

Month of Reported Progress:

September

PACE EH Coordinator/Contact Name:

Julianne Price

CHD Name:

Indian River

EH Manager/ Administrator:

Cheryl Dunn

Has EH Manager/Administrator reviewed and approved this report?:

No

Is your PACE EH survey complete?:

Yes

If your PACE EH survey is complete, list your PACE EH community's top identified issues.:

Safety (crime, drug trafficking)

Abandoned Houses

Lack of business opportunity

Lack of street lights

Drinking water quality/stormwater runoff

Concisely summarize this month's activities.:

September was a productive month full of progress. During September, I attended the four different community meetings and also led the PACE EH monthly meeting on Sept. 21st. At the PACE EH meeting, the main topic of discussion was applying for a Brownfield grant. Himanshu Mehta, the acting Solid Waste District Dept., Nandra Weeks and Jim Langenbach from Geosyntec, and Greg Vaday from Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council were the experts who gave a thorough presentation to the community about all the possible applications of a Brownfield designation. Also in attendance were Commissioners Bob Solari and Joe Flescher. Everyone in attendance agreed that proceeding to formally apply for Brownfield grants would be desirable. The next day at the Board of County Commission meeting, the Commissioners voted 5-0 in favor of submitting a formal Brownfield application for funding.

Also this month, three abandoned homes that were targeted as top nuisances for crime and drug dealing were demolished. Two more are slated to be demolished next month. Some of the homes required enforcement via a notice to correct violation from the health department and/or a citation by the county code enforcement department. However, for those owners who could not afford demolition, we provided assistance like the landfill fees that the County Commission allocated to help with our PACE project and got local contractors to donate their services.

As crime was a top community identified issue, the re-activation of the Neighborhood Watch is underway and is truly a grassroots effort. The community will be divided into quadrants with

area captains who will report back to the Sheriff's Department once a month.

Streetlighting is another top community identified issue and the Gifford Civic Progressive League has been working with the city of Vero Beach and FP & L to get them to add streetlights in additional locations. In the past few months, some "pressure" has been applied to relay the desire for the streetlights to be added in a timely manner. This month brought about the formal acceptance from the city and FP & L because they verified the ability to install streetlights at the requested locations. The city will be installing the lights soon, but an agreement will be drafted for the lights in FP & L's area before they can be physically installed.

Finally, this month I gave a presentation on PACE EH to the Unitarian Universalist congregation on Sept. 25th. On Sept. 2nd, Detective Teddy Floyd and I gave a presentation on PACE H to our local Exchange Club. I also participated in our past two PACE EH community's Civic League meetings this month. I also participated in conference calls with the EPA to firm up plans to speak at a CARE workshop in NY during October.