

RACINE COUNTY NETWORKING BREAKFASTS

2015 NETWORKING BREAKFASTS CONNECT PROVIDERS TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Each fall, Racine County UW-Extension along with the United Way of Racine County and Family Preservation West cohost the annual Racine County Networking Breakfasts.

The purpose of the Networking Breakfasts is to increase the knowledge of community resources and to improve communication among child, youth and family serving organizations in Racine County.

Two breakfasts are held in October 2015 – one at Community Methodist Church in Waterford with 64 attending and the other at Gateway Technical College in Racine with 98 attending.

All participants attending the event receive the newly updated “Racine County Family

Resource Directory” and “Quick List” that are compiled by Racine County UW-Extension.

The breakfasts bring nonprofits, community leaders, and school staff together to learn about community resources, market their services, and engage in networking opportunities. Participants represent organizations that serve families in the following areas: education, health, mental health, financial education, employment, housing, nutrition, parenting resources and support, legal, and crisis intervention.

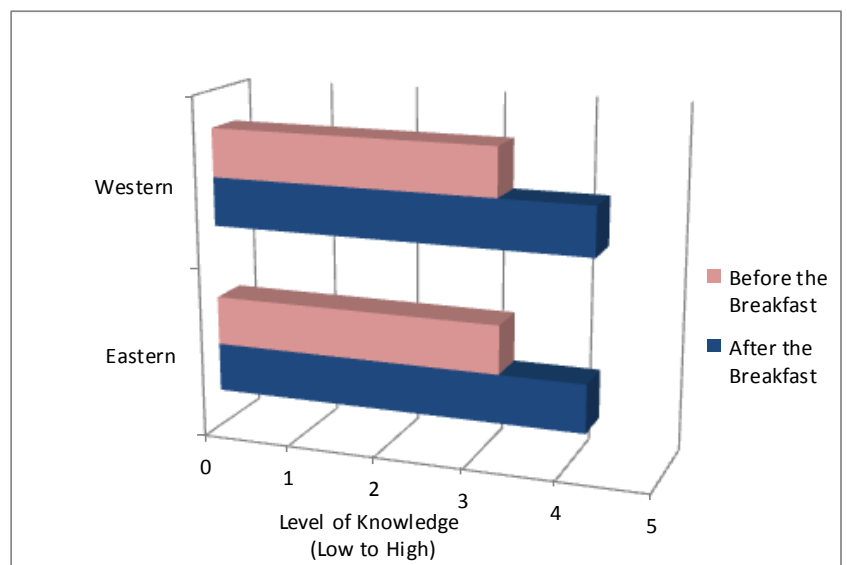
As a result of the Networking Breakfasts, participants are able to more effectively connect families to community resources.

100% of Eastern and Western Breakfast Participants reported that the event was a “Good” or “Excellent” use of their time.

Participants Increase Knowledge...

- Western participants increased their knowledge from 3.23 pre-breakfast to 4.27 post-breakfast.
 - Eastern participants increased their knowledge from 3.26 pre-breakfast to 4.21 post-breakfast.
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What is your level of knowledge of resources in Racine County?



CONNECTING RACINE FAMILIES TO RESOURCES

What participants say...

- *Wonderful to see so many people / organizations coming together to network.*
- *Very useful – keep it going!*
- *Great event! Great communication among agencies.*
- *I love that I got a new and updated list of great resources for my students.*
- *I plan to share 2-1-1 information with current audiences.*



Value to Participants

Program and Organizational Changes are shared during the Networking Breakfasts.

- **Major** program changes and updates were shared including 2-1-1 new role as a central food referral site and open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act.

Coalitions, Collaborations, and Networks in Racine County are highlighted

- **Participants** learned about Higher Expectations, Racine County Family Resource Network, The Racine Collaborative for Children's Mental Health, Youth Coalition, and more.

Value to new staff. The networking breakfasts are especially valuable to new organizations and staff who wish to become oriented with the nonprofit and education sectors in Racine County.

- **23%** of eastern participants and **18%** of western participants have been working in their role in Racine County for less than 1 year.

Access the “Family Resource Directory” and “Quick List for Families” online at the Racine County UW-Extension web site at <http://racine.uwex.edu/> under resources.