



East Baton Rouge Parish FCS Advisory Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, May 15, 2008
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Location: Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library
Meeting Called to Order: Sharman Charles
Facilitators: Dr. Sally Soileau and Sharman Charles
Minutes Recorded/Prepared: Karen Stevens
and Sharman Charles
Meeting Agenda Attached

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Members in attendance are as follow:

Dr. Beth Reames
Thelma Fleming
Pam Malveaux

Dr. Heli Roy
Vernice Brown

Dr. Fatemeh Malekian
Karen Stevens

Research and Extension Programs
Agriculture
Economic/Community Development
Environment/Natural Resources
Family/Nutrition/Health
4-H Youth Programs

The meeting was opened by Sharman Charles. Dr. Sally Soileau welcomed council members and began introductions. Advisory members introduced themselves and the agencies in which they represent.

Sharman Charles informed members of the roles, structure, and responsibilities of the advisory council and the members. Members of the council were informed that their names and the minutes of the meeting were going to be posted on the website. Furthermore, advisory council members were told about the parish overall advisory council and the differences between the two committees and their functions.

Dr. Soileau reviewed minutes from the last advisory leadership council. There was a recommendation made for corrections to the subcommittees' membership. The need to restructure subcommittees will need to be addressed at further meetings. The corrections were noted and will be revised according to recommendations.

Sharman updated members on the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), the Smart Bodies and the Smart Choices programs. She discussed the current vacancies in the EFNEP. She discussed the effort to encourage more applicants that are bilingual in an effort to increase diversity in programming outreach. The job announcement was sent to the Hispanic Apostolate to distribute to potential candidates; unfortunately, there weren't any applicants. Sharman stated that she will continue to make the effort to meet this goal. She reported that over 5,200 youth were reached through nutrition outreach

The LSU Agricultural Center, a statewide of the LSU System, and Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, a statewide campus of the Southern University System, provide equal opportunities in programs and employment. Louisiana State University and A & M College, Southern University and A & M College, Louisiana parish governing bodies, and United States Department of Agriculture cooperating.

through the schools, after-school programs, community groups, and summer day camps. Ms. Charles also discussed that she is continuing outreach to community sites and in the school settings. She also discussed the nutrition information cards that were developed by her and Dr. Heli Roy at the request of the E. Baton Rouge Parish School System. Over 46,000 information cards were distributed to the public schools and disseminated to parents of school aged children. All of which are part of the recommendations made by the advisory council to strengthen FCS outreach. Additionally, she mentioned the efforts to address other programming outreach recommendations of the council that were attempted and not accomplished; Sharman stated that she will continue to address those recommendations which were very viable to her programming success. Those issues being; including parents, partnering with City-Parish Government, programs in Juvenile Detention Center, working with schools for children with special needs, etc. Mrs. Charles discussed meeting with representatives from LA Spirit to conduct nutrition work, but character development was only programming conducted. However, through Catholic Community Services, she conducted a series of nutrition programs in Renaissance Village. Dr. Malekian noted that the families will be moving out of the trailer community and many of the families are trying to return to New Orleans.

* Note: Sharman discussed the Smart Choices curriculum as a joint project for EFNEP and FNP. She explained this as an effort of the LSU AgCenter to have a unified community nutrition program. Dr. Heli Roy shared additional information about the curriculum.

Dr. Soileau provided updates of her nutrition programs for the past year. Topics addressed were as follow: hand washing, oyster food safety, diabetes, food safety, nutrition education for seniors, public/community outreach exhibits, Organ Wise Guys with parents/teachers/children, character development used as train-the-trainer. She discussed the numerous amount of educational outreach that she has been conducting on food safety, especially oyster food safety within the parish, state and nation. Dr. Soileau also informed members about the large volume of telephone calls that she receives on a daily basis; answering questions and providing materials to consumers on a variety of topics related to FCS.

Dr. Soileau then gave an overview of the parish situation in relation to the area of Family and Consumer Sciences. She shared information and lead discussion on chronic diseases and leading causes of death within the parish. The information provided was referenced from the East Baton Rouge Parish Health Profile. A recommendation was made that in an effort to address some of these health concerns; the AgCenter should extend outreach to address more health and wellness education in addition to traditional nutrition education. One topic that was suggested was to address addiction/behavior disorders in relation to health and nutrition.

After all business was discussed, Sharman reminded council members of the initiatives that were addressed in the previous years' meetings and asked members to build off of those for programming outreach. The meeting was then opened to council members to lead the path forward for direction for this year's FCS programming.

The following issues were addressed:

Obesity in Children and Adults:

- Additional collaboration with East Baton Rouge Parish School System providing more nutrition education to the students; outreach suggested: development of or purchasing curricula, training, monitoring of outreach – partnership should be expanded. Additional outreach to the other public schools systems within the parish needs to be accomplished within the next year.
- More parental/caregiver involvement should be incorporated into nutrition education; parent/caregivers should be met where they are in an effort to reach them. Nutrition education take home messages needs to be provided to parents/caregivers.

- Possibly partnering with DARE program to reach new audiences with nutrition and health message.
- Possibility of partnering with Prevent Child Abuse to provide nutrition education to clientele should be explored. (2007 recommendation continued)
- Partnering with the Youth Challenge Program through City-Parish Government (contact - Isaiah Marshall). (2007 recommendation continued)
- YWCA new initiative on health Alpha/Omega, (Dr. Soileau and Dr. Fatemeh Malekian are collaboratively working together on this committee).
 - Note: Sharman discussed a new community partnership initiative by Dr. Jule Assercq (council member and chief physician, E. K. Long Family Practice) and other community partners to establish a faith-based wellness (exercise) program. Both LSU and SU AgCenter are invited to participate in this initiative.

Diversity in Programming

- Need to locate audiences to provide outreach
- Need for materials in specific language to distribute with nutrition message and LSU AgCenter identified
- Collaborating with Medicaid Program to explore hiring of bilingual personnel. (Doretha Davis contact)
- Collaborating with migrant and refugee services through the Catholic Life Center – Diane Thomas (contact) (2007 recommendation continued)
- Collaborating with Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge apostolates
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Latin American Civic Association could provide assistance for outreach (Ms. Blancher contact) (2007 recommendation continued)
- Setting up displays or providing educational materials at international markets (2007 recommendation continued)
- AARP has translators on staff that can provide assistance with translating materials (2007 recommendation continued)
- When considering diversity must consider age, disabilities, gender, etc.
- Work with Schools for the Deaf and the Blind to extend educational outreach to their students (2007 recommendation continued)

Healthy Lifestyles with Youth

- Providing programming on the effects of tobacco and smoking when educating youth
- Greater Baton Rouge Federation of Churches and Synagogues and Greater Baton Rouge Civic Association has mentorship programs with youth programs that partnerships can be developed (2007 recommendation continued)
- Programs at Juvenile Detention Center can be offered in collaboration with the EBRP Library System (2007 recommendation continued)
- Continued outreach with Big Buddy Program and Boys and Girls Club utilizing Smart Choices youth curriculum

► Note: Grants through Tobacco Free Living are available to provide educational outreach. Agency representative, Pam Malveaux, discussed new empowerment program which allows youth to be self-directed (designed by Rescue Group). 4-H youth voices program was recommended as a partner in this empowerment program.

Continued Programming with Limited-Resource Audiences

- Continue outreach that is currently being provided to limited-resource audiences

Sharman informed members that minutes will be sent via email. Programs updates – Sharman will send emails to council members to keep them abreast of new issues/changes in outreach. Members were thanked for their participation and the meeting was adjourned.

Subcommittees and members are as follow:

- **Programs targeting obesity in children and adults (seniors)**
Subcommittee Members: Fatemeh Malekian - Southern University Ag Center, Dale Auzenne, BREC
- **Diversity in programming: outreach to Hispanic and Asian audiences**
Subcommittee Members: William Blount – BREC, Fatemeh Malekian - Southern University AgCenter, and Cherry Jochum – Office of the Federal Coordinator for Gulf Coast Restoration.
- **Emphasis on healthy eating/healthy lifestyles with youth/after-school nutrition programs**
Subcommittee Members: De'Shoin York-Friendship - Southern University Agricultural and Research Center, Karen Stevens - Southern University Agricultural and Research Center, Brenda Middleton - Hidden Treasure Prison Fellowship, Dale Auzenne – BREC, Florence Mitchell – HIPPY (EBRPSS), Pam Malveaux – LA Tobacco Free Living, and Thelma Fleming - LSU AgCenter.
- **Continued programming and collaborations targeting limited resource families**
Subcommittee members: Florence Mitchell - HIPPY Program (EBR School System), Gerrie Baker-Allen – Catholic Charities of the Diocese of B.R., and Rosetta Gray, retiree.