

Tulare County Child Care Planning Council Meeting
Thursday, October 14, 2004
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Doe Avenue, Aspen Room

Minutes

- Present: Karen Cardell, Rose Crow, Edwyn Ortiz-Nance, Alma Potter, Lois Sheffield, Prudy Tanner, Mary Thomas, Mary Wright, and Valerie Simonich.
- Absent: Barbara Bozarth, Ray Chavez, Joe Engelbrecht, Marilyn Giese, Sharon Heberling, John Hobbs, Erma Montion, Pam Pulford, Carolyn Rose, Isidro Silva Jr., and Stan Stine.
- Guests: Brooke Frost, Yolanda Gonzales and Ruth Lewis.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Rose Crow, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

II. Council Training

Brooke Frost, First 5 Tulare County, gave an overview of the First 5 Health Initiative. A flyer with a summary of the initiative was distributed to Council members. Healthy Kids is an insurance program for children 0-18 up to 300% of the poverty level. There are approximately 4,100 children in Tulare County that would be eligible for the program. A little less than half are undocumented. The Healthy Kids program will mirror the Healthy Families program except their will be a \$20 co-pay at the emergency room for Healthy Kids. The fee will be waived if the patient is hospitalized. Because First 5 is only allowed to provide services to children 0-5, fundraising is being done to provide services for children 6-18. Enrollment for the program is currently being done at WIC sites.

Brooke announced that First 5 Tulare County would be hosting two community outreach summits to discuss the Children's Health Initiative. The summits are scheduled for November 4th and 5th. For more information contact the First 5 office.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

III. Approval of September Minutes

Due to the lack of a quorum, the minutes were not approved.

IV. Discussion of Council Meeting Dates/Times

Members reviewed a summary of the recently distributed surveys. There were only eight surveys returned. Blank surveys were included in member packets for those that did not previously complete one.

Staff expressed her concern with regards to the lack of response to emails that are sent out and the continued issue with reaching a quorum. Although a majority of survey respondents indicated that a shorter meeting during the lunch hour would be more effective, staff is concerned that there will still be a problem with reaching a quorum even if the time is changed. This will be further discussed at the next Council meeting.

V. Subcommittees

A. Review Current Committees/Action Teams

Enclosed in member packets was a list of the current committees/action teams. Each Council member should be on at least one committee/action team.

B. Committee Reports

Alma Potter gave an update on the Maintain a Strong Involved Council action team. The team met on September 10th and discussed the survey, which was subsequently distributed to Council members.

VI. First 5 Update

Brooke Frost announced that the First 5 Commission has approved a new mental health initiative. There will be 25 individuals trained the first year and during the second year those 25 will train additional individuals. More information about the initiative will be provided, as it is available.

VII. Resource & Referral Update

Ruth Lewis, Resource & Referral Coordinator, gave an overview of services that are available through the R&R office. She distributed the R&R brochure and a list of upcoming workshops. The action team also decided that the Council would meet in Visalia over the next six months. If the bimonthly schedule is approved on a permanent basis then meetings in outlying communities will be set. The trainings for the next four months that were discussed are:

- ◆ October/Lali Moheno
- ◆ December/First 5 Health Initiative
- ◆ February/Legislative Process – Budget update
- ◆ April/Needs Assessment Overview

The training for October and December were switched. The next meeting is scheduled for October 22nd at 9:30 AM at HHSA. The Quality Development Committee will meet directly after at 10:30 AM.

VIII. Staff Report

A. Needs Assessment

Staff reported that the needs assessment draft is completed and included in member packets. Members briefly reviewed and commented on the assessment. Staff will pass the comments on to Fawn McLaughlin and a final draft will be distributed prior to the next Council meeting. The Council will vote on approving the assessment at the December meeting.

B. Review Contact Information

Included in member packets was an updated list of Council members addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses. If your information is incorrect, please let staff know. A final copy will be distributed at the next meeting.

C. AB 212

Staff reported that the AB 212 surveys had been distributed, returned, and input into a database. Staff will be sending an email to the AB 212 committee to schedule a meeting to review the surveys and determine how stipends will be disbursed.

D. SB 1703

Staff reported that Tracy Martinez continues to do a wonderful job at implementing the SB 1703 program. The following activities have been accomplished:

- ◆ 17 Disability Specific Kits have been given
- ◆ 5 New Kits pending
- ◆ 37 Children with special needs are in the care of providers receiving our services
- ◆ 12 Child Care Providers are currently receiving consultations
- ◆ 52 Attendees at our Special Needs workshops
- ◆ 34 Attendees at our Provider Support Meetings
- ◆ Disabilities served:
 - ADD/ADHD
 - Anxiety Disorder
 - Asthma
 - Autism
 - Behavior Disorders
 - Cerebral Palsy
 - Drug Exposed Infants
 - Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
 - Speech Delays
 - Mental Retardation
 - Fragile X Syndrome
 - Hearing Impairment

- Developmental Delays
- Down Syndrome
- OCD

Muscular Dystrophy
Undiagnosed

E. Other

Staff announced that the Child Development Division is getting ready to release two RFA's to distribute unallocated balances for General Child Care and State Preschool program funding. The anticipated release date is the end of October 2004.

IX. Announcements

Valerie Simonich announced that the YMCA is hosting Lights on After School today from 4-4:30 PM.

Rose Crow announced that Pro-Youth/HEART received a grant and will be in business for another year. They will also be providing services in Tulare.

Mary Wright announced that the COS Child Development Center will be reviewed by a validator tomorrow.

X. Next Meeting

The next Tulare County Child Care Planning Council meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2004