



California Association of Nutrition and Activity Providers

CAN-Act Update
November – December, 2006

In this issue:

- Meet the CAN-Act Board and Executive Committee
- Needs assessment link to be emailed next week
- CAN-Act to meet at the Childhood Obesity Conference on Jan 24

Action Opportunity:

- **Serve on a work group or committee!**

Meet the CAN-Act Board and Executive Committee

We have a nearly complete Board for CAN-Act, and this group had a productive meeting on November 13 where they adopted a governance structure and discussed advocacy strategy for Food Stamp Nutrition Education. (For decisions made by the Board at the November meeting, see the notes posted at the website (www.can-act.net) ó these will be up by December 12.)

The following people are your representatives ó if you have concerns about your Network program, you can communicate them directly to the Association's Director, Melody Steeples, or your regional/project area representative.

Bay Area: Shared by Diane Woloshin, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency and Kate Clayton, City of Berkeley Department of Health and Human Services

Central Coast: Chris Moss, Monterey County Department of Public Health (RNN)

Central Valley: Jaci Westbrook, Merced Office of Education

Desert Sierra: Pamela Wu, Riverside County Health Services Agency

Gold Coast: Susan Klucker, Santa Barbara County Public Health Department

Gold Country: Melissa Guajardo, Health Education Council (RNN)

Los Angeles: Shared by Rolinda Baker, LA Trade-Technical College; Steve Baldwin, Hawthorne Unified School District; and Piper Mattson, Montebello Unified School District

North Coast: Terry Nieves, Ukiah Unified School District

Orange County: Kat Soltanmorad, Orange Unified School District

Sierra Cascade: Michelle Sabol, Shasta County Public Health Department

San Diego/Imperial: Katie Bogue, UC San Diego (RNN)

Statewide Projects: Jessica Barthelow, California Association of Food Banks

UCCE: Shared by Lucrecia Farfan-Ramirez, Alameda County Cooperative Extension, and Gloria Espinosa-Hall, Shasta County Cooperative Extension

CPNS Liaison: David Ginsburg

The Executive Committee is composed of the following positions:

Chair: Chris Moss

Vice Chair: Diane Woloshin

Secretary: Pamela Wu

Chair, Legislation and Policy Committee: Rolinda Baker

An affiliate of the California WIC Association
Melody Steeples, MPH, RD – Association Director
1547 Palos Verdes Mall #258, Walnut Creek, CA 94597
Ph: (925) 949-8369

melody@can-act.net www.can-act.net

We are still seeking volunteers to fill the Local Food and Nutrition Education Projects and Faith Projects seats ó please call me if you are able to fill one of these seats.

Needs Assessment Tool is Complete and On-Line

Next week, you should be receiving an email from the Network with a link to the on-line needs assessment related to priorities for streamlining administrative procedures/activities. This needs assessment is part of CAN-Act's contract with the state. **This is your opportunity to weigh in on what you would like to have simplified (if at all possible).** Your responses are confidential, so you should be as candid, but as accurate, as possible. Although more than one staff person may be involved in administrative procedures, please ensure that only one survey is completed for your project (because it is anonymous, we have no way to determine whether more than one is submitted per project). The survey will be on-line through Thursday, January 4 - please complete it prior to this date. You can call me at 925/949-8369 or email me at melody@can-act.net with any questions.

Ready to get started? Just copy and paste the link below into your browser! Your assistance in this process is both crucial and appreciated!

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=873312855307>

CAN-Act Membership Meeting at the Childhood Obesity Conference in January

Please join CAN-Act Board members to discuss CAN-Act's policy platform at the Childhood Obesity Conference at lunchtime on Wednesday, January 24. Grab your boxed lunch and meet in Orange County Rooms 3 and 4 at 12:15. You can preview the policy platform by downloading a copy from our website (www.can-act.net). The policy platform will serve as the "sieve" through which we will filter legislative and policy proposals for potential action.

CAN-Act needs you!

There are a couple of ways for you to get involved with your membership association. The following is a list of current opportunities.

Dues Structure Workgroup ó this group will meet by phone, probably one time, in January, and currently includes three Board members. It would be great have some additional members participate in the discussion.

Administrative Activities Streamlining Workgroup ó this group will most likely meet in Sacramento with CPNS staff on a few occasions (phone participation might be possible, but this has not yet been arranged) to begin to address the administrative streamlining priorities identified through the needs assessment.

Legislation and Policy Committee ó this will be a committee of the Board and will meet by phone 2-3 times per year. The Committee's chair, Rolinda Baker, would like to have a "meet and greet" with confirmed and potential committee members at the Childhood Obesity Conference in January. The first phone meeting will be in early to mid-March after state legislation has been introduced to establish CAN-Act's state legislative agenda.

Please remember that any staff working on Network and FSNE funded projects are invited to participate in CAN-Act workgroups and committees, not just program managers. If you are interested in participating, please email or call me at the contact information below.