The 1st Visioning workshop was held on November 20th. All workshops are facilitated by Allie O’Neill from the Neighborhood Design Center. Discussions about what a Place Based Initiative is and what areas will be impacted by this work, will set the tone for the remainder of the workshops. Participants of this workshop worked in smaller groups to present their ideas for a better community and for programs and services that best benefit the residents of the communities in the impact area.

The 2nd workshop was held on November 23rd at the Word of Faith Church. This workshop gave new participants the same opportunity as the 1st workshop.

We are encouraging all residents that are able to attend the workshops to come out and make your voices heard about new visions for your community. Your input will help shape projects and programs for the future.

The last Community Leaders meeting held took place on December 3rd at the New Carrollton Library. All participants dived deeper into the focus areas and added their suggestions to comments made in earlier meetings. All of this information in addition to the sector plan will identify new programs and projects for the communities.
What is the name of your business?
Pollo Fiesta Restaurant

How long has your business been in operation and in the community? My mother and I are a family owned restaurant and have been in business for seven years.

What are your days and hours of operation? We serve breakfast Monday through Friday from 5 am to 10 am. Then we start lunch Monday through Sunday from 10 am to 10 pm.

Describe what your company does and the services it provides. We are an El Salvadorian Restaurant. We sell food such as pupusas and sopas (soups) but we offer a little bit of everything in our menu. We offer some tacos which is considered more of a Mexican dish and pollo a la brasa which is a Peruvian charcoal chicken. So our menu is a little mixed with everything.

What is unique about your business? We treat our customers like they are coming to our home. We have been here at this location for a while and because of that we have customers that come frequently. We also have some customers that we have grown really close to that have been with us throughout the years. They support our business by coming three, four, five days a week. I have some customers that come every day to eat breakfast, lunch, or both. We try to treat people as our own, as our family, and we enthusiastically say “Welcome to Our Restaurant!”

How has your business changed over the years? We changed our menu and our decorations when we first bought our place, everything use to be real different. In changing the menu we added more food items. For our decorations we changed the color theme and seats. Basically we tried to do a little makeover to the restaurant. Also another thing that changed was the customers. We got more customers then when we first started. Our clientele has really gone up.

What made you choose your location? We were raised in PG County but moved to Montgomery County. However my mom always wanted to open up a restaurant. And she saw the opportunity to do it in this place. I guess she fell in love with the parking space since it was spacious, we know the community, and we noticed that we are close to houses here. This all made it a good opportunity to start the business. So we decided to be here.

What do you enjoy most about what you do? I enjoy being out front and dealing with the customers. I have developed a good relationship with my regular customers and we are able to work out problems easily. I enjoy everything I do and am grateful to be working with my mother and the other great employees we have at Pollo Fiesta.

If you had one piece of advice to someone just starting out, what would it be? Go for it. In the beginning it’s rocky and it’s scary to open up a business. We were scared to open a business ourselves. We almost gave up on our second year but we just decided that we should keep on trying. Now look at us, we have been here for seven years and we are opening our second restaurant in Jessup.

For more information:
Business Name: Pollo Fiesta
Address: 6408 Kenilworth Ave
Riverdale, MD 20737
Phone: (301) 277-0298

Do you own a local business? If you would like to have your business highlighted in the next newsletter, email us at: jmitchell@ckarcdc.org
ESOL INSTRUCTOR WANTED

Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization CDC (CKAR)
6801 Kenilworth Avenue Suite 203
Riverdale Park, MD 20737
(240) 698-2527

POSITION DESCRIPTION
ESOL Instructor

Contract Position: 15 hours per week starting January 2020

CKAR CDC is a 501c (3) non-profit organization that forms strategic partnerships in order to implement projects in the Greater Riverdale community, including community and economic development, workforce training, environmental sustainability, business retention, and advocacy. CKAR partners with Kaiser Permanente on a Place-Based Initiative in the Greater Riverdale Area, addressing all aspects of the social determinants of health. This organization is experiencing a period of rapid expansion. The English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) class is instrumental to the success of the initiative, as 13% of households in Greater Riverdale have a limited English ability.

CKAR seeks an ESOL Instructor that will: facilitate, stimulate and guide the learning of adult students in a professional and enthusiastic manner. The ESOL Instructor will plan, prepare, and teach well-developed lessons to students; assess and track student progress over time. The ESOL Instructor will also teach students basic computer and job readiness skills. The ESOL Instructor will help CKAR achieve its twofold mission of bringing together the diverse community of Greater Riverdale and striving to make our community a better place for everyone. ESOL classes are offered in five-week cohorts. Eight cohorts will be offered per year.

Responsibilities Include:

Lesson Planning: The ESOL Instructor will create lesson plans based on the Stand Out Lesson Plan Book. Lessons will be adapted to students based on skill levels. The ESOL Instructor will consult with CKAR’s Executive Director and staff to determine if the ESOL class should be split into different levels.

Instruction: The ESOL Instructor will teach English lessons that encourage and inspire adult students and promote enjoyment of learning. The ESOL Instructor will teach students basic computer and job application skills. The ESOL Instructor will also provide students with advisory support and advice as needed.

Assessment: The ESOL Instructor will assess, track, and provide feedback to students and CKAR’s Executive Director. The ESOL Instructor will give each student a report on their progress at the end of each session; and will design and administer a range of assessments as appropriate.

Administrative Tasks: The ESOL Instructor will meet regularly with CKAR’s Executive Director and the Workforce Training AmeriCorps VISTA, in order to discuss student progress and ways to help students find jobs or take college courses. The ESOL Instructor will respond to emails and other communications in a timely and professional manner.

Knowledge and Skills:

The ideal ESOL Instructor will have strong interpersonal skills and be able to engage a class with diverse backgrounds and skill sets. Spanish speaking skills are highly preferred. All candidates should have a TESOL certification and at least one year of experience in teaching. The Instructor must be computer literate. The ideal candidate is well organized, a native Spanish speaker, hard-working, and has strong teaching skills.

Position: ESOL Instructor (Contract Position)
Date: Commencing January 2020
Hours: Instruction – 10 hours/week;
Course Preparation and evaluation – 5 hours/wk.
(Students have expressed an interest in adding additional evening classes)

If interested, email: Deborah Holland at deholland@ckarcdc.org
Resumes accepted by email.
SPRING 2020

Your donation toward the renovation will be greatly appreciated. Please make your donation now. Click on: https://bit.ly/2lWmCpZ

COMING SOON
• Breakfast and Lunch Café
• 14 week certified culinary arts/customer service training program
• Healthy Eating/Healthy Living Menu
• Wellness Programming
• Job Placement Services

CKAR’s ESOL Classes

CKAR’s Multi-Level ESOL program helps people of all languages learn how to write and speak Basic English. This is a 5-week course that awards students with a certificate at completion. Students not only learn English, but also basic computer skills. To register, call our office at 240-608-2527, weekdays 9 am – 5:30 pm.

Greater Riverdale Residents

Do you want your voice to be heard? If yes, then complete our survey by going online:

https://ckarcdc.force.com/s/

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