

In Attendance: Kim Thurlow(CFNRV), Jonathan Penn(NRCA), Enrique E (YMCA VT), John Shoulders (FASW), Jon Low, Beth Able, Sandy ? (BIFP), Liza Dobson (FNP), Ellen Stewart (Bburg), Marcella ?, Emily Clause (United Way), Paul H. (St. Michael's Lutheran), Pam Ray (NRVHD), Brian Birch (Giles Co), Jeff Dinger (Giles Co), Cheryl Helm, Marsha Underwood (NRCA), Marcella Briggs (Radford), Donna Sedwick (VT), Lynn Brammer (NRVMG), Amy Morgan (FASW), Kerry Ackerson (Plenty), Kelli Scott (VCE), Robin Lemaire (VT), Jaimie Edwards (VT)

- Adequately digested? - did everyone have time to digest the data provided in meeting 1? Any questions? Comments from the group:
 - Relationships were confirmed, strong ties that both companies acknowledge
 - Relationships beyond just the individual people, capture the enduring relationships that keep ties even after volunteers/individuals come and go
 - Currently, there is no formal process in place to strengthen relationship within the network.
 - Should we use GIS Mapping to note where agencies are located – Layers for Service Providers? How to continue to use the data to expand our efforts/mission.

- Priorities and challenges
 - **Donation** and consistency of donation
 - **Transportation** number one issue, communication affected
 - GIS Mapping of where agencies are located – Layers for Service Providers? Can local Govt and the Regional Commission be of help?
 - WIC mobile getting started - Other Mobile Programs starting to take services and food to communities vs having people come to an access location.
 - local govt not aware of severity of issue, compromising education
 - Brief Presentations to increase awareness
 - feeding America created a map of areas and the need of food in those areas
 - USDA Economic Recourse Service: food research atlas
 - VA Food Access Network Data and Maps (VFAN.org)
 - Looking at regions created by geographical boundaries not just by county lines
 - Every county has its own funding and culture
 - People not coming to meetings because of regional factors, people who are not coming to meeting tend to be volunteers (not getting paid), meeting in different regions to get more people to attend

- We do things very differently in different localities, differences need to be respected
- Standardize the way we do things
 - Best Practices of Operational Models

● Improvement of **Information Sharing**

- Register food pantry with 211, useless if agency is not on there, should be promoting 211 and what it is, can be registered on paper/computer/phone call, having police department spread the word to the public
- Information sharing between each other
- Literacy/education and food security go hand and hand with each other
- List of resources (grants to apply for – Data sets and Info value for Grant creation – Define our need, Tell our Story)
- Organizations do not know what others do, not connected/ lack of awareness, fix the gaps within the organizations before they help others
- Documents get outdated quickly, documents do not help organizations
- Standardized of Intake forms and systems

● Where do we go from here?

- **Information sharing is key**
 - So many different types of pantries, learning who can qualify, restrictions, etc. – Make a list (directory) of who does what.
 - 211 can help, getting pantries registered is the problem, 211 going out of sitting down with pantries to get registered
- **Smaller work groups** can keep people engaged and get more done
 - Can focus on something their more passionate about
 - Build local county support – Supported by a Steering Committee
- Lack of consistency of people being involved, lack of interest
- Work groups or regional tables, not taking on too much, who's willing to take leadership
- Transportation: getting food to the people or getting the people to the food?
 - Work groups figure this out
 - Getting food to pantries as well
 - FASW New Online Ordering - How can we help spread the word and work within this pilot program?
- **Work groups: transportation, donation, and information sharing (Communication/Outreach)**
 - Who is willing to lead the charge of each work group?
 - Kelli Scott will take on leadership of the Info Sharing Team
 - Transportation =
 - Donations = Kim Thurlow ?

- All workgroups are facilitated by a steering committee (Leadership Team)
 - Leadership Team Members Include: (Need to define the list)
 - Kim Thrulow
 - Kelli Scott
 - Liza Dobson
 - Charlie Herbert
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Other/Remaining Thoughts – Ideas

Evaluation Question – How do we know we are successful? What are our metrics/indicators?

How can the Regional Commission help with efforts? GIS Mapping, Dashboard

Example of the First Steps Network (Early Childhood) – *A successful regional network model*

- Value in the team
- Create Trust
- Strategies that we can all take a piece of (shared – collective)
- Fear there is too much work on certain people/organizations
- Host Regional Tables to build more local, county support

Agency Express (Online Ordering from FASW) - Info from FASW Conference in ROA on 9/28

- Pilot and roll out over the next year
- Create a profile, view status history and order management
- Program Code of each agency/organization
- No Online Payment required
- No/Limited Delivery at this time *** *Is this something we could work towards in the NRV? Either a delivery service or a common vehicle that could transport multiple orders to our region?*
- Delivery options will expand in the future
- Allotted Allocations – will also roll into online ordering and can be combined with food bank orders