

Good Morning Friends!

As some of you may be aware, the Escambia County Health Department is initiating a community outreach project to address Environmental Health issues. This project is grass roots in nature, and is designed to strengthen the relationship between the citizens of Pensacola, City and County Government, Non-Profit Organizations, Faith Based Organizations etc. The tool we will use is called P.A.C.E. (Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence) and it was designed by NACCHO (National Association of County and City Health Officials) to be used to carry out this important process.

The community that we have chosen to work in is “**Kupfrian Park**” located in central Pensacola. It is bracketed by Avery Street at the north end, Blount Street at the south end, “J” street on the east side and Pace Boulevard on the west. This neighborhood is located just to the west of Baptist Hospital. It is primarily occupied by low-income, elderly citizens who have been asking for assistance through county and city government to address some of their concerns. Kupfrian Park has a rich historical significance, which is unknown to many. Please find historical information, brochure and flyer attached.

[What are we trying to achieve?](#)

Excellence in Public Health! The PACE philosophy is designed to draw on the strengths and resources in the area and form community partners. We are trying to build on those strengths and resources, or “reconnect” the resources that already exist, so that the neighborhood residents and businesses will profit; not to mention the county as a whole.

Flooding, septic tank problems, lack of sewer availability, mosquitoes, and speeding have been mentioned by the residents as some of their concerns. Through the monthly community meetings, I hope that we can rank these issues and start finding the resources to solve them. We may also find that more issues will surface.

[How will we succeed?](#)

By developing strong relationships between each governmental entity, non-profit agencies, local businesses, neighborhood residents, churches, and schools and by having regular meetings with the community to determine the issues, prioritize the issues, and implement action. The first few community meetings will be introductory; however, we will start to establish the Environmental Health concerns and will rank by importance. Stakeholders in the area will be introduced and would be allowed to describe their role in the community. A commitment to action is a requirement in order for this to work.

Will you be a partner in this process?

We would like community leaders to assist in this process! We know that many of you have been working in this area, and we would like to tap into your professional experience and knowledge. Please contact me at (850) 595-6727 or 595-6700 or by email to contribute to this process!!

Many thanks and well wishes,

Mary

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