

HEALTHY FOOD FOR ALL COALITION

SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 | FRUITRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE

OVERVIEW

The Healthy Food for All Coalition met on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at the Fruitridge Community Collaborative. A full list of participants can be found at the end of this document. The goals and objectives for the meeting included:

- **Review** community-based projects issues that emerged in August;
- **Determine** readiness to discuss, plan, and collaborate around these issues in October;
- **Revisit** target neighborhood activities and update the Coalition about key happenings; and
- **Continue building** energy and momentum around supporting each other and working together as a coalition.

ACTION ITEM REVIEW

As part of the Coalition meeting structure, each meeting begins with a review of the previous month's action items. Please see below for the ongoing Action Item list and the status of each item as of September 20th.

Action Item Matrix

Description	Owner	Date Assigned/Due Date	Status
Existing/Ongoing Items			
Mapping Tool Development ¹	Shawn + Team	April 21/ Fall 2015	In Progress/Ongoing (<i>see below</i>)
Share opening date (once it exists) for Maple Elementary ²	Rangineh	Sept 15/ TBA	In Progress
Follow up with Erik @ SFBFS re fruit distribution in the community ³	Shawn	Dec 15/Jan 19	In Progress
Discuss how Coalition members might inform the SFBFS's distribution process	Shawn & Mike (loop in Rosie & Davida)	TBA	In Progress
Action Items			

¹ Mapping Tool Development

No update at this moment.

² Maple Elementary Opening

The official grand opening for the rest of the site will likely take place in September 2016/October 2016.

³ Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services (SFBFS) Fruit Distribution

There is a new mobile vehicle, which the Food Bank will be utilizing at some of the school sites. The conversation has been happening, and this has been implemented in the next grant. This mechanism will be matched more specifically with the more active school sites, if not other Community sites. With this, the hope is to integrate 6 more sites in the mix with the intent of expanding distribution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, RESOURCES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

Prior to commencing the content portion of the meeting, the Coalition members provided the following announcements, resources, and opportunities for collaboration:

Announcements

- **Colonial Heights Library** (*Alicia Doktor*): Colonial Heights Library has been running programs with Yisrael Family Farm and has an upcoming event on October 20th called “Nursing Your Tastebuds”. The four-week Community Kitchen Program is also up and running and still accepting applications with a second session set for November. Finally, the Library will be providing crafts at the Dia de los Muertos event as well as hosting a Dog Days event on October 2nd from 9AM-12 PM, which will feature free dog care services (shots, tags, etc.). For more information about any of these updates, please contact Alicia Doktor at adoktor@saclibrary.org.
- **Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute (BCLI)** (*Katie Valenzuela Garcia*): Katie will be running the new BCLI program and is looking to recruit applicants from the BHC to join the program. The program runs one Saturday plus one weekday every month for 6 months (equivalent to ~80 hours). Participants are trained and supported to become local decision-makers by serving on professional boards and commissions. This year’s cohort will also be looking to include youth to learn to work with the cohort and vice a versa. Ideally, candidates would be folks in the BHC who haven’t stepped into leadership role yet but would be interested in doing so if they had the right support and mentorship. There will also be an Advisory Committee that is made up of folks who are working on issues that are covered during the BCLI training (e.g. food access, transportation, environmental justice, etc.) and who are interested in both guiding and presenting on these topics to the cohort. Nominations and those interested in applying for the program and/or Advisory Committee should contact Katie Valenzuela Garcia at Katie@vgconsulting.org. The application deadline is *tentatively* set for late November.
- **Sacramento Urban Ag Coalition** (*Katie Valenzuela Garcia*): There will be an organizing meeting on October 4th @ Colonial Heights Library from 6-8 PM where there will be discussion about the urban ag incentive zone and how the coalition can play a more active role. To for more information, please contact Katie Valenzuela Garcia at Katie@vgconsulting.com.
- **Food Policy Council** (*Katie Valenzuela Garcia*): The Food Policy Council Food Access Workgroup will be meeting Sept. 29th from 4-6 PM @ the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services (in Oak Park). The Environmental Sustainability Workgroup will meet on Oct. 7th from 10-12 PM. There is a lot happening and anyone interested in staying in the loop should contact Katie to get added to the mailing list. For more information, please contact Katie Valenzuela Garcia at Katie@vgconsulting.com.
- **Food Demo Equipment Available** (*Jacob Sacks*): Alchemist CDC is no longer doing food tastings and demonstrations so if anyone would like the supplies that were once used, please contact Jacob Sacks at jacob@alchemistcdc.org. (*Suggestions: Robyn suggests putting on CropMobster; Sharon does food demos at Farmers Market and would be interested*)

- **Resilient Sacramento** (*Alicia Doktor*): Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) have affected the community in Sacramento and Resilient Sacramento is working on how the community can learn to be more trauma informed and build community resiliency. The work connects to food when kids don't have access to food or don't know where they will get their next meal. Resilient Sacramento meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 4:00-5:30 PM at the Kiwanis House near UC Davis Med Center. For more information, please contact Alicia Doktor at adoktor@saclibrary.org.
- **Mack Road Farmers Market** (*Todd McPherson*): The final farmers market will take place this Saturday, September 24th from 8:30 – 1:30 PM and anyone interested and doing relevant work is welcome to attend the event –Todd can provide tables and tents. The event promises to have a celebratory feel as it was a good season! To participate or to get more information, please contact Todd McPherson at todd_mcperson@scusd.edu.
- **Food Systems Happy Hour** (*Todd McPherson*): There is an informal Food Systems Happy Hour group that meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Oak Park Brewery around 5:30/6ish PM. For more information, check out the Food Systems Happy Hour Facebook page.
- **AmeriCorp Positions Open at Food Literacy Center** (*Susan Vitulli*): The Food Literacy Center still has a few AmeriCorp positions for which they are recruiting. The positions are mostly part-time (~20 hours per week) and will support school programs. This is a great opportunity for college students as well as retired folks who have more flexible schedules. Anyone who knows someone who might be interested or can help recruit, please let contact Susan Vitulli at susan@foodliteracycenter.org.
- **School Wellness Policy** (*Robyn Krock*): Valley Vision is working with the Sacramento City Unified School District to revise the School Wellness Policy. Robyn will present the draft policy to the Coalition in October; in the meantime, Robyn will share the link to the 26 page document and anyone interested in reading it can do so prior to the next meeting. Input is still getting gathered from different community groups, and the HFAC is among the list of groups whose input is desired. Specifically, the Coalition is being solicited for its feedback on the food portion of the policy. For more information about the policy or to get a link to the draft document, please contact Robyn Krock at robyn.krock@valleyvision.org.
- **Harvest Sacramento** (*Dominic Allamano*): Harvest Sacramento is gearing up for a busy season and its next Harvest Leader training will take place on Oct. 1st from 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM at Fruitridge, Room 11. Organizations who need and/or work on food access are encouraged to send staff/volunteers to the training. For more information about the training or to sign up, please contact Dominic Allamano at dallamano@gmail.com.

- **NeighborWoods** (*Dominic Allamano*): The NeighborWoods program will kick off this fall with a number of tree planting events (tentatively slated for late Oct/early Nov) in churches, community centers, and one likely to take place soon with Fruitridge Manor. The program boundary overlaps with the BHC (95824 zip code) and there will be opportunities to train people in tree planting. Dominic will share info on the tree planting trainings once the info is confirmed.
- **Community Tours** (*Karen Abrego*): Karen has been taking different groups on tours throughout South Sacramento and among the most interested people lately have been medical students, a group of which is from North State University, a new medical college. As a result, the students have reached out to Chicks in Crisis as well as started a community garden on their campus. They also plan on harvesting the food from their garden and donating it to the food bank. Coalition members who have not yet partnered with North State University and are interested in doing so should contact Karen Abrego at Karen.abrego@sen.ca.gov.
- **Health Fair** (*Karen Abrego*): There will be a health fair on Nov. 19th from 10 AM – 2 PM from at the Robertson Community Center in Del Paso Heights. The fair will take place during open enrollment season for medical coverage. The fair will feature a score-card system to encourage families to learn about all of the resources and at the end they will be able to get a free turkey. Food and nutrition program related organizations are still needed to attend and potentially table. Those who are interested and available to attend should contact Karen Abrego at Karen.abrego@sen.ca.gov.
- **Food Distribution & Volunteer Request** (*Karen Abrego*): The Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services is moving toward using a model of giving away groceries at local schools. The Food Bank provides the food and Karen provides the volunteers. There is a need to figure out a way to make the food distributions sustainable and Karen will be reaching out to the Coalition partners to connect with volunteers who can help distribute the food. One of the schools in waiting is Ethel Baker – a school that is very ready to get a food distribution going. The volunteer commitment is still getting worked out but would likely be ~2-3 hours at least once a month until a regular crowd is built. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Karen Abrego at Karen.abrego@sen.ca.gov.

Resources

- **Meeting Rooms Resources** (*Meeting space for Coalition partners has been offered at the following locations*):
 - Fruitridge Collaborative Meeting and Conference Rooms– To reserve space please contact Shakeya Bell at bhc@asianresources.org.
 - Colonial Heights Library Conference Room (*Available free for non-commercial, non-profit, open to the public events, capacity of room is 90 people, but may increase or decrease after renovation*) – To reserve space please contact Alicia Doktor at adoktor@saclibrary.org.

MOVING EMERGING ISSUES FORWARD

The Coalition has been successfully using the new meeting format for two months. During the August meeting, several community-based issues began to emerge, which have the potential to be discussed beyond the Coalition level. However, Coalition members expressed their interest in further vetting the issues before inviting in additional stakeholders to discuss them. To this end, participants were asked to briefly share what, if any, progress was made on the emerging issues since August, as well as share what is needed to move the issue forward (if at all). Below is a brief overview of each of the emerging issues, a summary of the progress made since August, and a brief statement on if and how to move the issue forward.

1. [Potential Avenues Neighborhood Association](#)

Overview

Building a neighborhood association in the Avenues community has hit several bumps over the last few years for a number of reasons. Recently, Chris Puhule (Sacramento County) contacted Sharon Eghigian (NeighborWorks) and Katie Valenzuela Garcia (SUAC/SFPC) about potentially helping to start a neighborhood association, which served as the main topic of this group's discussion.

Summary of Progress

- A meeting was held with Sharon Eghigian (NeighborWorks), Rachel Rios (La Familia), Susan Perry (District 1), Katie Valenzuela Garcia (SUAC/SFPC) and Chris Puhule (Sac County)
- The County is committing some money to this effort
- Key players will be involved in developing the work plan
- Katie & La Familia have worked a lot with residents
- Looking to use the Weed and Seed Model which brings together stakeholders to collaborate and support resident engagement
- Tomorrow (September 21st) Rachel, Sharon, and Katie will meet to develop a list of stakeholders and resident leaders to invite them to meet in October to discuss and finalize a workplan and next steps
- Potential Stakeholders/Resident Leaders: Pastor Karen, New ED of CRP, New Principal, School Board, La Familia, City/County staff and elected officials, Nailah, Liz Sterba
- The Avenues boundary being used in this case is South of Fruitridge and West of HWY 99

Next Steps/Direction Moving Forward

The group will move forward with the meeting and report back to the Coalition as appropriate.

2. [Healthy Food City Ordinance](#)

Overview

The HEAL Zone's Organizing Committee is looking at a Citywide ordinance to minimize over concentration of fast food. The process is still in the research phase and an update should be coming in the next month.

Summary of Progress

- HEAL Zone folks are still doing research
- Personal choice vs. systemic issues – Katie working with Sac ACT to figure out how to get people from thinking at the personal choice level to understanding the systems level factors that influence and impact their choices; need to figure out how to get folks from thinking at the personal level to the systems level in a very short amount of time – open to ideas from others who have used effective models to shift thinking along these lines
 - Suggestion (Robyn): May be worth connecting with folks who have worked on Community Health Needs Assessments (which collects enormous amounts of data) and the MPHs' who worked with the assessment
 - Suggestion (Sharon): May be helpful to connect directly with folks who have gone through the process of being empowered around their own circumstances
 - Suggestion (Alicia): Use the ACEs test as a way to help demonstrate what has happened to them
 - Potential Games: Hunger 101, Blocks and Lots

Next Steps/Direction Moving Forward

The conversation will continue at the HEAL Zone Organizing Committee and Katie will report back to the Coalition as progress unfolds.

3. Oak Park Food Collaborative

Overview

There are people focused on serving Oak Park who are working on food access issues. Currently, there are more opportunities for collaboration than are being leveraged and as a result, this group is specifically focused on collaborating on food access work in Oak Park.

Summary of Progress

- No updates

Next Steps/Direction Moving Forward

Set meeting with agencies and groups providing food access, nutrition education, and garden resources to Oak Park residents and bring them to the same table in order to identify resources, determine how to leverage resources, create a resource sheet, and develop communication strategies. Stakeholders to invite: Oak Park Neighborhood Association, South Oak Park Neighborhood Association, and NeighborWorks, among others. Connect with Randy Stannard beforehand as he has been coordinating this group thus far.

4. Gaps Tour

Overview

Karen Abrego (Senator Pan's Office) has been taking folks/students on a tour through the South Sacramento community and elevating gaps in community resources (e.g. medical facilities, grocery stores, etc.).

Summary of Progress

- Looking into neighborhood market conversions and onsite sales as options to bring more fresh product into neighborhoods

Next Steps/Direction Moving Forward

Karen will report back and share updates with the group as needed.

5. Increasing Demand for Healthy Food

Overview

The focal point of this group's discussion has been answering the following questions: 1.) How do we increase demand for farmers market so they don't fail when they come in? 2) How do you take a community that is lacking in [food] access and start at step 1? 3.) How do you know the right place to start? 4.) What is the assessment process? 5.) How do we best organize our work?

Summary of Progress

- Collectively haven't done much – raising some visibility via farm to fork
- Putting together a comprehensive plan that would lead to a new grocery store or fresh produce → How do we get there from where we are? (*Robyn Krock has some data that will be useful*)
- Don't have knowledge about purchasing motivation of residents
- Is the end goal a sustainable farm stand or grocery store?
- Market Match Program: Matches Calfresh dollars – considering whether this can be expanded beyond markets to grocery stores → See if there is space within the market system to incentives healthy food
- Emergency Food Distribution Sites – can slowly introduce a point of sale and market match that will eventually minimize need for emergency food

Next Steps/Direction Moving Forward

The group needs to flush this out internally and hopes there will continue to be space to discuss at the Coalition meetings. The interim goal is to continue discussing and eventually bring back to the Coalition for feedback and guidance. The ultimate goal is to create a 5-10 year plan that outlines a clear path.

CLOSING REMARKS & REMINDERS

The **next Coalition meeting** will take place on **Tuesday, October 18th, 2016 from 10 AM – 12 PM at Fruitridge Collaborative (4625 44th Street), Room 11.**

PARTICIPANTS

	Name	Affiliation/Organization
1.	Rangineh Azimzadeh Tosang	Solh Resolutions International
2.	Shakeya Bell	Sac BHC Hub
3.	Allison Burke	LPC Consulting
4.	Shaina Meiners	Alchemist CDC
5.	Katie Valenzuela Garcia	Sacramento Urban Ag Coalition/Sacramento Food Policy Council
6.	Karen Strach	Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services
7.	Dave Chappell	Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services
8.	Karen Abrego	Senator Dr. Richard Pan's Office/Ebenezer Christian Center
9.	Susan Vitulli	The Food Literacy Center
10.	Todd McPherson	SCCSC
11.	Sharon Eghigian	NeighborWorks Sacramento
12.	Jacob Sacks	Alchemist CDC
13.	Dominic Allamano	Soil Born Farms
14.	Robyn Krock	Valley Vision
15.	Shannon Hardwicke	Soil Born Farms
16.	Tasha Pavlovich	UC Davis Graduate
17.	Isaac Gonzalez	Access Sacramento
18.	Alicia Doktor	Colonial Heights Library