



Central Wisconsin Health and Economic Development (CWHEd) Summit Community and Family Development Session Notes

CWHEd Summit Overview

In 2015, the Central Wisconsin Health Partnership (CWHP) convened partners to plan and host a Health and Economic Development Summit for the six counties of the Central Sands agricultural region of Wisconsin: Adams, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Waupaca, and Waushara. The purpose of this Summit was to catalyze collaboration towards the development of regional strategies to improve the health and vitality of rural communities in Central Wisconsin (WI).

As a result of these planning efforts, 155 people registered to attend the day long Summit on August 11, 2015 in Green Lake, WI. Participants from across the six counties represented a broad cross-section of stakeholder groups from the public, private, and community sectors. Afternoon attendees participated in breakout sessions organized by issue area (community development, transportation, workforce development, business development, behavioral/mental health, and sustainability). The breakout sessions used a World Café format, where a table host facilitated small group conversations with the aim of eliciting genuine input and broad perspectives around a focusing question.¹ The final take-aways, referred to as “aha’s,” were later shared with the large group.

This document provides a session description, take-aways, and the raw notes² from the issue area conversation on *Community and Family Development*. The full Summary Report from the CWHEd Summit is available on the CWHP website.³

Community and Family Development Session Description

Families carry out many functions for their members and for society. Programs and policies that strengthen families can help families to perform these many functions efficiently and effectively including: generating productive workers, raising caring and committed members of society, and caring for those who cannot always care for themselves, both young and old. In this breakout session, participants explored how family life impacts a community’s health and economy. Participants also looked at the ways a community can increase its capacity for economic development.

Focusing question:

How can we better support stability and growth for our families and communities?

¹ The World Café. “The World Café Method” <http://www.theworldcafe.com/key-concepts-resources/world-cafe-method/> (Accessed September 2015).

² The take-aways and raw notes preserve the language used by participants. Any abbreviations introduced, but not defined, were handwritten as such by participants during the session. Digital formatting (e.g., bold, underline, asterisks) is incorporated to maintain participant emphasis from handwritten flip charts and table notes. For example, asterisks are used to indicate items that were starred (*) in handwritten notes.

³ http://www.cwhpartnership.org/uploads/2/1/4/8/21489738/cwhealth_and_ed_summit_report.pdf



Session Take-aways

This section presents the final take-aways, or “aha’s,” from the *Community and Family Development Session* small group conversations.

Group 1 Take-aways

- (1) Shared learning
 - Community events
- (2) Community Collaboration
 - Business,
 - County services
 - Schools
- (3) Creating sense of self
 - Mentor programs (Direct and Indirect)

Group 2 Take-aways

	TO DO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating sense of self → 	Create Parent Leadership/youth leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So it is a community led idea and not always a “County” program
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared learning → 	Key persons group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heads of organizations • Community Leaders • Parents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Collaboration → 	Community and parent cafes

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graph TD
    1((1)) --- 2((2))
    1 --- 4((4))
    3((3)) -- Break off Event --> 2
    2 --> 4
  
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Group 3 Take-aways

- Rural Bussing system
 - Get the people to where they need to be
- Engaged Business Partners
 - Flexed work schedules
- Skills Enhancement



Session Notes

This section includes the raw notes from the *Community and Family Development* Session small group conversations,⁴ as well as any additional individual notes from the moderator and participants.

Notes from Small Group Conversations:

Group A notes:

- Creating an image for the region which emphasizes environment and pristine conditions
 - Innovation – region becomes leader in...
- Building awareness within communities, community connectedness, “what’s in it for US, not ME”
- Policy solutions to solve homelessness
 - Strategies to manage anti-affordable housing lobby
 - In order to be resilient, one must have their basic needs met
- TIF \$ must be reinvested in living wage and benefitted jobs
- Succession planning for community, locally owned businesses
- Change the community image of “poverty”
 - Fight back against “not in my backyard”
 - There is limited abuse in system
 - We all have “poverty”
 - Emotional
 - Financial
 - Education
- There is no price to human dignity
 - We must engage community members with total respect, non-judgement
- Loneliness and isolation
- We must engage community we are trying to address

See next page for more notes →

⁴ The notes from each of the small group conversations are labeled here as Groups A, B, and C, because it is unclear how these align with each of the “aha’s” from Groups 1, 2, and 3. Most likely A = 1, B = 2, and C=3, but this is not certain.



Group B notes:

- Mentorship: kids, workforce, job transitions, families
- Framework: adverse childhood experiences, root causes, and trauma informed care
- Tailor programs to community needs and services
- Cross sector partnerships: schools, BUSINESSES
 - Parent friendly worksite policy
- Infrastructure: Transportation
- Family supportive strategies: childcare, leave time



- Most people feel connected, supported, and engaged
 - Sense of belonging
 - Validate experiences
- Pool funds (i.e., community foundation) to support innovation and strategy



- Increase jobs
- Retain all parts of the community
- Diverse, stable, and thriving economy



- reduce poverty by 50% in the next 7 years

- Increase connectivity of existing resources and engagement of community partners
- Increase collaboration across sectors/agencies and counties
- Increase awareness and effective communication strategies (simulations, storytelling)
- Strategies to build family capacity
 - tools, access, and programs
- Rethink/Reimagine infrastructure, agencies
 - To pantries and on... [sic]
- Issues (additional)
 - Homelessness
 - Child care, after school programs/alternatives
 - Food insecurity
 - Nutrition



Group C notes:

- Building leadership within families
 - Men's' groups
 - Children getting guidance/mentoring
- Job training for women
 - Soft skills/training
- Building a transportation network
 - Busses to community settings, business participation
- *Involving more individuals being affected directly by these programs
 - Ask about their concerns
 - Ask businesses what skills they desire in their employees
- Affordable and safe childcare
 - Provides better workers (more available, concentrating and focused, happier)
- Building Relationships between community resources (employers) and other groups
 - Business training inmates, then hiring upon release (from area prisons and jails)
 - Using local high school and college students for employers to provide skills and experience in real life scenarios (i.e. building websites, helping with deliveries, register, etc.)
- Collective impact for 6 counties
 - Focus on developing family dynamics through mindfulness training
 - Happy, loving kids and closer families with trust and not fear
 - Breaking through mindsets about generational poverty
 - Addressing mental health → healthy families

Notes from Moderator:

How can we build communities that better support stable and resilient families and a vibrant economy?

- Healthy families – leadership within, kids in charge? Mentoring, men's groups for leadership
- Job training for women
 - Not necessarily factory jobs
 - Soft skills
- Transportation
- Communication
 - Local businesses
 - Medical clinics
 - School districts
 - Churches
 - Community centers
 - Specific needs (Christine Ann Center)
 - Involving local businesses in discussion
 - What skills do you need?
 - Affordable and safe childcare
 - Hours, cost, safety and trust



- Involving people in the community that need help and asking them directly what their concerns are.
- Building relationships on a personal level (reconnect)
 - Home and community program
- Green Lake employers training and hiring inmates
- Programs to train individuals in the prison system and hire them upon release
- Collective impact for the 6 counties?
 - Parent cafes, networks
 - Jobs sharing
- Utilizing resources so that people are gaining experience
 - Using local college students, W-2 people, high school students, recruiting volunteers
- Mindfulness Training – kids and parents
 - Break generational thoughts about mental health
- Food - ending hunger, food insecurity – shifting from hunger to focus on health
- How do we merge wealthy families/tourists with the community?
- Housing awareness of community – and that we value it
- Need to de-polarize the political environment – bring it back to 1 on 1 conversations
- Creating equity, equitable circumstances, not equal
- All counties in the region lacking appropriate economic development – most, if not all, are below state median levels
- Innovative leaders
- Counties need to talk with one another more, learn from one another
- 3 cities report – social determinants of health

Additional Notes from Attendees:

How can we build communities that better support stable and resilient families and a vibrant economy?

- Sense of self
- Caring and supportive individuals
- Community/spiritual connections
- Collaboration
- Shared learning
- Encourage community engagement especially those who are not typically engaged
- Speak your peace
- Teach parents about AOE's (articles, newspaper, handouts, Facebook)
- College based interns
- Community service workers
- W2 Volunteers
- Helping us to get change done



Additional notes (page 1/1):

- Recruit younger generations
 - Incentivize to stay
 - What can we offer them?
- Economic Development/health
 - Shared success
- Social determinants of health
- Iron county UW-Extension website to advertise their communities to younger population
- Smiles – lead with head, hands, and heart
- Find out how we talk to parents and families about how they engage their children and others
- Create our system to respond to who we are and create healthy spaces