**CGIC Quality of Life Team Meeting**

**Wednesday August 18th @ 9 a. m.**

**Go to Meeting**

**Attendance:** Anne Robinson, *Front Porch*; Armand Turner, *Healthy Savannah/YMCA of Coastal Georgia*; Ashley Rainge, *Healthy Savannah*; Caila Brown, *Bike Walk Savannah*; Coco Papy, *Deep Center*; Denise Grabowski, *Symbioscity*; Donna Baker-Kerrick, *South University*, Gena Taylor; James Aberson, *Chatham County*; Nichele Hoskins, *YMCA*; Paula Kreissler, *Healthy Savannah*; Tara Jennings, *Chatham County*; Lizann Roberts, *CGIC*; Rachel McConathy*, CGIC*; Nicoleta Meyer, *CGIC Intern*

**Old Business and Updates**

**Review of Meeting Notes:** All changes are to be sent to Rachel.

**Tide to Town Update**

 **Armand Turner:** We gained publicity over the past few weeks through local news channels detailing the partnership with the Edgemere/Sackville neighborhood called the Activity Friendly Routes to Everyday Destinations Plan. We met with the community and were able to identify barriers in the area. **Caila Brown** and I met with Alderman Nick Palumbo for the ribbon cutting of a new park and were then able to visit the Police Memorial Trail which is looking great and is estimated to open in 3 weeks.

 **Caila Brown:** With the Police Memorial Trail construction to be completed in a few weeks we are hopefully doing a ribbon cutting in early to mid-September. Also, the next phase of the Truman Linear Park Trail should start construction by next June. Next week we will be meeting with members from Senator Warnock’s team and touring the Springfield’s Canal Trail to see how that will connect to various neighborhoods and to the city along with any assistance that may be needed from the federal government. The following week we will hopefully have a meeting with a member of Senator
Ossoff’s team to do a similar tour and hopefully get funding for Tide to Town projects and infrastructure. Members of the board of Tide to Town went to the Truman Linear Park collecting photos and created a video of people’s stories explaining why they enjoy using the trail and what more paths would mean to them.

**Deep Center Update**

 **Coco Papy:** Deep Center has a lot of new hires joining the staff. Mel Kutner, Director of Restorative Practices and Culture will be working with school district to build restorative justice frameworks. Martina Allen, Youth Community Organizer, will work with young people 17-26. Chris Williams is our Site Coordinator and hired Julius Campbell and Apollo Johnson as life navigators to work in our rep program at Juvenile Court. Current open positions include: director for youth programs, manager of youth programs and assistant director of restorative culture and practices. Please recommend anyone you know that would be a good fit to apply. Currently, we are putting together fall semester programs and we are requiring vaccination, unless 12 or under, for those who work with us. We will be hosting a youth townhall to talk about and include explaining the importance of getting vaccinated. Lastly, we have put forth the draft of our next policy brief. Contact Coco if you are interested in reading the draft.

**Front Porch Update**

  **Anne Robinson:** We have nearly doubled our staff since summer and welcomed new case managers from TIP (Talented Individuals with Power). We have two Savannah Chatham County Public School System employees back; one doing case management and the other is a behavioral specialist. We also have two interns from Savannah State University. We have made progress on our Community Technology Access Closet contact. This, similar to our clothing closet, will help address the digital divide in Savannah with our clients. The Back to School Block Wrap collection of school uniforms was a success with participation of 18 different organizations. We are looking to do a sock drive called “Socktober” to collect socks for those in need in time for winter. There will be a social media blast. Connect with: Bambas Socks, Trinity Lutheran Church (distribution point for Bombas socks).

**New Business**

**2021 Focus**

 **Lizann Roberts:** We are planning when we may go out into the community for feedback on the blueprint, we want to identify over-arching goals that align with what members of the community mostly care about that has to do with quality of life and make sure a strategy is implemented. The team will be sent a survey to rank each of the goals from the strategies. We will have time in the next meeting to discuss the survey results. Rachel will send out the survey by the end of the day. A meeting will take place Friday @1pm on 8/27. In regards to the 2040 plan, we considering climate resiliency as there is not a lot about it in the 2040 plan. Jackie Jackson will be asked to attend the meeting to work alongside with the 2040 plan.

**Partner Highlights**

**Tara Jennings:** The Narcan Grant has been received by Chatham County. The product has been purchased and delivered to first responders in our community.

**Nichele Hoskins:** In regard to COVID Outreach, we are gathering information from focus groups. We are partnering with JC Lewis as they are offering mobile clinics and also Beatriz Severson to get information out to the Hispanic community. A big focus has been sharing information and boosting through social media.

**Lizann Roberts:** The Real Task Force report is approaching publication.

**The Front Porch:** We received a grant from the Department of Early Care and Learning to provide ACEs (adverse childhood experiences) training to childcare providers and parents.

**Caila Brown:** Sign-ups are open for the fall bike and pedestrian count for the month of September. Our updated website has new info about the trails, safety, and maps. Also, Bike/Walk Savannah may partake in parking day on September 17th to reimagine use of parking spaces for use other than car storage.

**Armand Turner:** Save the date- REACH Grant stakeholder meeting will be held September 10th @9am.