

LHIC Healthy Weight Work Group Meeting
8.27.15 - 830 a.m.
Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Liz Clark, Healthy Howard, co-chair
Mary Ann Barry, Transition Howard County
Kelly McMillan, Howard Community College
Arleen Tate, Delta Sigma Theta
Barbara Wasserman, Community Member
Wendy Farthing, Office on Aging

ALSO PRESENT:

Alvaro Ortiz, LHIC Program Manager

MEETING MINUTES:

Introduction and Approval of Minutes:

- Liz opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m. and welcomed everyone present. Members introduced themselves and welcomed Wendy Farthing from the Office on Aging.
- Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes from 7.23.15. Wendy seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Announcements and Information Sharing

- Liz informed the group that she was still trying to find data on the EBT usage at farmers markets in Howard County. Wendy offered to find a contact at DSS who could potentially provide this data.
- Liz also shared some data provided by Peggy Hoffman on the usage of senior vouchers at farmers markets in the County as well as some of the current WIC data from the vouchers used at the farmers market located in the Health Department.
- The WIC data shows a great success of coupons used at the market with 79% redeemed the week on August 24th.
- Liz reminded the group about the Healthy Weight work group co-chair position and encouraged members to reach out to her or the LHIC staff if anyone is interested in serving as co-chair.

Group Discussion

- Members decided not to break into the different Action Groups and remain together for the meeting.
- Liz began discussing the FDA's proposed rule about adding "Added Sugars" to the nutrition labels and setting a daily percent value with the members. She reiterated that the FDA was accepting public comments on this issue until October 13.
- Members unanimously expressed interest in the rule and agreed to support and submit a formal comment to the FDA. However, members agreed that the comment should come from the full LHIC and not just the Healthy Weight work group.
- Members agreed to draft the comment to be submitted to the FDA by September 11, so it can be reviewed by entire group and be sent to full LHIC a week before the September 24 meeting. The full LHIC will be voting on the comment at the September 24 meeting. Kelly agreed to draft the comment.

- Barbara asked the work group's support in submitting a letter to the HC Board of Education as well. The letter will be to express the support of the current policy of Howard County's school system on sugary snack consumption while on school grounds.
- Members supported this recommendation and agreed with Barbara to submit a letter. Barbara volunteered to draft the letter and present it at the next work group meeting in September, so group work members could vote. The letter would be sent from the Healthy Weight work group only.
- In addition to the letter to the Board of Education, Liz proposed inviting the Director of Food and Nutrition as a guest to the work group's meeting in October.

Action Items:

- Wendy will look into finding a contact at DSS who can provide data on EBT usage at farmers markets.
- Liz will try to obtain EBT usage data directly from farmers markets.
- Kelly will draft comment to be submitted to the FDA by September 11.
- Barbara will draft letter to be submitted to the HC Board of Education by September 16.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 24, following the full LHIC meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alvaro Ortiz
LHIC Program Manager