

**Buy Local Meeting Notes – January 14, 2011
Individual & Family Economic Stability Team**



Team Goal: Carroll County becomes one of the top three counties in NH by supporting the achievement of individual and family economic security.

Attendance: Henry Spencer, Christine MacDonald, Robin Schrader, Cyndi Paulin (Ann Hamilton had time conflict)

Next Buy Local Meeting: Friday, February 18 at 3:00 pm at Tri-County CAP

The meeting focused on the next steps of launching a buy local campaign in Carroll County. Henry and Christine have been talking to various businesses about Buy Local and they are getting a positive response; people think it is a good idea. Christine reported that Erin Wright from The Met in North Conway is interested.

Because everything indicates that this would be a positive thing for Carroll County, the team agrees that they need to keep pushing forward and get some more hands and minds at the table to get the effort started. (Henry is planning some time in the CCU office to dedicate toward this.)

The team hoped to visit Portland on January 13th but given the timing with the storm and scheduling conflicts for various people the trip is being put on hold at this time. Though Portland has a very successful effort there, they are hard to communicate with since they have no paid staff and no phone number and are naturally focusing their time on their own effort. The original hope had been to meet with a couple of the organizers for a conversation over coffee but that unfortunately is not working on the Portland end so the team is looking at other options for talking with other Buy Local efforts including the new efforts in the Seacoast and Dover, NH.

The team would like to partner with other Buy Local type efforts such as those focused on local foods to combine forces with the idea of stronger results for everyone.

Tasks	Who
Contact and visit Portsmouth	Henry Spencer
Contact John Malm about recommendations of people from Moultonborough area to get involved	Cyndi Paulin
Find out impact of Buy Local on local newspapers (information for potentially encouraging buy in.	Henry Spencer
Contact Denise Roy-Palmer (WEDCO) about recommendations from Wolfeboro area	Cyndi Paulin
Connect with Robin about marketing contact – need to flesh this out	Cyndi Paulin

Contact Suzanne Brown (NH Institute of Agriculture & Forestry)	Henry Spencer
Find out how Dover, NH effort is tracking the dollar impact	Henry Spencer
List of other Buy Local type efforts	Cyndi with help from team
Continue to talk with local business owners about Buy Local and collect their feedback about the idea	All

Other Discussion:

Christine noted that the Kindness Guy is coming back to Conway area on Memorial Day. People really respond to him and a lot of his message ties with the underlying premise of Carroll County United. If possible it would be good for CCU to partner on that.

Parking Lot:

- Create a **logo** to be used for decals or placards that would help the public identify local businesses as we work to kick this off.
- Use bulletin boards both physical and virtual to spread the news about buy local efforts. Put together a list of bulletin boards around the county so that people would know where to post information.