

NE Iowa Food & Fitness Initiative Regional Team Summary – October 2008

The Regional Leadership Team of the NE IA Food & Fitness Initiative met on October 27, 2008 at 11 am at the Decorah City Hall. Vision Deployment Matrix Team members led small group discussions on draft strategies and tactics. Highlights from other Work Group reports:

Youth Team by Lynette Anderson

- Youth did not attend the meeting this month in order to reduce time out of school for other upcoming events.
- School teams and coaches are being recruited. Riceville and Howard – Winn have their F&F School groups started.
- The latest version of the Youth Newsletter is posted online.

Communications team by Judy Isaacson.

- Will meet Nov 13, 11:30-1:30 at Winn Medical Center
- Will discuss shirts and communications plan
- Webcasts and ppt versions with scripts to be available soon. (15 min., 6 min.)
- Webpage will have some updates.
- Looking at seeking more funds to have someone write general news releases.
- Need to set policy on proper use of FFI logo and how to make that request.

Built Environment (BE) by Teresa Wiemerslage

- Talked about funding available through Iowa's Living Roadways program for communities affected by flooding that lost infrastructure. Potential communities in NE IA: Elkader, Clermont, Elgin, Eldorado, Spillville, Ft. Atkinson.
- Collecting additional information from schools on use of their facilities.
- Chris Seeger is waiting for the final comments on community maps.

Community Health by Halesia Johnson & Ann Mansfield

- Talking about needs assessment.
- Will be more inclusive in WG to bring in other community health partners.

Inclusive team by Larry McGee

- Paul and Viktoria are resigning as community liaisons. The funding for salaries and communications outreach for Postville will go back to Resource WG.
- Will retain \$1000 for additional outreach in Postville.
- Target communities (Waukon, Postville, Elma and Oelwein) need to have their money spent by March 31.

Northeast Iowa Food and Farm (NIFF) Coalition by Eric Nordschow

- Set up Education committee for winter program schedule.
- Set up a Steering Committee to investigate/plan strategies and tactics.
- Submitted Farm to School grant to IDALS and will submit to Leopold Center.

School Engagement by Sue Burrack

- Oct 15 was first meeting. 13 of 18 school districts participated. Nov 12 is next meeting. Summary of meeting is posted on webpage.
- Our Youth will be present in the conversation by January to share what they've learned.
- Their assignment was to take "Sharing the Vision" back to school and lead a discussion with a small group.

Human & Finance Resource by Scot Michelson

- Returned translator funds back to general budget.
- The regional Community Foundation meeting will be held on Dec 2 at Dairy Center in Calmar from 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

Convener Update by Brenda Ranum

- A new Iowa Food Policy Council is starting, co-sponsored by IDPH and Leopold Center and facilitated by Susan Roberts and Angie Tagtow. Brenda has been asked to attend, representing NE Iowa FFI as a member.
- Harkin staff member, Dan Christenson is coming to visit NE IA on Oct 31. He helps write the Farm Bill and WIC Reauthorization Act.
- Scot will be traveling to Chicago on Nov. 6-7 to the co-convener meetings with Brenda and Ann. Continue to break ground on all fronts compared to other groups. NE IA is different from the other initiatives because we have engagement at county level with the public.
- We will be receiving \$105,000 for the extension from April – August, 2009