

## **FCS Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 25, 2024 @ 6:30pm**

**Meeting held synchronously in the Cooperstown and Cobleskill offices.**

**Facilitator:** Michelle Leveski

**Note Taker:** Kimberly Ferstler

**Attendees:** Liz Callahan (via Zoom); Deb Gansinger Hall, Shelby MacLeish, Kelly Martin, Michelle Leveski, Kimberly Ferstler

**Excused:** Jessica Hill, Brenda Seery, Lindsey Garner

**Time begin:** 6:33pm

**Welcome** - Liz Callahan

CCE initiatives coming down the pike, lots of moving parts:

- SNAP-Ed to be based on our office, covering Otsego and Delaware counties, changing from being based in CCE Delaware due to instability in that office. (CCE Onondaga is regional coordinator.) We are expected to receive this grant. It will house two positions, one will be an educator currently in CCE Delaware, one more person to be hired. We should know in mid-July. Hiring to begin shortly after, programming to begin in October.
- Application for social safety grants based in Schoharie, another in Otsego, no word yet. Would fund resource navigation positions.
- In process of writing FTS grants. Previous FTS grant monies expired in May.
- Lindsey expected to return to this committee after she is done helping with the new grant application.
- Have been asked by USDA-NIFA to transition a grant to CCE Otsego related to food security, seed-to-supper program, gardening education, collaborating with food pantries. This will straddle horticulture and nutrition education programs. Revisions awaiting approval from NIFA. Will be fleshing out details with nutrition and horticulture staff.
- CROP: sorting out how to regain some programming based in Otsego that has been covered by CCE Delaware.
- Kim is leaving at the end of this week. RHENSOM funding is dwindling but we plan to keep the Healthy Connections program. The NIFA funding will cover some of this position.

## **Program updates:**

### **a. EFNEP - Michelle Leveski**

Was out for 3 weeks with a back injury. A lot of classes had to be moved around or canceled, trying to finish those up in time for the end of school season (some are based in schools). 4-H Afterschool staff has been assisting with classes (lifting, etc).

Two parent-child classes set to begin in July in the Cobleskill office.

Fairs coming up, planning for them.

September and October booked up already.

Plans to work with Deb and her high school students in late fall (December?)

### **b. Healthy Connections - Kimberly Ferstler**

Last day is Friday. Working on transition documentation.

Completed CROP classes in Gilboa-Conesville and Jefferson. Been helping Michelle with her classes. Did a few single classes, including Springfield Library and Schoharie Library.

### **c. Farm to School**

Plans for new funding include nine schools are going to be served, many are new collaborators. Building on foundation established in the old grant's work.

## **Other concerns or comments.**

- Looking to engage advisory committee more. Going forward, would like to have staff bring needs/challenges to the committee.
- Looking forward to seeing how EFNEP and SNAP-Ed will work together. There will be a time of transition as staff changes in the next few months.
- Thanks to Kelly and Brenda for helping plan annual meeting to be held at SUNY Oneonta.

**Time end:** 7:02pm

**Next meeting:** September 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm (canceling October 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:30pm)