

KCFFI Meeting of Youth Serving Organizations

March 31st, 2008 1:00 – 3:00pm

Youngstown Cultural Arts Center

NEXT MEETING: TBD

Present: Roxana Chen, Joyce Pisanont, Sorya Svy, Serena Lehman, Ashley Geisendorfer, Vanisha Duggal, Sylvia Kantor, Sue Lerner, Derek Bernie, Maggie Anderson, Erin MacDougall, Randy Engstrom, Marissa Chavez, Ben Kieu, Emma Henderson, Quyet Huynh

Meeting Goals:

1. Define youth engagement
2. Define principles of engagement
3. Who should we involve?
4. Overview of Arizona conference (Emma and Ben)

Meeting Notes

- **Youth Engagement**
 - Where is your organization on the spectrum of youth leadership?
 - Many agreed that the youth work they do spans the spectrum, from youth as clients to youth driven. It was also discussed that certain components of organizations, programs and projects were (or could be) youth led, while other components would be adult led (such as financial components).
 - What do you envision the Food & Fitness Initiative will be on the spectrum of youth development?
 - Most agreed that the goal for KCFFI is to have components of the initiative youth led, while others will be youth driven.
 - It was noted that getting to the point of “youth led” may take a while, as youth evolve through the spectrum and gain knowledge and experience.
 - Ideas/concerns around youth engagement:
 - Randy suggested hosting an ongoing film series to provide information to the community & youth (such as with the “Unnatural Causes” film series.
 - Turnover: taking into consideration graduating students and how that affects the dynamics and roles of the remaining group members.
 - Presenting the initiative as a “social movement” around health – a shift of the consciousness - long term vs. immediate change. Emma thinks that framing the initiative in terms of a “social movement” would be more appealing to youth, as they are
 - Ideas around youth & assessments:
 - Youth: training the trainers
 - Asking the youth about their view of the problem and what can be done to improve on the situation → What kind of assessments should be done?
- **Principles of Engagement**
 - How will decisions be made and by who?
 - Sylvia touched on this by saying that the collaborative should come make decisions collectively. We hope to explore this issue more at the next meeting.
 - How do we want to communicate and share information?
 - Currently, information, updates and events can be emailed to Quyet to be forwarded to the organizations. Maggie has offered to create a listserv.
- **Organization Involvement**
 - What is the role for the youth serving organization?

- This is still very vague for most organizations, and to begin to address this question, it was suggested that a matrix be created in order to see what each organization already has to offer and how KCFFI can utilize each organization.
 - Quyet will begin this process, and will contact each organization individually over the next few weeks to get a better sense of what each organization's strengths are.
 - Who else should we involve in this initiative?
 - This will also depend on the matrix, as it will show us what areas we are not strong in, therefore determining who we reach out to for more support.
- **Arizona Conference**
 - Emma and Ben joined the meeting to talk about their experience and impressions of the conference.
 - Both talked about the community visits in Tucson (around Tucson and to the Tohono O'odham Reservation) as being one of the most valuable experiences of the conference. They appreciate the learning opportunities that a community visit provides.
 - Each community presented on the assets and deficits of their community, which helped the youth to see that the communities are more similar than they are different.
 - The 5 M's activity also helped to solidify in the youth's minds how to market the initiative and their plans/ideas to the community and beyond.
- **Announcements**
 - How should announcements be communicated?
 - For now, please email Quyet with any event announcements that you feel would be appropriate for the other youth serving organizations to be aware of.
 - Maggie has offered to create a listserv for sharing information.
 - Information, links and news updates can also be posted on the KCFFI website.

Up coming events & things to know...

- For youth who are interested in starting up their own garden, Sue has curriculum for this.
- Program Planning Committee meetings for Youngstown take place on Fridays at 3:30pm. Randy will discuss with the committee KCFFI's involvement in Delridge Day.
- From the conference, the Philadelphia group's "Healthy Habits" video (youth created):
 - <http://youtube.com/watch?v=8W1-kjX3ZI4>
- Also from the conference, the McDonald's french fry video (disgusting but interesting)
 - <http://youtube.com/watch?v=htnvzLU111o>
- Seeds of Compassion – Sunday, April 13th is open to the public. See <http://www.seedsofcompassion.org/> for more information.
- "Unnatural Causes", featuring the High Point community. Please check out this website for more information:
 - <http://www.unnaturalcauses.org/>
 - For local listings: http://www.pbs.org/unnaturalcauses/local_listings.htm
- April 19-20 – Healthy Living Expo
- May is bike to school month.
- May 3rd – Sustainable West Seattle
- May 3rd – Kidney Fest at the African American Academy
- May 28th – Healthy Schools Summit
- May 31st – Delridge Day