



Stanislaus County Children's Council Minutes August 20, 2008

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Christine Applegate, Community Services Agency
Lori Buendia, Golden Valley Health Centers
Tom Changnon, Superintendent of Schools
Adam Christianson, Sheriff
Tom Ciccarelli, United Way
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
Craig Gundlach
Child Development Local Planning Council
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
Judith R. Loretelli, District 2 Representative
Honorable Linda McFadden, Superior Court
Rod Landes, District 3 Representat
Dick Monteith, Board of Supervisors
Laura Ochoa-Sanchez, Community Representative
Rhonda Parker, Parent Representative
Ruben Pina, District 5 Representative
Terry Plett, Disability Resource Agency for
Independent Living (DRAIL)
Karen Poppen, Keyes Union School District
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 Task Force
Ka Yang, Community Representative

Members Present:

Lori Buendia, Golden Valley Health Centers
Tom Changnon, Office of Education
Larry Sikma for Sheriff Adam Christianson
Rosemary Crippen, District 1 Representative
Carol Shipley for Birgit Fladager, District Attorney
Raul Garcia, Community Representative
Lisa Henry for Veronica Garcia, Local Child Care Resource and Referral
Craig Gundlach, Child Development Local Planning Council
Dick Jacobs, Valley Mountain Regional Center
Mary Ann Lee, Health Services Agency
Judy Loretelli, District 2 Representative
Laura Ochoa-Sanchez, El Concilio Community Center
Regina Perdomo for Rhonda Parker, Parent Representative
Karen Poppen, Keyes Union School District
Jill Silva for Jerry Powers, Probation
Madelyn Schlaepfer, Alcohol and Drug Programs
Jan Viss, Community Services Agency
Gene Balentine for Chief Roy Wasden

Staff Present: Cheryl Heppner, Coordinator

Guests Present: Charmaine Monte, SCOE; Claire Soares, Sierra View Elementary School; Susan Berglund-Weaver, Sierra View Elementary School

Meeting began 3:34 p.m.

I. WELCOME

Dick Jacobs, Chair

II. MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF HELEN WHITE, former Children's Council member.

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Cheryl Heppner
Coordinator

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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IV. APPROVAL OF JUNE 18, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

One Minutes Status Reports by Domain, Health, revision:

One area of real concern at HSA with regards to the budget cuts is the services provided to ~~CPS~~ CCS children.

Minutes approved as revised: motioned by Carol Shipley, seconded by Mary Ann Lee; motion carried unanimously.

V. PRESENTATION by David Pier, Executive Director, Gallo Center for the Arts “ARTS EDUCATION AND PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES”

Raul Garcia may be contacted regarding establishing partnership opportunities with Gallo Center for the Arts.

Tom Changnon – Stanislaus County Office of Education is 1 of the 10 counties out of 58 in the state to help the local arts this year.

VI. REPORTS BY DOMAIN

Community Based

Laura – El Concilio is currently organizing a health fair to be held October 11th at Hanshaw Middle School in recognition of National Health Week. El Concilio’s Annual Gala Dinner is scheduled for September 19th.

Health

Madelyn – BHRS, Alcohol and Drug Programs, prevention, early intervention mental health services act planning is beginning. Information regarding various focus groups will be sent out and everyone is encouraged to attend. 51% of the funding has to go to children’s schools primary care.

Working on early contingency planning if Prop. 5 passes, which is the non-violent offender rehabilitation act. No position has been taken however planning has started knowing it will make a significant impact. A substantial amount of money has been designated for youth treatment in drug and alcohol rehabilitation.

Prop.5 is an initiative which will be on the November ballot called the non-violent offender rehabilitation act. There are several parts to it. The youth part of the act is intended to shift costs from prisons to the correctional system to treatment for alcohol and drug problems.

With the mental health services act, the existing programs will stay in effect and there is a new set of money that will go to the prevention and early intervention.

Jan – suggested the community survey be sent to Cheryl to send to Children’s Council members, The survey considers how people define mental health and emotional well being in their own identified community and the services they see needed.

Mary Ann – One proposal in the state budget that has already gone into effect is the 10% provider rate reduction for Medi-Cal providers. Most HSA services were not hit with it, but it is still bad. Some providers and pharmacies were not going to accept any new Medi-Cal patients because of this.

Dick – If the state budget does not pass by the end of August, some of the immediate care facilities and skilled nursing facilities will soon run out of their emergency funds. Valley Mountain Regional Center has money to pay the August bills but not Septembers.

Law Enforcement

Gene – Modesto Police Department has lost all funding for equipment and the Coordinator position for the Police Activities League. Friends of Modesto Youth, a non-profit organization has agreed to fund the Coordinator position for the next 2 years. Stanislaus County Police Activities League has formed a partnership with MPD and their combined efforts have resulted in the Modesto Police Activities / Stanislaus County Police Activities.

Carol – Prop. 5, a new bill, is one that is not favored by law enforcement as it involves rehabilitating non-violent crime offenders rather than incarceration. It is similar to Prop. 36 and the rehabilitation of drug abuse offenders. Prop. 36 has not been real successful.

Another proposition, a new victim’s rights bill, would be a constitutional amendment. The California District Attorney’s Association is remaining neutral on it.

Victim’s Services is expecting a 5-15% cut in services from the federal government and the state budget is uncertain. No open positions are being filled at this time in order to make ends meet until the budget is finalized.

Family Justice Center – the building being considered is still available. Fundraisers are slowly getting started. Hope to open the center by the end of the year.

Jill – Funding is now available through SB 81 for counties to build Juvenile facilities. Stanislaus County will be starting to work on the proposal for a commitment facility.

Education

Tom Changnon – Schools that participated in the Every Day Counts campaign implemented the past couple of years have experienced an increase in school attendance. At the end of last year a car was given away to a high school student. 17 out of 25 districts reported a dramatic increase in school attendance.

This year’s campaign is Fit for the Future and focuses on obesity. Stanislaus County is striving to have every one involved, county-wide. Kaiser issued a \$75,000 check to get the campaign

started. This campaign will be aligned with the Governor's fitness challenge and will be the pilot county for the state because of its county-wide focus.

The Governor has proposed to have all 8th graders in the state taking algebra by the end of 3 years. Stanislaus County is not close to that and the concern is that it is setting kids up for more failure. Even though California ranks 44th in mathematics in the nation, none of the 43 states ahead of California has algebra mandated for 8th grade. The cost to implement this would be \$2 billion.

Lisa – Financial cuts are anticipated in a lot of child care programs including the alternative payment program. There currently is a decrease in the number of available child care providers. At the same time, there has been an increase in calls from families requesting help with child care costs. With the increase in calls, the waiting lists are continuing to get longer.

Social Services

Jan – CSA budget - Have heard that both parties are supportive of preserving the funding for Adult Protective Services and Child Welfare Services.

Had the opportunity to testify before the Select Committee on Foster Care on prevention/early intervention and abuse and neglect as it applies to differential response. A powerful testimony was shared by a grandmother on how she unexpectedly became the caretaker of her granddaughter and was able to keep her safe after she had been abused by her parents.

Child Welfare has been selected to participate in 2 “National Break Through Studies”. 20 counties/tribes/state systems were selected through an application process. One study is “Safety and Risk in Child Abuse”, the second is “Timely Reunification”. Stanislaus County was accepted for the second. Timely reunification is defined as trying to increase the timeliness of reunifying with the parents when a child enters the dependency system because of abuse and neglect. Both the Commissioner and the presiding Juvenile Court Judge will be participating in the study.

Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) – A recent report from the Shaken Baby Campaign stated that 75-76% of parents who had children at four local hospitals since the start of the campaign were educated on shaken baby. There has been 1 case of shaken baby syndrome since November 2007 compared to 7 cases in the 18 months prior to the kick-off of the campaign.

Housing

No report.

Community

Regina – BHRS, Children' Services, participated this past weekend in the Community Health Fair, Neighbors and Health, sponsored by Kaiser. Information regarding available services was provided.

Educate, Equip and Support class is starting September 17th for families who have children with mental health needs, learning disabilities and mental health issues. Contact Regina at 558-7494 with any questions or referrals to the class.

Judy Loretelli – Turlock Fall Recreation Guide has just been released. This next year’s programs will be focusing on growing adults. A variety of programs will be designed to engage youth in regards to healthy minds, bodies and spiritual aspects.

September 20th at Columbia Park, Turlock Community Collaborative is holding a Family Fun Day. It is a community awareness event with gang awareness workshops in the morning and youth activities in the afternoon.

Turlock Unified School District has a new Superintendent, Sunny Da Marto. One of the programs he is involved in is Teens in Action. There currently are 18 teens involved. Money for this program is donated by community businesses.

Turlock Shines will be held on October 4th. It is a community event for the beautification of Turlock. The Mayor will be kicking off the event and teams will be sent out into the community to clean up graffiti, trash, etc. All kinds of activities will take place at Donnelly Park with a BBQ at the end of the day. Need to be at least 16 years old to help with the clean-up. Charmaine advised there is a program at Turlock High School and Pitman High Schools regarding the clean-up of cigarette butts which Judy will look into for Turlock Shines.

Turlock is also having a 100 mile marathon in honor of its centennial year. Parent, kids and adults are encouraged to walk, run, bike, etc. now until November. Even pets are participating. At the Turkey Trot, everyone participating will complete their last mile of the 100. This is an event to encourage a healthy lifestyle. Everyone who completes it will receive a medal. Many schools and after school programs are participating.

Craig – Child Development Local Planning Council – The Child Development Local Planning Council has sent a letter to Senator Cox and other members of the Legislature in opposition to Senate bill X316. Dick requested a copy of the letter be submitted to Cheryl.

VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Dick – Final draft of the “Condition of Children and Youth” report was presented.
Vote on final report, September 17th.

Presentation will be given to the Board of Supervisors once report is published.

Coordinator’s Report – Cheryl – Handed out new member contact information to add to information packet, Council agenda request and request for letter of support. Contact Cheryl if you have not received a copy of the member information packet.

November 1st, Cheryl will be attending the Annual Community Board Retreat and will be providing information regarding the Children’s Council.

VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Dick – October 15th – VMRC will be presenting on Autism.
For a presentation request, submit a completed council agenda request form to Cheryl.

IX. NEXT MEETING: September 17th, Salida Library

Meeting adjourned 4:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Cheryl Heppner, Children's Council Coordinator