



Food & Nutrition Coalition Meeting Minutes Month Day, 2017 8:30am – 10:00am

Attendees

Eleanor Moreno, Colene Johnson, Wende Randall, Connie Bellows, DeDe Esque, Deanna Howland, Stephanie Marino, Jim Holkeboer, Mitchell Mrozik, Ken Ford, Mark Lubberts, Dana Eardley, Chelsea Totten, Amanda Lovell, Stephanie McKendry, Kristi Ayers, Tiffany Page, Jeff Hoyh, Aj Fossel, Shay Krick, Allison Rudi, Elzie Honicutt, Katie Vanderwal, Erin Skidmore, David Madiol, Michelle Meulendyk, Mark Lubberts, Danielle Simmons, Hayley Robinson, Belisa Melton, Bree Butler, Jill Myer, Emily Schichtel

I. Introductions: Emily Schichtel

- Minutes, February 14, 2018

Motion to approve: Mark

Seconded: Shay

Motion Passed, No Amendments

II. Basic Needs Index Update: Wende

About 5 years ago, KConnect made the cradle to career age a priority in terms of success. Want to be able to combine chosen indicators from each subcommittee to be a part of the KConnect dashboard. Today, Wende asks that each subcommittee member reflects on their own organization and what they are achieving for the community. The discussion then covered the success measures and indicators for the FNC subcommittee.

Calvin Center for Social Research put together a tableau map about food availability throughout the community. This map can be manipulated to show travel time to the closest produce via walking, public transit, and driving. If we are saying 45 minutes is adequate for a household to reach produce then we need to be aware of the burden a 45 minute, one-way trip places on a household. When we talk about whether or not someone is food secure, we are not necessarily looking at the method of food collection such as shopping and pantries – we have another benchmark we can look at. The VoiceKent survey on the Grand Valley website is very useful. It can also be broken down by race which does show disparity amongst different races. This gives us an opportunity to focus our attention.

The ENTF Dashboard is currently under construction and will show strategies, then indicators, then success measures.

Today each subcommittee member is given some time to think about the VoiceKent survey. A handout was given out with the questions listed and space to give thoughts and suggested adjustments. If members are doing some sort of screening within their own organizations, talk about the questions your organization asks.

As a group we can look at what we are trying to get at with data collection. Trying to do two things, how do we get an overall picture of the county? 2) How to we know if we are serving the community, are we helping them?

After 10 minutes, discussion was wrapped up. Some questions and points of discussion were summarized from each group and feedback was collected.



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III. Policy Update: Dana

The Food Policy Council has an action plan and are about to start the community engagement component. They are inviting about 140 members from across the food security community and this will become the official Food Policy Council. The FNC subcommittee will be an informing source for the council and a Food Policy Council member will give a monthly update at future FNC meetings.

IV. Continuing Work on Leverage

We are at the point of "Finding Leverage" on the

Last month the subcommittee confirmed the Deep Structure of Challenge (core, crux). Reviewed the FNC narrative and went over feedback from the Rosebud/Thorn activity.

Today's work will consist of an hour of work time regarding leverage. The definition of leverage for this activity is "To use something to a maximum advantage". It is noted that leverage could be construed as not positive, it can feel manipulative.

Develop a problem statement, identify bright spots and points of leverage. Last month's teams were not permanent but today, everyone should find the team they want to work in throughout this process.

Members than split into one of the following groups:

Policy, Health, Education, Community Engagement Advocacy

Groups then each gave a brief overview of their conversation.

Education: Hope is to build an alt food system. Illusion of knowledge, social media fosters the illusion of knowledge regarding food security. One point of leverage discussed was not having to accept in-kind donations from businesses that are detrimental to the goal of solving food insecurity. Do want to have the stakeholder drive the programs? Incentives can be useless such as a meal or a bus pass. So how do we get real information from the community?

Health: Hope for future of health will be marked by community ownership and involvement from grassroots movements. Food is medicine and would like involvement from small farmers. Progress is frozen around insurance, what is covered, and what is covered is decided by big business and controlled trials resulting in a system that drives the sales of medicine and not healthy eating. There seems to be a one size fits all mentality in the health system. Bright spots include: there are small efforts by grant funded projects to get healthy food into the system. There are efforts to sharing information to physicians and providers such as culinary health. A greater effort to reward providers for how healthy their patients are, not how many services they administer. Greater pervasive culture shift towards organic could be beneficial. Leverage includes, MSU is able to help pursue evidence and publish it. Large medical providers could push healthy food to benefit the community.

Advocacy: System is frozen with corps and government – really hard to influence. Leverage includes restaurants, local distributors, media, and distributors. Teaming up with faculty to impact the educational system. Who owns the land and is able to utilize it is very important. Data was discussed and can be used to maintain the system and get a snapshot, would like to do projection data.

Policy: Hope is when people's voices are lifted up that will encourage change. The system is frozen in the



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relationship between non-profit groups and large corps. Policies are written in confusing ways and are hard to for people to understand. The access to policy makers is limited. Bright spots include grassroots organizations, socially active younger generations with the aid of social media. Groups that are knowledge about policy are becoming more prominent.

Work will continue next month

V. Updates: Emily

Why Hunger Training taking place in April, please contact Emily for more information – 2-day, free training!

VII. Next Meeting/Adjourn: Emily Schichtel

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 8:30am – 10:30am.