

Northeast Iowa Food & Fitness Initiative
Inclusive Team Teleconference
Tuesday, December 9, 2008, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Present: Lana Snitker, Larry McGee, Erin Ludwig, Teresa Wiemerslage, Brenda Ranum, Ann Mansfield, Leah Brown, Deborah Walker.

Teresa moved to approve the minutes from the Sept. 11 Inclusive Team Teleconference meeting. Larry seconded. All approved.

- Update on four Target Communities provided \$1,000 to promote F&F environments:

Elma (Larry) –

- 4H program at Elma charter school. Received some funding from Elma Community Foundation.
- Wants to talk to Charlie about Mennonite day (spring program - all day seminar sponsored by ISU Ext.) in the produce auction barn if it's before the end of March. Would like to subsidize the meal.
- Proposal for training volunteers cannot be done by the end of March. Working on paper work.
- Roller skating and night for Mennonites still planned. Is there a good way to find out what are some things that the children would enjoy for physical activity? They play a lot of ball, ride bikes, etc. Is there a way to incorporate some of the youth from Howard Co.? Could they ask the youth about physical activity? Often do not like strangers asking questions. Will need to approach in a culturally appropriate way. Would be good to be able to learn from this event.

Oelwein (Scott)

- See report from October
- Vanette has talked to Scott recently and has an update. Teresa will follow-up.

Postville (Leah & Teresa)-

- See report from October. There is not any new information to add.
- Leah talked about posters and banners for the Yeshiva. Not sure if going through Inclusive Team or Communications Team. Banner for Jewish parade in May.
- Leah has started a SRTS walking program and ordered some things from the website. Leah would like to use some funds to buy prizes for each report card period. At end of year, she would like to do a bigger prize such as bike, roller skates, etc. Teresa can help with purchasing some of the prizes.
- Leah is interested in a hot soup program for the kids at school. Could use some donated canned items to possibly get it started. Teresa said there may be some other funds that could be used for this project that would be more appropriate.
- Leah said that the city of Postville has been very helpful meeting some of the food needs (kosher milk).
- Teresa is also interested in using some of the funds for incentives for the BASICS program in Postville K-3 classrooms. In Postville, Teresa is tailoring program to use local foods. For Elma, Wisdom & Wellness is a part of BASICS.

Waukon (Teresa & Lana)

- See report from October. No change. Working on using some of the funds for the community garden (seeds and plants). .

Looking at the Strategies and Draft Tactics – Which work tactics have the potential to reach vulnerable children and their families and what work groups do we need to work with to ensure they are being inclusive in their efforts?

- Is the Inclusive Team's work truly integrated into all of the Strategies and Work Groups? WKKF is very concerned about the vulnerable child, especially hunger - lack of access to healthy food. Will need to describe how we as a community are going to address this. Upcoming Jan. webcast - impact of rising food and fuel costs with discussion.
- Question: How will we evaluate requests? Still working with Kellogg, Reg. Team and VDM group. Does it meet the Strategies, Tactics, and Essential Elements. Will be putting together an "evaluation" tool to determine if the request meets the above. Work Groups will probably be reviewing the requests to see if the request meets the criteria and then passed on to Regional Team for approval. The structure will probably be like a RFP - Request for Proposal. Ex. The application for the Elma Community Foundation asks how this request impacts the vulnerable child and his family.
- School Stratgy reaches vulnerable children. 30% of children in the public school system qualify for free and reduced lunches.
- Inclusive Team will need to work together and across the strategies. Look for the fit and where we can be an advocate in the discussions. May need to be able to move around depending on the conversation. Will know more in the next 1-2 months with our discussions.
- Is Inclusive team membership reflected in the other workgroups?
 - Erin: School WG, NIFF
 - Leah: School WG and Comm
 - Larry: BE WG
 - Lana: Communications
 - Teresa: NIFF, BE WG, Communications

Translator Changes and Changes to the Inclusive Team Funding in Budget

- Based on the changing population in Postville and following conversations with our WKKF FFI Program Directors (Gail Imig and Linda Jo Doctor) and our Inclusive Team TAP Team advisor (Deborah Walker), it was recommended at the October Regional Team meeting that in Line #16 of the budget we keep \$5,000 of the \$11,000.
 - \$4,000 has been allocated to the four target communities of Postville, Waukon, Oelwein and Elma.
 - \$1,000 would remain in this line to be used for inclusive FFI activities in partnership with the Postville Diversity Council and the Jewish and Public Schools in Postville.
 - \$6,000 in line item #16 was returned to the main budget. At the HFRWG meeting on Nov. 13 meeting, they discussed how to reallocate these funds. It was recommended the funds go to work being completed with a vulnerable

population. On Dec 3, Regional Team approved the transfer of \$6000 to the school group.

- Paul Rael and Viktoria Stockman have reported their work responsibilities no longer provide them the time to serve as Translators for the FFI. However, the door was left for them to rejoin us as Regional Team members if ever their situation changed prior to the end of our Planning Phase. The funds were moved to the general fund in November. reallocated to other needs (\$12,600). H&FR work group will bring a recommendation for how to use those funds to the Regional Team.
- Leah will continue on as a Translator for the Jewish community.

Other Items from our Sept. 11 teleconference:

- Locations of the Food Pantries/Food Shelves posted on the FFI website. Should a survey of policies/practices of Food Pantries/Food Shelves (#of visits allowed per month/family; # of food distributed/year; # people served/year; restrictions; will they accept local food donations; etc.) be completed?
- Food insecurity website has data at:
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/hunger/existingdata.htm>
- The list we have describes hours of operations, etc.
- Visits to local pantries/shelves is increased. Is there data submitted or available regularly?
- Question: For Jan. teleconference discussion to promote the idea of community gardens, food grown in schools, etc. - would it be helpful to have this information tracked and available for discussion? It would be interesting to visit with Food pantry/shelf coordinators to learn more. Most valuable information to track: Will they accept local food donations? Why it is or isn't working?
- WIC and Food Stamps are an option for fresh food purchases without relying in the FS to provide. Do Food Pantry attendance changes give an accurate indication that our intervention is working?
- How do we start helping people start helping themselves?
 - i.e. Victory Garden idea.
 - Partnering with food shelves to promote the community garden idea. Partnership Example - Horizons - purchased heaters this year for heating assistance; in return they agree to 20 hr. of community service such as community gardens and take to Fmr. Mkts., Food shelves.
 - Could also integrate physical activity for youth.
 - Summer lunch program - could we explore and partner to volunteer in garden, etc. In Oelwein, they are serving 90 meals a day. Exploring to expand to Hazelton.

Next Steps: Food Pantry, Food Insecurity, Jan webcast, Indicators for access to food and physical activity. Do we need to meet before Jan 28? Yes, then we can go to the other Work Group meetings and advocate for the vulnerable child and their families.

Next Teleconference: Tuesday, January 13 at 4:30 pm. Please hold this date and time. Would like to involve Scot Smalley from Oelwein. Will contact Vanette and send him an email.

Notes by A. Mansfield