

Tulare County Child Care Planning Council
Inclusion Team Meeting
December 7, 2010

Minutes

Present: Cara Peterson, Karen Hansen, Kristina Delgadillo, John Davis, Sherri Glenn, and Tina Shirley (staff).

I. Welcome

Cara Peterson, Committee Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Review First 5 Planning Grant Information

Staff provided committee members with a handout identify a potential format for the assessment, data gathering, cost and how to seek a consultant. The information was reviewed and discussed. The suggested format includes:

- Acknowledgements
- Executive Summary
- Introduction
 - Council
 - Inclusion Collaborative Team
 - Purpose
- Definition of special needs for our county
- Methodology
- Organization of Report
- Findings
- Policy information
- Case studies
- Conclusion
- Recommendations

III. Review Information from Other Counties

The committee members reviewed information received from other Council Coordinators regarding projects/assessments that other counties have conducted.

IV. Discuss and Brainstorm Planning Grant Ideas

Committee members discussed the following as the “what” of the project:

“ A comprehensive assessment of the availability and quality of early care and education programs and services for children 0-5 who are receiving intervention services due to an identified disability or a suspected disability”.

Information to include in the grant proposal:

- Number of children in Tulare County that have been identified as having a disability
- Of that the number of children 0-5 that have been identified as having a disability
- Number of children in TC that have been identified as having a suspected disability 0-5
- Number of children in TC with an identified or suspected disability that are being served in licensed facilities (private centers, licensed centers, family child care)
- Information on the facilities that are serving these children
- An estimated number of children with an identified or suspected disability that are being served in exempt care
- An estimated number of children identified as having a disability receiving services in the K-12 system
- An estimated number of the children that could potentially have been identified and received services prior to K
- Distribute a parent survey
- Distribute a provider survey to both licensed centers and homes
- Data on what services are available
- Data on who is providing services
- Focus groups with early care and education providers
- Focus groups with parents/guardians
- Interview community based organizations
- Interview administrators
- Information regarding quality of care/services that is being provided
- Comparison of programs and services in K-12 vs pre-K
- Information on best practices – what other counties are doing
- Costs for implementation of programs
- Training and education available within the county/region
- Training and education that is needed
- Concerns, fears, obstacles, challenges, successes
- Community awareness regarding children with disabilities
- Curriculum and classroom practices
- Facilities and environments
- Delivery systems
- Screening tools
- Outreach

The purpose of the request is to develop a comprehensive assessment and utilize the document when seeking funds to develop and enhance the quality and resources available to early care and education programs/providers. Through the assessment the committee can appropriately identify what services are needed in the county to support children with special needs in quality programs.

V. Discuss Potential Grant Request Amount

Based on the cost for the Economic Impact Report and the Child Care Needs Assessment, a suggested amount for the project is in the range of \$20,000-\$25,000. In addition to funds for the actual consultant cost should also be built into the request for a video, printing of the assessment, a brochure, indirect costs, staff time, mailing of the surveys, and costs of forums.

VI. Discuss Potential Consultants

The committee discussed potential consultants and determined that this would be further discussed if funding is received. At that time a request for consultant may be developed and sent out to committee member contacts.

VII. Other

Staff will draft the proposal and email it to members prior to the next meeting so feedback can be obtained.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for January 10, 2011 at 10:00 am in the Manzanita room at the Doe Avenue complex.