



**SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2009
Polinsky Pavilion**

Voting Members Present

JoAnne Bushby; Amethyst Cureg (for Wilma Wooten); Nina Garrett (for Carlos Flores); Paula Guerra; Mary Harris; Margarita Holguin; Hon. Susan Huguenor; Paula Ingrum (for Sandra McBrayer); Mack Jenkins; Christine Lafontant (Renee Bahl); Sharon Lawrence; Loretta Middleton (for Randolph Ward); Lynn Ceresino Neault (for Constance Carroll); John Philips (for John Sansone); Vivian Reznik; Meredith Riffel; Barbara Ryan; Katherine Smith-Brooks; Michelle Soltero, Theresa Stivers

Alternate Members Present

Debbie Comstock; Roseann Myers

Visitors Present

Tom Alexander, Juanita Edwards, John Hensley, Judith Radke, John Hensley

Staff Present

Vicki Devine, Harold Randolph

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. by Hon. Susan Huguenor, Chair. Everyone present introduced themselves, stating their name and affiliation.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Report from the Chair

- ♦ Judge Huguenor said the Commission was going to discuss the HHS Operational Plan. She stated that anyone who had a conflict of interest cannot participate nor vote. She asked they state for the record their recusal from discussion and voting on the agenda item. The following Commission members or alternates recused themselves:

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| Margarita Holguin | South Region Representative |
| Michelle Soltero | Child Care Planning Council Chair |
| Meredith Riffel | East Region Representative |
| Debbie Comstock | East Region Representative (alternate) |
| Loretta Middleton | County Superintendent Schools (alternate) |
| Paula Ingrum | Children's Initiative (alternate) |
| Paula Guerra | Central Region Representative |

IV. Action Items

- A. Fiscal Years 2009-2010 & 2010-2011 HHS Operational Planning Advisory Board Input

1. Today's recommended action will approve the Commission's Advisory Board Input for HHS Operational Planning for fiscal Year 2009-2010 & 2010-2011
2. Motion Required

The Commission discussed and rated the newly contracted services since the 2004/05 review process. They also discussed and rated all other programs or activities conducted by Child Welfare Services. The Commission's ratings and comments are provided on Exhibit A (attached). Note the comment "to increase if funding becomes available" for the Multi-Systemic Therapy Program. In addition, eleven programs were not discussed or rated after it was determined that they were organizational or structural issues (Exhibit A, Page 7).

The following handouts were used in determining program ratings:

- CWS Program cross reference table
- CWS Program or Activity listing
- CWS Budget Task Force Worksheet

Motion made by Mack Jenkins and seconded by Vivian Reznik to approve the Commission's Advisory Board Input for HHS Operational Planning for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 & 2010-2011. The motion **passed** unanimously.

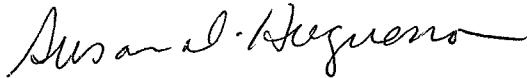
V. Additional Business

VI. Announcements

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Written by Vicki Devine

County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency
 Fiscal Years 2009-10 & 2010-11 Operational Planning Advisory Board Input

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| Advisory Board: Commission on Children, Youth and Families | Executive Staff: | Date: |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|

| Program | RATING | Other Information/Comments |
|--|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Adoption Services Adoption Assistance Program - Provides financial assistance to families for adopted children. Families are eligible to receive financial payments and Medi-Cal insurance coverage for children even after the adoption is finalized. | MEDIUM | |
| Adoption Services Post Adoption Services - Information about the child provided to relinquishing parent after adoption finalization. This is done by cards, letters, etc. | MEDIUM | |
| Adoption Services Recruitment - Advertising, public announcements, speaking engagements soliciting individuals to become adoptive applicants. Also Adopt 8 Project with Channel 8, Calendar Project and faith-based community outreach. | MEDIUM | |
| Alcohol and Drug Services Dependency Court Recovery Project (SARMS) – The County of San Diego’s Substance Abuse Recovery Management System (SARMS) Housing Program is an integral component of the Dependency Court Recovery Project designed to reunite families in recovery. Case managers document that affordable safe, decent, and sanitary housing is essential for successfully returning the children to the home and reuniting with their families. Eligible families receive rental assistance and pay no more than 30 percent of their monthly-adjusted income towards rent for up to 24 months. This creates a stable living environment, increasing the chances of successful recovery and keeping the family unit intact. <i>Substance Abuse Recovery Management System (SARMS)</i> has been rated by the CEBC in the area of Substance Abuse (Parental). <i>SARMS</i> is a collaboration of the Juvenile Dependency Court, San Diego County Drug and Alcohol Services, Child Welfare Services, attorneys, and treatment programs. <i>SARMS</i> was created to assist the parent of a child in the dependency system with his/her own substance abuse problem. The goal of the program is to expedite treatment and monitoring so that the possibility of reunification is enhanced. If reunification is not feasible, the goal is to make a timely decision about the child’s permanent placement and reduce the time in foster care. <i>SARMS</i> is a court ordered program with sanctions for the parent if they do not comply with the court mandates. | HIGH | |
| California Children Services – Is a countywide program that treats children with certain physical limitations and chronic health conditions or diseases. CCS authorizes and pays for specific medical services and equipment provided by CCS approved specialists. | HIGH | |

County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency
 Fiscal Years 2009-10 & 2010-11 Operational Planning Advisory Board Input

| Program | RATING | Other Information/Comments |
|--|--------|----------------------------|
| Child Welfare Services Family to Family – Family-Centered, Neighborhood-based Services. An approach to working with children, families and communities. Based on the principle that the first and greatest investment in time and resources should be made in the care and treatment of children in their own homes, and when not possible, in their own communities. Based on the premise that neighborhoods are the primary source of opportunity and support for families and are therefore, primarily responsible for assuring the safety and vitality of their members. Integration of this approach into daily practice does require partnerships, strong relationships and true collaboration between all of the stakeholders, i.e. birth family, foster care providers, service providers and community agencies. | HIGH | |
| Child Welfare Services Family Unity Meeting Program - Meetings with families who have children about to be placed out-of-home. Meetings help families identify all possible out-of-home placement options. | LOW | |
| Child Welfare Services Family Visitation Centers - Sites where parents can visit their children who are placed out of the home by Juvenile Court. The Centers reduce out-of-home caregivers responsibility for arranging and supervising visits. | HIGH | |
| Child Welfare Services Hotline | HIGH | |
| Child Welfare Services Independent Living Skills – Provides case management services to approximately 1800 foster youth, ages 16-21, to help them be successful and knowledgeable in the areas of employment, education, money management, housing and decision-making. Social Workers develop a Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP) for each of the youth and make referrals to community agencies that are contracted to provide ILS services in each region. | HIGH | |
| Child Welfare Services Interstate Compact Placement Coordination - All children who require placement outside of California must meet ICPC requirements. A specialized unit within special programs oversees these. | MEDIUM | |
| Child Welfare Services Kin Gap - Legislation established Kin-GAP to serve dependent children whose dependencies are dismissed when their relative caregivers assume legal guardianship. 1110198-99 Minute Order #6 State Grant \$150,000. | MEDIUM | |
| Child Welfare Services Kinship Guardianship – Guardianship legal services for relative guardians. | MEDIUM | |
| Child Welfare Services Recruitment and Retention - Liaison with HHSA Personnel and DHR. Work to recruit applicants for positions within Children's Services. | MEDIUM | |

County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency
Fiscal Years 2009-10 & 2010-11 Operational Planning Advisory Board Input

| Program | RATING | Other Information/Comments |
|---|--------|----------------------------|
| Polinsky Children's Center Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis & Treatment – Provides mental health services to identified high risk children to prepare children for out of home placements or return to their own home. The program provides day rehabilitation, mental health assessments and consultation. | HIGH | |
| Polinsky Children's Center Emergency Shelter Care Unit – Attempts to place children directly from the field or from PCC with experienced foster parents until a permanent placement is made. ESCU staff arrange for short-term placements away from PCC, place children in Emergency Shelter Care (ESC) homes, and place children in short-term adjunct beds. | HIGH | |
| Public Health OLDS - The Nurse Family Partnership Program is an evidence-based program that provides low income, first time mothers with home visitation services from Public Health Nurses. Proven results Board Letter or Policy include: improved birth outcomes; reduced rates of subsequent pregnancy; reduced rates of childhood injury, abuse and neglect; decreased smoking and alcohol use. Public Health Nurse visits begin early in pregnancy and continue for two years after the child is born. Public Health Service or Benefit Level Nurses work intensively with these mothers to improve maternal, prenatal and early childhood health and well-being, with the expectation that this intervention will help achieve long-term improvements in the lives of these at-risk families. The intervention is effective because it focuses on developing therapeutic relationships with the family and is designed to improve 5 broad domains of family functioning: health (physical and mental); home and neighborhood environment; family and friend support; parental roles; and major life events (pregnancy planning, education, and employment). | HIGH | |
| Residential Services Institutions Evaluation Unit - The IEU serves three major functions: 1) Program Development: Responsible for ongoing recruitment of new therapeutic placement providers (i.e. licensed group homes and Foster Family Agencies). 2) Program Monitoring: Responsible for resolving problems reported by HHSA staff and on-going quality control of the above placement providers. 3) Liaison to Community Care Licensing: for problems reported by social workers or the public that occur in group homes or FFA's. Authorized by the Board of Supervisors. | HIGH | |
| Respite (foster parents) – Contracted services to recruit and train respite providers, and link respite providers to foster parents and relative kin caregivers to provide emergency respite and respite for other allowable activities such as attending foster parent trainings and going to medical appointments. | HIGH | |

County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency
 Fiscal Years 2009-10 & 2010-11 Operational Planning Advisory Board Input

The following were determined to be “organizational or structural issues” and were not rated.

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| Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment – To provide prevention and early intervention services that will keep children safe, healthy and free from abuse and neglect. |
| Child Welfare Services Intensive Family Preservation Program - Assists families with additional services to avoid out-of-home placement and/or facilitate an expedited return of the children to the home. |
| Child Welfare Services Medically Fragile Unit |
| Child Welfare Services Office of the Ombudsman - Authorization for this program is understood to be by a Board Letter. An internal review for conducting independent reviews of complaints. Members of the public, community organizations and agencies can lodge complaints. |
| Child Welfare Services Office of the Ombudsman - Authorization for this program is understood to be by a Board Letter. An internal review for conducting independent reviews of complaints. Members of the public, community organizations and agencies can lodge complaints. |
| Independent Living Skills Repeat Offender Prevention Program |
| Indian Specialty Unit |
| Intergenerational Services |
| Polinsky Children’s Center Critical Assessment and Release Early (CARE) – Provides an early diversion program to facilitate reunification. Assessments are made to determine if a child can be returned home quickly and safely. CARE works to involve the child’s family in a plan to deliver services to the family. CARE assumes responsibility for evaluating relatives/non-relative extended family members for placement of children housed in the Assessment Center and assigned to Regional Court Intervention Workers. |
| Residential Services Residential Group Home and Foster Family Agency Placement and Follow Up |
| Violence Prevention Youth Violence Prevention |