

Waukesha County Nutrition Coalition Minutes
April 22, 2014

Attendees: Mary Andruszkiewicz-WIC, Michelle Bertram-ADRC, Judy Cesarec-Food Pantry of Waukesha County, Regina Estrada-Blessings in a Backpack, Julie Frahmann-Muskego Food Pantry, Tammy Grauer-Energy Services, Ellyn McKenzie-Waukesha Community Health Center, Jean Pirkey-ProHealth Care Community Outreach, Kurt Schmidt-United Way, Karen Tredwell-Food Pantry of Waukesha County, Rachel Zuniga-Hispanic Health Resource Center, Karin Rajnicek-Waukesha School District, Melinda Stuart, Jan Skell, Jamie Zach, Danielle Knutilla-UW Extension

Welcome and Introductions: Karen Tredwell

Presentation: NuGenesis Farm (NGF) and Programs- Lisa Vasquez lpcvasquez@att.net
Founded in 2010, provides the opportunity through 'hands-on' classes for participants to learn about growing, harvesting, and cooking foods to maximize health and prevent chronic illness. Their mission is to help patients use food along with traditional treatments to achieve the best outcome and prevent recurrence of illness. NuGenesis recently moved to their current location in Stone Bank where they have access to 78 acres. Purple Cow Organics assisted in creating 27 out of 70 raised beds which are at various levels so people of many ages and abilities work in the gardens. Classes are taught both on site and off site at schools, businesses, colleges and universities. English or Spanish language is available. Recently, classes have branched into schools in Wales, Dousman, and Stone Bank including a five lesson program with fourth graders on how food is grown and developed. NGF is also involved with research on the power of food as medicine, partnering on a project with UW-Waukesha and the Medical College of Wisconsin. Many other community partners are involved with NGF including ProHealth Care, Wheaton Franciscan, and Froedert. For more information go to: www.nugenesisfarm.org

Co-Chair Updates: Karen Tredwell and Michelle Bertram – The Advisory Committee is looking for feedback on the WCNC Spotlights and website located at: wcnchwaukesha.org. Please send your feedback to Karen – karen@waukeshafoodpantry.org or Michelle – mbertram@waukeshacounty.gov The Advisory Committee will be discussing the WCNC website, marketing plan and plans for a 20th anniversary celebration at the next Advisory meeting on May 27th, following the Coalition meeting. All are welcome.

Agency Updates

Muskego Food Pantry-Julie Frahmann - We are struggling to fill the shelves and waiting for the mail carriers Stamp Out Hunger Drive on May 10th. Also attempting to set up mobile pantries.

Food Pantry of Waukesha County- Judy Cesarec - Also waiting for the stamp out hunger drive on May 10th. Receive great donations of fresh produce from Trader Joe's and individual gardeners.

Waukesha Community Health Center- Ellyn McKenzie - New Brochures are out with a new phone number. Pediatric and Behavioral Health Services are available. On April 1st many of La Casa's staff members and their programs shifted over to the Community Health Center. Spanish and English staff are available to help those that are eligible to sign up through the Affordable Care Act or Badger Care.

Waukesha School District-Karin Rajnicek – Point in Time count data shows that 3 years ago there were 75 homeless children in the district, and now there are 250. Working with other agencies on ending homelessness in Waukesha. Hoping to connect the expanding need of the district to the many services available.

Blessings in a Backpack-Regina Estrada - Still feeding 600 kids per week. October 10th will be the annual fundraiser at Sharon Lynn Wilson Center for the Arts.

ProHealth Care Community Outreach-Jean Pirkey - We have begun distributing a flyer parents with/and children on the family exercise and nutrition program called Eating Smart and Being Active. It's a partnership with ProHealth Care, Public Health and UW-Extension's Nutrition Education Program. It will offered Wednesday June 21st- Aug 6th, 5:30-7pm. The program will be held at the new Public Health building and provide food and education about cooking, exercise and

nutrition to parents of children that are at or below 185% of the poverty line. A similar program for Spanish speakers will be held at the Hispanic Health Resource Center starting in June.

Hebron/Siena/Jeremy House-Ashley Woda - Will be transitioning from Siena House to Jeremy House for Mental Health and Homeless.

WIC-Mary Andruszkiewicz - Birthing and Breastfeeding classes are being offered at the Public Health building in June by public health nurses in both Spanish and English. The state WIC program will be evaluating WIC in May. Training will begin soon for farmers accepting WIC vouchers at for Farmers Markets. Case load continues to decrease, currently serving 1,960 clients and feedback from coalition members on WIC was appreciated.

United Way-Kurt Schmidt - 211 is now being operated by Impact 2-1-1, which is currently managing nine counties and a large number of resources. New phone numbers will be available for cell phones. Work is continuing on little free libraries that are made by retirees from the carpenters union with donated materials. They will be placed at agencies either inside or outside agency property. The little free library movement was started in Wisconsin and has now expanded worldwide. Preparations for next year's United Way campaign have started.

Backpack Coalition-Lori Hayes- Director of Volunteer Engagement for United Way, helping community link to volunteers through a new app. The Backpack Coalition will provide school supplies to families that are unable to afford them. 1800-2000 backpacks are distributed annually including satellite locations in Oconomowoc, Pewaukee, Waukesha, Muskego, and Mukwonago. Need volunteers and help with data entry. School supply application period is May 1st- July 31st, and distribution is August 23rd. Families can register at area food pantries.

Energy Services-Tammy Grauer - May 15th is the application deadline for services. Benefit amount is less than in the past and state funds are gone. Crisis funds from *We Care and Keep Wisconsin Warm* are still available.

Mukwonago FP and Resource Center-Resource Center is now located in a former Prohealth Care clinic and offers free medical services through the Eagle Wing Health Clinic for adults over the age of 18, nutrition classes, and energy services. Hoping to get dental services in the future. Also planning to build raised gardens. Working on getting permits and city approval as well as looking for additional funds. Other agencies are welcome and encouraged to use office space in the Resource Center rent free. The Center is open to all of the Waukesha County area. August 23rd will be the Feed the Need Ride fundraiser to raise funds for the food pantry. More information is available at <http://www.mukwonagofoodpantry.org/resource-center/>

ADRC-Michelle Bertram – Reminder that the topic - Transportation, has been rescheduled to the November 18th Coalition meeting.

Food Pantry of Waukesha County-Karen Tredwell- The women and children portion of the Stock Box Program has been eliminated from the new Farm Bill funding. Families currently receiving stock boxes may continue on program until their child ages out of eligibility. No new applications will be accepted. The pantry is now applying for Emerson Research Fellows to do research on hunger and food insecurity. Looking at barriers and access to food as well as systems that can benefit communities and food pantries throughout the county.

UW Extension-Melinda Stuart- Parenthetical.org is an online parenting resource available for parents of children 10-16 years old. The May Poverty Simulation was cancelled but the October 8th session is still being held and is in need of volunteers. On September 23rd look forward to a new poverty education program that will be presented to the Coalition. Food Preservation education now available and update to include recent research. The Eating Smart and Being Active program is available to all families at or below 185% of poverty and is looking for additional incentives to give participants. This program includes a series of classes meeting for approximately one hour for 7 weeks. WNEP is planning summer programs and will again be teaching at Whitcomb-Masons and many other summer sites.

Next Coalition Meeting-Administration Center-G55-59 May 27, 2014
Topic: National Allegiance on Mental Illness (NAMI)