

## HAC Fresh Food Access

### Agenda Notes

307 First Street South, Virginia, MN 55792

Room 2R Small (call me for directions)

August 16<sup>th</sup> 10:30-11:30am

**10:30am**- Welcome/ Introductions

**10:35am**- Update on last meetings “Next Steps”

- Brian will send a connecting email to Skip with AEOA Head Start
- Ray will send Sara the Healthy Corner Stores Virginia logo
- Obtain input from Brenda’s Minimart on signage
- Get hand washing station to Farmer’s Market

**10:50am**- Update on Food Initiatives currently happening

- Farm to Head Start
- Healthy Corner Stores
- Canning class at Harvest Fest
- Recipes & Signage at Food Shelves
- Connecting Head Start to Community Gardens
- Garden Mentor Program
- Smarter Lunch Rooms
- Rutabaga Project
  - Farmer’s Market
    - Hand Washing Station
    - Bike Safety Event
    - CSA’s
    - Grocery Bus
      - Virginia
      - Aurora
    - Chisholm Mobile Food Shelf
- Born to Thrive
  - Three themes – Transportation, Lack of food education, & barriers to agriculture

**11:15am**- New Updates

**11:25am**- Next Steps/Next Meeting

**Date: September 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 10:30 – 11:30am**

**Location: Northland Office Building, Room TBD**

**Healthy Active Communities**  
**Fresh Food Access**  
**August 16, 2017**  
**Northland Building – Room 2R**  
**10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**In Attendance:** Ray Jobe, Chris Strand and Sara Ferkul

Ray spoke about the success of the Virginia grocery bus and that they will also be implementing another one in Aurora in the winter.

We discussed how the healthy cornerstores initiative. It is moving forward at the moment. Ray will be speaking with Brenda from Brenda's Minimart to receive input on signage for the store and placement. Money is already in place for promotional materials. The contract with Essentia Health has been finalized so the minimart will be able to purchase healthy food through Essentia at cost. They are also working towards a pre-assessment of how much produce is moving through the store currently. A post assessment will be completed after the signage and promotional materials are in place. The assessment has already been created by MDH and MN Extension. Virginia is currently the first city in the state to begin this initiative. Some of the standards for this program are placement of products at eye level, placing 3 healthy foods options near the check out and possibly having healthy recipes available. There was also discussion of having a fruit or vegetable spotlight of the week. Featuring a healthy food with recipes that coincide with that piece of produce. A bigger discussion will need to take place to come up with a plan of how to capture data after everything has been implemented.

Ray also connected with Super One South and they are interested in the healthy checkout lanes. Ray spoke with Rick, the manager at Super One, and he passed contact information on to Ray on who to contact in the corporate office, Ray has not heard back as of now. He was going to reach out to Rick again to see he would be able to contact the corporate headquarters directly.

We began discussing recipes and signage in food shelves. Chris spoke about a training that took place in Duluth last year where all of the food shelves were invited. The training is aimed at showing food shelves how to place items that will encourage people to make healthy choices. There will be another training in about a month in Duluth again. Only a couple of the food shelves from the Iron Range were in attendance last year. We then discussed the possibility of holding an event like that on the Iron Range to encourage more of the food shelves here to participate. Additional follow up with all of the food shelves is necessary.

We then had a lengthy discussion about different ways to promote the Farmer's Market.