

Composite Notes from Meetings with Community Organizations

February 2, 2010

HCZ Trip Follow-up meeting with UCONN Neag School of Education

In attendance: Marijke Kehrhahn, Michele Femc-Bagwell, Noemi Maldonado, Ann Traynor, Anysia Mayer, Megan Staples, Danielle Derosa, Justin Evanovich, Brittany Perotti, Loren Darrington, John Settlege, and Jennie Bruening

Reviewed the trip to Harlem and prepared for next steps at UCONN. Discussed need for people to think about how they can be involved by recreating themselves and possible programs/services, not just thinking about how to do what they already do in a different location. Highlighted teacher: student ratio at Promise Academy. Superintendent Rock's comments on success being about the adults, not the kids. The adults set the tone, create the culture for the kids.

Agreed to arrange a larger meeting that would include other departments, schools, and offices. Communications, Development, Social Work, Human Development and Family Studies (Early Childhood, Marriage and Family Therapy) Community Outreach, Center for Public Health and Health Policy, Speech and Language, Developmental Psychology, Sociology, Urban Studies, Service Learning/Greater Hartford Campus, Student Support Services/Upward Bound

February 4, 2010

CREC

In attendance: Jennie Bruening, Casey Cobb, Sarah Barzee, Christina Peterman, Shirley Thompson, Aura Alverado

Follow up to phone conversation between Sarah Barzee and Jennie Bruening. Discussion of CREC's interest in Harlem Children's Zone following staff having read Paul Tough's book. Internal conversations has already started with CREC implementing HCZ like efforts. Makes sense to them to join the larger group. Members from CREC will attend Steering Committee meetings from here on out. Outlined different CREC programs in conjunction with their schools and how those fit within a pipeline of services.

February 9, 2010

Hartford Public Schools and Mayor's Office for Young Children

In attendance: Kelvin Roldan, Jose Colon-Rivas, and Jennie Bruening

Initial conversation on how to gain support from Mayor and Superintendent for the Zone efforts in Hartford. Agreed that Steering Committee would move forward with hiring a consultant to assist with neighborhood identification. Once the Steering Committee has identified the neighborhood(s) that have the most potential for the first phase of a Children's Zone, Jose will speak the Mayor and Kelvin to the Superintendent to solicit their support. Jose will continue to serve on the Steering Committee and Kelvin was invited to join. Both will keep the Mayor (through Jose) and Superintendent (through Kelvin) posted on how the Steering Committee is progressing. Kelvin will be added to the distribution list for all notes and emails from Steering Committee.

February 23, 2010

Urban League of Greater Hartford

In attendance: Richard Brown, Jennie Bruening, and Loren Darrington

Used HCZ business plan in their strategic plan
Rich=HR perspective, job/workforce development
Three points of emphasis for Urban League
1-employment paths, economic self-sufficiency
2-HS program-90% graduate and 84% go onto college
3-Read and Rise-parents reading to kids, parent circles

Demographics of their reach:

80% AA, 15% Latino, throughout city and some expansion out into Greater Htfd

February 23, 2010

Hartford Public Schools Family Resources

In attendance: Marta Bentham, Beryl Bailey, and Jennie Bruening

Fahad Valid 860-655-9675, fahdv@publicallies.org

Originator of OPP, Neutral and people know it

Potential to help moderate neighborhood recommendation process

Met Miriam Taylor-Asst Superintendent for Support Services

Marta runs HPL program at Niantic women's prison for moms to read with their kids. She came to HPS in 1999 when the state took over. Talking with parent in her office before meeting about need to take responsibility and be accountable for student

North=Milner, SAND, Clark, Wish-early childhood center at each school SAND=women's league partnership

Generational poverty. People stay in the North End. People move out of the South.

South=Parkville and Sanchez, they are performing though, and have found a way to do it without a zone

Lena Rodriguez at CRT-was on Board of Ed in NYC, brings in a lot of \$ to CT, passion-knows the kids by name, early childhood resource, likes to cooperate

February 24, 2010

Prep for conversation with Poverty & Race Research Action Council

Casey Cobb and Jennie Bruening

They work to pursue an integrated setting as an advocacy group

Money at the state level to support programming for integration

Need to think about are we creating a new school. PRRAC would like to bring students in from other schools to help integrate. Consistent with OPEN CHOICE

Integration about schools so far, suburban/urban events aren't working. How about other ways of integrating? Services? Bigger circle to include partnerships with other districts. Wanting to learn from each other, not one-sided. Sports as a possibility to integrate.

Need to create a more diverse school setting

Housing integration? Maybe not yet, but something to consider before too long.

Tegeler-also on poverty council in DC, former litigator in Sheff, PRRAC members are players in Sheff coalition group
Connections with parents that could be helpful from them.

February 25, 2010

Poverty and Race Research Action Council

In attendance: Phil Tegeler, Jessica Leake, and Jennie Bruening

National Coalition on School Diversity and Sheff movement

Encouraging racial and economic integration

Differences between NYC and Htfd as far as potential for integration

Racially isolated and high poverty—how does this connect to Sheff and state's efforts?

1997-Open Choice, interdistrict Magnet, interdistrict grants with sister schools and summer programs

Agree to spark change within a neighborhood but neighborhood is not a naturally occurring phenomenon, artificially created bad place. Transform neighborhood into a place of choice where people can stay or go, but have a choice.

Race to the Top-pressure building in Congress to take school integration seriously. CT is moving in a + direction where other places are moving backward. 24% of Htfd are in integrated situations. Talk about long term connection to magnet and choice, reducing racial isolation.

Raising up of schools to make them attractive/higher performing. Interdistrict grant program connection is a good place to start and connects to broader Sheff goals.

Offer to help orient the students at UCONN to Sheff and school structure in CT.

Building One America National Coalition-check this out. March 25 in Meriden. National experts discussing opportunity mapping, regional agenda.

Bus line connecting all UCONN campuses with Hartford-they love this idea

Urban Institute study on churning of housing in high poverty (Annie E. Casey targeted neighborhoods) areas. High turnover in rentals—not necessarily in a good sense. Mobility program in Baltimore, also in Htfd but not as big. If given the opportunity, people will sign up-demand will always exceed the supply. Incremental efforts and people need to understand this. Options for those who want to move out or stay. What's the deeper conversation with people on where they live.

Encourage the growth of interdistrict programs so long term arc is that as long as there are children on the waitlist for magnet and open choice then the state has to keep increasing those programs. Based purely on demand, no one is being forced to integrate. Two way integration philosophy. Does this threaten neighborhood schools? Charter schools are competing for kids but still highly segregated and poverty stricken. Not new educational opportunities that compete for Htfd kids who could have integrated options.

Good that HPS is raising standards but concern that it becomes competition that is counter-integration. Work with Sheff effort.

Help pull HPS up.

Send our group to sheff website for updates. Loop people together. North End Sheff movement event in spring-Jessica. Periodic updates to them on how we're doing.

March 1, 2010

UCONN Center for Public Health and Health Promotion Coordinating Committee

In attendance: Rob Aseltine, Ann Ferris, Tom DeFranco, Cato Laurencin, Marie Spivey, Craig Denegar, Petra Clark-Dufner, Bruce Gould, Kathy McDermott, Cheryl Parks, Cathy Havens

See slides on website. Update of the nature of the project and progress/membership of the group.

March 1, 2010

CRT

In attendance: Lena Rodriguez, Marta Bentham, Julie Ackerman, Stefanie Belding, Emeka Virgo, and Jennie Bruening

Meeting suggested by Marta Bentham, CRT Board member, to bring organization to the Steering Committee. Overview of CRT history and services provided. They shared their intake procedures and tracking. Could be very useful for Zone. Expressed their knowledge of the Zone concept and interest in being involved. Will send members to Steering Committee from here on out. Interested in being lead organization on grant as we get closer to the planning grant application.

March 4, 2010

UCONN Community Outreach

In attendance: Matt Farley and Jennie Bruening

Utah Bennion Center-FT person to connect with community

Public Engagement Forum group, Tom McCarthy-Pharm Dean who oversees this group

Preston Britner on that committee

Dave Ouimette-property in Htfd—Steve Kremer, Office of Policy and Management

UCONN needs to focus on a few big things

Learn and Serve planning grant, consortium with other institutions then development grant after

All aspects of life in one section of the city

Training/orientation, long term, reciprocal

Not all new, but reinvented better

March 5, 2010

UCONN Center for Public Health and Health Policy

In attendance: Ann Ferris and Jennie Bruening

Other contacts to make:

Jeannette DeJesus-Hispanic Health Council, Htfd Hospital Board

Think about possible Public Advisory sub-committee on services for zone with Bruce Gould leading

Anita Kelsey-Women's Healthy Heart, contact from Bruce Gould

March 12, 2010

Our Piece of the Pie

In attendance: Bob Rath and Jennie Bruening

Need to contact Sam Gray at BG Clubs

OPP involvement will come from someone on their senior cabinet (3 members on that)

Choice Neighborhood opportunities

Youth opportunity grant (YO Htfd) connected north and south ends together

Need to think about private philanthropy beyond HFPG

March 16, 2010

UCONN partners—see notes on website

March 23, 2010

Everybody Wins CT

In attendance: Carol Scully and Jennie Bruening

Conversation suggested by Richard Brown at Urban League. Reading program at many HPS locations that could link to Zone. Follow-up with summer meeting with her and Rich to discuss programming for fall that links Husky Sport Read and Raise schools, zone school(s) and Everybody Wins.

March 23, 2010

Artist's Collective

In attendance: Cheryl Smith, Emeka Virgo and Jennie Bruening

Tour and conversation on history and programming at Artist's Collective. Potential partner. Great people, great programs. Hartford resource that is nationally recognized.

April 13, 2010

LISC and United Way

In attendance: Jennifer Gifford, Clare Dowd, and Jennie Bruening

History and role of LISC and collaborators of funders who focus on neighborhood revitalization/improvement.

Loans to Community Development Corporations

QOL project in partnership with CDC and community organizations to provide outreach services

Must follow HUD guidelines

Efforts in Upper Albany, Clay Arsenal and Asylum Hill

United Way initiatives/foci=preparation for and success in school, financial stability for families, safety net for families and individuals

Give, advocate, volunteer

Board goals for coming years-double # of kids to achieve milestones to be ready for

kindergarten, double # of kids who achieve academically (aligned with HPS goals, funding for

after school changing to be 60% academic, 40% interpersonal skills-now the other way around), raise # of families to 1500 to reach financial stability

Other connections:

Workforce Solutions Collaborative in Greater Htfd

Sustainable Communities efforts

HART

Sheldon Oak Central=Clay Arsenal and Upper Albany

Upper Albany Christian Activities Council

Mutual Housing of Greater Htfd

NINA

April 13, 2010

Hartford Public Schools

In attendance: Kelvin Roldan and Jennie Bruening

Conversation to follow up on Superintendent support. Reviewed all Steering Committee work since February with Kelvin. Revisited Katie Martin's report and factors included in neighborhood recommendations. Question as to why physical fitness was included. Will need to be able to address why we did not recommend Frog Hollow very specifically. Is there a community based organization in that neighborhood with the capacity to apply for the grant. Kelvin said no, but still need to document why we did not choose that neighborhood. Suggested that the area we had recommended was too large, including 4 schools with different demographics. Consider splitting area in half looking at SAND/Milner or Clark/Wish, not all four. Feels there needs to be a formal presentation to be made with Mayor and Superintendent in order to gain their support. Kelvin will schedule that as soon as possible.

April 27, 2010

MiCasa

In attendance: Jorge Rivera, Rich Gruber, Justin Evanovich and Jennie Bruening

SINA donated building in 2002, renovated and moved in 2005

Sanchez, Burns, Belizzi are schools they serve

Founded in 1992

8 on staff now, cut in half over last few years

Utilize volunteers from Trinity, MCC, Capital, St. Joes to help with afterschool program

Retired teacher who advises volunteers

Math emphasis

Recently completed strategic plan

Rich Gruber used to work at Urban League so Rich Brown told him about our efforts

Possible plans for link to health with Charter Oak Clinic and Hispanic Health—use Mi Casa 3rd floor

Traced Steering Committee work for them and filled in any gaps since they were added to distribution list in mid-March

Very supportive of the effort of the Committee and want to continue to be linked to what we are doing

April 28, 2010

YMCA

In attendance: Kevin Washington and Jennie Bruening

Wilson Gray=Director Andrea Allard and Assoc Director Clinton Hamilton

Ambassadors working with gang members. All know Y is neutral zone so area around Y needs to be neutral too

Suggests talking to Larson and Dodd

Interested in promise neighborhood concept earlier but then learned about us, friends with Lena Rodriguez and heard from her, now understands we are in the political process in order to move forward

Hartford is ready for something like this, north end perfect place for holistic approach, yeoman's job so far

Superintendent at May 18th YMCA Board Meeting**April 29, 2010**

City of Hartford Office of Youth Services

In attendance: Enid Rey, Sarah Walton and Jennie Bruening

April Rose-ETO Baltimore, will get contact info for her to Jennie

Enid on Library Board, link to literacy efforts, SAND library

Faith based groups, how are they going to be involved??

CT Coaching for Life-Ask Hector for woman's name, resources have not yet been tapped in HTFD

Summer enrichment with library and Beryl Bailey

Youth Services will give all info to Steering Committee to help with writing grant, all background from their recent grant applications, anything we need

May 3, 2010

Institute for Hispanic Families

In attendance: Rolando Martinez and Jennie Bruening

Could support current position with Clay Arsenal neighborhood recommendation

Window of opportunity for other neighborhoods will come again

Demographic split allows us to learn lessons to serve both primary racial demographic groups in HTFD-Black and Latino majority

Population and asset density in Frog Hollow greater than Clay Arsenal which could make first phase more difficult in Frog Hollow with more people to serve

Build assets and strengthen existing assets

Lonnie Dawson and Aaron Rutherford as potential grant writers

Keep him in the loop add to dis list and contact list, letter of support from him if needed

May 11, 2010

Community Health Services

In attendance: Michael Sherman, Carlos Rivera, Bruce Gould, Carmen Chaparro, and Jennie Bruening

Support from CHS for Zone efforts. Think it could be the impetus to coordinate and cooperate more across the city with health clinics. Funds are available because of reimbursement rate for seeing patients. Capacity building possible at CHS. Keep them informed and think of specific ways that CHS can be better linked to Clay Arsenal families as part of the Zone efforts.

Other contacts=Evelyn Barnum, State of CT Health Centers; Pat Joyce, Director of Pediatrics, UCHC; Ann Flitcraft, Director of Internal Medicine, UCHC

Link Zone to Youth Health Service Corps and College Health Service Corps through Bruce Gould

May 11, 2010

Social Solutions/Efforts to Outcomes

In attendance: April Rose and Jennie Bruening

Discussion of what services Social Solutions could provide to enhance and develop ETO usage in Htfd if this is the way we decide to go with data collection and management. Link to Enid Rey, Jose Colon-Rivas, and Hector Glynn for more on this.

May 18, 2010

Hartford Public Schools

In attendance: Christina Kishimoto, Kelvin Roldan, and Jennie Bruening

Kelvin ran meeting to overview work of Steering Committee, and results of presentation to Mayor and Superintendent on May 11. SAND recommended with the Village as CBO lead. Christina's concern for SAND taking this on in only its second year (2010-2011) of redesign. What would this mean for the school and its leadership? Jennie explained that this is a planning grant, and that the design has not been determined. This is a collaborative process and school leaders would need to be a part of design. Kelvin and Christina suggested Ceila Robbins be involved as grant writer based on her experience with i3 and School Improvement grants for HPS. Left it that Christina would talk to SAND principal ASAP and set the stage for conversation with Jennie to discuss what this could mean for SAND and the community surrounding SAND. Sandra Ward was suggested as a link to help facilitate conversations with SAND and Steering Committee based on her role with Community Schools.