FCS Advisory Leadership Meeting Minutes

The East Carroll Parish Family & Consumer Sciences program held its Annual Advisory Leadership meeting at the Byerley House, 600 Lake Street, Lake Providence, Louisiana on November 29, 2012 at 12 p.m.

Nineteen were in attendance including the following staff of the AgCenter: Donna Lee, Parish Chair/Associate County Agent; Carolyn E. Robinson, Associate Area Agent; Danna Gillett, Area Nutrition Agent; Nutrition Educators Dorris Thompson, Mary Ann Reed, Grace Siggers, Patricia Johnkin, and Sharon Wilder.

Sharon Wilder opened the meeting with the invocation. Danna Gillett welcomed the crowd and allowed everyone to introduce themselves and tell which agency they represent. Carolyn Robinson gave a brief power point of roles and responsibilities of advisory members, thanked them for coming and asked if they would sign the form of commitment to serve as a member for one year. Highlights of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) were given by Mary A Reed.

Lunch was served. Carolyn Robinson stated that during lunch there would be break-out groups for each member to give input. The focus areas are Nutrition and Health; Family and Child Development; Family Resource Management; Economic Development; and Leadership and Volunteer Management. She also stated, “Knowing what you do about the mission of the LSU/SU AgCenter’s Cooperative Extension Service, what are some of the issues facing the residents of this parish that you feel the AgCenter can address through research-based educational programs?”

After approximately 15 minutes, the group was asked to give the issues on which they had identified. They are as follows:

1. Continue nutrition education but try to expand to nontraditional audiences.
2. More parenting, maybe in the school, partnering with other agencies such as Workforce Development, families in need of services and churches.
3. Continue to offer budgeting or financial management to limited income families so as to better handle their food stamps and money.
4. To offer some type of money management to the youth.
5. Do more to combat obesity by organizing a walking activity at least once a week at the AgCenter.
6. Offer parenting that would involve men.

The advisory committee members prioritized these issues in this order.

Each advisory leadership council member was given a folder that included the Advisory Leadership program, the East Carroll Parish Profile, two recipes of the meal that was served for the day (Holiday Fruit Medley and Chicken Spaghetti); handouts (Stop The Flu! Wash Your Hands, Southern University and A & M College System FCS Pamphlet and Eat With the Seasons).
The meeting was adjourned.

Carolyn E. Robinson  
Associate Area Agent  
Family & Consumer Sciences  
FFNEWS Supervisor & Parenting Educator  
East/West Carroll Parishes

CER/DG:ss

Danna Gillett  
Extension Agent  
Family & Consumer Sciences  
EFNEP Supervisor  
East Carroll & Richland Parishes