



Stanislaus County Children's Council Minutes
December 19, 2007

Members Present:

www.childrenscouncil.com

Lori Buendia, Golden Valley Health Centers
Tom Changnon, Superintendent of Schools
Tom Ciccarelli, United Way
Adam Christianson, Sheriff
Rosemary Crippen, District 1 Representative
William Fagan,
Stanislaus County Housing Authority
Birgit Fladager, District Attorney
Arturo Flores, Modesto City Schools
Doris Foster
Stanislaus County Chief Executive Office
Raul Garcia, El Concilio Community Center
Veronica Garcia
Local Child Care Resource and Referral
Denise Hunt
Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
Richard Jacobs
Valley Mountain Regional Center
Judy Kindle
Sierra Vista Child and Family Services
Linda Kovacs, District 4 Representative
Mary Ann Lee, Health Services Agency
Bob Loretelli, Superintendent, Hickman Schools
Judith R. Loretelli, District 2 Representative
Honorable Linda McFadden, Superior Court
Rod Landes, District 3 Representative
Nancy Millberry
Child Abuse Prevention Committee
Dick Monteith, Board of Supervisors
Rhonda Parker, Parent Representative
Ruben Pina, District 5 Representative
Jerry Powers, Probation
Madelyn Schlaepfer, PhD
Alcohol and Drug Programs
Ham Shirvani, President, CSU Stanislaus
John Sims
Children and Families Commission
Jan Viss, Community Services Agency
Roy Wasden
Domestic Violence Taskforce
Helen White, Community Representative

Lori Buendia, Child Health Care Agency
Charmaine Monte for Tom Changnon, Office of Education
Melda Gaskins for Arturo Flores, Modesto City Schools
Veronica Garcia, Local Child Resource and Referral Agency
Denise Hunt, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
Dick Jacobs, Valley Mountain Regional Center
Rod Landes, District 3 Representative
Phoebe Leung for Mary Ann Lee, Health Services Agency
Judy Loretelli, District 2 Representative
Rhonda Parker, Parent Representative
Ruben Pina, District 5 Representative
Jill Silva for Jerry Powers, Probation
Madelyn Schlaepfer, Alcohol and Drug Programs
Kristin Olsen for Ham Shirvani, California State University Stanislaus
Dan Rosas for John Sims, Children and Families Commission
Jan Viss, Community Services Agency
Carol Shipley for Birgit Fladager, District Attorney

Staff Present: Cheryl Heppner, Coordinator

Meeting began 3:33 p.m.

I. WELCOME

Carol Shipley - Chair

II. INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Charmaine – Office of Education, Leadership Academy Program received the Golden Bell award from the California School Board Association.

Bill – The Housing Authority opened a Senior project in Patterson with 24 units. The first affordable housing units in the Village I project are to be completed in March 2008.

Cheryl Heppner
Coordinator

P.O. Box 395
Denair, CA 95316

Phone: (209) 620-6390
Fax: (209) 669-1930
Email: heppnec@stanscounty.com



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1010 Tenth Street, Suite 6500, Modesto, CA 95354
Phone: 209.525.4494 Fax: 209.525.4420

Ruben – There are about 100 students who are a part of the Youth Commission, training to be trainers in gang prevention. The Youth Commission is sponsored by the city. There is a real need for more gang prevention programs as the problem with gangs is growing.

The Patterson Salvation Army will be giving out 50 food baskets on Saturday.

Phoebe – Urgent Care hours have changed to 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. weeknights and 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. weekends. Currently the after hours Urgent Care is at the Scenic Campus but will be moving to the Paradise Medical Office maybe by February. The Scenic Office still has the Pediatric Clinic.

Dan – 5th Annual Child Care Provider Conference is February 9, 2008. Friday, the online application will be up and running at www.stanprop10.org.

Kirstin – CSUS Psychology Department released a study in October which showed the most effective programs for preparing kids for school were those that involved the parents and the kids together.

Veronica – Application deadline is today for the grant for the expansion of pre-school programs. Stanislaus County Office of Education applied for an additional 108 in the county and 24 in Merced.

Jill – Chief Jerry Powers was awarded the Chief Probation Officer of the Year Award for the State of California. He has been appointed to several committees by the Governor this year and has been very active at the state level, so it was well deserved.

Cheryl – The Applicant profile form and Member profile form has been made into one. **Members are to complete the new updated form to ensure all contact information is correct. Please turn completed forms in as soon as possible so the information packet for new Members may be finalized.**

Carol – Thought a request for a proposal for the site selection was needed for the Family Justice Center. This would slow the process down, but found out that is not the case. Do have a site in mind, so the process is moving forward. Carol asked everyone to keep an open mind on how they might be able to contribute to the Family Justice Center, which is a one stop service center for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse and child abuse.

III. MINUTES from November 14, 2007

Carol mentioned under IV. One- Minute Status Reports by Domain, Law Enforcement, it was stated Hutton House is full and Center for Human Services are not able to meet all the needs for youth on a long term basis. The correction to this statement is **there are times Hutton House is not always full.**

Revisions, under Community Based: Behavioral Health will be having a Work Force Education Training and Planning for ~~their employees~~ the community. ~~An initiative~~ A proposed initiative for non-violent Offender Youth for alcohol and drug abuse will be on the November 2008 ballot.

IX. Committee Reports, Children and Family Commission, the 5th Annual Child Care Provider Conference will be held at MJC, February 15 9, 2008.

Minutes approved as revised: moved by Denise
seconded by Ruben
motion carried unanimously.

IV. ONE-MINUTE STATUS REPORTS BY DOMAIN

Health

Phoebe – Health Care Reform Bill ABX 1-1 is now out of the Assembly and going to the Senate. This bill proposes to provide a public program for children regardless of their immigration status up to 90% of the federal poverty level; 100% poverty level for child-less adults, 200% for parents and 250% for other adults. Medi-cal rate for hospitals and physicians will also increase.

Also, the realignment dollars that were provided to the county will be shifted to the state. The county will still provide the medical care and may have to absorb those costs. There is supposedly a clause in the proposed bill which states if the county is having to pay over 1 billion dollars, the county may petition to have the costs reimbursed. However, there are no guarantees the reimbursements will be issued. Not a lot of specifics are known at this time.

Law Enforcement

Jill – Since the law has changed, the non-violent Juveniles can no longer be sent to the State Department of Juvenile Justice. These Juvenile's are having to be returned to the community, or be placed in Juvenile Hall. Are looking at finding high level placements further south who might be willing to take them. Are amazed at the cooperation they have gotten from Behavioral Health and Recovery Services. They have been very helpful and creative in working with the Juveniles without staff and Juveniles being injured. Are hoping that some time next month, the state will come out with a grant for a new Juvenile Commitment Facility where services can be provided on a long term basis (6 months to 1 year).

Just this past week they discovered kids attempting to make alcohol from bread and fruit juice. This is something that is not uncommon in the adult facilities, but this is the first time it was discovered in the youth facility.

Education

Carol - Office of Education Mock Trials were just completed. The competition is the first week in December with the finals being the second week. Modesto High School won and will go on to the state competition. The Deputy DA's and Judges play a part by coaching, being Attorney scorers or judging. Encouraged everyone to go see them if they can.

Charmaine – Are in the process of writing 4 grant applications in the prevention program. The first one being the school community violence prevention grant. Have had these in the past for Oakdale High School and Turlock High School and are looking at writing for Patterson and one other high school. The next grant is the Tobacco Use Prevention Education Grant for grades 9 – 12 for Pitman, Oakdale, Ceres, Orestimba and Davis High School. Also writing for grades 6 – 8, but not sure which schools as of yet. Last the 21st Century After School Grant for K – 8 and 9 – 12.

Veronica – After expiring in September 2003, Head Start was finally reauthorized on December 5th. December 14th the President signed the new Head Start Act.

Social Services

Dick – It is going to be one of the worst years as far as the budget is concerned, with all programs and departments being asked to go through 10% budget cuts.

A study published in California Counts indicated that teen birth rates have gone down significantly in the state, with Stanislaus County dropping by almost 10%.

Jan – Also concerned with the 10% reduction in budget as CSA fully expends their budget each year.

New Law SB39 goes into effect January 1, 2008. In the past, when a child fatality occurred, CPS was not allowed to provide any information to the media. This new law states that certain information may be shared within 5 days and further information within 10 days. Confidentiality for the child and family is a concern. Federal law may not support this new state law, so it will be evaluated over the next year. The exception to the law would be if the DA deems sharing of the information would interfere with an investigation.

Housing

Bill – There could be an opportunity for the county to assist in the transition of the homeless to regular housing with the issue of the state budget cuts. There is a project in Empire where the homeless are transitioned back into the rental market, but this only happens 4 months out of the year. Should there need to be cuts made, the consideration is possibly shutting this facility down and having a centralized location where families could be transitioned back into the marketplace. Interfaith Ministries has 21 units right now that are full, but they are being successful at this. This is a real opportunity for creativeness, but will wait to see what happens when the budget comes out in 2008.

Community

Judy – The mayor has organized a gang task force to strategize on how to deal with the gang problems in Turlock.

Turlock Schools Superintendent, Bill Gibson is retiring, so will be looking for his replacement. The homeless shelter in Turlock is maxed out every night since opening.

Ruben – The Newman and Patterson school districts will be opposing the Development Bill as it will have a negative impact on the schools.

Melda – Working hard for healthy start to continue with the budget cuts being an issue.

March/April audits will be done at all school districts on their categorical funds to see that the funding is being used as it is supposed to be.

V. CONDITION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH REPORT

Carol – The suicide rate for youths separate from adults was not available, but will get that number for the next report.

The next report comparing 2006 and 2007 data to be finished in April.

All sub-committees are to submit supporting information and records of where the statistics originated to Cheryl.

Revisions: All Statistics in this report are from 2006, to be added back on the brochure.

Vote on the brochure with the above revision: moved by Dick,
seconded by Bill
motion carried unanimously

Distribution of the Report: Dan to help Cheryl with all media contacts. Report to be submitted to The Modesto Bee and other newspapers, Board of Supervisors, every City Council.

Cheryl to email the report to all Council Members for distribution.

VI. PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT DISCUSSION

No changes made to the Philosophy Statement at this time.

VII. DISCUSSION OF BY-LAW CHANGES

ARTICLE IV COMMITTEES Section 1 – Number and Name

- 2. Promoting Safe and Stable Families Committee**
- 3. Stanislaus Child Development Local Planning Council Committee**

to be **removed** as standing committees of the Council. The Executive Committee of the Children's Council to be the only standing committee at this time. Other committees on the Children's Council will report under the Domain Membership.

This change to be voted on at the January 16, 2008 meeting.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Child Abuse Prevention Council – Calendars are available to order for \$10.00 each or 25 or more are \$7.00 each. In March/April the remaining calendars will be donated to the Family Resource Centers as a resource for families.

Shaken Baby Campaign – 100% of the patients at Oak Valley Hospital have completed the education program since the start of the campaign.

Carol thanked everyone for the past year as Chair of the Council.

Meeting adjourned 4:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Heppner, Children's Council Coordinator