

The Allamakee County Planning Team for the FFI met on November 20, 2008 at 4:30 pm at the Allamakee County Extension office. Present: Rachelle Howe, Mary Jo Goodman, Lana Snitker, Leah Brown, Mary Koopman, Teresa Wiemerslage.

Welcomes and introductions were shared. What's new and good with you?

- The VDM recently traveled to the National Systems Thinking conference in Boston to learn more about systems thinking and how to apply it to our work.
- Shelly has been visiting the city councils and encouraging them to get involved.
- FMSB continues with its workplace wellness activities. They are currently doing a 100-pushup challenge (wall, knee or toe). 8 week program. Employees also had a plot at the community garden this year.
- Shared info about FFI with family. They ask if I am going to attend.
- Working on a Walk to School program at the Yeshiva. Each day a student walks or bikes, they will get a punch on their punch card. When their card is full, they get a prize. At the end of the year, will draw for a grand prize—possibly a bike or walking shoes. Teresa shared some toe tokens for the school to use as incentives. They are looking at incorporating walking by the entire family into the annual Jewish parade. They will need a FFI banner for the parade.
- City of Postville recently repaired and patched sidewalks in town.
- Presented to Delta Kappa Gamma on FFI last month. At their meeting this month, the members were still talking about FFI.

Postville Update: Families continue to struggle. With the plant closed now, the Jewish families are having a hard time finding kosher food. A temple in MN recently sent kosher food to Postville to help set up a kosher food pantry. The grocery store would be willing to prepare soup each day to serve at the school. Cost is \$15-20 per day. Funding is needed.

Mary Koopman read the FFI vision.

The Regional Team report was given.

The CPT reviewed the draft tactics and the following sample activities came to mind as the tactics were read.

- Strategy 1: Schools
 - Provide field trips to farms for students
 - FFA currently grows plants in school greenhouse and has a field plot. Help FFA grow food for the school.
 - Industry trades class could help with greenhouse or hoop house construction
 - Students grow food to sell at concession stands. Need to educate booster clubs.
 - Create national Sweet Corn in Schools Week
 - Educate superintendents, food service and vendors.
 - Identify mentor schools to assist schools in transition to use local foods. Viroqua and Prairie du Chine schools might be good mentors for first year schools.

- Educate and introduce fundraising activities that use local, healthy food.
- Strategy 3: Built Environment
 - Create walking paths or identify routes throughout communities.
 - Connect destinations.
 - Educate community leaders about the policies already in place
 - Incorporate green technology in new construction and design
 - Communities share policies on what works for them

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Recorded by Teresa Wiemerslage.