

Month of Reported Progress:

July

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.:

"If you don't like something change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain."-Maya Angelou

July was a critical month of social capital building in the Gifford PACE community. Residents are beginning to ask questions they have long wanted to ask and now know who to pose the question to directly. The community meeting on July 20th was well attended and lots of information was distributed regarding the Gifford Landfill contamination levels now versus what they were prior to remediation. County staff has been answering all the questions raised by the community and have had items on each monthly meeting agenda.

The first Steering Committee occurred on July 16th and most of the Gifford community organizations were represented along with county departments that pertained to the community identified issues. Asset mapping was conducted and was very productive. Now, action plans can be drafted based on the assets available and direct input from the Steering Committee.

Also, in July was a meeting with the Indian River County Sheriff's Dept. to discuss the issue of crime. The Sheriff's Dept. has secured a \$1 million grant to implement People Oriented Policing, or POP, in our county and I hope this will dovetail nicely with the community's desire to increase community policing and crime watch programs.

I chose the quote this month because I think it symbolizes a new attitude that I'm seeing in the

Gifford community which is to ask pertinent questions of leaders and officials. And if you want to hide and complain, then perhaps it's an attitude change that is needed. Another symbolic and low hanging fruit action that occurred this month was the demolition of an abandoned house that drug activity and transient populations were frequenting. This was a team effort and required landfill fees to be allocated by the county to cover the cost and also for a private contractor to donate labor and equipment to make demolition a reality!