

## Food & Farm Council of Riley County & City of Manhattan

March 21, 2022, 11:30 am-1:00 pm

Family and Child Resource Center, 2101 Claflin Rd.

### In Attendance:

Carol Barta, Andrea DeJesus, Megan Dougherty, Sharolyn Jackson, John Green, Kate LaRosh, Mary Mertz, Maureen Olewnik, David Procter, Adrian Self, Stephanie Smith, Kirsten Spear, Michael Wilson, Vickie James (FFC Coordinator), Shanika Rose.

**Unable to Attend:** Joshua Brewer, Jacquie Mack, Elias Martinson, Julie Gibbs

Guests: Carleigh Melofchik

1. Upcoming Meeting Date
  - a. We will plan to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month in person at the Family Child Resource Center, 2101 Claflin Road. A zoom option will be available. If the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday is a city or county observed holiday our meeting will be held the following day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday.
2. Policy Work
  - a. BCBSKS Pathways Grant and the FFC Implementation grant
    - i. To be eligible for a grant to do community engagement to support the following we need to create language for our bylaws that we want to observe to strengthen our work. Those are Healthy Food Guidelines, Health in All Policies (HiAP), and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
    - ii. We voted in our February meeting to implement these policies.
    - iii. Today, we broke into workgroups to review and have discussion about these documents. A draft of each of the three policies will be sent out in advance of our April meeting.
    - iv. The revised drafts are now in our FFC Review Item folder and can be reviewed at this link. Send feedback to Vickie no later than Wed April 6<sup>th</sup> as the final draft has to go out to the Council 1 week in advance of our April meeting when we will vote on these. [Review Items - Google Drive](#)
  - b. Council Self-Assessment Survey results:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1P1NwjC7kdh1i4KAt0BDgITxLB1qC6gPA?usp=sharing>
    - i. We had 16 people complete the survey. We had the highest response rate out of all the councils in Kansas. Thank you to everyone who participated!
    - ii. Please review the above link.
    - iii. Our lowest score was “breadth of active membership.” How can we make sure all 15 of our Council members are involved consistently in the work?
    - iv. We had overall great feedback on our work, nearly all 4’s on a scale from 1-5 with 5 being the highest.

- c. The dietitian position at Lafene is being eliminated due to budget cuts. The person currently in this role is very involved with mental health work as it relates to eating disorders. Vickie thinks it would be a good idea for the FFC to present a letter of support to keep this position active at Lafene.
  - i. Carol Barta makes the motion, Stephanie seconds, all council members in attendance are in favor.
  - ii. Vickie will write a letter of support for the position and will send it on behalf of the council.
  - iii. Anyone else who would like to write a letter can send an email to the following addresses:
    - 1. Kathleen Hatch Morrison Family Associate Vice President for Student Well-being, kehatch@ksu.edu
    - 2. Dr. Thomas Lane – VP of Student Life, vpsl@k-state.edu
  - iv. Carol – This is important because there can be unexpected and unfortunate consequences in cutting this type of work from a budget.
- d. Food System Assessment/Covid Impact Video /Master Food Plan
  - i. Timeline and updates
    - 1. Thursday, April 21st, 4pm – City/County/County meeting – FFC presentation of the updated food system assessment, survey results and Covid impact video
    - 2. Thursday, May 19th, 4pm – City/County/County meeting – FFC presentation of the Master Food Plan
    - 3. May/June- Individual City and County Commission presentations for requesting adoption of the Master Food Plan – Dates TBD
  - ii. Please be sure to have this on your calendar. We need everyone to attend for support. We’re also asking our CAT teams and partners to be as engaged with this as possible. We’ve asked for there to be the option to Zoom.
  - iii. We’ll only have 15 minutes to present.
  - iv. IMPORTANT: Vickie is requesting photos of the food system to use in the MFP.
    - 1. Farmers market photo in winter would be good to show the need for a permanent location with indoor/outdoor space.
    - 2. PLEASE BE SURE TO SEND PHOTOS TO VICKIE ASAP
- e. Flint Hills Food Recovery
  - i. Update, timeline
    - 1. Chowmatch
      - a. This is a digital platform for donors, volunteers and recipients to interact with the food recovery organization through an app.
    - 2. The walk-in refrigerator arrives this month.
    - 3. Once the app is activated, the group will finalize the food safety plans. We should be up and running by May is our goal.

4. We have volunteer students from the Food Security Scholars program working on this project with the group.
  5. The program is countywide, so groups like the Ogden Community Meal could participate
  6. This would not “take over” existing partnerships. The app will be a good way to keep organized and efficient and keep all food recovery in one place for multiple users.
  7. Carol - Can recipients reject certain things that they have too much of? She gave the example of the Breadbasket getting too many frozen baked potatoes, and can’t get clients to take them fast enough. Kate responded yes, that is possible.
  8. Food will only come from institutional kitchen sources. Personal food/homes will not be able to participate.
- ii. Use of Nourish Together website
    1. Adrian – would like to take the banner space that we used for the food system survey on the website to direct people to the Chowmatch website or app as long as this is possible.
    2. Kate - We will need a page on the Nourish website that will redirect to the Chowmatch signup page.
    3. Donor sign-up must be on the full webpage rather than the app.
- f. Social Media and Web support
1. Does anyone have website, social media marketing, or tech knowledge and could help Adrian with this work?
  2. It’s too much for one person, and we need to share the work.
  3. We could also plan to share the work through the whole council, having everyone take a turn for a month.
  4. John and Shanika are willing to help with the social media page.
3. East Campus meetings update
    - i. David/Carol
      1. There have been no new updates. There is tax consideration for the space to be used for community purposes.
4. Community Action Teams (CATs) Updates
    - a. Waste CAT – not currently meeting.
    - b. Education CAT – We meet next week. We are currently trying to get classes up and running and produce videos planned.
      - i. The next meeting will be at the Family and Child Resource Center and should be able to continue in this space for the foreseeable future.
    - c. Food Insecurity CAT – the group did not meet this month. While we are working on the food rescue program, we were not quite ready to meet with the group on this until we are in the next steps and need our volunteer base.
    - d. Community Input Meeting update from Shanika
      - i. The Health Department is working on a community health improvement plan. Part of this includes hosting community input meetings. Please try to attend one of the meetings.

1. Manhattan/Riley County
    - a. March 22, Time: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., Location: Manhattan Public Library
  2. Riley County
    - a. March 29, Time: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., Location: Zoom
  3. Spanish Speaking
    - a. April 1, Time: 6:30 p.m., Location: Zoom
  4. Ogden
    - a. April 5, Time: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Location: Ogden Community Center
- ii. [https://www.datacounts.net/rcchip/?fbclid=IwAR0ZTvbB\\_wB\\_WAFxmgMpiKRvjnyQuv1W8YNpySm0-53RnK1wWYtAPefU5LI](https://www.datacounts.net/rcchip/?fbclid=IwAR0ZTvbB_wB_WAFxmgMpiKRvjnyQuv1W8YNpySm0-53RnK1wWYtAPefU5LI)
  - iii. If anyone has any connection with the northern part of the community – Leonardville, Randolph – please reach out to Shanika. They have only one meeting scheduled there so far.
- e. Pathways to a Healthy Kansas Business Forum – conversation, knowledge, and awareness about promoting healthy worksites. Learn more here: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ej361284c2d7d10c&oseq=&c=&ch=>
  - f. Pathways to a Healthy Kansas Learning Session
    - i. April 28 - 29, 2022, Sunflower Nonprofit Center, Topeka, Kansas
    - ii. We can only have three people total attend IN PERSON, and we have room for one more person to attend. There will also be a zoom option for as many as want to join. Check out the agenda to see if any of it is interesting to your work. Learn more here: <https://www.wichita.edu/about/conferences/pathways.php>
5. Next FFC meeting date/location -Monday, April 18th, 11:30-1:00pm, Family and Child Resource Center and a Zoom Option



In accordance with provisions of the American Disabilities Act, every attempt will be made to accommodate the needs of person with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of our services, programs, and activities. Please contact the Health Department Administration Office (785-776-4779) for assistance.