

***Richland FIT Steering Committee Meeting Minutes***

***1:00 pm Wednesday, December 17, 2014***

Health and Human Services Conference Room A

**Attendees: FIT staff: Jen Duhr, Marianne Stanek Dana Fischer**

**Community: Danielle (County Extension- Nutrition Coordinator), Kay (County Nurse), Al (Pine River Coop Manager), Todd Ostrander (Richland School District IT), Cindy Chicker (Richland Hospital), Sheri (consultant)**

1. Partner Sharing-What is happening in your organization internally/externally to improve community health?

County –Going through some changes in maternal/child health program. Tried some ideas over the past several years but didn't really find something that fit (eg., dental access but state did not approve this topic.) Children and Family Advocacy Council was another option but state grant manager actually suggested working with Richland FIT. In January, will look over assessment data and see where/ how to connect FIT and Maternal/Child Health. No means testing so this could be general population focus. Kay noted that back in the day it was just infants but now is broader to kids up to 8. But could also be even broader focus on "families". County has to have community partners involved; Cindy suggested new community health committee at the Hospital and the lactation counseling.

Pine River Food Coop – Farmer's market education and coordinate SNAP tokens. Member education on healthy food and how to use produce. Looking at grants, some require match and federal grants thus are very time-consuming/paper intensive so didn't get to do it in time frame. Farmer's are interested in collaborating and they will hope to begin planning earlier in order to be ready for next round 2015 (e.g., January). Recently started partnering with Boaz area group to provide healthy meals for Lydia's house.

School District – active moving program, changes in meal program.

Scott Consulting – looking into larger/long term grants to continue work in RC.

Richland Hospital – just completed business plan. Community wellness ended up in "third bucket" of important (not essential). Community Outreach committee is

currently being formed – recruiting members internally across a broad reach of employees. The purpose is to look at 1) what RH is doing in the community already and 2) what needs to be done, are there events we could help spearhead or assist others and 3) increase awareness and foster better sense of stewardship among employees about responsibility to the community.

County Extension Nutrition – working with low resource families through SNAP Education and in school classrooms with 50% low-income. Also working with food pantries and new family living agent (Chelsea Wunnicke) will be starting on January 1 and has already contacted Dana to be involved with Richland FIT.

## 2. WPP Review

Dana provided packet of information

1- SNAP tokens at farmer's market. Al provided information on issues facing the folks using tokens. Kay suggested looking at what other names are used when talking about SNAP so people recognize the program (e.g., use food shares not SNAP).

2- Farm2 School, Campus and Seniors - Jen has worked with Angie at the campus who has more leeway with her budget and has been very strong partner in getting local food into campus AND great synergy in that she also does senior meals so has also incorporated local into some of those meals. The Richland School food service director has also begun purchasing more local food – barrier is limited budget but she has been buying more with Jen's help. Jen tries local direct but also encourages Fifth Season distribution from Viroqua. Students have had mixed reactions to the local food/harvest of the month items when on the menu- some really liked, some did not.

3- Richland School District won a CESA Wellness policy team grant. Dana will be involved and sees this as opportunity to update the wellness policy to include local purchasing and active schools language to sustain the programs and for us to reach our WPP policy change outcomes.

4- Youth group – Challenge getting youth to stay involved – 2 out of original 4. Planning a student opinion data collection project for early 2015 and plan to invite youth to the Farm to School summit to expose them to what other schools are doing around the state.

5 – Food for Life & Referral -1 year of completion with 4 classes and 2 summer fun classes. 110 people with 20 of them kids. Sheri will continue to work with

the Medical Center to find ways to get data and especially to build the program into the protocol of the physicians on staff.

6- Community garden – Conducting survey - 89 so far – 37 said they would like a raised bed. The old community center location has been approved by city council!! Planning group has 13 members, including several master gardeners. Timeline provided for community garden.

### 3. Sustainability Planning

#### a. Report from Transform WI and [Community Connectors Video](#)

##### i. Reflections

Dana provided the Richland County results and also showed the Transform video on sustainability and appeal to fund a “Community Connector” in each county. Sheri asked if anyone is working on campaign, Marianne stated that Wisconsin Local Public Health Officials Board will have this on their agenda for 2015. Sheri suggested that we do a video that highlights Richland FIT. (Perhaps Brett Iverson could help?) Al mentioned that he has noted this problem happens throughout the city- same issues with city planning – need people to step up because things happen and then they fall away.

Al mentioned knowing several people who are real movers and shakers in the community. Kay agreed that we need to bring them into the room.

#### b. 4 questions for discussion

- i. **What do you want to see happen to the group once the grant is finished?**
- ii. **What would meetings consist of/look like to make them meaningful/worthwhile for you to attend?**
- iii. **What can your organization bring to the table to continue the efforts?**
- iv. **How can I (Dana) prepare the group for the transition post-funding?**

#### c. Funding Options

Open discussion –

Al talked about making a pitch and how you need to be really prepared and consider what you are asking and what people would be willing to give. This

is particularly important if you are asking for \$\$ from those movers in the community. They would be willing to pay for programs, not just bodies.

Marianne would like to see work continue as a position, but this position might need to be broadened to all departments within HHS/County as she can see needs in other departments to utilize a health educator. Marianne would also very much like to see activity continue in the schools – she believes that an actual presence there is critical so finding a way to have someone be there is important.

Sheri wondered how we could move forward with some of these ideas – get more input from community? Kay agrees that if sustainability is an issue we need broader input. Possibly have a group meeting? Dana suggested like we did last year for the coalition. Al mentioned three to ten people per meeting is the ideal. One on ones? Alternatively, Dana suggested sectors.

Al also suggested looking at what programs are already sustainable, e.g., farmer's market- he is committed to continue. We could look at each of the projects now and determine specifically how much effort to make it sustainable. Al mentioned how much work is being done by Dana right now, it is actually the work of 10 people!

Todd suggested that this be the sales pitch – bring in the movers and shakers and say “hey, it would take X people to keep this going. Do we want to do this or do we want to support Dana to stay in this position to keep these going?”

#### 4. Timeline for 2015

When should we meet again?

Dana mentioned that the county should regroup to discuss the vision/potential for keeping H.E on staff, Marianne will review budget. Then move into the next phase with steering committee. Because of the need to get a sustainability plan in place sooner than later, group felt that January or February would be good for next meeting.