

**Tulare County Office of Education
Child Care Planning Council
SB 1703 Project Report
July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005**

Overview

The SB 1703 Project in Tulare County was a huge success and of great benefit to the providers caring for children with special needs. Through this project a much-needed service was provided to the non-state subsidized providers in our county. Through the one-on-one consultations providers had the opportunity to have professionals come out to their home and assist them with strategies in caring for children with special needs. This greatly enhanced the provider's skills and knowledge base and encourages them to make inclusion of children with special needs more available to parents looking for care. In turn parents are ensured reliable quality care that enhances their support system.

Through the newsletters, video, and workshops providers had the opportunity to learn more about various disabilities and gained a better understanding of how to work with children that have those disabilities in their homes/centers.

The child care providers greatly appreciated the disability kits, which provided them with valuable resources regarding the specific disabilities that they were currently dealing with. By specializing the kits to meet the providers needs we were able to address the issues that they were currently struggling with and often times the consultants were able to go through the kit with the provider and give them more in-depth training.

Overall this project was of immense benefit to the providers and it is strongly encouraged that that the project is supported in some fashion in the future (Please see the enclosed support letters).

Below is a narrative report on each of the activities that were implemented during the reporting period.

Activities

One-on-One with Providers

- ◆ One-on-One consultations were conducted with the child care providers throughout the reporting period. Whenever possible the parents/guardians were present during the consultations. Releases were obtained when the consultants worked directly with the children. The following professionals conducted the consultations:
 - Dr. Terry de Forrest – Behavior issues, Mental Health, Attachment Disorders
 - Lionel Machado – Respiratory Therapist, Asthma Education

- Amanda Mirisie – Physical Therapist, physical therapy: movement, exercise, massage
- Rose Rubio, MFT – Behavior issues, anxiety, crisis, grief and loss
- Linda Sanders – Sign language
- Donna Williams – Occupational Therapist, occupational feeding, bathing, clothing, sensory integration
- Kathy Williams – Nurse, hearing test
- Carolyn Wong – Respiratory Therapist, Asthma Education

The above professionals conducted consultations with the providers on the following disabilities:

- ADHD
- Drug Exposed
- Anger
- Downs Syndrome
- Fragile X Syndrome
- Developmental Delays
- Autism
- Asthma
- Cerebral Palsy
- Duchenne’s Muscular Dystrophy
- Speech Delays
- Sensory Motor Deficits
- Behavioral Issues
- Anxiety Issues
- Hearing

Disabilities Newsletter Development and Distribution

- ◆ The Resource & Referral newsletter, Building Blocks, is published on a bimonthly basis and contains an article on caring for children with disabilities. All articles in the Building Blocks newsletter are translated into Spanish. The following topics have been included in the newsletter (see enclosed newsletters):
 - July/August – Special needs support is available – Enrolling a child with special needs – Provider Support Group
 - September/October – Babies at Risk – The young and the Restless: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
 - November/December – Strategies for Difficult Behavior
 - January/February – A is for Asthma – Calming Activities for Children
 - March/April – Creating a Circle of Support – Early Language Development
 - May/June – Nonverbal Learning Disorder

- ◆ In addition to the SB 1703 information being included in the Building Blocks Newsletter, the Child Care Planning Council website also contained information regarding the project and the activities that were being conducted (see enclosed website information).

Workshops and Provider Incentives

- ◆ Workshops were conducted on a variety of topics. Spanish translation was available for the workshops. In addition, each provider in attendance received a certificate of completion and an incentive related to the workshop topic. Included with the report are the data collection and evaluations from each of the workshops. The following is a list of the workshop topics and number of participants:

○ July 2004	Enrolling a Child with a Disability (English)	8 Participants
○ July 2004	Enrolling a Child with a Disability (Spanish)	21 Participants
○ August 2004	Special Needs Community Resources (English)	18 Participants
○ August 2004	Special Needs Community Resources (Spanish)	15 Participants
○ September 2004	Sign Language (English/Spanish)	14 Participants
○ October 2004	ADHD-The Young & the Restless (English/Spanish)	54 Participants
○ November 2005	Understanding Grief and Loss (English)	11 Participants
○ November 2005	Understanding Grief and Loss (Spanish)	11 Participants
○ January 2005	Identifying a Disability (English/Spanish)	16 Participants
○ February 2005	A is for Asthma (English)	10 Participants
○ February 2005	A is for Asthma (Spanish)	10 Participants
○ March 2005	Special Activities for Special Kids (English/Spanish)	25 Participants
○ April 2005	What do you do with the Mad that you feel? (English)	16 Participants
○ April 2005	What do you do with the Mad that you feel? (Spanish)	18 Participants
○ May 2005	Children’s Mental Health and Intervention (English/Spanish)	20 Participants

Disability Specific Kits

- ◆ Disability kits were developed and distributed to child care providers caring for children with special needs. When a provider was caring for a child with a disability they would contact the Program Supervisor and inform her of the disability. The Program Supervisor would then create a “kit” specific to that providers needs and deliver the kit to the provider. A total of 35 had disabilities for which the providers received kits (see enclosed information for more detail). The disabilities included:

- Cerebral Palsy
- Behavior
- Anxiety
- ADHD
- Bladder Control
- Nightmares
- Anger
- Bipolar
- Hearing Loss
- Congenital heart Disease
- Asthma

- Obsessive Compulsive
- Biting
- Drug Exposed
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- Social Impairment
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Tantrums
- Autism
- Weaver Syndrome
- Glaucoma
- Fragile X Syndrome
- Developmental Delays
- Mental Retardation
- Speech

Travel

- ◆ During the reporting period, Tracy Martinez/Program Supervisor for the SB 1703 project, attended several conferences and workshops pertinent to performing her job. Those conferences and workshops are outlined below:
 - Health & Human Services Mental Health workshop
 - Bullying and out of Control Kids
 - National Association for the Education of Young Children
 - Sensory Integration & Sensory Motor Tools in Young Children
 - What's a Parent to Do? RAD Children, Putting theory into Action
 - Childhood Mental Disorders
 - How to Gather a Comprehensive Developmental & Mental Health Assessment
 - High Risk Infants
 - Autism Society Support Meeting
 - Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
 - Beginning Sign Language
 - Beginning Together Inclusive Early Care
 - Transitions Through Educational Life
 - Understanding Grief and Loss
 - Contemporary Issues in ADD/ADHD
 - Please Don't Send Me to the Office Anymore, Behavior Training
 - The Five P's for Children with Special Needs
 - Understanding Behavior Mental Disorders in Children
 - Using the Inclusive Early Childhood Classroom to Meet the Needs of Children with Disabilities and Other Special Needs
 - Help me, this Child is Different! Identifying a Disability
 - Make and Take: Strategies for Fun and Learning Language and Literacy Development
 - Promoting Social, Language, and Literacy Development in Early Childhood Settings

- Brain and Behavior
- Off to a Good Start, Touch Points Training
- Helping Children Cope with Death
- Communicating with Parents
- Navigating the School System
- Non-Verbal Learning Disorders
- High Risk Kids and Preschool

Provider Support Groups

- ◆ The Provider Support Group meetings were held on a regular basis throughout the reporting period and were facilitated by the Program Supervisor with translation available. The Program Supervisor attempted to have guest speakers at the meetings and held them in opposite ends of the county to make it more convenient for the providers. The following is a summary of the meetings:

○ September 2004	Visalia	Rose Rubio, MFT	13 Participants
○ October 2004	Lindsay	Donna Orozco,	15 Participants
○ November 2004	Visalia	Laura & Linda Hess	6 Participants
○ December 2004	Visalia	Kids on the Block	10 Participants
○ January 2005	Porterville	R&R Staff	21 Participants
○ February 2005	Visalia		16 Participants
○ March 2005	Porterville	Linda Sanders	10 Participants
○ April 2005	Visalia		10 Participants

Provider Recognition Event

- ◆ A recognition event was held in conjunction with Resource & Referral on June 27, 2005 to honor the child care providers for all their hard work and dedication. The event took place in Visalia and was a potluck. Over 50 individuals were in attendance and highlights from the year were presented.

Providers Caring for Children with Special Needs

- ◆ In a survey recently conducted by the Resource and Referral Library, the following information was extrapolated:
 - 112 providers responded to the survey
 - Of those 33 indicated they are caring for children with special needs
 - Of those there were 35 children with special needs receiving child care services
 - When asked if they were interested in providing care for children with special needs, 61 responded Yes
 - When asked what types of workshops they would like offered, 50 responded Disabilities – Including Children with Special Needs and 31 responded American with Disabilities Act

- ◆ Based on information received from the Resource & Referral Library, below is a summary of the providers that are reporting that they have experience caring for children with special needs. The community and number of providers in each community are listed.

Earlimart	7
Exeter	11
Farmersville	12
Lindsay	19
Pixley	2
Porterville	64
Richgrove	4
Terra Bella	3
Tulare	39
Visalia	99
Cutler	4
Dinuba	18
Orosi	10
Springville	1
Sultana	1
Woodlake	6
Tipton	1
Woodville	1
Goshen	2
Allensworth	2
Strathmore	2
Ivanhoe	2
Traver	1
London	1