

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COORDINATING COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, March 2, 2017

2:00 p.m.

SJCOE Wentworth Education Center, Emerson, 2707 Transworld Drive, Stockton

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Michelle Scott, Chair.

II. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

Commissioners Present: Capt. Jerry Alejandre, Doug Bonnet, Dave Erb, Becky Fitzgerald, Kathy Morrissey, Kristine Reed, Rene Roddewig, Michelle Scott, Rev. Dwight Williams, Tony Yadon, and Mark Yost

Commissioners Excused: Dawn Custer, Mikey Habbestad, John Harris, Edith Izaguirre, and Evelyn Moore

Commissioners Not Present: Matt Kozina

Contractors Present: Lindy Turner-Hardin (CAPC), Jennifer Jones and Ector Olivares (WCYFS), Meaghan Carter and Shawna Basco (SJCOE/Foster Youth), Brandon Leake and Argel Lustina (Sow A Seed), Mark Apostolan (El Concilio), Joseph Thomas (Parents By Choice), and Ginger Estopare (HSA)

Contractors Not Present:

Guests Present:

Staff Present: Cathy Long-Page and Melinda Stapleton

Staff Excused: Jamie Baiocchi and Brandi Harrold

III. CONTRACTOR COMMENTS

A. Child Abuse Prevention Council

Tony asked about the numbers being down in the CAPC Respite program.

Lindy shared that the respite spots are being used by children whose parents need longer amounts of respite time. Where families may use the spots for 3 to 4 days, now some are being used for 3 months. So this represents a smaller number of families being served.

B. Child Death Review Team

Cathy stated that the team reviews all deaths of children under the age of 18 years in San Joaquin County to help prevent future deaths or injuries to children. The majority of deaths from the age of 0-5 years were from positional asphyxiation, SIDS, respiratory, drowning, and blunt force trauma. The five deaths from ages 6-12 years were auto accident, gunshot, and respiratory infection. The five deaths from ages 13-18 were auto accidents and homicides. The relationships that have been built within the team has been allowed for better communication across agencies.

They are still moving forward with Car Seat Safety and working with CHP. The SIDS training hosted by SJCOE and CSCC will be March 29th at SJCOE.

There was no discussion regarding the monthly report sent out via email prior to the meeting.

C. El Concilio – One Time Funding

Mark shared that the Holiday Food Basket was a huge success. Lower income and at risk families received baskets of food that will feed a family of five for two weeks or longer. The baskets contained staples, meats, dairy, and fresh local farm produce. Over 1100 families were served from the combined funding of this grant and the proceeds from the annual El Concilio Tamale dinner. The families are chosen through applications they complete themselves or they are referred to El Concilio by the programs. Every family that applied or stood in line received food baskets. No one was turned away empty handed. If families were unable to attend, staff delivered their food baskets. The produce is purchased locally 2 days prior to the event and some of the veggies were donated. Santa Claus and the UOP Tiger were present to entertain the families. He thanked the commission for this funding.

D. Foster Youth & Family Services

Shawna shared that they work in the classroom in the AM's and work on social work from HSA in the PM's. They work with the social workers to help kids ages 6 to 17 who they meet with on a monthly basis. Their caseload has been increased from 10 to 20 for both she and Meaghan. The kids are referred by CPS and are not assigned to Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA).

Meaghan stated that there have been changes made at the Mary Graham Shelter and the students are not available at the end of the day so they work with students in the mornings. Now they are working with the SJCOE teachers to see who could use a foster youth advocate.

Both will be attending and presenting at the Foster Youth Education Center in April and the State Conference in May.

Mark shared that the Peer Navigator program is a new program and a partnership with HSA, and is not used statewide.

Kathy asked if they could share about a case that they have been an advocate. Meaghan shared that a client who is continually in crisis. This is about a 15 year old girl who had been set up to live with a friend's family, she turned her life around with school and her best behavior, and then they decided to not be foster parents. She was returned to the shelter, and could not understand what she had done to deserve this. She ran away, she came back, and stayed at Mary Graham for three months. She was set up with a new family around Christmas time, and then this family was unable to keep their home, she came back to the shelter, and again does not understand why these things happen to her. Now she has been placed in another foster home. She has been dealing with so much inconsistently in her life but she is willing to try and make her life work. The latest news was that she had run away again, so she is hoping that they will see her soon.

Lindy stated that unfortunately this is very common and may not show good results, but all of the support given to her and the steps that she is making are huge to her progress. Little changes are making the difference even though it is a slow process, and data for funding may not support the funding needs. Assigning a CASA to the child also takes time; many months go by before a good fit is found.

Tony asked if the Peer Navigators are able to talk to with any foster youth. Meaghan stated they can as long as they are not assigned to a CASA volunteer. If the youth are referred by their social worker at HSA, then Meaghan and Shawna can work with them.

Mark shared that a new program is being set up for two foster transition specialists and the SJCOE hiring process has begun. These positions will work with school districts and partnering

with probation for placement with HSA. They will bridge the gaps with career orientations and higher education for kids who need direction.

There was no discussion regarding the monthly report sent out via email prior to the meeting.

E. Parents By Choice – One Time Funding

Tony introduced Joseph Thomas, Director for the Positive Parenting Seminars. Joseph thanked the commission for the funding and the support for children and families. The program started with four seminars and now has six more scheduled for a total of 10 seminars. There are 108 participants in the program.

- The first quarter results: 39 participants with a rating of 92% by the parents, 95% of the parents would use the strategies learned; 74% of parents completed the parenting course.
- The second quarter results: 69 participants with a rating of 96% by the parents, 92% of the parents would use the strategies learned; 50% of parents completed the parenting course.

There is a new class for teen parents held at New Start Alternative High School. They are also meeting the needs of community by having their parent classes in English and Spanish.

The program is developing a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club in Tracy and Manteca. The seminars are 45 minutes to an hour and share six different strategies from evidence based program, Triple P-Positive Parenting Program.

F. Sow A Seed – One Time Funding

Brendon Leake shared that the Youth Development Mentoring workshops are on the spoken word poetry. The students produce and perform their poetry. The 10 week course has emphasis on Child Abuse Prevention and Literacy and asks that the students to share their experiences of child abuse, neglect or sexual abuse. The counselors try and keep the moods positive and light and provide a safe space for them. The program began with 60 students and now has 20. There are counselors on hand to assist with situations that may arise from memories. The kids will walk through the Lisa Project at the end of the course. There will be counselors on hand to speak with the kids if they are needed. The program shows that kids who know very little about poetry and once are informed what child abuse is are now able to use the tools of poetry and have increased their levels of thinking. The group of 9-12 graders from Franklin High School meets from 2:30 to 4:00 pm daily, where they work on writing skills and public speaking skills. On April 19th the Student Poetry Presentation will be held at the Teen Center.

E. Women's Center Youth & Family Services

Tony asked why the parenting numbers continue to remain down.

Jennifer stated that with the recent staff changes, the parenting classes were put on hold. Both of the parenting instructors left in October and it has taken time to reestablish the classes. They have hired four full time parenting instructors and a parenting coordinator. Discussion continued as to why the dropout rate is so high and is this program still a priority. Jennifer stated that she will look into this and find out why the numbers are down and assured the commission that the program is very important.

F. HSA Contract Supervisor – nothing to share.

IV. EXECUTIVE BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS

Cathy shared the following:

- The statistic numbers presented by the One-Time funding grants will be great when used in the state reports.
- She will set up site visits with WCYFS and CAPC to discuss low monthly numbers.

V. RESOURCE SHARING

Cathy stated that there is still room in the See Poverty...Be the Difference Workshop March 9th. She also distributed the flyer for the "Listen" film presentation by Erahm Christopher on April 19th at the Lincoln High School Theater from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This was filmed entirely in San Joaquin County and is presented to the public free of charge.

Lindy shared the following:

- The Transitional Age Youth Program (16-24 years) who are not equipped to be an adult is funded by BHS. This program mentors the young adults in life skills and gets them ready to be on their own.
- The Personal Safety Awareness workshop with emphasis on parking lot safety and social media social safety on March 9th from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. is free of charge and is collaborated with Stockton Police Department.
- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and they will present to the Board of Supervisors a proclamation and she will share the date with Cathy for distribution. Everyone is welcome to come together and support.
- Children's Task Force formed by the Board of Supervisors met in early February. Everyone is also welcome to attend.
- Kathy Miller heads the three work groups and is looking for gaps in services, what is working, evaluating funding streams. They are looking at establishing sustainable funding streams; we are one of 11 counties actively pursuing this. They will meet Wednesday, March 8th at FRRC at 9:00 a.m. come and join one of the work groups.

Cathy shared that Gaps & Needs will meet tomorrow, March 3rd at 9:00 a.m. at SJCOE. Also SJCOE Board of Education is signing a board resolution for April being Child Abuse Prevention Month. Cathy is creating a flyer for the date and is working in collaboration with CAPC.

Argel Lustina shared that Sow A Seed has a Substance Abuse training beginning on March 21st. The students under the age of 18 can participate in the 12 week curriculum on how to deal with substance abuse. These youth may be struggling with substance abuse or have family or friends that are struggling. The classes are in Tracy and Stockton. He will send an email to Cathy for distribution.

Cathy shared that the Symposium registration will go out this week, 20 participants per agency, free of charge on April 19th at the Stockton Hilton. She encouraged individuals to submit award nominations.

VI. ITEMS SCHEDULED OR ACTION

A. Acceptance of Minutes from the February 2, 2017 meeting

Tony made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 2, 2017 meeting as presented. Motion passed.

M. (T. Yadon)

S. (D. Williams)

Ayes- 10

Nays- 0

Abstentions – 1 (J. Alejandre)

VII. OLD BUSINESS

