

Month of Reported Progress:

January

PACE EH Coordinator/Contact Name:

Julianne Price

CHD Name:

Indian River CHD

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.:

Top identified issues: lack of housing choices, transportation, neighborhood lighting, lack of business opportunity, and expanding community parks

Concisely summarize this month's activities.:

Indian River County Health Department has been working on a year and a half on the PACE EH project in Fellsmere and at the present time, community issues are being solved by physical improvements to the Hall Carter James community. It's a monumental time for the community because they are seeing the fruits of their PACE EH labors! That is to say that they've gone through the entire process and from the starting point of PACE EH, where they had to complete the community survey to identify their community issues, to the end where they are seeing the physical improvements occur.

This month marked the beginning of the drainage and road paving project. This was achieved by the successful grant submission by the city of Fellsmere and has been in the planning stage for about a year. So, this month, the residents of Hall, Carter, James are watching the paving of the roads and seeing their drainage situation improve drastically. Some residents have taken advantage of the CRA funds available to them, which addresses the number one issue identified by the community which was housing.

The newly formed Fellsmere Civic League continued to meet and is now planning what they'd like to focus on for the next five years. This is a great demonstration of how the community will continue to sustain themselves and build on the PACE EH initiative.

Our health department also applied for the ACHIEVE grant which encompasses the Hall, Carter, James PACE EH project area. It will build on the PACE EH initiative and focus on improving nutrition and physical activity in the community.

Plans for the community center in Fellsmere are still moving forward and everyone seems to be excited that the concept of having a community center that will be so close to the Hall, Carter, James community is progressing and now is in the design phase.

Our first PACE EH project in West Wabasso continues to work on executing their five year plan. The county Utilities Director is actively pursuing grants to offset assessment fees required for the installation of sewer lines. Another focus is on having some type of physical activity and/or "something to keep the kids busy" in the community. Leaders are looking into martial arts at the present time to be offered in the community in the evening as an option.

On a personal and professional level, I am really pleased to see the actual improvements that have been planned for the Hall, Carter, James community coming to fruition. It's a testament to the PACE EH process and the quick turnaround for the actual improvements occurring can be attributed to the relationship between residents and the city of Fellsmere, who has been very willing to do their part.