

Connecting the Dots Meeting Notes
Springfield, October 14, 2010

Focus Areas Derived from Group:

- Encourage the use of existing opportunities for physical activity before, during, and after school, etc.
- Parent education and involvement especially for basic skill education/health safety
- Increase in farm/locally grown produce to school- continued improvement in school lunches
- Support for low income residents

Encourage the use of existing opportunities for physical activity before, during, and after school, etc.

Andy Bladyka, Parks and Recreation Director

Glenn Cordner, Springfield Medical Care Systems

Christian Craig, Edgar May Health and Recreation Center

Cheryl Sanctuary, Springfield Medical Care Systems

Suzanne Swanson, SV AHEC Board Member

daylyn finnegan, 30+5

Gaps:

1. Available gym space
No basketball court at Union and Elm Schools (though superintendent remarked there will be in near future)
2. Public knowledge of opportunities at facilities
3. Weekend family game/play time organized at local facility
4. Map of locations of facilities available in community (including fields/open spaces)
5. Lack of PE classes at Springfield HS
6. Lack of individual initiative
7. Underwriting financial/equipment resources

Those to be Involved:

1. Parks and Rec
2. Springfield Medical Care Systems
3. Edgar May Health and Recreation Center
4. 30+5
5. Schools
6. Parents
7. Business Sponsors
8. SEVCA
9. Town (Kiosk of info)
10. Preschool Head Start, Parent Child Center
11. Health Department

Need to Cross-Market

Next Steps:

1. Designate Point Person at each organization to coordinate communication
2. Cross Market
3. Investigate possible funding sources
4. Keep Park Street Gym Open
5. Identify barriers to accessing facilities
6. “Community Mall” concept (and kiosks)

Taking Responsibility:

1. Need People/Organizations to spearhead opportunities (designate staff in each organization)
2. Get people together to create a task force for communication (Christian and Andy will co-chair)
3. Create website hub (Tech students can help)

Our Requests:

1. Designate a leader for ongoing coordination and collaboration

Parent education and involvement especially for basic skill education/health safety

Mona Frye, Springfield Prevention Coalition, Arte Povera

George Karabakara, HCRS gkarabak@hcrs.org

Larry Kraft, Springfield Medical Care Systems

Stacey Oshkello, Sojourns Community Health Clinic

Gaps:

1. Financial resources
2. Lack of value
3. Expectation of parental involvement

Those to be Involved:

1. Dietitians
2. Primary Care
3. School Staff
4. Parent/child Center
5. Food Pantry/community kitchen
6. All existing resources including health/nutrition ed

Next Steps:

1. Designate lead/coordinator to facilitate
2. Identify champions who value healthy choices
3. Create opportunities to “connect the dots”
4. Provide incentives

Our Request:

1. Incorporate parent involvement and health education in all community programs and opportunities

Increase in farm/locally grown produce to school- continued improvement in school lunches

Martha Tarbell, Springfield School District

Barbara Bye, Springfield Medical Care Systems

Nancy Schaefer, 30+5

John Kenyan, Café Services

Carolyn Scully, Springfield School District

Gaps:

1. Farm to School (FTS) coordinator
2. Consistent processing for fresh produce and equipment for storage
3. No health education in K-5 (how can this be incorporated into the curriculum/ standards?)

Assets:

1. School garden (soon)
2. School employee wellness
3. Connection with Tech Center/Extension Service
4. Composting started in some of the schools
5. Pilot: produce preservation in Brattleboro, hope to duplicate.

Those to be Involved:

1. Coop
2. Lauren Potter
3. Sharon Mueller
4. Science Teachers
5. John Harmer- Tech Center
6. Chef Dave- Tech Center

Need: person to locate donated produce for processing and promotion

For Food Processing frozen produce year-round:

1. Chef Dave
2. UVM Extension
3. Guidance- Ruth Haskell- youth community service hours
4. Food service- Café Services

Produce:

1. Hans Estrin

Health Education K-5 (what is required?)

1. Vince Hawkins
2. Principals support (Susan Whittemore and Martha Potter)
3. Nurses (Mary Jo Christman and Jenny Anderson)
4. Promotion materials
5. PTA for cooking? Janey Smith and other PTA PTO heads

Next Steps:

1. Finding a FTS planning person (Nancy S. has the word out)

Food Processing:

1. Carolyn will talk to Chef Dave
2. Martha Tarbell- Ruth Haskell
3. Barbara Bye- UVM
4. John Kenyon- Hans Estrin (build up farm network in Springfield)

Health Ed:

1. Martha- Vince- Frank
2. Martha/Carolyn/Principals in implement (then nurses and PTA)

Our Requests:

1. Frank P: K-5 Health Ed and how is it going to happen?
(PTA training; do Health Ed with parents)
2. We need to have storage for frozen foods
(Alice Emmons, Cynthia Martin: legislation for FTS)

Support for low income residents

Eileen Katchen, Health Department

Frank Perotti, Springfield Superintendant

Stephanie Gibson, Springfield Family Center/ Select Board

Nancy Lanoue, Southern Vermont AHEC, 30+5

Gaps:

1. Barriers to getting services and Resources
2. How to reach parents:
 - after school, during day, evening

Gift card: Mary Jo Christman, Jenny Anderson

Robin Bickel- outreach

WIC Clinicians

Dinner Child Care

Bring a friend

Family Center

LEAP- Tammy

HCRS

Questionnaire what to do

1. Half of High School students not signed up for free/reduced lunch- who qualifies?
2. Large portion of population not getting free/reduced breakfast/lunch (currently 50-60%, but 700 should qualify)
3. Not enough willing parents
4. Volunteer gap (school kitchens); 200+ 5-7 volunteers
5. Space to prepare more- summer lunches
6. Transporting
7. Supports end birth- Age 3

Those to be involved:

1. Tell parents- Anonymous
(School-parent liaisons; family center liaisons)
2. School guidance and nurses support
3. Access to parents where they are: child care including sick child care at low income housing
4. New Preschool system- helping- only serving 70 kids; 200 need to be served
5. Pediatric Med establishing

Next Steps:

1. Address Silos
2. Build relationships to simplify processes
3. Go to parents
 - what are your obstacles?
4. Info gathering