

DE Food Research Network Meeting

6/16/2021

Link to meeting recording:

https://capture.udel.edu/media/DE+Food+Research+Network+Regular+Meeting/1_g2smuom9

Attendees: Tara Tracy, Mia Seibold, Shebra Hall, Nicole Freedman, Michelle Axe, Laura Lessard, Tamekia Broughton, Thianda Manzara, Andrea Pierce

Round Robin Introductions and Updates

Tara Tracy- working with Allison Karpyn on several projects currently. Just finished up paper on WIC vendor requirements and the variation in requirements between states.

Allison Karpyn will be giving testimony regarding food insecurity at a congressional round table on Friday 6/18 at Bartram's Gardens in Philadelphia.

Andrea Pierce- Working on the food, water, energy project in Wilmington City focusing on managing and reducing food waste, will be circulating a survey later this Summer and hosting an informational workshop. Open to conversations, information, and previous work done on food waste in the area.

Shebra Hall- Working on PANO program with DPH (Physical Activity, Nutrition, and Obesity prevention). PANO launched the advancing healthy lifestyles initiative at the start of this year which involves executive branch agencies in govt, school-based health and wellness, addressing COVID in terms of school based nutrition and physical activity, community based capacity building, and webinars on health topics will be held every Thursday for month of June (prevention, health equity, COVID, etc.);AHLDelaware.org:

https://www.healthylodelaware.org/Community-Partners/Advancing-Healthy-Lifestyles?utm_source=ahldelaware.org&utm_medium=redirect#learning-series

Tamekia Broughton- has been interested in joining DEFERN calls in the past, teaches the food science program at Delaware Tech

Laura Lessard- supporting the SNAP ED in Delaware evaluation this Summer; partnering with childcare providers to support health and wellbeing (nutrition, COVID vaccines, stress) in the childcare workforce.

Michelle Axe- Research Coordinator for Christiana Care Community Health. Leads department food initiatives and the most current initiative is the development and launch of DE food Farmacy (<https://delawatoday.com/food/delaware-food-farmacy/>) which is a partnership with Lutheran Community Services which will focus on the "whole patient". Will include a 6 month nutrition-based intervention which includes clinical care and social care services as well as the food provision. Participants will be able to work with various professionals to choose their own menu of meals each week and will be monitored based on their clinical and social needs. A study will include baseline, midline and post evaluation to evaluate the pilot program. Visiting

MANNA (<https://mannapa.org/>) in Philadelphia where they provide medically-tailored food services.

Possible speaker for future DEFRN meeting to discuss DE food Farmacy; lots of interest in this program as a whole from various DEFRN members.

Thianda Manzara- Founder of Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids (<https://healthyfoodsforhealthykids.org/>) expanding into Kent and Sussex counties in D via funding from Department of Agriculture and Longwood Foundation. Thianda is retiring, and HFHK's new executive director is Lydia Sarson. Please contact Thianda at Thianda@msn.com if you have any contacts to help HFHK find a Garden Program Coordinator for Kent and Sussex Counties.

Nicole Freedman- former gardening program coordinator at the Y, currently at Morris James doing govt relations for American Heart Association, health equity and nutrition. There is a Voices for Healthy Kids grant available and looking for interested partners.

<https://voicesforhealthykids.org/campaign-resources/grants>

Reach out to Nicole at Nfreedman@morrisjames.com if you'd like to partner for the AHA's Policy Campaign grant opportunity.

Michelle Axe- Idea of Food hub in Delaware mentioned in many different groups, calls, etc. Does anyone have a better idea of what this may entail? Allison would be a good resource for this and has been involved in some of these conversations. Thianda suggests Elisa King from Bellevue Community Center could be a good contact for this work. Michelle has connected with Matthew Williams from Conscious Connections regarding this idea.