



Newtown CHAT Meeting Summary
North County Library
October 25, 2011

Present: April Glasco, Katie Lasch, Barbara Langston, Barbara Royal, Danielle Sheppard, Valerie Buchand, Diane Ramseyer

Welcome – Everyone was welcomed and introductions provided.

PACE-EH update – Katie Lasch updated the group on the work of the PACE-EH committee. She shared the Memorandum of Understanding between the group and Easter Seals as well as the one with the Ousley Family. The group has also broken down the renovation list by stages according to funds raised. There is a flyer which has been created to be used to help get donors for the project. There is one more item needed for the flyer before it is ready for distribution. Barbara also offered another contact to help with painting, possibly.

They are also doing a Healthy Home Program at the Robert L. Taylor Center on January 21, 2012. There will be displays of “how-to” demonstrations and some free supplies.

February 25th they will partner with Robert L. Taylor on a youth and law enforcement sports event. PAL will be an additional partner on this project. They may do another similar event at the Newtown Estates Community Center. They are also exploring having some professional athletics from Bucks and other professional teams. They will also have resource information from local services. Valerie will also check to see if China Smith, Jr. could attend and will help connect to some of the church ministries addressing the issue of crime and violence in the community.

PACE-EH will meet November 2nd at 10:15-11:15 at North County Library.

Goals and Objective Process: Diane shared information from the 3 areas she was to follow up on from last month’s meeting. The responses are from Dr. Robert Kluson:

1.) What is the process for local grower's to sell directly to retailers (certification needed to show grown safely, etc?) *Depends on the requirements of the retailer. For large retailers they require HACCP certification. For small retailers they require GAPs certification and a farm food safety plan. Growers do not need any license to sell foods they grow. They need occupational license if they are reselling anything grown in neighboring farms. Growers will need to have liability insurance. If retailers want certification that grower is local, I can provide it as the Ag Extension agent of Sarasota County.*

Vision: Newtown will be a community of healthy, active citizens.

Mission: The Newtown CHAT works to improve the health (both mind and body) of the Newtown community through advocacy and action to increase the availability and affordability of healthy foods, support physical activity, and build awareness of resources and information to support healthy living.

2.) Are there regulations (and what are they) that require special process and handling for fresh produce? (Similar to #1) see *the EDIS document on this topic at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fy1225> and my document at http://sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu/AG/MARKET_GARDENING_7.pdf*

3.) The issue of "trace-ability" was raised. Is it easier for a small corner store to give a local gardener/grower a space for his/her own stand outside a retailer, than to go through any of the above regulations to provide the produce? *This may be so but where is the profit for the store owner in such an arrangement?*

And - someone thought that double couponing was only sanctioned for farm markets? *No, because there is no "official" program for Double Value Coupons. It's basically what we make it to be. This person is probably thinking of other USDA programs like free EBT machines for farmers markets only.*

It is not clear that there will be market moving in to the Janie's Garden area at this time.

Discussion was held on CRA process and history.

Due to time constraints, work on the goals and objectives will continue next month.

Announcements:

April Glasco announced she has resigned as Chair.

Next CHAT Meeting

November 22nd – 6 pm North County Library

CHAT is the Community Health Action Team –
<http://www.chip4health.org/newtown.htm>
For More Information – newtown@chip4health.org

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