

Visioneering Wichita
Racial Diversity, Opportunity & Harmony Alliance
Meeting Notes – March 1, 2006

Mission of RDOH Alliance:

“To create a culture that promotes and celebrates racial, diversity, opportunities & harmony within the Wichita MSA.”

Attendees – Wichita, Kansas: Irene Hart, Marie Gillespie, James Thompson, Lavonta Williams, Drew Brenner, Lola Foreman, Carlos Contreras, Vera Bothner, Peggy Elliott, Sue Castile, Gary Blevins, Jackie Stuart, Brenda Dietzman, Terri Moses, Diangela Looney, Jo Anne Batiste, Deann Smith, Debbie Nguyen, Chris Schulte

Leadership Team: Brian Black, Delia Garcia, Doug Hye, Lavonta Williams, Peggy Elliott

Next Meeting Date: April 5, 2006, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce

Purposes of the Day

- Provide update on survey results
- Brainstorm ways to communicate results
- Brainstorm appropriate forums to discuss results and implications

Who needs info / Ways of communication

- Utilize the database that Visioneering already has and utilize the mode of communication as a model
- Allow space for (dialogue) response from the community
- Alliance should process information first
- Make sure that there are experienced facilitators facilitating information and conversation
- Study circles
- Allow for input into next steps
- Facilitators should be diverse in pairs
- Goal of facilitation is to create a safe place, not gain consensus
- Design modules based on study circles
- Community meetings (large group)
- Start off with large group with 2 facilitators per smaller group (all come back and share)
- Make sure that there is closure at the end of the meeting
- Focus on strategies
- What do we want to communicate and be more inclusive
- Identify action in response to perceptions
- Design:
 - Area-wide results
 - Zip code results
 - Comments
 - Strategic areas
 - What should happen next? (action steps)
- What is the goal of sharing information?
- Are there perceptions that racism exists? (engages people into further dialogue)
- Mirror results of national “Taking America’s Pulse” vs. racial harmony survey (local)
- Focus on key benchmark
- Do more than processing
- Structure process to allow people to talk, but what should we do about it?
- Let your voice be heard! –Done
- What to do about it – next theme
- Work with sponsoring organization

- Community wants to know what the results of the survey mean in reality. What concrete things will happen?
- Two-prong approach: community, visioneering partner
- Take results of survey and tie back to the key benchmarks
- Raise awareness
- As released...
 - Here are perceptions (process of alliance)
 - Here is what community wants to do
 - How are we going to make it happen?
 - How do we hold each other accountable?
- Work with other alliances in regards to results
- Formal reports as part of feedback
- Formal presentations to (message to media):
 - Community
 - City / County REAP
 - Vision partners
 - 25,000 people sat in room
- Need for smaller meetings (committees)
- Alliance teams will serve as spokespersons for the alliance