



Stanislaus County Children's Council Minutes November 19, 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 Representative
Dick Monteith, Board of Supervisors
Laura Ochoa-Sanchez, Community Representative
Rhonda Parker, Parent Representative
Vacant, 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:

Charmaine Monte for Tom Changnon, Stanislaus County Office of
Education
Sheriff Adam Christianson
Tom Ciccarelli, United Way
Rosemary Crippen, District 1 Representative
Bill Fagan, Stanislaus County Housing Authority
Carol Shipley, District Attorney
Adrian Carroll for Denise Hunt, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
Dick Jacobs, Valley Mountain Regional Center
Judy Kindle, Sierra Vista Child and Family Services
Cindy Duenas for Linda Kovacs, Center for Human Services
Mary Ann Lee, Health Services Agency
Judy Loretelli, District 2 Representative
Dick Monteith, Supervisor
Regina Perdona for Rhonda Parker, Parent Representative
Karen Poppen, Keyes Union School District
Madelyn Schlaepfer, Alcohol and Drug Programs
Denise Nordell for Ham Shirvani, President CSUS
Dan Rosas for John Sims, Children and Families Commission
Jan Viss, Community Services Agency
Chief Roy Wasden, Domestic Violence Task Force
Gene Balentine for Chief Roy Wasden

Staff Present: Cheryl Heppner, Coordinator

Guests Present: Estrella Garcia, United Way; Eric Schulze, City of
Turlock

Meeting began 3:35 p.m.

I. WELCOME

Dick Jacobs, Chair

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Cheryl Heppner
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III. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2008 AND OCTOBER 15, 2008 MEETING MINUTES: moved by Bill Fagan, seconded by Jan Viss, motion carried unanimously.

IV. PRESENTATION ON CITY OF TURLOCK AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS by Judy Loretelli and Eric Schulze

V. REPORTS BY DOMAIN

Community Based

Tom Ciccarelli – United Way Campaign kicked-off in October and so far is going well. Stanislaus County has been the lead county for 211 in the central valley as well as throughout the state. All CEO's of United Way across the state are working together in a collective way in regards to advocating for funding during these hard times.

Judy Kindle – Sierra Vista is experiencing an increase in the need for services and are trying to determine how to meet the needs with so many of the working poor not eligible for medi-cal.

Law Enforcement

Carol Shipley – The DA's office is losing one of their more experienced DA's, Dawna Frenchie as she will be sworn in as a Stanislaus County Court Judge on December 5th at 4:00 p.m. at the Supervisors Chambers. They are happy for her appointment to the bench but her experience and prosecuting skills will be missed.

The domestic violence grant was taken away which came as a surprise and are waiting to hear of other grants that may also be cut.

Sheriff Christianson – Part of the narcotics suppression team will be moving back to the main office as they are not confident the funding for the California Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team will come through from the state.

Methamphetamine has no shortage of users or suppliers as the laboratory figures for the valley are back into the double digits.

The Juvenile Services Unit expansion has been put on hold due to lack of funding.

The Juvenile Justice Program will be maintained and will be working to rebuild the Juvenile Diversion Program.

Gene Balentine – The Modesto Police Department has lost funding for the GREAT grant; Gang Resistance Education and Training through the schools. The good news, all officers will remain in the high schools and 1 officer will be remaining assigned to the middle schools.

Health

Mary Ann Lee – There was a proposal made today to put a 6 month moratorium on enrollment for the Healthy Families Program. The outcome is unknown at this time.

Education

Karen Poppen – Keyes school has an after school program in place as well as a partnership with the police department and the PAL Program. Are grateful for these continued partnerships.

Social Services

Jan Viss– CSA has seen a significant increase in food stamp applications. Child Welfare has also seen an increase in the number of kids being placed in protective custody.

The request for proposal for the partnership with the Family Resource Center, Differential Response and Children and Families Commission is currently being worked on. CSA and Children and Families Commission both contribute to this for the Family Resource Centers as they are doing great work in the area of prevention of children being placed into protective custody. December 16th a community meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. at West Modesto Community Center to gather information from the community regarding these efforts.

Dick Jacobs – Posters are available from Valley Mountain Regional Center with information regarding programs offered by VMRC. This is a statewide effort to inform parents of children with autism, down's syndrome, cerebral palsy, etc. of the help available for them.

Housing

Bill Fagan – The Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors has approved a draft program for Neighborhood Stabilization Program. 25% of this program money targets families making less than \$28,000 per year. Money is made available from the federal government for the county to purchase homes at a discounted rate. It is an opportunity for lower income families to rent at a discounted rate allowing them to build up equity to then be able to rent in the regular market and eventually buy their own home. It is also an opportunity for the properties to be sold and others purchased as well. This is a one time opportunity we will never see again. There is an 18 month time period to allocate the money, 48 months to spend the money with all program income generated being returned to the federal government. This program will be advertised to the public through existing programs.

Community

Cindy Duenas – Center for Human Services is sponsoring a volunteer training on December 9th for those who are looking at using volunteers and how to go about setting up a system. The trainer has a really good system for identifying, reinforcing and managing volunteers.

December 4th the candle light vigil to remember those killed in drunk driving accidents will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the 1010 10th Street Plaza.

Ceres Partnership Family Resource Center is moving this week to 4th Street.

Dan Rosas– The Children and Families Commission will be requesting the Children’s Council assist with reviewing the proposals for the Family Resource Center, RFP’s. This will be a January agenda item. There will be 7 to 10 proposals and will require 5 Council Members to review them. More information to follow at January’s Council meeting.

The Children and Families Commission Report to the Community was released 3 weeks ago with a report also being given to the Board of Supervisors. Extra copies are available in both English and Spanish.

VI. VOTE ON 2009 OFFICERS: Officers elected – Jill Silva, Chair
Jan Viss, Chair-Elect
Judy Loretelli, Vice-Chair

Dick Jacobs will remain on the Executive Committee as Past-Chair.

VII. APPROVAL OF 2008 ANNUAL REPORT: motioned by Carol, seconded by Bill, motion carried unanimously.

Children’s Council 2008 Annual Report will be presented to the Board of Supervisors, December 9th at 9:00 a.m.

VIII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Coordinators Report – Thank you to all the “Condition of Children and Youth Report” category leads for submitting the summaries for the report presentation. **All leads to these categories are asked to be present at the presentation on December 9th at 9:00 a.m. to answer any questions the Board of Supervisors may have regarding report results.**

Jan Viss– Children’s Council budget has been reduced to \$10,000 for the 2008-09 year retroactive to July 1, 2008. The money goes to paying for the staff position, Cheryl. She is reducing her hours in order to make it to the end of the year. Refreshments will no longer be provided at Council meetings and the Executive Committee and Cheryl are looking at ways to stream-line her activities.

Mary Ann Lee – Should the Children’s Council consider meeting less often?

Dick Jacobs - The Executive Committee will be discussing meeting options for the Council at the January meeting.

Jan Viss– Each member’s agency contributed to the Children’s Council budget prior to CSA slowly becoming the sole contributor. There is no deficit for this year and we think we can make it through the year with what is left in the current budget.

Tom Ciccarelli – The work of the Children’s Council is important and the Children’s Council needs will be brought to the attention of the United Way Board.

Sheriff Christianson – Could a job analysis, time allocation of Cheryl’s responsibilities be put together? The Sheriff’s Department may have some staff that could be utilized if necessary.

Tom Ciccarelli – Would like to know the other budget needs as well.

Dick Jacobs – This requested information will be gathered and sent out as requested prior to the January Executive Committee meeting.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: December, Holiday Celebration. Each member is encouraged to bring a food item to share.

X. NEXT MEETING: December 17, 2008

Meeting adjourned 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Cheryl Heppner, Children’s Council Coordinator