

Thrive- NRV Food Access Network Leadership Meeting Notes – 7/10/18 Montgomery County Government Center, 1-3pm

Participants– Kim Thurlow, Maureen McGonagle, Kelli Scott, Jamie Edwards, Robin Lemaire, Donna Sedgewick, Liza Dobson, Ayrton Walker, Jonathan Penn, Jon Low, Charlie Herbert, Jenny Schwanke, Marcella Griggs, Jeff Dinger, Mary Case

Meeting Summary:

Revised mission, vision and values statements incorporating participant discussion and comments.

Mission Statement:

Thrive collectively increases access to affordable nutritious food in the New River Valley through shared learning, informed advocacy, and responsive (strategic) action.

Vision Statement:

Our community, working together, to ensure everyone in the New River Valley has access to healthy, affordable food.

Values:

1. **Equity-** We believe all people have a right to healthy, affordable food.
2. **Inclusion-** We are committed to a culture of teamwork and collaboration where all are welcome. Strength comes from an inclusive and diverse network.
3. **Shared learning-** Our learning is reciprocal and requires transparency, patience and bold action.
4. **Quality-** Our informed action and decision-making will help to ensure continuous improvement.

Action Items:

- Kim Thurlow will pull a group together interested in participating in a demonstration of the Chowmatch software.
- Kelli Scott will pull together a group interested in defining the audiences, outlets (211, print, etc.) and format for the NRV Food Access Directory.
- Kim Thurlow and Jaimie Edwards will work to convene a group to discuss the format and outreach for the food access network survey.

Participants are encouraged to get involved in one of these work groups before the Leadership Team meets again.

Working Notes:

“Where we left off” Slide (Kim’s notes)

Mission Statement: BOLD = Online voting (1 & 3)

1. Thrive is a regional collective focused on increasing access to healthy food in the New River Valley through shared-learning, informed advocacy, and responsive action.
Describes the process of what we are trying to cover.

2. Thrive is a regional coalition working to expand access to healthy food in the New River Valley through shared-learning, advocacy, innovation, and increased self-sufficiency.
Like the ones that say “regional coalition/collaboration”

“Network” is welcoming

Collective could be a better word

“Collective Network”

Leave this open, it doesn’t matter what we call ourselves. Our action remains. Leave it open and organic.

“Thrive is going to” – don’t define the group

Mission is what we are going to do

The word “expand”. Use “increase”

SECOND ½ OF THE STATEMENT

Like #1

Suggestion:

Thrive collectively increases access to affordable nutritious food in the NRV through shared learning, informed advocacy, and responsive (strategic) action.

What is responsive action? We, as a group, need to decide that. Ex-) Chowmatch

Should we use “collective” action vs. “responsive”
Both/And?

“Responsive” is impactful
EX of smoothies and vegs in Giles Co Schools.

Is “responsive” reactive vs proactive?

Should we define who is “working together?” - It is all of us in the NRV.

3. Thrive collectively expands access to affordable, nutritious food and information to empower healthy decision-making.
This one includes the end user –
Be careful, we need to measure the Mission
Could this imply behavior change?
Healthy decision-making – what’s the framework? Who decides?
4. Thrive works to collectively advocate and implement best practices and strategies for increasing access to healthy foods in the New River Valley.
5. Thrive empowers under-served consumers to make better food choices by increasing affordable nutritious foods through collective action.

VISION STATEMENTS

1. **Our community working together to ensure everyone in the NRV has access to healthy, affordable food.**
2. *The NRV working together to (empower) ensure all community members have access to healthy, affordable food* (to increase nutrition and community health).
3. Creating a stronger and healthier New River Valley.
4. A community-supported food network providing equal access to healthy affordable food.
5. A vibrant food system that intentionally produces, distributes, and recycles food to increase nutrition and community health.

Response to #1, as a result of the Mission Statement - Folks like #1

Have a short, concise statement that we can all buy into

Should we define who is “working together?” - It is all of us in the NRV.

“Opportunity and Knowledge”

Ability to prepare food

Access can cover opportunity, knowledge, and ability

Empower healthy decision-making

VALUES:

We believe:

Together- We are committed to a culture of teamwork and collaboration.

Shared learning- Our learning is reciprocal and requires transparency, patience and bold action.

Equity- All people have a right to healthy, affordable food.

Participation- We value and recognize the contributions of volunteers within organizations and communities. **(LESS/NO VOTES ONLINE)**

Alternatively- All are welcome, strength comes from an inclusive and diverse network.
All are welcome, strength comes from an inclusive and diverse network (THIS ONE HAS A BETTER RESPONSE ONLINE)

Quality- Informed action and decision-making will help ensure continuous improvement.

Appreciation vs. Participation

Is ACTION a value, itself? In with learning? Action has been discussed many times.

Strategic Response - Responsiveness

Decision Making – decide on what action to take and what not to take

A better word for “participation”- Inclusion vs. participation

Equity and Inclusion

Don't separate the clients and the community

Strength

Strength comes from an inclusive and diverse network

Network Structure –

Where we left off notes – Kim's Slide

#2 – what is the inner circle (pie)? Where did the Leadership Team go?

This is the functions of the Leadership Team

How much management does the network need?

Like adding folks into the Leadership Group (#1)

#2 is very typical in networks – the core team drives and the management team supports

Work groups move the work forward. Leader for each work group.

Network Management is like a “member at large” – not at the core decision-making level. Serve as a mobilizer

Draft #1 is where we want to be to increase the “buy in” in the core team

Network Management – in #1/#2

Draft #2 is a little more organized

Draft #2 gives clear roles and responsibilities

Hard time understanding the role of the Network Management in #1

Like Draft #2 – offers the LT the ability to

Planning – Terms – how to fill the gaps – succession plans

Advocacy and Outreach is a working group, not part of the core team

W transitioning to more action items, a smaller core team

Think about decision-making vs doing

Do we need a team that governs the network to make sure it fits in what we do (steer)

How narrow of a team do we need around governance?

Leadership Team = governance is large

What are our working groups? What are our priorities?

Working groups are the small groups that move towards action and are responsible for the work

Food Access Directory

How to deliver? What do we want it to look like? Who is the audience?

Clients and Service Providers

Donor Directory – what is most in need, who is donating? Where to deliver/how to aggregate?

Access = pantries, backpack programs, hot meals, etc.

Smart Beginnings (Network) – Data approach, compile a database. Food is a part of their efforts.

What data to collect for THRIVE's uses and what info to collect for our partners (collaborations)

Where are folks collecting other info? How do we not duplicate efforts? Ex-) 211

The state updates 211 each year, we need to make sure that folks are listed in the

service. It would be helpful to promote 211 across the region.

Is this a multi-pronged approach? Should we build up services like 211 and also create a hard copy of the info for clients.

211 can prepare a print out. Like the idea of printing it out by the county – rack card style referral process to 211

Have a push for all our service providers to sign up with 211 – everyone needs to promote this

Should this be a work group? Kim will work to convene an interest group around this topic

Chow Match – Demo Software Day – looking for participation

Food Access Network Study

Event in Aug.

See the results, who else should be a part of the conversation?

Should we form a work group around this? Kim will send out a note along with a potential Directory work group.

What does the network look like? What does it actually look like and what do we want it to look like?

Thrive: NRV Food Access Network

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

JULY 10, 2018

Agenda

1. Review draft vision, mission, and value statements
2. Discuss draft options for our network's leadership structure and decision making process
 - Discuss priority committees
3. Decide on the following action items:
 - Preferred content and format of a published NRV Food Access Directory.
 - Researched options for improved communication software to support food distribution between food donors and organizations.
 - Format and outreach for NRV Food Access Network study results dissemination
4. Enjoy food and fellowship

Mission, Vision and Values



Where we left off....

- Support partnership with organizations that have similar audiences, clients served, and mechanisms through which organizations serve.
- Identify common learning needs and fulfill them.
- Include the people that will be served by the network in the conversation.
- Using group energy to package what we see, what we are doing, and TELL OUR STORY to increase external awareness and support.
- Inform policy and engage in advocacy.
- Be more action oriented.
- Have a focus on empowerment and helping clients create self-sufficiency.
- Better incorporate data so that our work is informed and responsive and needs based.
- Focus on both client outcomes not just organizational outcomes
- Reduce the Administrative Burden with a common way of collecting data, client intake, or centralized information source.
- A coalition of the willing to support collective impact. Important to develop “We-ness” and respect for one another.

Draft Mission Statements

- 1. Thrive is a regional collective focused on increasing access to healthy food in the New River Valley through shared-learning, informed advocacy, and responsive action.**
2. Thrive is a regional coalition working to expand access to healthy food in the New River Valley through shared-learning, advocacy, innovation, and increased self-sufficiency.
- 3. Thrive collectively expands access to affordable, nutritious food and information to empower healthy decision-making.**
4. Thrive works to collectively advocate and implement best practices and strategies for increasing access to healthy foods in the New River Valley.
5. Thrive empowers under-served consumers to make better food choices by increasing affordable nutritious foods through collective action.

Draft Vision Statements

1. Working together to ensure everyone has access to healthy, affordable food.
2. Creating a stronger and healthier New River Valley.
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Draft Values

We believe:

Together- We are committed to a culture of teamwork and collaboration.

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Leadership Structure



Where we left off....

- A coalition of the willing to support collective impact. Important to develop “We-ness” and respect for one another.
- Leadership team meetings for now, every other month.
- Annual meeting with the larger group to expand awareness/reach.
- The goal of the leadership team would be to help:
 - determine what does it mean to be a part of the network
 - establish the scope, agenda, direction and priorities of the network
 - determine measures and data needs
 - support advocacy, engagement, outreach

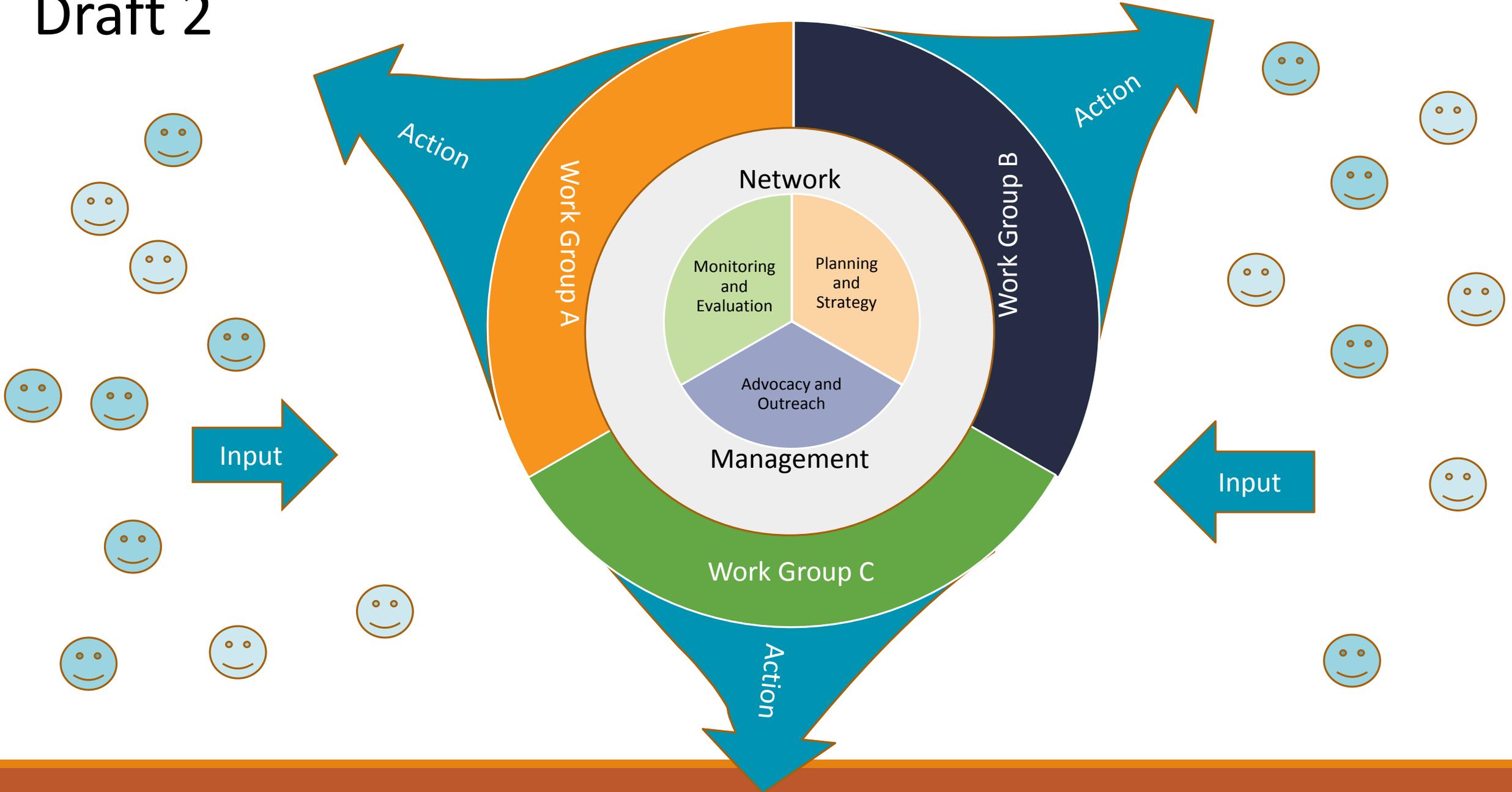
The leadership team could break out into smaller groups to move these items forward depending on where their skills and interests lie.

- Eventually, it will be good to have working groups developed around topics/priority ideas.

Draft 1



Draft 2





Decision #1: Food Access Directory

- WHAT FORMAT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL?

 - Report
 - Spreadsheet
 - Rack card
- WHO IS WILLING TO HELP PROVIDE A FINAL REVIEW OF THE DOCUMENT?

Decision # 2: Chow Match

- WHY? WHAT IS IT?
- WHO IS WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN A DEMONSTRATION SESSION?

Bulk Purchasing Conversation

Purchased Food:

- Kroger's bulk purchasing program may have ended.
- Food Lion offers a bulk rate discount.
- It is currently more convenient to purchase food at local groceries stores and because what is available in FA's warehouse is inconsistent and there is no way to order ahead.
- Most programs don't have the ability to repackage bulk food and worry about food safety and working with volunteers.
- Hard to get some low salt and low sugar items for those programs with Health emphasis.
- If there was a way to order, people are likely willing to commit to regular monthly orders.

Next Steps: What can Feeding America can do around consistency and pricing of purchasing items in bulk?

Bulk Purchasing Conversation

Gleaned Food:

- The majority of food distributed is gleaned or donated.
- Feeding programs currently have more interest in fresh than most pantry or backpack programs, but if fresh were easier to access and affordable there may be more interest in incorporating.
- Need for improved and systematized communication to support food distribution system.
- Electronic system would work to help improve the logistics of food redistribution.

Next Steps: Research potential options for improving the communication system.

ChowMatch: How does it Work?

When a business such as a restaurant, grocery store, caterer, bakery, farm, or corporation has surplus **chow** to donate, they submit a request for a food pickup using the ChowMatch application. Using our matching logic technology, ChowMatch locates a matching recipient organization within seconds. The ChowMatch application also assigns an available **Chow Runner** to pick up the food and deliver to an agency (recipient organization).





Chow Match features

Matching Logic Technology used to find best recipient match for the Chow

Donor Registration Signup

Agency (Recipient Organization) Signup

Platform for Training Volunteers on Safe Food Handling

Tools for Managing Volunteer Runners

Dispatcher-free for Matching or assignment of Volunteer Runner

Tools for managing Recipient/Agency feeding programs and needs

Donation Reports for Tax purposes

Volunteer Reports for Tax purposes

Administrative Reports

Event sign-up

Decision #3: Food Access Network Study

- PLANNING THE SESSION AND WHAT IT WILL COVER
- WHO NEEDS TO PARTICIPATE?
- WHO IS WILLING TO HELP WITH OUTREACH?

Government Support of Food Access Efforts

Legend

Service Provided

 Backpack

 Pantry

 Support

 Meal

 Educator

 Freshfood

 Multiple

 Other

Square=FASWV Partner

Client Referral Confirmed

- Auburn UMC
- Belview UMC
- BBBS
- Lions
- BIFC
- BRP
- Cavalry Bap
- Carilion
- Christ Luth
- CFNRV
- CHC
- CHP
- Copper Hill
- Dublin UMC
- Eastern Elem BP
- ENTF
- Fairlawn Pres
- FOCUS
- Giles Shelter
- Giles Summer
- GYAP
- Glade
- Healthy Floyd
- Heritage Cares
- All About Jesus
- MB Lib
- MCCC
- MCCC
- New Harvest
- New Life
- NRCC
- NRV Aging
- NRV Senior
- Newport UMC
- NRCA

