

NE Iowa Food & Fitness Initiative Regional Leadership Team Meeting, March 2008

Deborah Walker and Rick Pinderhughes from the WKKF TAP Team were present to give a 45 minute training on "Community Engagement from a Multicultural Perspective." The goal of this training was to better understand the diversity and underserved audiences and issues in our area. They reviewed the Principles of Community Engagement (see handout 1).

Work Group Session Summaries

Youth Team WG:

- Presented on their trip to Arizona
- Clayton Ridge School Health Fair on April 9 from 11 am-1:30 pm. Their school wellness committee would like to invite any groups interested in having a booth to participate.

Communications WG:

- Working on a budget request to send to the resource committee for materials and supplies
- Working on the graphics and logo and looking at display options.
- Will work on key messages once the final vision statement is completed.

Inclusive Team:

- New name for their team which was determined the previous evening in a work session with the TAP Team.
- Presented the 9 components of diversity and recognized the need to focus on all areas.
- The purpose of the Inclusive Team is to: 1) Work to ensure diverse populations have access to the planning process and voices are present during the planning and community action planning phases, 2) Investigate and report on needs of various communities; 3) Empower various diverse populations; 4) Educate and be educated by the various diverse populations represented. They are resource for regional team, work groups, communities and ourselves.

Schools:

- 4 of the 5 schools have been visited by Ann Mansfield and Cindy Baumgartner.
- Considering a workshop in June or August for the FFI school wellness policy schools
- A second meeting will be scheduled later for other districts.

Built Environment:

- Working on a built environment inventory tool to locate where the opportunities are for recreation for children, youth and families in the area.
- Members from county planning teams will be asked to help.
- Information needs to be collected by mid-May in order to have a final report ready by June.

Community Health Assessment:

- Want to measure the health status of the population for benchmarks and a way to document change.
- Have completed key informant interviews. Will do focus groups and surveys.

Vision Deployment Matrix: The new draft of the vision statement is ready. Now they are working on developing the mental models.

NIFF Coalition: (www.niffcoalition.org)

- Recently completed producer/lender meetings in each county to gather more information on the needs for a local food system. Over 160 people participated.
- Several people also met with Hal Shroer, a food consultant from Minneapolis on the next steps in food system development.

County F&F Planning Team meetings

- Upcoming meeting topics
 - April County Team Meeting – View video - “What’s Right With the World”, discuss “working vision statement”, and next steps related to the Hierarchy of Choices
 - May County Team Meeting – View on-line webcast – Linking the Health of our Community with Local Healthy Food and Active Living; PH directors will be presenting this in person at County Planning Team meetings
 - June County Team Meeting – View webcast – Policy & System Change.