Problem: Nutrition

Omaha Definition: Select, consume and use food and fluids for energy, maintenance, growth and health.

Suggested Definition for Nutrition Related Coalition: Development and effectiveness of a coalition addressing nutrition issues and related conditions.

Knowledge

1-No Knowledge

   Community norms ignore or actively tolerate an unhealthy nutrition environment and nutrition related illnesses. Denial or vague awareness there is a problem and/or nothing can be done to address problem.

2-Minimal Knowledge

   General belief that poor nutrition is a health problem and something needs to be done about it. Knowledge about nutrition is simplistic and/or inaccurate. No formal group addressing problem.

3-Basic knowledge

   There is general information about community nutrition but it may not be based on formally collected data. Community members report some knowledge about local nutrition resources available.

4- Adequate knowledge
Information is available to justify prevention programs. Activities and programs are viewed as stable. Adequate knowledge of community resources and referral systems available in the county.

5-Superior knowledge

Community knowledgeable about nutrition programs and resources in the county and view them as valuable. Detailed and sophisticated knowledge of prevalence and risk factors for nutrition related conditions exists. Knowledge of how to improve nutritional status to prevent disease.

Behavior

1-Not Appropriate Behavior

No community dialogue or plan to address unhealthy nutrition environments or practices in the community.

2-Rarely Appropriate Behavior

No identified leadership to address community nutrition or leadership lacks energy or motivation. Nutrition related illnesses reported by professionals. Nutrition resources underutilized or not available.

3-Inconsistently appropriate behavior

There are identifiable leaders, there may be a committee and some progress but no real planning. Educational and outreach to community leaders and groups about causes and prevention of nutrition related illness are used inconsistently. Information often does not reach the public. Inconsistent referral system.

4-Usually appropriate behavior

Leadership addressing community nutrition is active and energetic. Staff trained and media reporting is appropriate. Funding is being sought or committed. Community assessment tools
being utilized. Public forums or committees used to develop strategies and implement some
best practice or evidenced based programs. No in-depth evaluation of effectiveness.

5-Consistently appropriate behavior

Highly trained staff, supportive leaders and high community involvement to address
community nutrition. Authorities support expanding and improving best practice or evidenced
based prevention programs. Evaluation is used to modify programs. Nutrition programs
available and utilized in several settings

Status

1- Extreme Signs/Symptoms

Community nutrition indicators (i.e. overweight and obesity statistics, Minnesota Student
Survey data) and community health assessments rank nutrition and nutrition related diseases a
high priority problem. There are no or few efforts to address community nutrition.

2- Severe Signs/symptoms

Community nutrition indicators and community health assessments rank nutrition and nutrition
related diseases as one of the top health problems. There are few coordinated efforts to address
community nutrition.

3- Moderate signs/symptoms

Community nutrition indicators and assessments show nutrition and nutrition related diseases
one of the health problems. The community coordinates efforts to address problem. There is
preparation and initiation of some strategies to address problem. Some nutrition-related
programs available and offered to the public.

4- Minimal signs/symptoms
Community nutrition indicators show improvement. There is leadership and quality programming and evaluation that is supported by authorities and the community. Health indicators show improvement in nutrition-related diseases.

5- No signs/symptoms

Community nutrition indicators show high level of health. Community engagement is strong in community nutrition promotion. Ongoing support for nutrition programming through health care and other services.

Q:\Healthy Communities\Omaha System for Community Work\Nutrition kbs KB