**SENT June 17th, 2015**

**Dear CHART members,**

**Thank you** to all who were able to join us for our full coalition meeting yesterday! We had a very well attended meeting and were able to welcome a number of new members from different sectors and paths. As always, we missed those who could not attend and hope to see you all at the **next full coalition meeting scheduled for August 25th, 2015 from 8:30am to 10:00am in the Coventry Annex building**. Below and attached are some key highlights and follow-up items.

Be Well!

Jordana

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**CHART PR and Communications Committee (PCC) Update**

* The **CHART Website got a facelift and is still a work in progress**. You can find it at <http://www.ehhdchart.org> We will be making more changes to it soon, so that it can become more of a “two-way” communication channel. We are also looking for volunteer bloggers to write short posts of interest and relevance to the work we have been doing over the years. You can see examples of posts in the [News](http://www.ehhdchart.org/news/) section of the website. Let me know if you would like to volunteer to write a post!
* Our existing **Facebook Page was renamed and revived.** It is now a pretty active hub with interesting curated content around the topics of healthy eating, active living, and the built environment. Please “like” our page and share our posts widely! We are at <http://www.facebook.com/EHHDCHART>
* **Next PCC Meeting is scheduled for July 8th, 8:30am at Rockville Hospital**. If you are interested in joining us, please let me know and I’ll be happy to share more details!

**CHART Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee (PZAC) Update**

* The Key informant interview guide was revised and approved by committee members
* CHART members were instrumental in securing personal connections to participating planning and zoning commission members. We have spoken to 16 commissioners from 6 local towns as of yesterday afternoon.
	+ **We are still looking to connect with at least one PZC member from Andover, Ashford, Columbia, and Scotland.** Personal connections/introductions have proven to be key in recruiting key informants. **Please consider sharing the attached invitation with PZC contacts you might have in the above mentioned towns. Thank you!**
* Attached are the **“preliminary findings” slides shared during yesterday’s meeting**. Thank you so much to all those who were engaged in yesterday’s presentation. It was very useful to get your feedback and reaction to some of the key points that were shared. If you were not able to join us yesterday and **you would like to email us your feedback, questions, comments after reviewing these slides, please do so!**
* As promised, attached is a **proposed draft list of topics/draft outline** of what our toolkit may include based on our preliminary key informant interview findings, our EHHD staff research, and communications with members of our PZAC. **We welcome your suggestions, reactions, ideas, and questions.**

**CHART Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) Update**

* No update from yesterday’s meeting, **though we will start gearing up our committee efforts in the next months as we begin to brainstorm creative and effective ways to engage local residents** and increase their sense of ownership of local planning and zoning decisions. Stay tuned for more email communications from us.

**Other Miscellaneous Updates**

* Yesterday we forgot to mention that EHHD has signed on to participate in the [2015 Community Wellbeing Survey](http://www.ctdatahaven.org/wellbeingsurvey). Residents in our local towns **may receive a phone call from a (518) area code and be asked to complete a telephone survey. This is legit and we ask that you please help us spread the word within your communities about it**. Attached are flyers and images in both English and Spanish that may be useful to share with coworkers, families served by schools and summer camps, seniors, friends, organizations you volunteer with, churches you belong to, and so forth. We would love to gather enough responses from our towns so that the information collected can be representative of our population and be meaningful! Thank you!
* We are in the process of applying for a new cycle of the **Chronic Disease Prevention Block Grant**, which supports our efforts to promote policy, systems, and environmental changes across the ten towns served by EHHD. **Please contact Ana Zeller at** **zellerAE@ehhd.org** **or (860) 429-3325 if you have any project ideas and suggestions that could benefit folks in your workplace and/or town.**
* We submitted a session proposal in conjunction with our Greater Boston Plan4Health counterparts and our submission was accepted. That means that we will be presenting our experiences so far during the **Southern New England American Planning Association (SNEAPA) conference s**cheduled to take place in Hartford, CT on 09/25/15.
* We are **also working closely with the Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA)** to ensure that members from our coalition, as well as local planning and zoning commissioners will be interested in attending this year’s one-day conference to be held in **Waterbury on 10/23/15**. The **theme of the conference is “Healthy by Design”** and we are helping plan an after-lunch plenary session focused on “[“Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper… and Healthier”](http://americawalks.org/lighter-quicker-cheaper-and-healthier-webinar/)  approaches to placemaking, as well as other relevant breakout sessions.

**IF YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT…**

* **Coventry’s participation in the Let’s Move initiative**, or their efforts related to the **CT Art Trail**, please contact Wendy Rubin at wrubin@coventryct.org
* **Bike Mansfield**’s efforts in pursuing a Bicycle-Friendly town designation, you can contact Lon Hultgren through <http://www.bikemansfield.com/>
* How the **Coventry Schools Dining Services** are raising awareness about their role in promoting health and wellness, contact Beth Pratt at bpratt@coventryct.org
* **Tolland’s successful steps in making their** **younger summer camp children use their “human pedals” more this summer,** contact Laurel Leibowitz at lleibowitz@tolland.k12.ct.us
* the **Silver Sneakers program at the Mansfield Community Center**, contact Jessica Tracy at TracyJA@mansfieldct.org
* Anything else that you heard about yesterday, that is not mentioned in this email, please email me at frostj@ehhd.org

**THANK YOU!**

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