

IBERIA FCS ADVISORY MEETING
JULY 8, 2008

The meeting began at 9:35 a.m. and was called to order by Nikki, Amy and Mandy. Blair Hebert, County Agent and Parish Chairman of Iberia Parish, welcomed attendees. Blair explained the changes that have recently occurred in the Iberia Parish Extension Service Office. He did say that the Home Economist title has changed to an FCS title and why we need the stakeholders thoughts and ideas for programming needs of the parish for the FCS division of Extension.

Adrienne Vidrine, FCS Regional Coordinator for the SW Region, spoke briefly on the purpose of an advisory meeting, the roles of advisory members, and the specialization areas of the three agents serving Iberia Parish for FCS. She also explained that the committee members are our stakeholders, and how we can deliver effective programming to their clientele, where our programs can be presented, and help in marketing our programs to their clientele.

Everyone who was present introduced themselves and what organization they represented. (See Appendix A).

The floor was then opened up for discussion by the stakeholders of needs/issues facing the parish that Extension could assist in programming efforts. Recommendations and suggestions were as follows:

- Every Touch Counts – basic parenting classes for first time mothers and young mothers is needed. It was suggested partnering with the Women’s OB clinics and children’s center clinics in the parish to provide classes to those patients.
- Parenting classes for at-risk students in the Iberia Parish school system is needed and required. There are classes required by DOE that the School Board must provide to parents of those children. One problem encountered is lack of attendance and how to get parents to attend the classes that are provided by the School Board.
- Character education for the pre-k students is needed. The AgCenter has the materials and will do a train the trainer, training for teachers on the Character Critters on August 8th at a parish-wide in-service. The character lessons include a student and parent component.
- A question was asked if we still provided the program Alone and OK, which is for children staying by themselves before and after school. That has been updated and can be done by either 4-H or FCS agents.
- Questions were asked and answered about the Smart Bodies program. Iberia has done the Smart Bodies program before and it was encouraged that the program continue in the schools.

- For our senior and elderly citizens it was encouraged to continue offering the Take Charge of Your Health curriculum at senior meal site centers.
- There is a need for classes like Stretching Your Food Dollars because of the increased fuel and food prices. These can be offered at the Health Unit, for the general public, and at the Comprehensive Community Health Center.
- Diabetes educational classes are needed and Comprehensive Health Center CDE would be happy to assist in providing the classes.
- Out of the Extension line of work, it was mentioned possibly trying to partner with SMILE to provide transportation to the classes we offer or partner with SMILE to provide classes to their clients.

After much discussion, participants were asked to write down the programs or topics they would like to see offered in New Iberia for the 2008-2009 year.

Mandy explained that the suggestions would be tallied and plans would be made to provide the classes. She also said that the agents may be calling on some of the stakeholders for help in marketing or providing the programs.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

2008-2009 PROGRAM FOCUS NEEDS/ISSUES

- Credit/Money Management
- Parenting (Every Touch Counts) Classes for new and young parents
- Stretching Your Food Dollars
- Diabetes Education
- Childhood Obesity and Smart Bodies
- Heart Health and General Nutrition Programs
- More visibility in community and media of the AgCenter programs and information

APPENDIX A
IBERIA FCS ADVISORY MEETING ATTENDEES
JULY 8, 2008

Mandy Armentor	LSU AgCenter – Vermilion
Amy Juneau	LSU AgCenter – Iberia
Nikki LeMaire	LSU AgCenter – Lafayette
Jennifer May	The Daily Iberian Newspaper
Nicole Gaspard	Iberia Medical Center
Catherine Segura	Iberia Parish School Board
Mildred LeBlanc	Iberia Council on Aging
Bea Mamerow	Iberia VFC
Mary Lee LeBlanc	Iberia VFC
Myra Rogers	Iberia VFC
Mary Thomas	Iberia Parish Health Unit
Jurita Jones	LSU AgCenter – Iberia
Nicole Choate	Vermilion LCES Intern
Dr. Diane Sasser	LSU AgCenter School of Human Ecology, Family Development Specialist
Adrienne Vidrine	SW Region FCS Coordinator
Christine Pecantte	Iberia Comprehensive Community Health Center