### In This Issue
- Responses to State of Hunger Report
- SCSU Community Garden: Summer 2018
- Health Leaders: West Rock
- Health Leaders: WEB
- Know Your Numbers

### In the News
- West Rock Safer Streets
- West Rock Safety Advances

---

### Responses to State of Hunger Report

After several years of advocacy by the New Haven Food Policy Council and several community partners, the State of Hunger in New Haven report, coauthored by Alycia Santilli, MSW, Director of CARE, and Kathleen O’Connor Duffany, PhD, Director of Research and Evaluation at CARE with community partners in the Fall of 2017, helped to advance two significant changes within New Haven Public Schools.

### Expansion of Federally Funded Supper Program

- In December 2017, the New Haven Board of Education (BoE) voted to approve a motion by Mayor Toni Harp to immediately expand a free federally funded supper program from three to eight New Haven Public Schools (NHPS) and to conduct a feasibility study for rolling the program out across the district. As of March 2018, NHPS has expanded its supper program from three to eleven schools and has evaluated continued expansion for next year.

### Resolution to Establish A Food Service Task Group

- The BoE issued a resolution to establish a Food Service Task Group (FSTG) to monitor the current food program, obtain feedback from parents, students and school staff members, and address questions or concerns.
- The group will consist of the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Carol Birks, the food services director, two parents, two students, two representatives of food advocacy groups, and two BoE members appointed by the BoE president.

---

### SCSU Community Garden: Summer 2018

CARE is excited to be coordinating the SCSU Community Garden Nutrition Education program for its second iteration this summer. Meadeshia Mitchell, a graduating SCSU MPH student, returns from last summer’s program to join 2nd semester SCSU MPH student Tess Goldson as the graduate interns and program coordinators. Meadeshia and Tess will be responsible for creating the program curriculum, recruiting residents, and executing the program. Dr. Victoria Zigmont, Assistant Professor at SCSU Department of Public Health, will take a lead role in supervising the curriculum and evaluation aspects of the project.

**GOALS**

- Launch a 6-week nutrition and health education program during June and August 2018.
- Engage with New Haven residents in neighborhoods adjacent to SCSU.
- Offer weekly nutrition lessons, cooking demonstrations, recipes, and gardening seminars.
- Provide program participants with shares of produce from the garden.
- Provide volunteer hours at New Haven Farms sites throughout spring and summer.

To sign up for the program, please contact Sharon Taylor, MPH, at taylors16@southernct.edu

---

Reach CARE at care@southernct.edu or find us at www.care.southernct.edu
Health Leaders: West Rock

In the Fall of 2017, CARE launched a neighborhood health leadership program for New Haven residents and SCSU graduate students to work together on solutions to pressing social and health issues identified by the community. Meadeshia Mitchell is paired with West Rock resident leader Makia Richardson for this year. As of early April 2018, Meadeshia and Makia have succeeded in organizing four community meetings with an average of 20 residents at each meeting. The meetings resulted in the identification of key issues in the West Rock community that residents wanted city officials to address, culminating in the prioritization of transportation and public safety. Mayor Toni Harp and state and city officials attended one meeting to listen to resident concerns and committed to making changes in transportation and public safety. A follow-up meeting was organized with the city transportation department and CT Transit to discuss street safety and bus routes. CT Transit agreed to a community request to reinstate the old bus route (effective August 26, 2018). The New Haven Department of Transportation committed to several traffic calming measures.

Health Leaders: Whalley, Edgewood, Beaver Hill (WEB)

For the second Health Leaders project for Spring 2018, Cerella Craig is paired with Beaver Hill resident leader Jacqueline Pheanious. Together, they sought feedback from WEB residents to assess current quality of life concerns. One concern that emerged was a need to engage more males in conversations about their wellness to serve as positive role models for youth. The health leaders conducted a community asset map of the WEB neighborhood, which revealed a large number of salons and barbershops. Because the barbershops represent a community asset where men gather to share stories and give advice in a trusted setting, the team approached shop owners to inquire about conducting surveys of barbershop patrons. Four barbershop owners agreed to participate. Cerella and Jacqueline then worked together to design and administer a survey of minority men’s attitudes towards wellness, collecting 100 surveys. Cerella and Jacqueline will analyze the data and help determine if a barber shop intervention would be appropriate for the community. If so, CARE will support a project during the next academic year.

Know Your Numbers

CARE is helping to lead Get Healthy CT’s expansion of its “Know Your Numbers Campaign (KYN)” into New Haven. KYN encourages communities to organize screenings for residents to know their personal health numbers to assess risk for chronic disease, including blood pressure, cholesterol, blood sugar and Body Mass Index. Get Healthy CT has conducted KYN screenings at emergency food programs in Bridgeport over the past five years and is expanding to New Haven. SCSU and Yale students will help conduct two screenings: June 9th at Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry and June 12th at the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen pantry. This will serve as a pilot for creating a sustainable student-run care coordination model at emergency food programs – a priority for CARE based on its research and reporting about hunger in New Haven.