

Notes 12/21

In attendance: Anwar Ahmad, Jennie Bruening, Carmen Chapparo, Chris Doucot, Justin Evanovich, Ann Ferris, Elena Filias, Janice Flemming, Richard Frieder, Jody Goldfarb, Shelly Jackson, Russell Jarvis, Daria Keyes, Patricia Knapp, Cynthia McKenna, John Settlege, Katy Snell

Shared the working draft of a statement of purpose for the Hartford Children's Zone group. Please see attachment. Members of the group are encourage to share feedback and suggestions on that document that will be used to keep the group focused and to share with others that we come into contact with through spreading the word about our work.

Called everyone's attention to the website where all the materials for the group are housed. <http://www.education.uconn.edu/research/huskysport/hcz/> Please send along any other materials you'd like to see on that site.

Richard Frieder, with help from Elena Filias, shared the basic contact and mechanisms for maneuvering through www.hartfordinfo.org We agreed that the site would be useful in moving forward with the Hartford Children's Zone but that 2000 census data would not be current enough for helping to inform our knowledge of the different neighborhoods in Hartford. Other areas that were also of interest to the group to access were youth incarceration rates, employment/unemployment, and additional school data (e.g., attendance). Richard and his staff are committed to assisting us as we will also be able to assist them. By working together to gather and post data to www.hartfordinfo.org , we will all be helping to provide a more complete and accurate statistical picture of Hartford's neighborhoods and residents.

Ann mentioned that the Kellogg Foundation has provided funding for a project in four Hartford neighborhoods (Clay Arsenal, Northeast, Frog Hollow, and Upper Albany) to gather and share health equity data. Rita Kornblum, Hartford Health Dept. is the contact for this project (860) 547 1426 ext: 7188

We discussed data that Trinity College used to collect in the Hartford Field Primer, but has not been collected in 6-7 years. Also, Richard Frieder suggested American Community Survey data but it is only city-wide, not disaggregated into neighborhoods. Carmen shared a brief overview of the ETO data collection program that the City is planning to adopt. ETO (Efforts to Outcomes) Human Services software. <http://www.socialsolutions.com> Also discussed Hartford Connects.

Ann pointed out that much of the data collection process could be written into a planning grant prior to the Promise Neighborhood applications are due. While data that is accurate and as current as possible would be necessary to apply for a planning grant, additional and more current data would need to be gathered before any major grants could go forward.

Discussion of new policy in Hartford Public Schools for all children to have to apply online. A program called CONN CAN through Trinity is assisting parents with this process. Janice Flemming also mentioned that she and her staff will be canvassing as many as 2000 parents to help them be prepared for these online applications. Her house parties are an opportunity to share this vital information, but also to open dialogues about other issues at play in Hartford neighborhoods and about HCZ.

Tried very hard to move the group to talk rather than rehashing points that had been discussed in prior meetings and are reflected in those notes. Again, before any neighborhood(s) are discussed in great details, more data and information about services offered needs to be gathered. But, it is important to know that the data is not driving the decision on where we go next with adapting the Harlem Children's Zone model.

So, the group was broken down into three task forces emphasizing the need to move forward with tangible tasks and work products.

1. Data Collection: pull together existing data and gather needed new data that will allow for everyone to better understand Hartford and its neighborhoods statistically. Utilize HCZ model for data included in profile of Harlem neighborhood and outcome data to demonstrate success.
Members: John Settlege, Judy Goldfarb, Carmen Chapparo, Troy Stewart, Richard Frieder, Daria Reyes
2. Funding: Investigate the Promise Neighborhood planning and full grant(s) and research what other opportunities are out there. Recognizing that the turnaround on the federal money will be extremely quick. Consider partners in the federal grant as well as those who have a connection to other child/family initiatives.
Members: Cynthia McKenna, Ray Ferreri, Ann Ferris, Sandy Shanty, Hector Glynn, Lee Hunt, Richard Sussman
3. Community Building: Work with parents and community stakeholders through PTOs, afterschool programs, faith-based groups, etc to start discussions with these groups about what is needed in their neighborhood. Chronically what is out in the neighborhoods both formally and informally for support.
Members: Janice Flemming, Shelly Jackson, Chris Doucot, Justin Evanovich

Others who need to pick a task force:

Milly Arciniegas

Beryl Bailey

Andrew Clark

Casey Cobb

Loren Darrington

Tom DeFranco

Rex Fowler

Sherrell Thorton-Thompson

Emeka Virgo

David Ouimette

Brittany Perotti
Iris Rich
Carlos Rivera

Meetings:

Funding Task Force

12/28 9am at Catholic Charities, 839 Asylum Avenue
1/4 11:30 am at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

Data Collection Task Force
1/4 10am at Hartford Public Library

Community Building Task Force
1/7 12 noon at Hartford Catholic Worker, 18 Clark Street

Next meeting: Week of January 11 with 2 representatives of each of the tasks forces attending to provide feedback from task force and how to move forward.

Update on January 7th trip to Harlem: the official channel to go through on tours is not accepting any more given the fact that they think they will be called into action to help with Promise neighborhoods applications. Still working to make this happen through the two UCONN Husky Sport students interning in the College Success Office.. More details to follow soon.