards, community organizing, and support the local food system.

Kristi Ayers, ACSET: coordinates USDA commodities and is interested in working with pantries as they move forward with food justice work

Gordie Moeller, Food Security Advocate:

The City of Plainwell is hosting an Indoor Market beginning Saturday, Nov. 26 - Sat. Dec. 17. We are looking for vendors to participate in our second Indoor Market. They can download an application here <http://www.plainwell.org/farmers-market/> or contact Denise Siegel at market@plainwell.org

Market runs on Saturday's only from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Lisa Sission, GVSU: attended a conference and learned about policies in New York City about healthy food standards in pantries; NPR story about marketing nudges and clients choosing

healthier foods

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2016/11/07/499325457/food-pantries-try-nutritional-nudging-to-encourage-good-food-choices>

Amy Klinkowski, No Kid Hungry: shared about an inspirational article that she read:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2696644/pdf/1203.pdf>

7. Adjournment

Next Meeting:

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