



**Food System Collaborative
January 11, 2012
Sierra Health Foundation, Sacramento**

MEETING SUMMARY

Participants: (see below)

Next Steps:

- The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for **March 13, 2012 from 1PM-4PM (location TBD)**.
- Applications for the first FSC Steering Committee are currently being accepted! Click [here](#) to learn more. **Applications are due January 31, 2012.**
- See below for many upcoming events!

Outcomes:

The meeting agenda included four sections: a presentation on the **California Farm Academy**, a presentation on **the WayUp Sacramento Initiative**, an update on **FSC governance**, and an introduction to the **FSC directory**.

California Farm Academy

- [Presentation](#)
- Q&A
 - In your data, what do you mean by “organization perspective?”
 - These perspectives are from the agencies we worked with (e.g. Soil Born Farms, Small Farm Institute) rather than the individuals surveyed.
 - How many people did you actually survey?
 - Our partner organizations sent the survey to their distribution lists on our behalf, so we don’t have an exact number of surveys sent out. Likely hundreds went out, and we received 180 responses. The survey area was Northern California, but we suspect most were from the SACOG region.
 - Do the students need to be self-funded in order to attend?
 - Right now, yes. We do not currently offer grants or tuition assistance, but are working on establishing assistance programs, including students being able to gain college credit for participation in the program. We are encouraging businesses and organizations to consider funding a scholarship program.
 - What is the tuition?
 - \$1950 for six months, and may be paid in installments
 - Is urban farming being considered, given the low acreage that some of the students are interested in?
 - Some applicants will likely be suburban or urban, but many students aren’t sure yet.
 - How long can students be in incubation?
 - We have 5 acres onsite and 2 acres from UC Davis. ¼ - ½ acre plots are available for new students, but not all students will use incubation sites because they already have or are

acquiring land. Currently, incubation periods are set at 3-years. Once incubation is done, we have the connections with farms and other organizations to be able to help students continue to farm outside of our program.

- Where are the farm and classes?
 - At the Center for Land-Based Learning, but we will use some other classroom space in Winters and other farms as part of the teaching, including Capay Organic (Farm Fresh to You) to teach larger-scale farming.
- How can you help incubate those interested in dairy?
 - The program is funded under a Specialty Crop Block Grant so we cannot expand to dairy right now, but we are hoping to be able to include that type of farm education in the future.
- What other ways are graduates able to find land opportunities?
 - There is a land database in development which will show what land is available, both public and private, to help connect these farmers to land they can farm.
- Does the program include courses in labor relations?
 - It will. Western Growers provides human relations and labor management instruction, though the instruction is currently only introductory because most small farmers do not hire outside labor.

WayUp Sacramento

- [Presentation](#)
- Website: www.wayupsacramento.org
- Q&A
 - What is the geography of district 5?
 - Click [here](#) for a map.
 - What is a medical home (in reference to the WayFit program)?
 - Medi-Cal & Medicaid, other insurance programs. Working with The Effort in Oak Park, they are signed up for those programs to obtain the coverage they need, as well as provided medical, dental, and mental health screenings.
 - What opportunities are there for WayFresh to build community gardens?
 - In addition to the lots offered by landowners in district 5, the city owns a former tree nursery in the center of Sacramento; we are trying to find out how to obtain and use that land for the community.
 - What is on the 4-acre former tree nursery site now and where is it?
 - Mixture of dirt, asphalt cement, large greenhouse, drip irrigation, and it is vacant.
 - What are you going to do with it?
 - Currently, the city is looking for alternative ways to operate community centers, so they are asking community members to operate them. We would use the same model, so in exchange for use of the site, the farmer(s) would teach classes and provide other ways of engaging the community in that plot of land.
 - Can you explain more about the vacant lot to community garden initiative?
 - We will be seeking out private property owners who have offered their vacant lots to have them sign an MOU for a community garden on their lots.

FSC Governance Update

- [Steering Committee Parameters & Elections Process](#)
- Applications for the first steering committee are currently being accepted! Click on the link above to view the application process.

FSC Directory

- [Presentation](#)
- Please send any feedback or questions you may have to Adriane Lepage (adriane.lepage@valleyvision.org).

FSC Partner Announcements

Events are always posted on our [FSC Calendar](#)

- [Next Economy](#): A Valley Vision project focusing on regional economic development, partnering with the [Metro Chamber](#), [SACTO](#), and [SARTA](#). The project will focus on specific industry clusters, one of which is food & agriculture (others are communications & IT, health & life sciences, and advanced manufacturing)
- Pig Day Breakfast at the [Davis Farmers Market](#) – March 2nd, hosted by the [Food Bank of Yolo County](#) in partnership with Sodexo. While a donation is encouraged, the breakfast is open to the community as a “thank you” for another year of support.
- [ECOS](#) is sponsoring their annual [Earth Day event](#) April 22nd at Southside Park. Booth space is available, and they are hoping for over 100 booth participants again this year. \$25 if you are not selling, \$50 if you are. ECOS is also looking for sponsorships for the event.
- Soil Born Farms has harvest events planned for citrus gleaning. Check their [website](#) for more information about harvesting and other events.
- [Soil Born Farms](#) is seeking organizations to sponsor schools for their [Adopt-a-School program](#)
- [Slow Food Sacramento](#) – General Membership Meeting is on February 13th at Grange Hall, 6-8PM. Their [next mixer](#) is scheduled for January 24th from 6-8PM at [Masullo Pizzeria](#) in Sacramento. The [Sacramento Food Film Festival](#) is on March 10th at Guild Theater in Oak Park (\$25 for all day pass, in advance)
- The [Sacramento Food Cooperative](#) is hosting a series of screenings of “[The Last Crop & the Future of California Agriculture](#),” to benefit the One Farm at a Time program. Sacramento is scheduled for January 31st at Sierra 2 Community Center and there is another screening in Davis on February 8th.
- The next [Dinner on the Farm](#) at the [Center for Land-Based Learning](#) – February 26th at Farm on Putah Creek.
- [Cap-to-Cap](#) now has an agriculture committee that will be traveling the Washington, D.C.

**If your organization is having an event that you would like to share with Collaborative participants, please email adriane.lepage@valleyvision.org.

Participants:

David Baker – Green Restaurant Alliance Sacramento
Lynne Cannady – LPC Associates
Paul Curtis – Food Bank of Yolo County
Joe Devlin – City of Sacramento Councilmember Jay Shenirer
Dawn Dunlap – Community Member
Sabrina Hamm – Sacramento Housing Alliance
John Hanson – Soil Born Farms
Shawn Harrison - Soil Born Farms
Samantha Hodges – Sacramento Housing Alliance
Trish Kelly – Applied Development Economics

Mary Kimball – Center for Land-Based Learning
Lisa Kresge – California Institute for Rural Studies
Robyn Krock – Valley Vision
Latisha Lawson – Oak Park
Adriane Lepage – Valley Vision
Russ Lo Bue – Community Member
Dawn Martin – Health Education Council
Helen Magnuson – Network for a Healthy California
Bill Maynard – City of Sacramento Community Garden Program
Kristine Mazzei – Valley Vision
Cheryl McKinney – Heifer International
Hailey Michel-Evleth – Alchemist CDC
Christie Moulton – Community Member
Libby O’Sullivan – UC-Davis
Paul Philley – Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
Ben Rinn – Community Member
Brenda Ruiz – Slow Food Sacramento
Asael Sala – Pesticide Watch
Susan Sundell – Renaissance Society, CSUS
Joany Titherington – Oak Park Farmers’ Market
Jeff VonKaenel – Sacramento News & Review
Tiffany Wilson – LPC Associates
Choua Yang - Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center
Jeanie Young-Bardakjian – PlacerSustain
Janet Zeller – Soil Born Farms