



**Attendees:** Priscilla Awkard, Verna P. Best, Kwesi Brookins, Dan Bulatek, Willa Casstevens, Louis Codrington, Tony Craddock, Joseph Fadullon, Joy Curry, Emma D'Aillaird, Jerry M. Dodson, Allyson Farmer, Kristin Feierabend, Ursula Jolly, Avis Jones, Jarvis Jones, Linda Jones, Ben Kittner, Kim Konderla, David Little, Nikki Lyons, Corrie MacNeil, Deidre McCullers, Sheryl Merritt, Tamara Perkins, Kathy Peterson, Maria Palma, Dalia Place, Diana Powell, Katharina Reher, Shelia Reich, Lekesha R. Shaw, Hannah Taylor, Christal Toodle, Chad Walker, Lorna Wesley Parks, Johnette Whichard, Kayla Wilson, Ruthie Wofford

**Information Presenters:** Dan Bulatek, Public Health Coordinator – 4-H Youth Development: Crosby Discovery Camp, Lorna Parker, Operations Manager – Life Tranzitions

**Project Manager:** Verna P. Best

**SEV VISTA/Recorder:** Hannah Taylor

### **Welcome, Review Agenda, and Meeting Minutes**

#### **Social and Economic Vitality and Survey Report**

- Thanks to all who supported *Resilience* screening. A committee is being formed to create an ongoing strategy for addressing ACEs in SE Raleigh.
- Thank you for supporting City of Raleigh presentation - \$100,000 is being requested from the City to support another innovation challenge in conjunction with SEV initiatives; it is noted that United Way is undergoing transitions which may impact the planning of future innovation challenges
- Human Capital Development opportunity is underway in partnership with the Food Bank for people 18-24, warehouse, outreach, benefits, reception, etc. positions being learning in addition to life coaching, HRD and resource connections
- Healthy corner stores – working on a community-based model to connect community members and corner stores with technical assistance to carry healthier items
- Summer food regional approach; Crosby targeted as a site; persons interested in assisting with planning are encouraged to volunteer
- East Mini Grants forthcoming; information will be provided in March
- Crosby Construction on schedule targeted completion March 29
- CAG members interested in assisting with planning child abuse and neglect prevention month activities are encouraged to volunteer
- David Ellis is officially the new County Manager and is supportive of SEV efforts
- Hannah Taylor presented on the draft report of the Social and Economic Vitality survey

#### **CAG Strategic Directions & Structure Discussion**

Priscilla Awkard - Executive team

- The Crosby co-chairs propose an executive team consisting of a secretary, treasurer, parliamentarian, and 4 community representatives
  - CAG member questions - Who would be the community representatives? New community members or residents who have lived in the community for a long time?
    - CAG leadership acknowledged that many parts of the SE Raleigh community are changing. It is important for all community members to have their voices heard and to maintain diversity in the residential representatives.
  - There is a need for the CAG to have a mission and a vision to focus the CAG in the future
  - Set goals and work towards them throughout the year
  - We will send out descriptions of each role for the executive team and CAG members can give feedback
  - On March 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm we will host a residential advisory group meeting. Depending on the number of attendees, the group can determine next steps to see if the meeting should be recurring.

### **Information Presentations**

- Crosby Discovery Camp – Dan Bulatek, 4-H Public Health Coordinator
  - Focus on vulnerable community (East Central zone) and combat summer learning loss
  - Focus on the Crosby-Garfield Building – 4-H already has SPACES program, contribute to development of Crosby as an anchor asset to the community
  - STEM-based program for kids ages 8-11 (grades 3-6), from July 30<sup>th</sup>-August 10<sup>th</sup> (on week days only) from 8:30am-4:30pm, 25 campers from the Southeast Raleigh area.
  - Recruit five junior counselors who will receive a stipend to support 4-H staff in lesson delivery and learn leadership skills.
  - CAG member request - Share teen leaders chosen with CAG group, track how many campers came from referrals from CAG members (no sharing personal information of minors)
- Life Tranzitions – Lorna Wesley Parker, Operations Manager
  - Life Tranzitions is currently in its planning stages, working to determine focus and goals
  - Life Tranzitions is a community-based program that focuses on advocacy, lifting the voices of the community, meeting community needs, and sharing resources
  - Goal of pushing people out of their comfort zones and approach community challenges with an “out of the box” approach
  - Currently, Life Tranzitions is supporting individuals who have been displaced from their homes to start their own business. They don’t target any specific group for clients.
  - Workshops to teach financial literacy but not with a “traditional” approach
  - Joseph Fadullon supports the financial operations of Life Tranzitions. Financial literacy is not addressed in public education and people from all generations don’t know enough about money management. Financial classes and resources provided for free and are open to all ages.

### **Community Highs and Lows**

- Resilience film screening – The screening on February 19<sup>th</sup> generated good discussion, especially on next steps and future actions, and opportunities for advocacy. The discussion reminded

attendees about the importance of who you vote for and where resources are directed. A committee will be put together to start action. In addition, there was good feedback on social media and people were glad they came and valued the information of the film. CAG and community partners will continue to facilitate more screenings and reach out to some targeted outreach to certain groups

- Update on predatory housing practices: The City of Raleigh convened Legal Aid, DHIC, and Campbell law school. This group is working to put together a resource and a hotline for people targeted by predatory practices.
- Diana Powell - February 10 expungement clinic. 44 people qualified to have records expunged and Justice Served NC will have another clinic in April due to high demand; City of Raleigh District Attorney Lauren Freeman has championed this effort and offered her support.
- A CAG member noted a community low: In recent meetings with local elected officials, no one mentioned recent shootings where one community member recently lost his life

### Community Partner Updates

- Girl Scouts and Shaw innovation entrepreneurship center opportunity: Teen girls in grades 8-12 can participate in an entrepreneur day consisting of a free, day long program. The deadline to register is March 21. See the Social and Economic Vitality Newsletter for more information.
- Passage Home culinary class starting March 12<sup>th</sup> still has four spots available. Contact [irasheed@passagehome.org](mailto:irasheed@passagehome.org)
- Rikers Island in America film showing – Diana Powell will share dates
- Wake County Family Services Wake Parent2Parent support group will continue to meet at the Crosby-Garfield Center on the first Thursday of each month. Make sure to register to ensure enough food. Attending this group is free and the topic for the March meeting will be wellness and self-care. In addition, there will be activities for youth and teens with a discussion and presentation for adults
- Kwesi Brookins at NC State has been working with Social and Economic Vitality. He directs Africana Studies program at NCSU and teaches non-credit courses through OLLI lifelong learning. These classes are on NC State campus for 4-6 weeks. However, there is little diversity among participants in classes such as “Africa, the World, and You.” Dr. Brookins proposed taking the class off campus and making the curriculum, instruction, and participation more community-based. He noted the book *Culture Town*, available at Wake County Libraries.
- Multi-disciplinary conference April 23-25 at Carolina Theater. CAG co-chair Priscilla Awkard will serve on a panel discussing generational wealth crisis.
- Coastal Federal Credit Union – Power sharing Gala: Nonprofits can apply for large grants; recent awards went to Alliance Medical Ministry and Passage Home, totaling \$419,000 in 2017. Priscilla Awkard referred to the event as “the Grammy’s for nonprofits.” The grant will open in late March or early April and the celebration gala will be in May at the Marriott at Crabtree
- Christal Toodle – shared about her vision for Southeast Raleigh by reviving love in the community. She is working with Social and Economic Vitality to help brand the Crosby-Garfield Center as a hub for community and services in Southeast Raleigh and equip residents with opportunities for community engagement. Ideas for community engagement include the Crosby Youth Council and a Crosby Housing Action Team (CHAT)

**Next Meeting: March 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM (please note time change)**