



Community Partner Advisory Group (CPAG) Update

Central District WACEC, January 2005

Community Partner Advisory Groups Being Initiated in 22 Counties



Informal Mission of Community Partner Advisory Groups:

The mission of the CPAG is to help UWEX staff and the Extension Education Committee implement and sustain high quality education programs that meet the needs and enrich the lives of local citizens and that result in a strong foundation of support for community-based Extension education.

From Taylor to Walworth, and Eau Claire to Fond du Lac, county Extension committees and staff throughout the state are beginning new advisory groups to strengthen the community-based programs and partnerships in their counties.

In June 2004, at the state WACEC conference, the membership approved the establishment of Community Partner Advisory Groups (CPAGs)

CPAGs will contribute to our effectiveness by providing:

- New opportunities for issue discussions, programs, funding
- A new forum to discuss effectiveness and value of programs
- Entire Extension office team involvement

CPAGs will:

- Reflect diverse voices
- Have regular interaction with Extension Committees
- Interact with UW-Extension staff
- Build local strategies



Dunn County's CPAG meets for the first time in January 2005

to communicate value.

Supporting CPAGs are Liaisons Kathleen Hass, CRD Agent in Columbia County, Joan Ploetz, WNEP Coordinator/Dept Head in Vilas County, and Deb Jones, 4-H Youth Development Agent/Dept Head in Jackson County.

Central District CPAG Updates

Purpose of CPAGs:

- * Program Advice
- * Input on program effectiveness
- * Identify new partners
- * Strengthen existing relationships
- * Communicate value

Shawano, Taylor, and Waupaca counties are leading the way in the Central District!

The Shawano County staff is working on a diversity matrix to identify potential community members for their CPAG.

Taylor County was the first county to initiate a Community Partner Advisory Group. Their CPAG

has met monthly since late spring 2004. The group has 8-10 active participants. In the short time they have been together, the group has already become an active partner with the Extension staff.

The Waupaca County staff has been meeting regularly to plan for the initiation of their CPAG. They are currently devel-

oping a matrix of a diverse cross-section of their county to invite to the CPAG table.

For more information on CPAGs or to become one of the next counties to form a CPAG contact Deb Jones, CPAG Liaison, 715-284-4257, e-mail: deb-orah.jones@ces.uwex.edu