

# Good Food Central Florida

**Date:** October 30, 2014  
**Time:** 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida  
**Subject:** Monthly Meeting Notes

## **Attendees:**

Sue Tatum, Vinca Marketing, Joseph England, PhD Candidate (USF), John Rife, East End Market, Judy Odom-Second Harvest Food Bank, Lisa Portelli, Winter Park Health Foundation, Luis Nieves-East Central Florida RPC, Kelly Krusoem, Yarissa Matos-Soto, FL Department of Health, Sarah Stack, Consultant, Abby Guldeu, City of Winter Park, Kimberly Shouldice, Richard Tyson Ph.D., University of Florida.

## **Welcome and Introductions:**

John Rife on behalf of Mary-Stewart Droege, GFCF facilitator, welcomed everyone and asked group members to introduce themselves. After introductions, Mr. Rife asked if anyone had any information or updates on food related activities to share.

Joseph England shared a Call for White Papers (Hunger in a Land of Plenty: Policies, Programs and Solutions to Promote Food Security) for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual UCF Public Administration Research Conference on March 27, 2015. UCF Public Administration Conference will convene local and national scholars and practitioners concerned about hunger in the US to examine existing research and practice and suggest new research agenda for public administration scholars, and motivate action. Mr. England said research papers should focus on the topic of food security with an emphasis on policy implications, barriers to success, cross sector partnerships (including public agencies, nonprofit, grassroots, and faith-based organizations and businesses), effective programs, and innovative solutions at local, state and federal levels. Mr. England will forward the document so Judy Odom can put in the GFCF DropBox file to share.

Mr. Rife said the Evolve Store Nursery and Greenhouse on Thornton Avenue in Orlando is now selling items online. He added Home Grown, a local food cooperative, has added a food school available every other Sunday. Mr. Rife said this week's subject is local vs. organic.

Lisa Portelli stated Hebni Nutrition Consultants, Inc. has a mobile farmers market called the Fresh Stop Bus and will launch in November with 10 bus stops in food dessert areas.

Florida Hospital announced a new education experience in College Park – edible school yard – which is funded through Healthy 100 Kids and has committed funds specifically for a kitchen house and garden at the Orlando Junior Academy. Five schools in Winter Garden have school gardens. Richard Tyson, Ph.D. said there is a community garden grant opportunity through UF which has a strict application process. Up to \$5,000 can be awarded per site. He added there are other grant opportunities that support teaching nutrition classes to adults, low income

schools, etc. through the Family Nutrition Program (FNP). FNP is working with SHFB and will be providing nutrition education to their students in the Culinary Program.

After the *general updates*, Mr. Rife then opened the planning session and asked for reports:

**Production Subcommittee:** John Rife, subcommittee lead, stated he met with a man that wants to start a non-profit. Their subcommittee continues to research and develop their basic steps for their whitepaper. Strategies were included and discussed.

**Community Outreach and Education:** Sarah Stack said a pilot policy program is being developed the subcommittee and research is on-going.

**Food Waste Subcommittee:** Joseph England said the subcommittee is looking at tools already in the community that they can utilize. The EPA created a national program with a comprehensive plan for food recovery which is a challenge. Mr. England said this program is self-managed and a good starting point for the subcommittee. He added three companies in the State of Florida have similar plans. Abby Guldeu has a contact at the Orlando Convention Center that could help and she will forward his information to Mr. England. Mr. England said the biggest task of this subcommittee is collecting data. Mr. Rife said he knows a team at UCF that is working on UCF's waste and will forward their contact to Mr. England.

**Critical Resources Subcommittee**— No update as Dave Krepcho and subcommittee members were not at the meeting.

**Processing and Distribution** —Luis Nieves stated Emily Rankin, Owner and Founder of Local Roots Farm to Restaurant Distribution, joined their sub-committee for an hour of Q&A. She discussed the barriers to distributing local food throughout Florida. She claims that the number one issue is lack of supply of naturally grown food. Emily mentioned that she thinks that food policy - in terms of distribution and processing - needs to be taken on state wide, not just in Central Florida, because the regulatory entities in place are either federal or state mandated (Department of Ag). We brainstormed what a state-wide policy council would look like. Conceptually, it would be a board of representatives from organizations like Florida Organic Growers, Health Dept, Etc. It would need to be run, staffed and funded. We thought either Marty Mesh of FOG or Sharon Yeago would be great leaders.

*Action Items:* Emily Rankin will get a state wide directory for co-packers to Sue Tatum. Lisa Portelli will review policy opportunities for incentivizing healthy food retail at corner stores. Heather will arrange future presenters, Eddy Moratin, Representative from Fancy Fruit (tour?), someone from Sodexo and corner stores. Heather Grove will do research "The Dirt" Program - getting kids in low income areas to work with people growing local food and who hires a leader for all farms and employs local children. Their product is sold at farmers market in their neighborhood and offers double back EBT.

**Membership:** Judy Odom said a sub-committee has been formed with Mary-Stewart Droege and Yarissa Matos-Soto who will finalize our membership process. Ms. Odom provided everyone a copy of the proposed membership form and asked that any suggestions or concerns be emailed to her.

**Other Announcements:** Mr. Rife asked Lisa Portelli to update the group in regards to the possible funding that Winter Park Health Foundation (WPHF) may provide to support our efforts. Ms. Portelli didn't have much to add to a previous conversation she had with subcommittee chairs. Ms. Portelli suggested ideas for policy programs that further GFCF work be sent to her by email. She will take the ideas and pull together a proposal and present to her WG in December.

Mr. Rife asked everyone for their thoughts on having Mark Winne in December or even early next year for training. The consensus of the group was to have Mr. Winne, if needed, provide training in the spring of 2015.

**Next Meeting** – Judy Odom announced that the next meeting will be held on November 20, 2014 at 2:30 p.m. at SHFB.

*Meeting ended at 4:00 p.m.*