



Stanislaus County Children's Council Minutes June 18, 2008

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
Raul Garcia, Community Representative
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
Mark Loeser, Chief Executive Office
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
Laura Ochoa-Sanchez, El Concilio Community
Center
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
Ka Yang, The Bridge

Lori Buendia, Golden Valley Health Centers
Aaron Rudy for Tom Changnon, Office of Education
Tom Ciccarelli, United Way
Bill Fagan, Stanislaus County Housing Authority
Carol Shipley for Birgit Fladager, District Attorney
Raul Garcia, Community Representative
Lisa Henry for Veronica Garcia, Local Child Care Resource and Referral
Dick Jacobs, Valley Mountain Regional Center
Judy Kindle, Sierra Vista Child and Family Services
Linda Kovacs, District 4 Representative
Mark E. Loeser, Chief Executive Office
Mary Ann Lee, Health Services Agency
Judy Loretelli, District 2 Representative
Commissioner Williamsen for Linda McFadden, Superior Court
Jeanette Merchant for Nancy Millberry, Child Abuse Prevention Council
Rhonda Parker, Parent Representative
Ruben Pina, District 5 Representative
Laura Ochoa-Sanchez, El Concilio Community Center
Madelyn Schlaepfer, Alcohol and Drug Programs
Denise Nordell for President Ham Shirvani, CSU Stanislaus
John Sims, Children and Families Commission
Juan Ramirez for Jan Viss, Community Services Agency
Ka Yang, The Bridge

Staff Present: Cheryl Heppner, Coordinator

Guests Present: Christine Applegate, CSA; Terry Plett, DRAIL; Karen Popen, Keyes Unified School District; Gary Novak, CSUS

Meeting began 3:35 p.m.

I. WELCOME

Dick Jacobs, Chair

Cheryl Heppner
Coordinator

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II. INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Raul – Distributed Gallo Center for the Arts 2008-2009 Season Series Sneak Peek.

Aaron – SCOE has just received the federal, School Readiness and Emergency Management Response Grant. This grant will help prepare schools in the event of an emergency. SCOE has also received \$24 million over the next 5 years of the 21st Century After School Grant as well as the Tobacco Education grant for High Schools.

Modesto City Schools is undergoing some reorganization to better serve the students and has been divided into 3 academic learning communities. Academic learning community Associate Superintendents are: Community A, Pat Portwood, Community B, Craig Rydquist, and Community C, Daisy Lee.

Jeanette – Nancy Millberry announced her retirement effective June 30, 2008.

III. APPROVAL OF MARCH 19, 2008 AND APRIL 16, 2008 AND MAY 21, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

Motioned by Bill; seconded by Carol; motion carried unanimously.

IV. ONE-MINUTE STATUS REPORTS BY DOMAIN

Community Based

Tom C. – United Way is making their 28 partner agencies their first priority and therefore have frozen targeted care money for 6 months. The campaign is down 9% and at this time do not know what the uncollected monies will amount to.

Judy K. – Are tightening even more now on monies spent and are very concerned about what is going to happen with Verse 5 funding. The 10% reduction in foster care grants is a concern as well. Sierra Vista Child and Family Services is doing everything possible to cut costs. The directors and administrators will not be getting raises this year and are currently making changes in salary scales in other positions.

Laura – El Concilio Community Center is also finding ways to cut spending.

Tom C. – It is going to be a tough year for the non-profits as the demand for services has increased but the grants and funding is down.

Judy K. – This is the time more than ever for collaboration and for everyone to work together.

Health

Madelyn – Legislation and initiatives are being watched for gaps being filled regarding treatment for youth with alcohol and drug problems. In the mental health area there are plans for prevention and early intervention which should be kicking off by the end of the summer.

Mary Ann – One area of real concern at HAS with regards to the budget cuts is the services provided to CPS children. 10% across the board really amounts to 20%. With the demand in the services rising and the costs to provide the services rising it makes it difficult to reduce the budget.

The pediatric clinic has the physical capacity to offer more services as it is designated as a cost based reimbursement for Medi-Cal, however it has been difficult to find Pediatricians. More services could be provided if there were more doctors.

Lori – Golden Valley Health Centers also finds it challenging to find and keep providers. Providing dental care for children on Medi-Cal is also a concern.

Law Enforcement

Carol – The DA's office is having the same budget problems as other departments. There are 2-3 Deputy DA positions that will not be filled at this time. 3 additional judges will be appointed to the court very soon. These are appointments which were to have been filled this past fiscal year. 3 more could also be appointed in this coming fiscal year.

The Modesto Bee did an excellent job in covering the Family Justice Center. The building at Needham and Poplar will house the center. As a result of the article, a call was received from a pastor of a very small church in Oakdale. This church is donating \$100.00 a year to the FJC and is challenging every church in the county to do the same. He is hoping some of the larger churches would be willing to donate even more. A call was also received from the Gallo Corporation.

Education

Lisa – Division Administrator, Assistant Superintendent Hal DeArmond is retiring and will be replaced by Deborah Clipper from the Office of Education, Child and Family Services Division.

The development of the Stanislaus County Coordinated Early Child Care Plan has started. It is based on Proposition 82, Preschool For All. Data will be analyzed to see what the actual needs are of the preschools in the area.

The budget proposal is a 6% cut in programs and 14% cut in state funded programs.

Ruben – Patterson Unified School District has hired the principal from Downey High School as the new Assistant Superintendent.

Social Services

Terry – Next month DRAIL is moving to a new facility located on 12th Street. Funding is fairly stable as most services are federally funded. DRAIL is continuing to look for new partnership opportunities.

Juan – CSA – The state budget proposal includes a 15% cut to child welfare services. The state senate and assembly have rejected this proposal so it is unknown if these cuts will actually

happen. A few different scenarios have been developed to handle the reduction in funding and now are waiting to see what happens.

Housing

Bill – A 20 unit, 2 and 3 bedrooms, housing unit is opening. Also are acquiring a project with 40 affordable units.

With the housing market prices dropping, a single mother who was in a lease to own housing unit, who could not afford to buy her unit a year ago, now has been able to purchase and own her own home.

Would like to be able to purchase homes at a reasonable price from real estate developers, to be able to provide affordable housing to those in need.

Community

Judy L. – The City of Turlock passed their budget with at least a 10% cut from most areas. The priority of the council was with the police and fire departments.

John – Children and Families Commission-next meeting is Tuesday, June 24, 2008 at 4 p.m. in Hughson. The action item on the agenda will be to consider a \$27,000 grant to continue the shaken baby syndrome campaign.

Yesterday, Bill SB16 was introduced. This bill must be adopted by 2/3's vote of the legislature and approved by the Governor, and then the provision of the measure would go on to the next state wide ballot. The two Senators who introduced this bill are proposing a vote on these provisions be considered by the voters in November. This bill states, on the day of the vote any unencumbered money in the county in reserves would be swept up by the state. 50% of that money would go to the counties and the cities and the other 50% would go to the Office of Education. Also, 90 days after the election itself, the Children and Families Commissions would be disbanded and any existing contracts would be absorbed by the county. This is an issue that will be legislated over the next few months. With the Governors proposal to secure the lottery that will require a vote by the people and it takes a 2/3's vote of the legislature to get it on to the November ballot. If the Governor's proposal is accepted by the legislature, it would be easy for any propositions such as 10, 63, and 99 to be tacked on. This is the most severe challenge Prop. 10 has faced in the past 10 years.

Q: Tom C. to Judy L. – Any further developments on the Turlock Homeless Shelter?

A: Judy L. – It is going to cost more than first anticipated and are looking at the homeless shelter possibly going faith-based. We Care is not doing well at this time. The building location has not been finalized, although are looking at building out by the corporation yard. This however is not the best location. The college was looking at working with another collaborative organization to write a grant, but as things are now, the shelter will not be completed on time.

V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Condition of Children and Youth Report draft was distributed. **ALL CORRECTIONS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED TO CHERYL.** Once all statistics have been gathered a presentation will be given to the Board of Supervisors.

New Members pending appointment: Karen Poppen, Craig Gundlach, Terry Plett and Chris Applegate.

Members pending reappointment: Sheriff Adam Christianson, Rosemary Crippen, Rod Landes, Laura Ochoa-Sanchez, Tom Ciccarella, Rhonda Parker and Chief Roy Wasden.

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Dick - Presentation by Project Life Saver - A number of organizations, including law enforcement have collaborated in an effort to locate individuals who wander off. This involves the use of a wristwatch. It is currently being set up in Stanislaus County.

Presentation on Autism by Valley Mountain Regional Center.

Commissioner Williamsen – suggested a presentation on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care Report and the state wide report on Delinquency.

VII. NEXT MEETING

August 20, 2008

Meeting adjourned 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Heppner, Children's Council Coordinator