



**Newtown CHAT Meeting Summary
North Sarasota Library
April 24, 2012**

Present: Shavon Reed-Agard; Michael Paragon; Jessie Hillman; Barbara Powell-Harris; Beverly Phelps; Ken Waters; Joyce Raby; Lorna Ashton; Lisa Merritt, MD; Katie Leonard; Diane Ramseyer

Welcome and Introductions

New Items

Housing Authority’s Father’s Day Event – In 2011 HUD adopted a Father’s Day Campaign Initiative to help support fathers in the home and “reconnect fathers to the household”. In Sarasota, they are working on addressing barriers related to undocumented fathers, change in rent and background issues. This includes helping link fathers to supportive services. It is on the Saturday before Father’s Day. They are looking for assistance in planning the event, and the on-going support/information services following the event, through case management. If interest, please call Ken at 941.361.6210 ext 261 or kwaters@sarasotahousing.org. Group discussed the issue of how to get the word out – for this or any other community group. The lobby area of the Redevelopment office has a community calendar, as well as the marquee.

Childhood Obesity (future standing item) – Overview of 5 2 1 0 initiative in Sarasota County to help address childhood obesity. This is a collaborative of providers, educators, government and more. This led in to the review of the action plan. Dr. Merritt suggested the group look at the “Instant Recess” video next meeting. She attended a meeting in California on improving food security issue. Suggestion made for her to provide more details at the next meeting, too.

Review Action Plan

GOAL 1: Increase availability and access to healthy, affordable foods in Newtown/North Sarasota

Objective 1.1: Increase the number of food retailers selling fresh fruits and vegetables to 3 by July 2012

Objective 1.2: Increase the number of WIC-certified food retailers in Newtown/North Sarasota by 2 by July 2012

Objective 1.3: Support Extension in launching a program (such as the SNAP double-value coupon program) to increase affordability of fresh fruits and vegetables at food retailers and/or farmers markets in Newtown/North Sarasota by Jan 2013

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of food retailers advertising healthy foods by 4 in Newtown/North Sarasota by July 2012

What have we learned and what has happened since last meeting?

- Work continues on the “WIC Navigator” Program with the goals and timeline being created.

What do we need to know?

- Identify ways to better educate the community on the importance of eating healthy foods – such as 5 2 1 0.

What do we need to do next?

- Finalize the workplan/timeline for the WIC Navigator.

GOAL 2: Create awareness about distressed properties and their effect on

environmental & physical health (PACE-EH)

Objective 2.1: Increase public information about environmental health issues from homes in 5 public locations by Jan. 2011

Objective 2.2: Rehabilitate properties to reduce the number of non-code compliant homes by 1 by January 2012

What have we learned and what has happened since last meeting?

- Committee is working on a fundraising approach through local banks for using CRA funds to help raise the funds – “serving the needs of the community”

What do we need to know?

- Continue to identify additional sources for funds

What do we need to do next?

- .Finalize the letter and get out to appropriate entities.

GOAL 3: Decrease community violent crime by increasing lighting levels and police visibility, and by raising awareness of the negative health outcomes of violence (PACE-EH)

What have we learned and what has happened since last meeting?

- Katie gave an overview of the Community Field Day, along with brief evaluation of the event.

What do we need to know?

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What do we need to do next?

- Determine the next steps for this goal – emphasis on how to get the parents involved with the events and activities. Ken offered space for future event and Barbara indicated she could help.

GOAL 4:– Increase number of women who breastfeed in the community.

What have we learned and what has happened since last meeting?

- Overview of Safe at Home program through Healthy Start of Sarasota

What do we need to know?

- How to enumerate the number of women currently breastfeeding. Suggestion made to use Healthy Start numbers for those involved in program, and use this as benchmark for growth.

What do we need to do next?

- Finalize objectives and steps

What else is going on? (Announcements)

Orange Blossom Garden is working to establish a “Park Ranger” program to engage six of the youth in housing near the garden.

April 28th 10-2pm – Caregiver Support Fair at the North Sarasota Library.

Drug-Free Youth (D-Fy) group organizing to implement in Sarasota (either have a Sarasota address or attend MS or HS at a Sarasota School (SHS, RHS, BHS, etc). May 22nd 2pm at the Health Dept @2200 Ringling Blvd.

May 24th – Poetry Slam – more details to come.

Lorna indicated that they are working with Manatee Rural Health to move forward on purchase of property to get full service health center in the community.

Michael indicated he is looking at opportunity for juice bar at RLT.

Next Meeting is May 22, 2012 - 6 pm – North County Library

2011-2012 Newtown CHAT Action Plan

Goal 1: *Increase availability and access to healthy, affordable foods in Newtown/North Sarasota*

Objective 1.1: *Increase the number of food retailers selling fresh fruits and vegetables to 3 by July 2012*

Objective 1.2: *Increase the number of WIC-certified food retailers in Newtown/North Sarasota by 2 by July 2012*

Objective 1.3: *Support Extension in launching a program (such as the SNAP double-value coupon program) to increase affordability of fresh fruits and vegetables at food retailers and/or farmers markets in Newtown/North Sarasota by Jan 2013*

Objective 1.4: *Increase the number of food retailers advertising healthy foods by 4 in Newtown/North Sarasota by July 2012*

Goal 2: *Create awareness about distressed properties and their effect on environmental & physical health (PACE-EH)*

Objective 2.1: *Increase public information about environmental health issues from homes in 5 public locations by Jan. 2011*

Objective 2.2: *Rehabilitate properties to reduce the number of non-code compliant homes by 1 by January 2012*

Goal 3: *Decrease community violent crime by increasing lighting levels and police visibility, and by raising awareness of the negative health outcomes of violence (PACE-EH)*

Objective 3.1: *Provide mental health service providers with information/evidence of negative mental health outcomes related to community violence.*

Objective 3.2: *Work with organizations to perform 2 lighting audits by _____, one in the City and one in the County.*

Objective 3.3: *Increase police visibility by conducting 4 law enforcement/community events by June 20, 2012*