



**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 7, 2008
County Administration Center**

Voting Members Present

Alfredo Aguirre; Valerie Bickel (for Sheriff Bill Kolender); JoAnne Bushby; Margarita de Ruyter; Donna Ewing Marto; Dixie Galapon, Ph.D. (for Margaret Iwanaga-Penrose); Nina Garrett (for Carlos Flores); Paula Guerra; Mary Harris; Margarita Holguin; Hon. Susan Huguenor; Mack Jenkins; Gina Lee (for Sharon Lawrence); John Philips (for John Sansone); Arun Ramanathan (for Terry Grier, Ed.D.); Emerald Randolph; Meredith Riffel; Barbara Ryan; Pam Smith (for Nick Macchione); Katherine Smith-Brooks; Donald Stump

Alternate Members Present

Kim Broderick; Roseann Myers

Visitors Present

Margaret Dyar (LWV); Gilbert Fierro (Child Welfare Services); Sophie Lor (SDCOE-FYS); Ryan Messel (FY Roundtable); Barbara Mandel Pache (San Diego Grantmakers); Brook Smith (Children's Initiative); Bruce Wexler (Fred Finch Youth Center); Charles E. Wilson (Chadwick Center)

Staff Present

Vicki Devine, Harold Randolph, Tonya Torosian

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Hon. Susan Huguenor, Chair. Everyone present introduced themselves, stating their name and affiliation.

II. Public Comment

- ♦ Ryan Messel from the Family & Youth Roundtable read a statement regarding the PEI County Plan. He shared comments from families and youth in our community expressing their support in the PEI Plans school-based services and are encouraging their local school systems to make the most of this opportunity by applying for the states Student Mental Health's Initiative funds which would support the expansion of prevention and early intervention services throughout San Diego County's school system.

III. Approval of the Minutes – September 5, 2008

- ♦ Motion made by Barbara Ryan and seconded by Donald Stump to accept the minutes of September 5, 2008. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Report from the Chair

- ♦ The Committees will continue to meet over the next few months to develop their Plan of Work documents that will support the Commission's focus areas of Child Abuse and Neglect, Juvenile Justice and Education.
- ♦ Not to Be Forgotten Rally on October 1, 2008, was a success with several hundred attendees who marched from the Family Justice Center downtown to the Civic Center. The Commission

supported this important community event by having a booth and serving as one of the event sponsors.

- ♦ October was Sudden Infant Death (SIDS) Awareness Month and to honor those lives lost to SIDS, the Safe4Baby Committee hosted a Candlelight Vigil on October 29th at the County Administration Center. The Safe4Baby committee is chaired by Margo Fudge of Child Welfare Services and Tonya Torosian of the Commission, and includes members from Public Health Nursing, the Office of Media and Public Affairs, United Way of San Diego, and SANDAPP. Speakers included a parent who lost her child to SIDS four years ago, Chairman Greg Cox, Nick Macchione, and Dr. Henry Krous who is the Director of Pathology Research & Director of the San Diego SIDS/SUDC Research Project at Rady Children's Hospital. There was media coverage by both Channel 8 and Channel 10.
- ♦ Planning is underway for the activities to recognize April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. If you or anyone from your agency or organization is interested in assisting with planning any of these events, please contact Vicki at the Commission.
- ♦ The Commission put together Member Handbooks for members and their alternates and can be picked up at the back of the room.
- ♦ The Handbook section marked Directory is intentionally left empty at this time to allow each member to review the agency description that the Commission has on file for your respective agencies. The DRAFT Membership Directory has been included in your packet today and we ask you take a moment to review your section and provide updates to Harold so he can prepare the final Directory to distribute at our January meeting.
- ♦ The New Member Orientation was held yesterday at the Commission Offices. For those of you who joined the Commission in the past few months and could not participate yesterday, please contact Vicki at the Commission to arrange a time to meet with Tonya for an orientation.
- ♦ Please update your calendars for our January Commission meeting date change from January 2nd to January 9th as a result of the holiday schedule.

V. Action Items

- A. Children's Trust Fund Spending Plan 08-09 – *Tonya Torosian*
Today's recommended action will approve the Children's Trust Fund Spending Plan for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

Since the Trust Fund supports many community-based services, several of the members may be contractors receiving a portion of the Trust Fund allocation and therefore should not participate in this action. The following members raised their hand and stated their name to abstain from the discussion and vote on this item:

Paula Guerra, Central Region Representative
Margarita Holguin, South Region Representative
Donald Stump, North Coastal Representative
Meredith Riffel, East Region Representative
Dixie Galapon, Ph.D., Union of Pan Asian Communities (sent email to the Commission on 11/10 stating she did not state her abstention at the meeting but wanted to go on record that she did not participate in the discussion and did not vote on this item).

- ♦ Tonya Torosian provided a handout and overview of the Trust Fund Spending Plan for Fiscal Year 08-09. The money in the Trust Fund is specifically to be used for child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs operated by non-profits or public institutions of higher learning with expertise in child welfare. Each County shall fund child abuse prevention coordinating councils from the Children's Trust Fund. The Commission serves as San Diego's local child abuse prevention council. Funding shall be used to supplement and not supplant child welfare services. Tonya went on to explain the training and technical assistance guidelines for agencies to be funded for services. The recommendations included in this spending plan meets these guidelines and the current balance of the Children's Trust Fund is \$4,118,677.00. The revenue from Fiscal Year 2007/2008 was \$1,700,000.00. The projected total for the 2008/2009 Spending Plan is \$3,303,529.00.

- ♦ A question was asked on what percentage of the total CSF Contracts is provided by the Trust Fund. Mary Harris stated the percentage is 22%, ranging from a low of 20% to a high of 27% over the past several years. It was suggested that as the Commission moves forward, these contracts include more of a primary prevention component the next time the RFP goes out. This is for the purpose of providing services to kids that are not yet touched by the child welfare system. Mary Harris reported Child Welfare Services is already doing this with families who may have been reported to the child abuse hotline, but who are not going to be served by our agency. These families are referred to community-based providers for support. With the approval of the proposed spending plan, Child Welfare Services plans to maintain the current CSF contracts through their existing contract period ending in December 2009. Mary Harris is expecting results of a three-year evaluation of the CSF model in March 2009 which should inform them on how to craft a new RFP in 2010.

Motion made by Barbara Ryan with a recommendation that the Commission looks very closely at future funding allocations for CSF to include more primary prevention. **Motion** with the stated modification was seconded by JoAnne Bushby to approve the Children's Trust Fund Spending Plan for 2008-2009. The motion **passed** unanimously.

B. CALIFORNIA – CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW, COUNTY SELF ASSESSMENT – SUBMISSION TO STATE – *Roseann Myers*

Today's recommended action will provide an advisory statement for the recommendations stated in the Board Letter and forward the statement to the Board of Supervisors.

- ♦ Roseann Myers handed out copies of the Board Letter and the Child Welfare Services and Juvenile Probation Department 2008 County Self Assessment (CSA). Step 2 of the County Self Assessment CAPIT/CBCAP/PSSF Needs Assessment has now been completed. Roseann mentioned that over 160 people came together and helped to craft this plan and provided feedback on what was working well and what areas needed improvement. The next Focus Areas to work on are Timely Reunification, Adoption, and Placement Stability. Two Systemic Factors that are being addressed are Fairness and Equity Issues and Quality Assurance. Fairness and Equity is a part of the California Disproportionality Project with Casey Family and the State and twelve other counties to look at these issues of disparity related to the African-American population and our Native American population. Roseann stated that we are one of two counties in the State that is actually working closely with the Native American population. The "Areas of Strength" and "Areas of Need" mentioned on the handout are strategies that will be taken forward as the SIP is being developed, which will take place in January and February. Roseann mentioned the KidSTART program as an important new program. She reported that through the Stuart Foundation, Child Welfare Services was able to secure a grant to expand education support services for foster youth by hiring an Ed Liaison for each region. She mentioned that some of these "Educational Success Liaisons" are at the Commission meeting today.
- ♦ A comment was made regarding grandparents caring for grandkids; one of the items mentioned in the "Area of Need" section. Aging and Independence Services receive federally designated money called "Care Giver" which is meant to be for the unpaid caregiver for an older adult over the age of 60 caring for another senior. Aging and Independent Services was allowed to use up to 10% of that money going towards grandparents raising grandchildren, and has allocated this money in this county, which amounts to about \$100,000.00 per year which is in a contract to the YMCA to offer respite help, support, tutoring and other services. It is important to try to get it mainstreamed into other services because it has been a little untapped.

Motion made by JoAnne Bushby and seconded by Mary Harris to approve the recommendations stated in the Board Letter and forward the statement to the Board of Supervisors. The motion **passed** unanimously.

C. Child Fatality Report 2006-2007 – *Tonya Torosian*

Today's recommended action will approve the Child Fatality Report recommendations and submission of the report to the Board of Supervisors.

- ♦ Tonya Torosian provided an overview of the recommendations and overall findings of the Child Fatality Report. This year it was decided to have a combined report which is a two-year report including data from both 2006 and 2007. This is the same time period that we have increased and expanded the age of the children reviewed from under 13 to kids through 17 years of age. The Child Fatality Review Committee was established in 1982 and was the second of its kind to be established in this country. Representatives are from the medical community, law enforcement, prosecution, child welfare, emergency personnel and the local child abuse prevention council, which is the Commission. This is a confidential meeting which is held monthly, and information discussed is looked at in a multi-disciplinary approach looking at different elements that go into the child or family in terms of the circumstance that may have an impact on the child's passing. In 2007 the committee reviewed 107 child fatalities, with motor vehicle accidents being the leading cause of preventable death. The inclusion of 13 to 17 year old children did increase the proportion of homicide and suicide deaths. Babies under one year had the highest percentage of death at 38%, followed by children ages 13-17 at 37%. 56% of the deaths of children were under the age of five. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome was the cause of death for forty five babies. More males than females have died, and the most common manner of death was "natural" at 43%. Vehicular related deaths has increased 8% from 2006, most being teenagers. There were two drowning deaths in 2007, both accidental. This is the lowest child drowning incidents in San Diego County in the last seven years. Tonya discussed recommendations which included the following: Recognize family violence as a public health problem; develop policies that address both child abuse and domestic violence; implement and continue and expand services and support programs targeting youth and their caregivers about youth violence and prevention activities; implement and continue and expand public education campaigns aimed at reducing parental stress; and, implement and continue and expand programs targeting parents and caregivers of infants and young children including expanding and enhancing the Safe4Baby campaign.
- ♦ Tonya mentioned that upon approval today, the report will be published and provided to the Board of Supervisors. Tonya will bring the published report to the CCYF meeting for distribution.

Motion made by Mary Harris and seconded by Barbara Ryan to approve the Child Fatality Report recommendations and submission of the report to the Board of Supervisors. The motion **passed** unanimously.

- D. Commission Annual Report January 2007 through June 2008 – *Tonya Torosian*
Today's recommended action will approve the submission of the Commission's Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors as required by Ordinance No. 9939 (N.S.).

- ♦ Tonya Torosian presented a PowerPoint detailing the Annual Report structure and its contents for approval. The report will include the Commission's Mission to advise the Board of Supervisors on policy affecting the well-being of children, youth and families. Tonya reviewed the Commission's vision and focus areas as approved at the November 2007 CCYF meeting. Committee accomplishments were also included in the presentation for each of the committees including the Fairness and Equity Committee, Partnership Committee, Joint Education/FYSAC Committee, Joint DVCC/CAP Committee, Child Abuse Prevention Consortium, and various sub-committees. Some of the accomplishments presented were: 17,500 pieces of prevention and educational materials in both English and Spanish were distributed at our conferences, meetings, public health nurses, and a variety of other non-profits that were interested in distributing the various materials. We hosted 2,000 attendees at Commission sponsored conferences and hosted over 400 additional attendees at the Child Abuse Prevention meetings and trainings and putting on Diversity Schoolhouse trainings.

Motion made by John Philips and seconded by Donald Stump to approve the submission of the Commission's Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors as required by Ordinance No. 9939 (N.S.).

Katherine Smith-Brooks mentioned she hasn't seen the full draft and felt it was hard to vote without seeing the draft first. Judge Huguenor asked Tonya what the deadline was for the report. Tonya said it needs to be submitted in January to the Board of Supervisors. Judge Huguenor asked Tonya about printing deadlines and if it would be possible to provide the full copy before it goes to the printer.

Tonya reported the Commission is changing the report and utilizing an outside graphic designer and copy editor. This has taken longer than expected to complete the County's required approval process to use an outside vendor. This will take several weeks to finalize and then the production will be on a tight timeframe to ensure it is published and provided to the Board of Supervisors in January 2009. Therefore, Tonya planned to present the PowerPoint with the major components of the report for Commission approval today, and then provide a full draft to the Executive Committee for final approval mid January.

Judge Huguenor asked if it were possible to get a copy of the report out to everyone, or if there is just not sufficient time between now and when it has to be submitted to allow for this step. Tonya reported that it would be tight to be able to get it out to everybody unless we did some sort of email in terms of voting.

Kim Broderick commented that we have all seen and voted to approve the information presented in previous meetings and felt that there does not appear to be any surprises in this information and suggested moving forward with approval of the motion as originally proposed.

Judge Huguenor suggested the motion be amended to include an email review of the report. She asked John Philips and Donald Stump if they would agree to have the motion amended to approve the overall concept of the Annual Report, and with no objection to the emailed version of the final draft of the report, to proceed to production and submission to the Board of Supervisors as planned.

If there are objections to the draft, we will figure out our next step at that point but it will result in a meeting.

Both John Philips and Donald Stump agreed with the amended motion. The amended motion **passed** unanimously.

VI. Presentations

A. Kids' START – JoAnne Bushby

JoAnne Bushby distributed a handout on the Kids' Start Leadership Team, and gave an overview of Kids' START, a relatively new initiative in San Diego County. Formally known as SART (Sexually Abuse Response Team), JoAnne said that this is not what the program was about. The program has received approval to be renamed to Kids' START. Kids' START is all about healthy environment in all of the domains: cognitive, motor, language, social, emotional, and adaptive. Healthy development establishes the foundation for success well into the adult years. Developmental Services are necessary because it forms the basis for our success in life and research proves that it is critical to intervene early in order to address the delays in any of the five domains of child development. One in six children, almost 17% of our children, has developmental delays and only 20% to 30% are identified before they enter kindergarten, so we are missing that window of opportunity when we can do the most good. Early treatment will yield an increase of graduation rates in high school, increase in young adults ability to hold jobs, live independently, reduce teen pregnancy, reduce delinquency and reduce violent crime, and looking at saving anywhere from thirty to one hundred thousand dollars.

Kids' START is a planning process and has two main goals. The first goal is to create and map a county-wide system of care for developmental services. The second goal is to design and open a children's center. There are four stages in the planning process: Designing, Implementation Planning, Start-Up of the Center, and Technical Assistance around the clinical and organizational perspectives. They will be looking at the key elements of care which include screening, triage, assessment, referral and treatment. They will identify high-risk children, and will be identifying existing services and providers, trying to reach agreement on county-wide pathways, tools and methodology for screening assessment and treatment that will accept each others screening and assessment. They will be developing formal agreements to guide referrals to each of the service providers and to reduce duplication of services. The Children's Center will be a place for a trans-system, multi-disciplinary team to provide more in-depth assessment and treatment planning for children and families with more complex problems. This Center will work together to do one

assessment, to compile one assessment, and one plan. JoAnne mentioned that HDS will be the foundation upon which to build services. The first year of operation will start with children under 6 years old that are in the child welfare system.

A question was asked if a component was built to screen mothers with post-partum depression. JoAnne replied that with HDS, all first-time mothers are getting an in-home visit from a public health nurse within the first two weeks of leaving the hospital. JoAnne mentioned that some of the struggles will be location, number of centers and language issues. If you would like to take part in a workgroup, please contact JoAnne Bushby.

VII. Additional Business and Announcements

Alfredo Aguirre passed out the following handouts: PowerPoint of the County of San Diego Mental Health Services Act Prevention & Early Intervention Mental Health Board Meeting on November 6, 2008; MHSA PEI Community Feedback – Informal 30-Day Public Review; Mental Health Services Act Summary of Statewide Projects: Prevention & Early Intervention (PEI); Five PEI Statewide Projects. Alfredo mentioned that the Prevention and Early Intervention Plan was approved at the Mental Health Board Meeting last night. The Plan will go to the Board of Supervisors on November 18th. Alfredo gave an overview of the changes made in the Plan. At the Informal Public Review, changes were made, some of which included increased funding for many programs, expansion of school-based services adding more funding to the school-based parts of the Plan, adding a Suicide Prevention Program that impacts the schools, increased linkages for many programs, and expansion of services to East Region and Change in focus (expansion) of Community Violence Mental Health Prevention Project. During the 30-Day Public Review, they received feedback on their Domestic Violence projects that they needed to do a better job in terms of community outreach and collaboration with community based organizations. They identified the First Break project, and will conduct an extensive evaluation and expanded emphasis on suicide prevention and awareness within many of the Native American projects. Next steps will be to submit the Plan to the Board of Supervisors for their approval to submit to the State. Alfredo anticipates that the State will approve it. Alfredo hopes to have the approval by the end of the calendar year.

Alfredo also discussed the Five PEI Statewide Projects handout and said that counties have a choice to include in their plans their own Suicide Prevention, their own Student Mental Health Initiative and their own Stigma & Discrimination in their plan. San Diego is the second county in the state who will be going to the Board of Supervisors to ask for Board Approval to join the Joint Powers Authority and be a participating county to bring in vendors to do Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Training. A strategic plan is being developed by the state to address disparities that impact racial, ethnic and cultural specific communities.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Written by Vicki Devine