

**TULARE COUNTY CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Thursday, April 13, 2006 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
7000 Doe Avenue, Visalia
Resource & Referral Conference Room

Present: Ray Chavez, Brandi Clark, Rose Crow, Nancy Driver, Joe Engelbrecht, Janet Hogan, Tracy Martinez, Edwyn Ortiz-Nance, Pam Pulford, Carolyn Rose, Rose Rubio, Lois Sheffield, Tina Shirley (staff), Valerie Simonich, Stan Stine, Mary Thomas, and Vicki Wright.

Absent: Karen Cardell, Cynthia Garcia, Deana McCoy, and Prudy Tanner.

Guest: Rosemary Caso.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Welcome

Rose Crow, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

B. Introductions

Introductions were made and Nancy Driver was welcomed as the newest member of the Council.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

Rose Crow, Chair, opened the public hearing. However, there were no members of the public present. Therefore, the public hearing was closed.

III. COUNCIL TRAINING

Brandi Clark, Chief Executive Officer/Tulare-Kings Red Cross, gave a Pandemic overview presentation. Several handouts were disbursed and she discussed how the Pandemic Influenza might affect child care centers. For further information Brandi may be contacted at the Tulare-Kings Red Cross office.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Priorities

Members reviewed a chart outlining the information for the priorities. The chart included the following:

- Waiting list information for infants/toddlers, preschool, and school age children by community
- % of kids receiving free/reduced lunch by community
- Total number of children by community
- # of infants/toddlers and preschoolers in poverty based on the % of kids receiving free/reduced lunch by community
- % of children being served by community

There was some concern regarding the infant care. The chart did not appear to accurately reflect the % of infants/toddlers receiving care. Staff will review and revise the chart. Members agreed that the priorities should be divided based on infant/toddler, preschool and school age. It was decided that the Council did not have sufficient time to set the priorities. Stan Stine made a motion that the Public Awareness workgroup meet and draft the priorities at an open meeting with input from other Council members. Janet Hogan seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Stan Stine also made a motion that the Executive Committee makes the final determination on the priorities based on the recommendation of the workgroup. Carolyn Rose seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

B. February Minutes

Members reviewed the February minutes. Janet Hogan made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Pam Pulford seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

C. Conference Attendance Policy

Members reviewed the revised Conference Attendance Guidelines. Janet Hogan made a motion to approve the Conference Attendance Guidelines dated 4/13/06. Stan Stine seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

D. Budgets

Members reviewed a revised budget. The budget was changed due to the cancellation of the Preschool for All Summit. In the revision, funds were reallocated to the equipment line to cover the cost of an upgraded computer station and projection screen. It was noted that the previous cost of the monitor should be included in the equipment line item. Additional funds were allocated to the Council Activities line item. The suggestion for use of funds was to purchase additional marketing items. Valerie Simonich made a motion to approve the revisions. Edwyn Ortiz-Nance seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

It was also discussed that the Council would like to host a Pandemic training for child care providers. This will be further discussed at the next meeting.

VI. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Executive Committee

i. Membership Update

A revised membership chart was included in packets. There are currently five vacancies that are Board of Supervisors appointees. The Executive Committee is recommending that Rosemary Caso with the Visalia YMCA be appointed to the Council.

B. Nominating Committee

The following slate was presented as the proposed new Executive Committee:

Chair	Joe Engelbrecht
Vice Chair	Cynthia Garcia
Secretary	Valerie Simonich

The Council will vote on the slate of officers at the June Council meeting.

C. Workgroups

i. Adhoc or Standing

Members discussed whether or not the workgroups were considered adhoc or standing. It was agreed that the Collaboration and Public Awareness workgroups would be considered standing and the Preschool for All workgroup was adhoc.

ii. Collaboration Workgroup

Staff updated the Council on the activities of the workgroup. A member survey was emailed to all Council members. If you have not yet completed and returned the survey, please do so ASAP. Once the surveys have been returned, they will be summarized and reviewed by the workgroup. The workgroup will then divide members into groups of three or four based on their area of expertise. The groups will then present at the Council meetings.

iii. Public Awareness Workgroup

Rose Crow updated the Council on the activities of the workgroup. The workgroup organized two public forums to encourage input on the child care priorities. On March 21st a forum was held in Visalia. There were six Council members in attendance and one guest. On March 23rd a forum was held in Porterville. There were three Council members in attendance and five guests. A handout summarizing the public forums was included in packets.

D. Child Care Conference

Lois Sheffield announced that the Child Care Conference was held on April 1, 2006 and was the largest ever with 586 registrations. Rose Crow and Deana McCoy attended the conference on behalf of the Council. Rose stated that she really enjoyed the conference and workshops she attended.

E. First 5 Tulare County

Janet Hogan stated that the following were recently awarded grants:

- Playgrounds
 - Three Rivers
 - Kaweah Kids (renovation)
 - City of Visalia/Tulare County Office of Education (renovation at the Manuel Hernandez Center)
- Planning Grant
 - Collaboration between Tulare County Office of Education and United Way
 - There are still pending funds to disburse for the planning grants

Ongoing program proposals are due next week. Ray Chavez announced that First 5 released a new Master Plan statewide. It will provide for more standardized evaluations.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was announced that the Needs Assessment had some incorrect charts and needs to be revised. It was agreed that the Executive Committee would work with staff and the consultant to revise the assessment.

VIII. NEXT SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING

The next Child Care Planning Council meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2006.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Rose Crow, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.