

1095 Skagit Steering Committee

Jan 10, 2013

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Attendees: Debra, Karen, Felicia, Michael, Carolyn, Steve, Rita, Graham, Serah

- General Discussion
 - Food waste and gleaning
 - Sources: Panera in Skagit County is donating a lot of product to the food banks.
 - Statistics: Half of world production is not used/wasted. Lack of infrastructure in the developing world (transport, storage). There is restaurant waste and grocery waste.
 - Farm-to-Freezer program is an example of how to use it. Farm-to-School program (Whidbey) is another one; 5th Season on Orcas Island is a food-freezing program staffed by volunteers.
 - Commercial kitchens: Steve forwarded a great, current list; NABC also maintains one. Many school kitchens, especially the one in Burlington. Reverie BBQ – we bring them ingredients; Open Door – church-based; Helping Hands has a kitchen. We discussed the advantages of developing our own commercial kitchen.
 - Obesity + Hunger are the two health problems related to food. Short-term thinking – people aren't nourishing themselves fully as they are focusing on daily survival needs, not long-term health.
 - Excellent editorial on this in today's *Seattle Times*, from the CEO of Food Lifeline
 - Risk factor is our present generation
 - 65% of people in WA are overweight. 11.5% of children are obese.
- Our mission for 2013
 - Work with programs where they are
 - Outreach: volunteers and partners (such as Susan from the blueberry farm)
 - Rita has emailed her with a list of transportation and other county resources
 - Need to develop our activity list for 2013 so we can provide clear messaging to volunteers and partners.
 - The county program/project list that we have started to compile is a focal point.

- Statistics and survey data can help us align our strategy with the most need. We need to keep compiling both qualitative and quantitative data. Some is listed on our website.
 - Statistics =>= Compassion
 - Method (how to help) =>= Commitment
 - Showing up =>= Consistency
 - Who are we trying to serve? What do they need now? Where are they eating?
 - What is nourishment? What is needed most in our county? What are/will be the most effective tactics?
 - Makeup of steering committee – need to bring in more of the food/hunger community. We would like to invite Holly Thompson to join us if she has time.
 - Identify gaps; ask for grants. Discussion of ConAgra grant, others.
 - \$35K ConAgra. Need evidence-based practices. Felicia has already started gathering info for this. The mission is directly aligned with ours.
 - \$130K CDIC grant recently awarded to SeaMar. Healthy practices. Hispanic component. ConAgra also has a Hispanic component, which is covered by our examples.
 - \$60K Boeing – statewide study of farm-to-food bank best practices being administered through NW Harvest (*note: I did not get to bring this up in our meeting, but can add this to the list of recent related grants*)
 - Working groups: Action Teams.
 - Two pieces to the baton: Grow and Cook
 - It's a communications issue – How To
 - Continue our summer feeding; potentially expand “Breakfast in the Classroom” program
- 2013 Activity List
 - Summer Program support
 - Volunteers
 - Curriculum (if we get grant funding = organize reading and activity modules for age 14 and under)
 - Susan/”Berry Camp”
 - Food Bank/Garden Projects
 - Volunteers

- Program/Grant List
- Statistics
- Other focus areas
 - Additional steering committee members
 - Steve is going to be focusing on a GMO labeling initiative this year and will not have as much time to lead programs. Will continue to serve on steering committee – thank you!!
 - Improve steering committee and general meeting effectiveness
 - Agreed on decision-making process = voting; majority rules
 - Felicia agreed to serve as steering committee chair!
 - 1095 Skagit identity: As soon as we complete our 2013 Activity List, we can work with Don Smith on a logo and graphic identity. At that point, we can also revise our positioning and messaging framework to make sure we all communicate a consistent message about 1095 Skagit and how people can help fully nourish Skagit County kids!