

Team: Newtown CHAT

Date: August 27, 2013 6:00pm

Place: Robert L Taylor Community Complex

Next Meeting Time/Place: Tuesday, September 24, 2013

Meeting Goal

Make final preparations for Community Wellness walk on 9/13/13.

Attendees:

Thelma Upshaw, Barbara Powell Harris, Vicki Bartz, Katie Leonard, Nan Summers, Faith Chapman, Marsha Weiner, Joyce Raby, Kevin Anderson, Jessie Hillman, Kari Ellingstad, Pascale Edouard

Updates/Progress/New Information Since Last Meeting

- Barbara Paul Harris- Complete streets and sidewalks on 18th street are underway. It will provide mobility access to community members who use motorized wheelchairs.
- Katie- future plans to renovate 41; it's assumed that there will be increased traffic on MLK street. Increased traffic on MLK can be used as an avenue to capitalize on the Sarasota citizens who have never driven in the community possibly furthering economic development within Newtown.
- Pascale- Youth educational gardening programs: Garden Mosaics, gardening program curriculum developed through Cornell University that focuses on intergenerational gardening with an emphasis on science, people, cultures, and action.
 - Nan- Possibly partnering with local colleges (USF, Newtown College, etc.) to provide support to the program
- Kari- Meeting with Jerry Fogle was successful. He was receptive to starting youth based gardening programs at RLCC & possibly changing the environment at RLCC with the provision of healthy choices in the vending machines.
- Katie- Focus of the meeting was to use RLCC as a hub for community information and programs (i.e Senior Friendship, Hard Knock program, etc). Creating programs catered towards the existing population and groups that use the RLCC and assets (RLCC kitchen). Forming partnerships with culinary institutes (i.e. Keiser, SCTI) in the area to support the programs.
- Kevin- Food hub in Fort Myers started by Yvonne Hill, a garden and farming program with mentoring and teaching people how to grow food, with a focus on economic development and provision of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Katie: County is taking an proactive approach to utilizing vacant lots in the county to encompass food and economic development. Steve Cotrell is a key contact in this county initiative.
 - Steve Cottrell was an integral part of the Intervale Project in Vermont
 - Talks about inviting Steve Cotrell to CHAT Meeting –Title: Interim Utilities Director
- Nan-Eco Program-tropical and subtropical plants that do not usually grow in Florida are being grown and recipes are being developed around these foods that are being grown.
- Katie-Update with Macio: He is making progress with the city as far as getting a permit for MLK vacant lot.
- Need to reconnect with Food Bank.

Review Problem Statement, Value Statement, Goals/Action Plan

- Problem Statement
 - General consensus that there has not been an improvement in access to healthy foods in the markets and convenient stores in the neighborhood. Community members are not purchasing healthy foods when they are in the stores and so there is a lack of interest from store owners to include them in their stores.
- Goal 1: Develop youth focused activities that link nutrition education, gardening & entrepreneurship
 - Focus on teaching community members on how to cook healthy southern meals that are still flavorful

Next Steps

- Invite Steve Cotrell to the next meeting
- Nan- will contact Jerry and Robert

CHAT Chair

- Recruitment for a CHAT chair. Anyone interested (or willing to nominate someone) should contact Kari (kari@CHIP4health.org ; 861.2867)