

Connect the Dots

Childhood Nutrition Group-meeting notes from conference call: 11/16/10
Present on the call: Anita Carlson -Allen, Hans Estrin, Tracy Binet-Perrin, Nancy Schaefer

Agenda items:

1. Electing a Chair and co-chair. Since we had a small turn out for this call, we decided to wait until an increase in participation before electing a chair and co-chairperson.
2. Who else should be invited to this group? Tracy and Anita suggested other school nurses from WNESU; Nancy S will send a letter of invitation to all. Possibly Barbara Bye and other PAN members that can represent Bellows Falls and/ or the other pediatric practices. If Sp Hospital hires a dietitian for the BF service area, it was suggested to invite/ him/her to this group.
3. Updates on F2S (Farm to School):
30+5 will meet w/Tim Stevenson on 11/18/10 to get an update, but at last encounter Tim shared his desire that perhaps a Food Corp Worker/F2S could serve the WNESU area and the Springfield school district.
Hans Estrin recently attended a F2S conference and suggested that we may want to look at a Plan B as there will be stiff competition for F2S funding, though Vermont has submitted a strong application for F2S; we will know the status sometime in the Spring.
Anita has F2S paperwork for Tim, Nancy S will pick up from Central and drop off to Tim along with a copy of the Rockingham Wellness Policy.
4. How can 30+5 help this group? 30+5 offered to help coordinate and act as foot soldiers to help enlist others. Discussed 30+5 plans to look into policy, particularly USDA school food requirements, as minimum calorie requirements are high and our recent school observations noted considerable amounts of food wasted.
Hans is working on a "team approach model" that can be used to help groups with limited amount of time/resources to help members work towards group goals and implement tasks; Hans will share this with us once it is completed.
Hans also shared with us Doug Davis' endeavor, 'Keeping Food Services in the Black': free breakfast was served to all elem. school youth during snack time at 9:15; this high participation rate allowed for an increase in the free and reduced money received by the school. Local contracts for provisions are also part of this program.
5. Other items:
Tracy will continue to create and disseminate a nutrition policy for local preschool centers and daycares and seek input from these local organizations in creating this policy; she will keep us updated.
As soon as it is made available Nancy will send out the State Attorney General's Healthy Weight Initiative which reports current recommendations for specific policy changes as advised by health organizations /advocates from around the state ...stay tuned.

By January 10th 2011, Nancy S will contact all members of this group along with other invites to participate in another follow-up conference call or meeting to take place in late January.

