

Tulare County Child Care Planning Council Meeting
Thursday, November 13, 2003
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Aspen Room

MINUTES

Present: Donna Bailey, Karen Cardell, Rose Crow, Argelia Flores, Tim Foster, Marilyn Giese, Sharon Heberling, John Hobbs, Paula Kelesis, Edwyn Ortiz-Nance, Alma Potter, Pam Pulford, Carolyn Rose, Tina Shirley (staff), Stan Stine, and Prudy Tanner.

Guests: Mike Bussey and Marge Helley.

Absent: Barbara Bozarth, Joe Engelbrecht, Senaida Garcia, Diane Hilliard, Laura McLean, Michael Meyerstein, Erma Montion, Lois Sheffield, Isidro Silva Jr., Mary Thomas, Mary Wright, and Sally Ybarra.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Pam Pulford, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

II. Council Training

Representatives from Community Care Licensing provided training on child care licensing. Marge Halley discussed regulations related to child care centers and Mike Bussey discussed regulations related to family child care homes. Some of the key points they reviewed included:

- Licensing fees have doubled
 - Small = \$50
 - Large = \$100
 - Live Scan = \$55/adult
 - No more aggregate fees
- Workers must have a criminal record clearance prior to beginning work
- There is a \$100 penalty if someone working in the center/home does not have a fingerprint clearance
- There are approximately 62 non exemptible crimes

III. Approval of Minutes

Donna Bailey made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. John Hobbs seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

V. Executive Committee Report

A. Draft Bylaws

A draft of the bylaws with recommended changes from County Counsel was emailed to Council members and also included in their packets. Members agreed that no more revisions were necessary. The bylaws will be presented in January for final approval.

B. Retreat

i. Date

The retreat is scheduled for February 12, 2004 from 9:00 – 4:00. The Heritage Center had been suggested as the retreat site; however, John Hobbs informed the group that the Farm Show would be taking place on that date. Donna Bailey suggested the Friends House. Members agreed that this would be a good location. Donna will forward the contact information to staff.

ii. Facilitator

Jacqueline L. Ryle, Ph.D. with Empowerment Strategies has agreed to facilitate the retreat. Pam Pulford and staff will meet with her prior to the retreat date to discuss the purpose and goals.

iii. Purpose/Goals

Members discussed what they would like to accomplish at the retreat. Suggestions for staff to discuss with Dr. Ryle include:

- Redefine the strategic Plan
- Developing and reorganizing committees
- Focus the Council
- Get the Council more actively involved in the community and Council goals

Tim Foster indicated that Dr. Ryle may begin the retreat with the question “What do you want to get out of the session” and suggested that members be thinking about that.

VI. Subcommittees

The Council will look at restructuring the subcommittees at the retreat. The Quality Development Committee is the only committee that is currently meeting on a regular basis and could use more assistance from other Council members.

VII. Subcommittee Reports

A. Quality Development

i. Summit

Alma Potter gave an update on the progress of the next summit. She stated that the suggested theme is "Storm Warnings and Safe Havens - Facilitating Quality Early Childhood Environments". She also reviewed some of the proposed workshop topics. Council members suggested that more topics on special needs should be included. Names of potential keynotes include Judy Newton with United Cerebral Palsy and Tom Hunter. The next meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2003 at 3:30 PM in the R&R conference room.

VIII. First 5 Update

Argelia Flores gave an update on the activities of First 5 Tulare County. She reported that on November 3, 2003 the Child Care Mini Grants were released. The mini grants are up to \$2,500 and available to providers that have not previously received a mini grant. The Commission is specifically looking to fund those applicants that propose to upgrade their equipment, serve rural communities, and serve children with special needs. The mini grants are due December 5, 2003 by 4:00 PM.

Argelia also indicated that the new parent kits now include a book entitled "What to do when your child is sick" and an oral hygiene kit.

The next First 5 Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 20, 2003 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM in the Board of Supervisors meeting room.

IX. Staff Report

A. AB 212

Staff gave an update on the AB 212 Staff Retention Project. There were 399 applications received. Of those, 33 were ineligible for a stipend, 279 qualified for a stipend for a total dollar amount of \$273,450. There were 87 applicants that qualified, but will not receive a stipend due to lack of funds. Those 87 applications total approximately \$42,000. If more funds are received from the state, then stipends will be disbursed to those 87 applicants.

B. Other

Included in member packets was a meeting date list for the 2004 year. Additionally included in the packets was a handout on the availability of licensed care in Tulare County. The California Child Care Resource & Referral Network published the handout.

X. Announcements

Pam Pulford welcomed Donna Bailey back to the Council meetings. Pam also congratulated Carolyn Rose and Senaida Garcia on each being selected as one of 24 Women of Influence in the Central Valley.

Tim Foster announced that the new YMCA Parkview center is almost full and should be totally enrolled by the end of the year.

XI. Next Meeting

- A. The next Child Care Planning Council meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2004 3:00 – 5:00 PM in Lindsay, CA. The site is to be determined.