

Environmental exposures across urban and rural communities in the Deep South

Birmingham Community Advisory Board

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015

10:00-11:00 AM

Harriman Park Recreation Center (4347 W.L. Shuttlesworth Drive, Birmingham, AL)

### **Meeting Minutes**

*Members in attendance:* Keisha Brown (Harriman Park VP), Mary Evans (UAB), Julia Gohlke (UAB), Matt Lacke (JCDH), Stacie Propst (GASP)

Discussions:

*Follow-up on recommendations for additional CAB members:* Addition of a member with soil contamination expertise was discussed. Previous recommendation to explore EPA experts in this field isn't feasible since EPA is not locally represented. Mary Evans suggested USDA extension may have expertise. Julia Gohlke will follow-up on this suggestion. ADEM may also have expertise and/or may have knowledge of expertise in the local Birmingham area. Matt Lacke will follow-up on this. Clinical expertise would also be beneficial and Sheila Tyson had agreed at the March meeting to contact Stephanie Ford and/or nurses group that provided diabetes educational material at focus groups in 2013.

*2015 workshop:* Discussion of potential topics and format of the workshop was discussed. Keisha Brown suggested having an interactive format with tables set up with demonstrations that participants can rotate through. Three to 4 topics total with 10-15 minutes at each table was suggested. Possible priority topics for the tables included diabetes education and screening, environmental factors that affect diabetes, soil testing, and respiratory issues associated with environmental factors. Diabetes and lung function screening was also brought up as a potential offering that participants might find beneficial. Equal Access Birmingham screenings were well received previously. In terms of timing, Keisha recommended that a Saturday between 10:30 and noon would be a good time for the event. Quick methods for obtaining feedback from participants such as a short written or oral survey were discussed. Further discussion on the type of feedback and community knowledge we would like to capture from workshop participants is needed. In addition, a date and location needs to be determined. This will be on the agenda for our next meeting.

*Follow-up discussion of personal and collective goals:* Stacie Propst was given the opportunity to discuss her vision for participation on the board. She stated her expertise in lung inflammation and cancer biology and her current emphasis on air pollution research. She is particularly interested in

understanding the national emissions inventory and point and mobile sources of air pollution. As we move forward, we will continue to discuss expectations and resources to accomplish both collective and personal goals.

*Next meeting:* Our next meeting was confirmed for May 21<sup>st</sup> at 10 am, at Harriman Park Recreation Center. We will discuss prioritization of locations for the monitors and continue our planning discussion for the workshop.