



Environmental Health Action Team Meeting

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Radon Project
3. Food Mapping Project
4. Partner Updates

Attendance

- Brenda Wolcott - MedStar St. Mary's Hospital
- Zemaria Frank - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
- Heather Moritz - SMCHD
- Christina Bishop - Parks and Recreation
- Patricia Wright - Aetna Better Health of Maryland
- Jacquie Wells - SMCHD
- Stacey Morgan - SMCHD
- Thomas Brewer - Community member
- David Jones - SMCHD
- Maria Reynolds - SMCHD

Radon

- Commission on the Environment met on August 7. They do not plan on taking the lead on Radon legislation
 - Discussion on our next steps?
 - Commission on the Environment is not in a place where they can take the lead on Radon legislation - limited people and money. Do we want to be the lead? The team decided no.
 - What is the Action Team's role going forward? Outreach and general education.
 - Heather will reach out to University of Maryland Extension to ask if they could host a Radon seminar to provide general information.
- Test Kits
 - Flyers for sharing
 - [Radon information flyer](#)
 - [Registration for test kit program](#)
 - No response from the Southern Maryland Association of Realtors.
 - Jacquie will have Radon flyers shared at the County Fair.
 - The Radon info flyer and link to Radon kit will be shared in the virtual exhibit hall during the HSMP Annual Meeting.
 - Stacey mentioned providing Radon flyers at outreach events she attends and the SMCHD Health Equity outreach team will also share flyers during their outreach events.
 - Research grant funding or donations in the future to provide Radon kits to community members, especially those in communities with higher Radon levels.
 - The action team will research our county's hotspots and target our outreach to those communities. Jacquie will reach out about getting local data.
 - Reach out to healthy homes for assistance or guidance [Green & Healthy Homes Initiative](#).

Food Mapping

- Google Map Project
 - Zemaria has input all retail locations and “Buy Local” resources into google earth.
 - Jacquie reached out to Scott Strickland to get the files from his food pantry GIS map project.
 - Once we have these three datasets we will be able to overlay them on a google map.
 - Brenda W volunteered to help with Food mapping. Jacquie will set up a subcommittee meeting to work on this project.
- Local data collection around food insecurity
 - Bill is recruiting students at SMCM to help with this project
 - Data sets that were identified:
 - WIC data (zip code breakdown)
 - SNAP data (zip code breakdown)
 - Data from SMCPS summer meal program
 - Data from local food pantries
 - Idea is to see what they are already gathering and then establish a standardized method moving forward
 - Input from local faith-based leaders - Jacquie received input from a local pastor from a church in Lexington Park and was very vocal on how to improve food insecurity

Partner Updates

- St. Mary's County Government's Department of Land Use & Growth Management launched a Comprehensive Plan Update Community Survey.
 - [News release](#); [Survey link](#)
- Register for the 2021 Virtual Healthy St. Mary's Partnership Annual Meeting [here!](#)
- Register for the [2021 Virtual Healthy St. Mary's Partnership Annual Meeting - Exhibit Hall.](#)

Communications

- **Submit event and news updates/information at:**
<http://healthystmarys.com/newsletter/> or email
stmaryspartnership@gmail.com
- **Follow HSMP on Social Media**
 - Facebook: Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
 - Twitter: @HealthyStMarys

Upcoming Meetings

- Wednesday, October 20, 2021 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- HSMP Annual meeting is NEXT THURSDAY, September 30.
 - <http://healthystmarys.com/hsmpannual2021/>