

Healthy Franklin County - Nutrition Task Force Community Garden Committee
August 9, 2017 – Minutes

In attendance: Debbie Boyd (Nutrition Links/Penn State), Nickie Fickel (Summit Health/CS), Barb Houpt (YMCA Chambersburg), Josh Moseley (Network Ministries), Noel Purdy (Healthy Franklin County)

Welcome and Introductions: Everyone introduced themselves and their respective affiliations.

Work planning 2017-2018:

The group reviewed Community Garden Project Plan and updated it for FY 2017-2018.

Josh reported on the Network Ministries community garden season. He noted that Kari Colemans efforts to make connections in the neighborhood through the community garden survey helped Network's community garden program this year with increased participation from community members. Josh reported that last spring year, they ended the program with 4 gardeners. This year, they started the growing season with 11 gardeners/11 plots and are currently holding steady with 8 active gardeners (this is outside the scope of their youth garden programming). Josh would like to split the rows next year to accommodate more garden beds/gardeners. His goal is to increase capacity to 25 plots/gardeners. Josh also said that he would like to grow more produce in the general – pick-your-own-community-bed to include strawberries, squash, beans, herbs and grapes.

The group continued discussions from the previous meeting about creating a skills-training program, partnering with Network Ministries. Barb Houpt is a Master Gardener and suggested that we partner with the [Master Gardeners](#), utilizing the Victory Garden [curriculum](#), to hold trainings next spring at Network, April-October. There could be two tracts—one for youth and one for adults. A possible schedule could be to hold classes once a month, with a training/curriculum day and then a community-networking-Q&A day. The format needs to be refined.

The groups also discussed expanding the surveying efforts to high-priority target populations in Waynesboro, during the program year, so we can expand efforts there if there is a need/interest.

Noel will revise the work plan with the updates discussed and will send out to the group.

Noel also updated the group about the Healthy Franklin County events calendar and blog; she would like to work with the partners on creating and distributing content. Josh expressed an interest in writing a blog about their community garden efforts.

The next regular meeting is on Wednesday, October 11 at 1:30pm.