

Program Highlights Family and Consumer Sciences

Nutrition Program:

We have submitted the Eat Smart New York plan to the state and anticipate that the program will be funded again next year. One problem that we encountered is that we could not credit as much of the cost of our space as match, therefore we could not request as much funding from the state. One goal for the upcoming year is to identify and cultivate additional sources of matching funds for the program.

We are in the process of writing the request for EFNEP funding. This year we are allowed to request \$39,000 from Campus, an increase of \$1,500. This program allows us to work with populations that are not eligible for Eat Smart New York.

Ron and Pablo are doing summer youth groups in collaboration with Kingston Parks and Recreation Summer Youth program. Ron has a group at Hasbrouck Park, where he has gone for the past several years. Pablo has a group at Loughran Park, which is a new site for us. Both groups seem to be going well.

We are meeting with the Center for Creative Education in Kingston about offering youth nutrition classes in the fall to members of their dance troupes. Because there is a possibility of parental involvement, we may be able to offer the groups through our Eat Smart New York grant, which would allow us to reach more youth than we can through EFNEP alone.

We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to offer nutrition education in collaboration with the Queens Galley. They have received an Operation Frontline grant to provide cooking skills and nutrition education to families who come to food pantries and other emergency food sites. Cooperative Extension in Tompkins County has partnered with organizations in their region who have received the Operation Frontline grant and recommended it to us as a good partnership. We hope to begin this summer. Queens Galley would organize the groups, provide the food and giveaways to attendees and we would take the lead on teaching the nutrition classes.

Unfortunately our new Nutrition Educator, Donna Ruf, has resigned effective July 7th. We will be looking to replace her.

Relatives As Parents Program

We have been funded for a second year by CCE Orange County at \$32,000. Our new grant runs from June 1-May 30. We will be seeking additional funding as the OCFS funds that we have will only cover the costs of ½ time program coordinator and a small amount of programming funds. Our goal is to increase the program coordinator to a full time position, and to be able to add services such as legal assistance and a stronger youth program.

We currently have an active support group for adults and an active youth program in Kingston. We have 5 families that actively participate in the group, these include 8 adults and 8 children. We have outgrown our space here at CCE and will be holding the group at Ulster County Community Action/Head Start in Kingston as of July 21st. The group meets from 6-8 on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month.

We assisted 4 families in sending youth to camp this summer. We helped to pay for two families, and we referred and assisted with paperwork for two other families to attend camps with scholarships sponsored by other organizations.

Financial Education

We are continuing to offer two of our financial education programs, Saving Energy Saving Dollars and Making Ends Meet that are funded through the EmPower program. These programs have been very popular.

We also have periodically offered Making Ends Meet, which is a seven session financial education program offered in collaboration with the Nutrition Education Program, targeted to families eligible for food stamps.