

HEALTHY FOOD FOR ALL COALITION MEETING NOTES

APRIL 21, 2015 | STOCKTON BLVD PARTNERSHIP

OVERVIEW

The Healthy Food for All Coalition met on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at Stockton Blvd Partnership. A full list of participants can be found at the end of this document. The goals and objectives for the meeting included:

- Participants revisit their work in specific communities and use their reflection to inform their analysis of how to move forward with new communities;
- Participants reflect on the success and challenges of Quarter II and determine how the lessons learned will inform their work moving into Quarter III.
- Participants are encouraged and inspired by the collective tools to guide their work moving forward.

MARCH ACTION ITEM REVIEW

As part of the Coalition meeting structure, each meeting will begin by reviewing the previous month's action items. Please see below for the ongoing Action Item list and the status of each item as of April 21st.

Action Item Matrix

Description	Owner	Date Assigned/Due Date	Status
Existing Items			
Review of “Who is Missing” List ¹	Coalition	Jan. 20/ Ongoing	In Progress (<i>invitations are still being made – see below</i>)
Follow up with Sac Food Bank re new distribution sites	Shawn	March 17/ May 19	In Progress
Follow up with Community Center re possible WIC store ²	Pastor Karen	March 17/ May 19	In Progress (<i>see below</i>)
New Items			
Enlarge school map to inform Pathways Program	Shannon/Rangineh	April 21/ May 19	In Progress
Set up Google Doc for matrix criteria	Rangineh	April 21/May 11	In Progress

¹ Review of “Who is Missing” List

Several months ago, the Coalition identified a list of key stakeholders deemed important to participate in, or at minimum be informed about, Coalition meetings and activities. To this end, a “Who is Missing” List was created and individual members agreed to extend personal invitations to these stakeholders to either begin attending the meetings, or be added to the outreach/distribution list. The following is a list of the stakeholders and Coalition members who agreed to extend invitations to them to future Coalition meeting.

Invitee	Affiliation	Meeting or Distribution List	Coalition Member	Status
Brook Murphy	Sac State Environmental Dept.	Add to Distribution List	Randy	Will be Added
Stephanie Francis	Fruitridge Manor Neigh. Assoc.	TBA	David/Isaac	Need to Invite
Kristen Keisel	Sac State Food Economics	Add to Distribution List	Robyn	Added

² Louise Perez Community Center WIC Store

Pastor Karen shared that a meeting is in the works to determine the viability and feasibility of putting in a WIC store into the new community center. Should this development succeed, it could open the door to several different fruitful collaboration opportunities with the Coalition. Pastor Karen will attend the meeting and report back at the following Coalition meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & RESOURCES

Prior to commencing the content portion of the meeting, the Coalition members provided the following updates and announcements:

- **SeedsofChangeGrant.com** (*Shannon Hardwick*): Growing Together recently submitted a grant application to SeedsofChangegrant.com for their five school pilot project. Coalition partners were asked to support the application by going to the website, entering their zip code, and changing the radius to 25 miles. From there partners can vote for “Growing Together” until the end of April.
- **Spring Clothing Swap** (*Davida Douglas*): Alchemist CDC will be hosting a *Spring Clothing Swap* to support the organization’s fundraising efforts. The event will take place on Sunday, May 3rd from 12 – 3 PM at the Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op Community Learning Center (located at 1900 Alhambra Blvd). Admission is \$15 at the door.
- **Region-wide Food Access System** (*Robyn Krock*): Valley Vision is working with Sac Regional Community Foundation on a project to gather data in order to create a region-wide food access system. A small number of interviews will be conducted and Coalition partners will be receiving a survey on the topic. Partners were asked to kindly reply as their input will be invaluable to the process.
- **SBF Day on the Farm** (*Shawn Harrison*): Everyone is invited to attend Soil Born Farm’s *Day on the Farm* taking place on May 17th at the American River Ranch location.
- **Urban Agricultural Ordinance** (*Shawn Harrison*): Thursday, April 23rd will be the official start of the Urban Ag Ordinance. To kick off the ordinance, there will be an official opening of a farm stand. Yisrael Family Farm will also open up a pop up tent and offer produce (more details to come). Other developments related to the ordinance include approaching the county with the goal of getting the ordinance passed in the county as well.
- **California Thursdays**: The Sacramento Unified School District will be hosting a farmer’s market at John Stills school to do educational outreach with a focus on various produce. Families who attend will receive voucher for food and vegetables. The event will continue for a few months on Thursdays.
- **Nutrition Education Course** (*Randy Stannard*): Oak Park Sol Community Garden will be hosting a 3-week nutrition education course at their garden. The course will take place Wednesday May 13th, 20th, and 27th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. For more information about the course and/or to sign up please contact Nicodemus Ford at nicodemusford@gmail.com or call 510-316-2515.
- **Food Literacy Center** (*Elaine Lander*): Food Literacy Center will be hosting its first class on May 23rd and will be giving out food vouchers.
- **Mack Road Farmer’s Market Grand Opening** (*Todd McPherson*): The Mack Road Farmer’s Market will officially open on Thursday, May 7th and stay open every Thursday from 4 – 8 PM at 7839 Center Parkway, 95823. Customers will receive a free \$1 for every \$1 CalFresh that they spend. For more information please contact Todd, Market Manager, at 831-334-0453.

- The next Coalition meeting will take place on **Tuesday, May 19, 2015 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM** at **Dr. Richard Pan’s South Sacramento Office, Obama Room** (located at 2251 Florin Road). The agenda for the meeting will be sent out the week prior to the meeting.

NEIGHBORHOOD ROADMAP IN ACTION

At the end of the March meeting, the Coalition started a discussion about the nine neighborhoods that were identified based on clusters of existing activity. With only five years left in the BHC Initiative, the Coalition continues to explore how to identify a clear, strategic process for how each of these neighborhoods can be engaged. To this end, the Coalition identified a set of criteria to help it identify in which neighborhoods the greatest traction, and hopefully the greatest impact, might be had. The nine neighborhoods and criteria was then placed into a Neighborhood Roadmap [matrix] intended to determine which neighborhoods are most in alignment with the Coalition’s criteria. It was underscored that the tool is meant to help *assess each community’s alignment* with the criteria and is meant to be strictly directional, not necessarily decisional. *(Please see appendix for a revised version of the draft Neighborhood Roadmap)*

Career Pathways: A Potential Criterion

Prior to reviewing the tool, Shawn Harrison presented information on the Career Pathways program, a pilot program aimed at developing specific career pathways in select schools where students would be able to learn concrete skills related to a specific field. One such field is Food and Agriculture. Adding the Pathways program as one of the criterion to the matrix would allow the Coalition to align its activities with these schools, which in turn would provide a greater chance of those activities being institutionalized within the school. Institutionalization of food access activities would significantly increase the chances of the Coalition’s work continuing well beyond the five years remaining in the BHC Initiative.

The Coalition discussed the possibility that by adding Pathways as a criterion, the Coalition may have to look at more than just one neighborhood at a time since students attending the Pathways school come from more than just one community. To this end, the group determined that an enlarged school district map would be extremely helpful to visually see which communities feed students into schools that have (or will have) a Pathways program. Shannon Hardwick shared that she has a school district map and will bring it with her to the next meeting. It was also clarified that should any of the Pathways schools reside just outside of the BHC target area, the Coalition has been approved to work with them since many of the students attending those schools are likely to be from communities within the BHC target area. Noting that more discussion re the location of Pathways schools is still warranted, the Coalition voted to to add the Pathways as a criterion. Other suggestions included adding an “internal capacity” criterion to check in regarding the capacity of grantees to do the work.

Putting the Tool to Use

Following the Pathways discussion, Coalition members tested the tool by assessing two communities in which partners have already worked, namely North/Central Oak Park and the Avenues. Participants were split into small groups of four and asked to assess the two communities using the roadmap matrix. The assessment scale ranged from 0 (does not meet the criteria) to 3 (meets criteria very well). Since not all groups included Pathways as a criterion in their assessment, the results were unfortunately slightly less than accurate. However, for purposes of piloting the tool, the Coalition was still able to derive value from the outcome. The results showed an average of 10.66 for North/Central Oak Park and 6 for the Avenues in terms of their alignment. Upon reviewing the results, the Coalition discussed where there were still information gaps for each community in relation to the criterion. For example, partners could not accurately assess the criterion of “political will” if they were unfamiliar with who the elected official was for a particular community. To this end, the group suggested other refinements of this nature and detail (among other more general comments), which can be found below:

- *Helpful tool to identify what we don't know*
- *May need to look at this differently since we may not get all the info we need*
- *Increase scale from 0-3 to 0-10 to allow for more nuance*
- *What is the legacy we want to leave?*
- *Need to change how we talk about “activities” → How will we approach our work/talk about it?*
- *How do we get the information we need? → Need to look at what is sustainable*
- *Where have activities been successful as a layer of the map? Where can we leverage?*
- *Consider other neighborhood groups (e.g. churches, libraries, etc.)*

In order to begin leveraging the knowledge and experience of Coalition partners, Rangineh agreed to create a Google doc that would allow partners to directly input information and data for each community related to the criteria. The goal is to gather as much information as possible about each community prior to the next meeting with the hope that the Coalition will be able to use the tool to assess all nine neighborhoods. In conclusion of the discussion, general consensus among Coalition partners was that they supported using the matrix as a *directional* tool; and at the same time, would like more information for each community in order to better inform their assessments.

CLOSING REMARKS

The Coalition co-facilitators (Shawn Harrison and Rangineh Azimzadeh Tosang) thanked the group for their continued patience and acknowledged the challenging nature of the time required to be strategic. They further noted the importance of the group’s willingness to grapple with the larger questions of strategy, approach, and capacity as these are critical questions to answer if true systemic change is to ultimately be achieved.

PARTICIPANTS

Name	Affiliation/Organization
Rangineh Azimzadeh Tosang	Solh Resolutions International
Shawn Harrison	Soil Born Farms
Alberto Mercado	Sac BHC
Tiffany Wilson	LPC Consulting
Randy Stannard	Soil Born Farms
Judith Yisrael	Yisrael Family Farm
Davida Douglas	Alchemist CDC
Isaac Gonzalez	Tahoe Park Neighborhood Association/Access Sacramento
Robyn Krock	Valley Vision
Elaine Lander	Food Literacy Center
Thom Gruneisen	Sac Public Library
Nailah Kokayi	Pacific Elementary School
Kate Wilkins	Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services
Jeffrey Phung	Sac BHC
Chanowk Yisrael	Yisrael Family Farm
Todd McPherson	Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center
Dominic Allamano	Soil Born Farms
Shannon Hardwicke	Soil Born Farms
Hillary Hansen	Legal Services of Northern California
Jacqueline Rodriguez	Sacramento Unified School District

Appendix

Healthy Food for All Coalition

May 2015

DRAFT NEIGHBORHOOD ROADMAP

A directional tool to help assess a neighborhood alignment with Coalition criteria for engagement

CRITERIA	Political Will	Infrastructure	Resident Leadership	Pathways	Internal Capacity	
<i>Multiplier Factor (Optional)</i>	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	
North/Central Oak Park [City/District 5: Schenirer]						
South Oak Park [City/District 5: Schenirer & County/District 1: Serna]						
The Avenues [County/District 2: Kennedy]						
Colonial Manor [City/District 6: Guerra]						
Lemon Hill [County/District 2: Kennedy?]						
City Farms [City/District 5: Schenirer]						
Colonial Heights [City/District 5: Schenirer]						
Fruitridge Manor [City/District 6: Guerra]						
Glen Elder [City/District 6: Guerra]						

* To assess each option, use a scale of 0-10 where 0 = Does not meet the criteria; 5 = Meets criteria; 10 = Meets criteria very well

** See next page for how each criteria is defined

Needs Assessment	Political Will	Infrastructure	Resident Leadership	Pathways Program	Internal Capacity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map Assets (physical, social, other) Data on needs: www.citydata.com Has the unincorporated county been overlooked historically? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Willing political leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutions as communication points Active event space Available community center Keystone institutions should have established relationships with orgs/ residents Available transportation nearby to help prioritize among multiple potential sites (e.g. more transportation = increased participation) Proximity to previously engaged sites (*Fruitridge Elementary) Communications process/ strategy to reach residents and orgs without language barriers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified residents as liaisons 3-5 active resident groups Neighborhood Watch Neighborhood Association Connectors (i.e. active resident leaders) Successful neighborhood organizations (e.g. credibility, networking/communication with residents, ability to mobilize residents) Food access related activities not yet in place but other Action Team in place Community engagement funded organizations Community members with expressed desire to engage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pilot program aimed at developing specific career pathways in select high schools where students would be able to learn concrete skills related to a specific field. One such field is Food and Agriculture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD