

HEALTHY FOOD FOR ALL COALITION MARCH MEETING NOTES

MARCH 15, 2016 | FRUITRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE

OVERVIEW

The Healthy Food for All Coalition met on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at the Fruitridge Community Collaborative. A full list of participants can be found at the end of this document. The goals and objectives for the meeting included:

- **Learn** about a new meeting model that would better address the multiple layers of work happening at the Coalition level;
- **Identify** the necessary components of the Coalition's collective story and its efforts over the last five years; and
- **Generate** energy and excitement around the group's direction moving forward.

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 March 15th.

Action Item Matrix

Description	Owner	Date Assigned/Due Date	Status
Existing/Ongoing Items			
Mapping Tool Development ¹	Shawn + Team	April 21/ Fall 2015	In Progress/Ongoing (<i>see below</i>)
Share opening date (once it exists) for Maple Elementary ²	Rangineh	Sept 15/ TBA	In Progress
Follow up with Erik @ SFBFS re fruit distribution in the community ³	Shawn	Dec 15/Jan 19	In Progress
New Items			
Identify target audience members for Coalition presentations	Coalition Members	Feb 16/Mar 15	Done

¹ 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, a small group of folks will work together to create one interactive, dynamic map that contains all of the aforementioned layers. Given the magnitude of the map in question, it will likely take a few months to create. **Update:** Isaac Gonzalez (Mapping Team co-lead) offered to connect Shawn and the Coalition with Sergio Cuellar at UC Davis who is already working on a robust mapping tool through the UC Center for Regional Change.

² Maple Elementary Opening

916 Ink's Imaginarium is now open at Maple but the official grand opening for the rest of the site will likely take place in April 2016.

³ Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services (SFBFS) Fruit Distribution

During harvest time, a few approaches are taken in distributing the fruit. SFBFS is tasked to take over 200 food closets and is beginning to target the partners in the area where the gleaning is mostly happening. The food is being packed and sent to the neighborhoods where the gleaning is happening. The distribution will include other food besides fruits. Residents can continue to go on their regular day of produce distribution.

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

- **Resident Board Member Recruitment** (*Davida Douglas*): Alchemist CDC is recruiting a Resident Board Member who is sharp, engaged, and resides in the BHC (preferably not a grantee). The application deadline to apply is Friday, April 15th. For more information, please contact Davida Douglas at davida@alchemistcdc.org.
- **Seed Packet Update** (*Alicia Doktor*): Colonial Heights Library has officially checked out as many seed packets now as it had in all of 2015, which is very exciting. Friends of the Colonial Heights Library also agreed to fund supplies in addition to the garden and will be working with Yisrael Family Farms.
- **Food Policy Council** (*Todd McPherson*): The next quarterly Food Policy Council meeting will take place on Thursday, March 17th from 9 AM – 12 PM at the Sierra Health Foundation. While there is no one “organizing” body behind the FPC, the fiscal body is the Pesticide Action Network. All are welcome to attend as there is some overlap between the two groups, though the FPC is focused by in large on food-related policy issues. For more information or to attend future meetings, please contact Todd McPherson at todd@sccsc.org.
- **Spring Garden and Clinic Sale** (*Randy Stannard*): Soil Born Farms will be hosting a Spring Garden and Clinic Sale on Saturday, March 19th from 8 AM – 3 PM at the American River Ranch location. For more information, please contact Randy Stannard at randy.stannard@gmail.com.
- **Sacramento Urban Ag Coalition** (*Matt Read*): The Urban Ag Ordinance (UAO) is going before Sacramento County’s Community Planning Advisory Councils (CPACs) meetings this week starting on Wednesday, March 16th at 6:30 PM. The goal is to get through the CPACs process by the end of March. Talking points and materials will be provided to anyone interested in attending and advocating on behalf of the UAO. For more information or to get involved, please contact Matt Read at matthewevanread@gmail.com.
- **Earth Day** (*Glenn Destatte*): The Earth Day celebration will take place on Sunday, April 24th between 11 AM – 4 PM at Southside Park (700 T Street). Event organizers are still looking for vendors. For more information or to sign up as a vendor, please contact Glenn Destatte at sacveggie@gmail.com.
- **Burbank Repavement Project** (*Todd McPherson*): Victory and Celebration! Todd met with District Representative, Principal, Construction company, and students and came to an agreement about creating more green spaces/strips at the school. The additional green space will allow for more trees to be planted and the students will help maintain the additional green space.
- **Oak Park Sol Fundraiser** (*Randy Stannard*): Oak Park Sol Community Garden will be holding its fundraiser on Friday, April 22nd at the Brickhouse Art Gallery (2837 36th Street) from 6:00 – 10:00 PM. For more information, please contact Randy Stannard at rstannard@oakparksol.org.

- **We DiggIt Urban Garden Build Day:** Celebration! Over 25 people came out to support a garden build in Oak Park.
- **Harvest Sacramento** (*Dominic Allamano*): The next gleaning event will be on Saturday, March 19th. For more information, please contact Dominic Allamano at dallamano@soilborn.org.
- **SHRA Workshop** (*Karen Abrego*): A friendly reminder about the upcoming Farmers Market and Local Food Production Grant Writing Workshop, the deadline for which is Friday, April 1st. For more information about the workshop, please contact Tyrone Williams at twilliams@shra.org.
- **Sacramento Tree Foundation** (*Meredith Thompson*): The Sacramento Tree Foundation (STF) is excited to join the Healthy Food for All Coalition. The STF recently received a grant to plant shade and fruit trees. There will be a kick-off event taking place on Saturday, April 23rd from 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM at Peter Burnette. Coalition members are encouraged to attend and help get the word out to residents. For more information about the event, please contact Meredith Thompson at Meredith@sactree.com.

NEW MEETING MODEL PROPOSAL & DISCUSSION

Based off of the last two Coalition meetings and feedback from several Coalition members, co-facilitator Rangineh Azimzadeh Tosang shared her observation that the Coalition has grown to include several different partners doing different layers of work at multiple levels. To illustrate, she noted that there now appears to be three consistent rings (or layers) of Coalition members at the table. The inner ring is made up of Coalition members who are focused on hyper-localized community-based activities (e.g. garden builds, fruit gleaning, school gardens, etc.). The second outer ring is made up of members who are doing indirect activities that are related to food-access work (e.g. Legal Services of Northern CA providing legal clinics for the Urban Ag Ordinance). The third outer ring is made up of members who are working in different systems (e.g. health, transportation, housing, etc.) that intersect with the food system in some way. Activities and collaboration between the inner and second ring tend to happen on a relatively consistent basis, however the connection to the third outer ring seems to be more inconsistent, even though working with other systems is essential if the Coalition is going to achieve systems-level change.

As a result, it has become challenging to design a two-hour meeting that adequately meets such a diverse set of agendas that come to the table monthly. To this end, it was proposed that the Coalition consider a new meeting model that would focus two months in a row on the hyper-localized community-based activities allowing members to concentrate and collaborate around these activities, and would utilize a combination of small group work, Open Space Technology, etc. to achieve this goal. These meetings would be open to all with the caveat that the focus would be on the community-based activities. They would also be focused on, but not limited to, the Coalition's target area. Then, on the third month (which would be the quarterly meetings), partners from the third ring would be strategically invited to discuss issues that are coming up at the community-based level. This would allow the Coalition to engage partners working within different but related systems, as well as potentially engage some of the other BHC action teams. The Coalition was asked for feedback, please see below for their comments.

- *“There are other action teams who are important to these meetings who are not here, for example the school board, system level partners. County planning ordinance. We are trying to get this in more formally. If we ring in more folks for this.”*
- *“This is something I can see this group put together and invite these folks in to show them what they need to support (like school gardens) and try to make it less difficult. Food system means something to us, but that is not the same with other people. People are unsure why a school garden makes a big impact to us.”*
- *“Central Kitchen is a hot commodity that this group can be involved in.”*
- *“We need a mini debrief of the other action groups. Anything that supports interactions and collaborations.”*

To bring the group to a more formal decision, the Coalition was asked to do a *Fist-to-Five Vote resulting in the majority of members voting in favor of moving forward with the new meeting model. Please see below for a break down of the votes.

Fist-to-Five Vote Results

Proposal: Shift to a new meeting model that would focus two months in a row on the hyper-localized community-based activities, then, on the third month (which would be the quarterly meetings), additional partners would be strategically invited to discuss issues that are coming up at the community-based level.								Average Score
Scale	0	1	2	3	4	5	Abstain	
# of Votes	0	0	0	(3)	(5)	(9)	(0)	4.35

**Fist-to-Five Vote: A voting method in which each participant holds up anything from a fist to five fingers in order to indicate where they fall on a scale of agreement with the proposed idea. The scale is an informal way of quickly assessing a group’s general sentiment toward a chosen topic. The scale breaks down as follows: Fist = Cannot move forward with the idea presented; One = Can move forward but with strong hesitation or concern; Two = Can move forward but with some hesitation or concern; Three = Can go in either direction, not necessarily for or against the idea; Four = Will move forward in support of the idea; Five = Will move forward in strong support of the idea.*

DEVELOPING THE COALITION’S STORY

Last month, the Coalition decided to shift course *away* from planning an event to showcase the work of the group over the last five years, and decided to instead create a collective presentation [template] that can be used by different members of the group to present to a target audience (*basically a different way to get to the same outcome the event would have produced*). To this end, Shawn Harrison (Soil Born Farms) noted in order for the Coalition’s story to have a more cohesive feel, it must be able to speak to the group’s collective theory of change. He presented a theory of change that Soil Born Farms has been using and that he felt could be relevant and applicable to the work of the Coalition. Please see below for a summary outline of the theory.

Change Theory Summary

Modeled after successes from other community development projects and using the principles of Harlem Children's zone, the food access action team work focuses on neighborhood-by-neighborhood or "hot spot" strategies in order to create manageable and deep changes in each community. The basic principles of this theory include:

1. **Activate** the food economy of an entire neighborhood comprehensively and at scale to create a "tipping point" and definitively shift the health of the community
2. **Create** a pipeline of coordinated, best-practice food programs from a variety of collaborative partners to give our children and families seamless support from birth through college and maximize their outcomes
3. **Develop** interactive activities that help build community among residents, institutions, and stakeholders in order to create a healthy, positive environment where our children can thrive
4. **Evaluate** short and long-term collaborative program outcomes and create a feedback loop to provide managers with real-time data and strengthen services

The basic strategies of this change work include:

1. *Community Farms*: At the center of our strategy is the concept of the community farm (small or big urban farm, school garden, neighborhood edible landscape or community garden) as a hands-on neighborhood development resource. The community farm serves as a focal point in the community, becoming a hub for resources and training around food, health and the environment. Activities at each community farm will ultimately be dictated by the characteristics of each location. Example activities include healthy food retail, food production, emergency food distribution, classes, trainings, and celebratory events.
2. *Layering Services*: The second component of the change process is the coordinated delivery of layered, complimentary food-based services and activities. Collaborative partners will work closely with residents/community members to leverage collective understanding/knowledge of the neighborhood's needs and opportunities to create a plan for existing and new food-based services that reinforce and compliment each other. Services will address the core areas of policy change; youth education and career pathways in food, health and the environment; food access and distribution; neighborhood food production; and others based on the community's needs and assets. Collectively this layered approach will lead to an environment where all residents have the opportunity to be exposed to multiple food-based services through many points of entry, with one activity leading to and building upon others.
3. *Behavioral Shifts*: We believe that through this collaborative approach, project partners will engage a majority of community residents in meaningful food-based experiences, resulting in a tipping point where a healthy behavioral shift will occur at a community-wide level. Collaborative members will work together to identify measurable, long-term health and wellbeing indicators that will be directly impacted by the work of the Healthy Food For All Action Team. Baseline measurements for these indicators will be established and shared measurement tools will be developed to track collective progress. The actual indicators used will be set by the Healthy Food For All Action Team during the planning process, but will include data that points to systemic and long-term change, such as diagnosis rates for diet related diseases.

Micro goals (participation rates, prevalence of school and home gardens, healthy food access, etc.) will be set towards the ultimate goal of effecting substantial positive health and environmental changes.

Discussion

Following the presentation, Coalition members were broken into small groups and asked to reflect on the presentation and do an initial assessment of how well aligned they felt the theory is with the way the Coalition has been approaching its work. Please see below for remarks from each of the small groups. Overall, it was determined that the Presentation Subcommittee would pick up the discussion at the subcommittee level and follow up with the Coalition once they had discussed it further.

Group 1 Reflection & Report Out	Group 2 Reflection & Report Out	Group 3 Reflection & Report Out	Group 4 Reflection & Report Out
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the agreement on this? What have we agreed on? • Opportunities for collaboration • Agree conceptually with the theory • Need a Coalition mission statement • Create docs that go toward collaborative funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Devils in the details” • Didn’t hear any disapproval but a lot of discussing • Not landed on an opinion yet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does adopting this system make a change in the BHC overall? • If we adopt this theory, we do have to work collaboratively with the entire BHC for it to make sense and be a consistent message throughout? • We talked about mission statement. It could be helpful to have a few slides to use in presentations. It could introduce this theory and depending on the audience it can be tailored as needed. • There is no push back on this idea, but unsure if the theory is effective. • What are we approving? • Would be interested in options for broader theories of change – can the subcommittee present to us? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a valuable tool. • The support and how it will show up will be how we land with it. • We talked about how there is words and then there is visuals that is needed to develop this tool. • It needs to be simplistic and help us draw an image that shows how we are measuring the work. • We talked about how it can be used in a way where the starting center will be the community and not the farm. • It is really important for folks to understand the collective impact model. • Need to find the Coalition’s identity within the SBF’s theory – may need to be adapted

CLOSING REMARKS & REMINDERS

The **next Coalition meeting** will take place on **Tuesday, April 19, 2016 from 10 AM – 12 PM at Fruitridge Community Collaborative (4625 44th Street), Room 11.**

PARTICIPANTS

	Name	Affiliation/Organization
1.	Rangineh Azimzadeh Tosang	Solh Resolutions International
2.	Paul Trudeau	Green Tech
3.	Mike Myers	Alchemist CDC
4.	Christine Tien	The California Endowment
5.	Davida Douglas	Alchemist CDC
6.	Meredith Thompson	Sacramento Tree Foundation
7.	Randy Stannard	Oak Park Sol
8.	Kristina Karson	LPC Consulting
9.	Dominic Allamano	Soil Born Farms
10.	Glenn Destatte	ECOS/Sac Veggie Fest
11.	Isaac Gonzalez	Access Sacramento
12.	Diane Truong	Sac BHC
13.	Shawn Harrison	Soil Born Farms
14.	Matt Read	Sac Urban Ag Coalition/Sac Food Policy
15.	Karen Abrego	Senator Dr. Richard Pan's Office
16.	Alicia Doktor	Colonial Heights Library
17.	Sharon Eghigian	Neighbor Works
18.	Rosie Cerna	Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services
19.	Todd McPherson	SCCSC/Burbank Urban Garden