

HEALTHY FOOD FOR ALL COALITION OCTOBER MEETING NOTES

OCTOBER 20, 2015 | STOCKTON BLVD PARTNERSHIP

OVERVIEW

The Healthy Food for All Coalition met on Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at the 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 provide critical input about how to categorize partner activities in way that is meaningful for Coalition partners; and
- Participants are excited to continue exploring tools to help guide and evolve their work.

SEPTEMBER 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 October 20th.

Action Item Matrix

Description	Owner	Date Assigned/Due Date	Status
Existing/Ongoing Items			
Follow up with Sac Food Bank re new distribution sites ¹	Shawn	May 19/(See Status)	In Progress/Ongoing (<i>see below</i>)
Mapping Tool Development ²	Shawn + Team	April 21/ Fall 2015	In Progress/Ongoing (<i>see below</i>)
New Items			
Research farmer incentives used in other farmers' markets	Sharon	August 18/ Sept 15	In Progress
Send out Maple Elementary School Opening Date	Rangineh	Sept 15/ Nov 17	In Progress
Follow up with Volunteers for Showcase Subcommittee	Rangineh	Oct 20/Nov 17	In Progress

¹ Sac Food Bank's New Distribution Sites

Sac Food Bank and Family Services is now the official and sole provider for the Feeding America program in Sacramento. Shawn shared that he is working with food bank and mapping how to get donated fruit directly to food closets. He will continue to update the group as new developments arise.

² Mapping Tool Development

During the April meeting, upon adding the Pathways Program as an official engagement criteria in the Neighborhood Roadmap [matrix], Coalition partners requested an enlarged school map to visually inform them about the schools that are connected to the Pathways Program. Partners also noted the need and interest in having additional maps that provided information about other engagement criteria including elected officials for each neighborhood, county vs. city boundaries, food access activities, etc. Rather than creating several separate maps, Shawn and Rangineh will be working with a small group of folks who they hope will help create one interactive, dynamic map that contains all of the aforementioned layers. Given the magnitude of the map in question, the map will likely take a few months to create. Shawn and Rangineh will keep the Coalition updated about what progress is being made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, RESOURCES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

Prior to commencing the content portion of the meeting, the Coalition members provided the following announcements, resources, and opportunities for collaboration:

Announcements

- **Greentech Aquaponics Open House** (*Simeon Gant*): The open house will take on Thursday, October 22nd from 9:30 AM – 2 PM at 4309 38th Street (across from Christian Brothers High School). For more information, please contact Simeon Gant at simgant@gmail.com.
- **Sac BHC Opening** (*Alberto Mercado*): The Sac BHC will officially open up its new conference space at Fruitridge Elementary School on November 1st. The space will be available at no charge to BHC grantees to use for meetings and events. The BHC Media Team will also house its green screen at the new site. Hub staff is currently working on the developing an efficient and easy access way for grantees to reserve space. As soon as the new reservation system is in place, it will be shared with the grantees.
- **Burbank Community Work Day** (*Matt Read on behalf of Todd McPherson*): A community work day will take place on Saturday, October 24th from 8 AM – 4 PM. Lunch will be provided by Slow Food Sacramento. For more information, please contact Todd McPherson at todd@sccsc.org.
- **Vegetarian Sac Town Festival** (*Glenn Destatte*): The festival will take place on January 30, 2016 at the Serna Center and will be incorporating an art demonstration component. The festival will emphasize more fruits and veggies in diets. Please contact Glenn for more details (sacveggie@gmail.com)
- **Alchemist Health Fair** (*Bridgitte Rivers*): Alchemist CDC will be hosting a health fair at Sam's Market on Saturday, October 24th – vendors are still being accepted. There will be another fair on Saturday, October 31st as well. For more information, please contact Bridgitte Rivers at bridgitte@alchemistcdc.org.
- **Avenues to Health – Health Fair** (*Pastor Karen Abrego*): The health fair will take place on Saturday, October 24th from 10 AM – 3 PM at Rainbow Park and the Louise Perez Community Resource Center. The health fair will include health screenings and activities for kids. For more information, please contact Pastor Karen Abrego at karen.abrego@sen.ca.gov.
- **Growing Water: Re-envisioning Sustainability** (*Dominic Allamano*): The event will be held Friday and Saturday, October 23-24th at Fruitridge Elementary. Still looking for potential BHC recipients and regenerative leaders! For more information, please contact Dominic Allamano at dallamano@soilborn.org.
- **Harvest Sacramento** (*Dominic Allamano*): Harvest Leader trainings will be held at Fruitridge Elementary on Saturday, November 14th and Saturday, December 5th - volunteers are still needed! After the New Year, the first citrus events will start and run every week, including a big activity on MLK Day. Looking to highlight research of Jonathan London at the event. The launch of the Permaculture Design Course has been moved to November and scholarships are still available for BHC residents. For more information or to sign up to volunteer at any of these events, please contact Dominic Allamano at dallamano@soilborn.org.
- **USDA Grant** (*Sharon Eghigian*): NeighborWorks received a grant from the USDA to do focus groups with residents open to sharing data re farmers markets. Once compiled, data may be of interest to the Coalition and Sharon will look into the possibility of sharing it. For more information, please contact Sharon Eghigian sharon@nwsac.org.

Resources

- **Meeting Rooms Resources** (*Meeting space for Coalition partners has been offered at the following locations*):
 - Fruitridge Elementary School Meeting and Conference Rooms– To reserve space please contact Alberto Mercado at alberto@asianresources.org.
 - Colonial Heights Library Conference Room (*Available free for non-commercial, non-profit, open to the public events, capacity of room is 90 people, but may increase or decrease after renovation*) – To reserve space please contact Alicia Doktor at adoktor@saclibrary.org.

Opportunities for Collaboration

New Opportunities	Ongoing Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promise Zone Initiative: Collaborative Fundraising – Contact Pastor Karen Abrego at karen.abrego@sen.ca.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farmers Market Partnerships – Contact Todd McPherson at todd@sccsc.org• Fruit Harvest/Gleaning & MLK Event – Contact Dominic Allamano at dallamano@soilborn.org• Food Literacy (e.g. Nutrition, education, and cooking) & Garden Work (<i>Activities involving food literacy and garden work have several natural tie ins with each other and partners who are working on these activities should consider collaborating.</i>) – Contact Todd McPherson at todd@sccsc.org

COALITION SHOWCASE AND SCHOOL GARDEN SYMPOSIUM

A few months ago, the Coalition was presented with the idea of doing an event to showcase the work of Coalition partners over the last five years with external stakeholders and partners. Originally, it was thought to host the showcase as a stand-alone event; however an opportunity recently surfaced to host the showcase on the evening prior to another upcoming event, namely the School Garden Symposium slated to take place February 27-28, 2016. Shannon Hardwicke, Soil Born Farms, is coordinating the School Garden Symposium and shared that the showcase could take place on the eve of the symposium, which would be on Friday, February 26 from 6 – 8 PM. Details for how the showcase would unfold would still need to be determined but the Coalition partners were asked to weigh in on the idea in the meantime.

The following comments were shared:

- Smaller than originally discussed
- What has peoples' experience been hosting Friday events?
 - Have tried to stay away from Friday events
 - Social aspect may attract more folks → mixer?
- Could put together something multimedia though it might be challenging to make it interactive/interesting for everyone
- Who is the audience?
 - Symposium would not include elected – audience would be relatively different
- Sac Cap Public Radio – Hunger documentary & dialogue → took a few meetings to get elected to the table but it had lots of movement and engaged a lot of folks
- Don't feel like they naturally fit together

As a way to gauge the sentiments of the overall group, participants were asked to indicate the degree to which they would feel comfortable moving forward with adding the showcase onto the eve of the symposium by holding up a number 0-5 (0 = Cannot move forward with idea, 3 = Could go either way, 5 = Definitely on board). The informal survey resulted in the majority of participants voting with a 3. One participant noted it felt like the group was putting the cart before the horse because a subcommittee does not yet exist and would be needed to help drive the event forward. Bridgitte Rivers, Alchemist CDC, volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. It was thought that there might have been some additional volunteers for the subcommittee when the idea was first introduced back in August. To this end, the facilitator agreed to review past meeting notes and see if there were additional partners who did in fact volunteer to be part of a subcommittee. If a subcommittee does exist, then their capacity over the next few months would essentially determine whether the showcase could happen as soon as February since they would be the main coordinating bodies behind the event. Finally, it was noted that regardless of the outcome, it would be really helpful to put together a video that highlights the food-access work that is taking place. The video would be multipurpose and could be displayed at various events outside of the showcase and symposium. The topic will be revisited in November to make a final decision regarding the showcase.

PROMISE ZONE INITIATIVE PRESENTATION

Pastor Karen Abrego, Senator Dr. Richard Pan's Office & Ebenezer Christian Center, provided a presentation on the Sacramento Promise Zone. The initiative was set up through the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) in partnership with the City of Sacramento, County of Sacramento, and additional partners and supporters. The overall goal of the initiative is to “revitalize high-poverty communities across the country.”

Eight cities have been designated part of the Promise Zone after having met the following criteria:

- Poverty rate of 34%
- Unemployment rate of 19%
- Life expectancy for residents in the Promise Zone is 72 years vs. 79 outside of the zone

There initiative focuses on five key areas including job creation, economic development, education, health, and sustainable community revitalization. Feeder programs also qualify for the grant even if the program office is NOT in the zone, so long as the work is happening within the zone. The Promise Zone initiative is an important opportunity for the Coalition to consider in light of past Coalition discussions expressing concern about how to fund its work beyond the current BHC initiative. To this end, Promise Zone grant applications must be **collective** and would offer an opportunity for the Coalition to test drive a collaborative fundraising model. For more information or to coordinate Coalition partners in the application process, please contact Pastor Karen Abrego at karen.abrego@sen.ca.gov. For questions regarding the initiative or to submit an application, please contact Tyrone Roderick Williams, Development Director at SHRA, at twilliams@shra.org.

ACTIVITY LABEL REVIEW

In September, Coalition partners were asked to weigh in on the ways that different maps could be useful to them. This month, LPC Consulting (*the organization in charge of evaluating partner activities*) asked the Coalition to weigh in on how to **label** their activities in a way that is most useful in differentiating the activities on a GIS map. Tiffany Wilson, LPC Consulting, shared that some portion of food-access data has not showed up in the past on the GIS report maps simply because to map all of the specific activity data would make for an overwhelming, and likely indecipherable, map. To this end, she asked Coalition partners to offer their feedback on how activities were labeled under the three broad categories of food access, production, and education. Partners worked in small groups and provided feedback for each category. Please see below for the responses.

Group #1	Group #2	Group #3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Salad Bar: Constricting, should be labeled as something more general - broader description • Production: Include library garden/school garden • Education Model: Not understanding having a broader category and having a descriptive category • Growing Together is a program in itself and must have its own category - not a standalone class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The weight of the activity – is visually confusing • Garden and Education may need to go under production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you evaluate the status of a home garden? Is it still being used? Is it still being maintained? • Resident Advocacy – How broad of an area that is being surveyed?

CLOSING REMARKS & REMINDERS

In conclusion of the meeting, participants were reminded to send in their draft 2015-2016 workplans. It was noted that workplans are not meant to be created from scratch, but rather should be a revised/refined version of the workplan that was submitted a year ago. The goal is for partners to update their current activities and approaches to reflect lessons learned from this past year and capture those shifts in the revised/refined version. The workplan is meant to serve as a tool for collaboration, reflection, tracking, funding, and evaluation. In the past, Coalition partners have noted the utility of the document in:

- Identifying opportunities to collaborate,
- Highlighting where activities might be overlapping, and
- Keeping partners aware of each others' work

Once all workplans are submitted, Rangineh will draft a collective version to share with the Coalition at the next meeting. Finally, the **next Coalition meeting** will take place on **Tuesday, November 17, 2015 from 10 AM – 12 PM at Stockton Blvd Partnership** (5625 Stockton Blvd).

PARTICIPANTS

Name	Affiliation/Organization
Rangineh Azimzadeh Tosang	Solh Resolutions International
Alberto Mercado	Sac BHC
Tiffany Wilson	LPC Consulting
Glenn Destatte	SVS/ECOS
Diane Truong	Sac BHC
Mhong Thao	Sac BHC
Kristina Karson	LPC Consulting
Alicia Doktor	Colonial Heights Library
Judith Yisrael	Yisrael Family Farms
Bridgitte Rivers	Alchemist CDC
Nailah Kokayi	SCUSD/Pacific Elementary School
Dominic Allamano	Soil Born Farms
Isaac Gonzalez	Access Sacramento
Simeon Gant	Green Tech
Sharon Eghigian	NeighborWorks
Pastor Karen Abrego	Senator Dr. Richard Pan's Office/ Ebenezer Christian Center
Matt Read	Urban Ag Coalition
Shannon Hardwicke	Soil Born Farms