

HEALTH LEADERSHIP NETWORK
HLN/CDFA – Food Access & Nutrition Local Food Roundtable Workgroup
MEETING NOTES
SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 – 1:00 P.M.

In attendance: Lou Denny, Former LCCAA; Patty Bruder, NCO; Lorna Sides, WIC; Tom Jordan, 1st Five Lake County; Susan Jen, and Bonnie Schall, Health Leadership Network.

Susan stated this is the first meeting of the Food Roundtable workgroup designated as the Food Access and Nutrition (FAN) Workgroup. The Workgroup activities will be the focus of the meeting. Many of the FAN workgroups members are also on the HLN meetings, thus the rationale for linking the two groups.

FOOD SYSTEM ACTIVITES UPDATE

BALLE Training:

Susan announced The Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE) upcoming Regional Training. BALLE and the USDA will hold a 1.5-day workshop on the September 26-27, 2011, targeting the Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma, Napa, and Marin region in California. The goal will be to help participants meet the current jobs crisis in their counties, and to provide a framework for increasing the quantity and quality of local employment for the long term. Susan indicated that Denise Rushing invited five people from Lake County. The following people were scheduled to attend the training: Susan Jen, Lake County Health Leadership Network; Joanne Saccato, Lake Community Co-op co-founder; Barbara Johnson, Lake County Mediations and Lake County BALLE; Carol Cole-Lewis, Lake County Timebank; Cornelia Sieber-Davis, Lake County's Farmers Finest; and Denise Rushing, Local Food Round Table.

NCO UPDATE:

Patty Bruder discussed the upcoming community meeting that will focus on the “needs” of the county, which was gathered from a recent survey. The meeting is intended to gather input and ideas about how to address community issues in Lake County. The issues that will be explored include:

- Unemployment & Underemployment
- Drugs & Alcohol
- Availability of Services & Health Care
- Food, Hunger & Nutrition
- Housing & Homelessness

She indicated the purpose of the meeting is to generate new, creative, alternative ideas. The meeting will be on September 29th from 2-5 p.m. at the Department of Social Services (DSS) Conference room on 4077 Moss Avenue in Clearlake. Patty stated that the ideas generated from this meeting will be incorporated into the Lake County Community Action Plan for the community. She said she would email the survey to the workgroup.

OTHER UPDATES:

Lou stated DSS recently found money to help fight the hunger in Lake County. The Hunger Task Force, AmeriCorps, along with other agencies volunteer to fill over 70 bags of food purchased from the Redwood Empire Food Bank and is being distributed at the center to qualified applicants weekly through September. The Hunger Task Force Community Gardens is also supplying hundreds of pounds fresh produce weekly for these bags. Lou stated the Hunger Task Force continues to be viable entity that provides emergency food throughout our community.

Lou reported “Operation Gobble” sponsored locally by Golden State Water Company will continue their program this year for Lake County. There will be 225 turkeys delivered to approximately 22 various agencies and churches throughout the county in November. Dennis Darling of Foods Etc. and other local agencies will supply 600 boxes of food during the Christmas season. Monies collected from last year’s Lake County Record-Bee Christmas Fund will pay for the food along with other agencies supplying non-perishable canned goods for the boxes.

Tom said Middletown had a groundbreaking with county officials on Wednesday for the new Middletown Senior Center and Library complex, which will be located at 21256 Washington St. between Douglas and Callayomi streets in Middletown. The new-dual-use facility will comprise 12,377 square feet of space that includes a 4,400-square-foot senior center, a 5,450-square-foot public library and a 2,527-square-foot common area.

Lorna informed us that she has become a Board Certified Lactation Consultant for WIC. WIC serves 2,700 cases monthly. WIC is pushing breast feeding. Studies have shown that breast-fed babies have less risk of infection and of contracting chronic conditions such as diabetes, asthma and obesity. Breast-feeding mothers have a lower risk of Type 2 diabetes and breast and ovarian cancers.

Susan announced HLN/CDFFA grant is organizing an awareness promotion of Eat Fresh –Buy Lake County Grown on Sunday October 9, 2011 as part of the Steele Wines Harvest Festival with an Iron Chef Cook-Off to show people that there is an opportunity to eat more locally grown produce; and a Lake County Bounty Recipe Contest to celebrate Lake County’s bounty by recognizing our local farmers. This contest is only open to Lake County Food Providers, such as restaurants, school food service, food processors, etc. Contestants must be an incorporated entity; either non-profit, or for profit, with access to a commercial kitchen. There are three categories:

- Appetizers
- Vinaigrettes, Sauces, Dressings
- Desserts

Those who enter the contest will have their recipe featured in their establishment and utilize a table placard provided by the CDFFA grant to promote use of locally grown produce. The placard will state they have participated in the event. A \$25.00 Gift Certificate from LakeCountyGrown.com will be awarded to first place winners in each of the three categories.

Community Facilities Grant

Last June the Community Facilities Grant Committee agreed that they would not to apply for the Community Facilities Grant due to Big Valley Grange’s decision to move forward to pursue the USDA grant. The idea of having two Lake County entities competing for the same grant monies would not suffice either one with adequate funding if the grant was awarded to both parties. Susan asked the workgroup if anyone had heard whether Big Valley Grange applied for the Facility Grant funding. After a brief discussion it was still unclear as to whether the Big Valley Grange applied for the grant funding.

EAT FRESH –BUY LAKE COUNTY GROWN UMBRELLA MESSAGING:

Susan discussed ways to distinguish the Eat Fresh –Buy Lake County Grown message from the Farm Bureau's LakeCountyGrown.com online system. It was suggested to have other local entities use the Eat Fresh –Buy Lake County Grown messaging along with their own business logo to set them apart from the Farm Bureau's online system.

FOOD ACCESS & NUTRITION WORKGROUP FOCUS (FAN):

Susan asked what would be the best area of focus for this workgroup. After a lengthy discussion it was decided the FAN workgroup would support NCO/Community Action Partnership (CAP) and concentrate on the following areas:

- Consumer Education on the Cost Factors of Local Grown Produce
- Nutrient Education through Nutritious Sampling & Recipes
- Nutritious Cooking Classes

The next FAN Workgroup will meet the 2nd Wednesday each month. Bonnie will schedule a conference room and send out the details in October.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.