



East Baton Rouge Parish FCS Advisory Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2011
 Time: 10:00 – 11:30 am
 Location: Family Road of Greater Baton Rouge
 Facilitator: Sharman Charles
 Minutes Recorded/Prepared: Sandra May, Kynisha Francois & Sharman Charles
 Meeting Agenda Attached

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Members in attendance were as follows:

Dr. Beth Reames	Kaci Leonard	Michael Stewart
Sandra May	Sharon Knighten	Kynisha Francois
Erin Arceneaux	Sandra Diaz	Gloria Gilmore
Carol Revel	Dr. Cheryl Atkinson	
April Hawthorne representing Sen. Sharon W. Broome		Sharman Charles

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

Sharman Charles opened the meeting and welcomed council members to the 2011 East Baton Rouge Parish FCS Advisory meeting. Individuals introduced themselves and the agencies they represented to the group. Each member received a packet of FCS materials upon entering the meeting which included the meeting agenda, minutes, roles of advisory members, reports from previous year’s programming reports, and nutrition education materials.

Sharman Charles reviewed the roles, structure, and responsibilities of the advisory council with the members. The differences in the Families First Nutrition Education Wellness System (FF-NEWS, SU Ag Center) program and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP, LSU AgCenter) were explained to members. Members reviewed the minutes which had also been provided through mail and email prior to the council meeting. A motion was made by Gloria Gilmore to accept minutes as read and was seconded by Michael Stewart. The motion passed by unanimous verbal vote to be accepted as written.

Summary documents of FCS programming in East Baton Rouge Parish were provided to the council members which highlighted the ongoing family consumer science programs conducted in the parish. Sharman Charles reviewed these outreach educational program efforts with the council members at the meeting. These programs included FCS nutrition education, FNP and EFNEP youth and adult programs. She also discussed the need for increasing local funding for programming support. The issue of the recent announcement for the LSU AgCenter declaring financial exigency was discussed. Also, a Power Point slideshow of outreach photos were shown to the group during the meeting.

These issues were shared to assist in directing the FCS programming planning in East Baton Rouge Parish:
 * **Note** – the council member determined that the topics remain the same with the exception that the Healthy Lifestyles for Youth subcommittee be renamed Healthy Lifestyles for Families to reflect the desire to incorporate the entire family unit in the process.

Obesity in children and adults:

- Exercise/physical activity should be a focus on lifestyle changes for obesity prevention.
- Cooking classes for youth needs to be offered; this could be a collaborative project between the LSU and Southern University AgCenters in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Diversity:

- Continue to work with the range of groups being served with educational programs to provide outreach to the diverse population of East Baton Rouge Parish.

Healthy lifestyles with families:

- Work with community gardens needs to have sustainability; many community garden projects have been started and abandoned.
- Promote places where families can go to exercise that are inexpensive and can involve the whole family
- Positive lifestyle changes is a better way to encourage families to adopt changes
- Corner stores or travelling produce markets needs to be available to communities with limited access to promote healthful eating.
- Food safety needs to be a component of healthy lifestyles; promoting food safety with gardening.
- Disaster safety with foods needs to also be provided to clientele; possibly mini workshops on disaster safety can be provided; information included on parish website; Drs. Fatemeh Malekian & Beth Reames can provide resources on before, during & after a disaster.

Continued programming with limited-resource audiences:

- Use schools, churches, youth organizations, programs aimed at strengthening families as a method to recruit and retain clientele.
- Programs need to include more hands-on interactive learning during classes; incorporate small activity at the end of each lesson; this could impact retention. Having “make & take” activities included in the sessions would involve clients more in the learning process.
- Encouraging clients to use SNAP (food stamps) & WIC funds at produce markets to encourage incorporating fresh fruits & vegetables into diets. * Note: make list of produce stands that accepts SNAP and provide to clientele.

Minutes will continue to be sent to members via email. Sharman Charles thanked members for their participation and the meeting was adjourned.