

Orange County Children's Partnership (OCCP)

November 16, 2017 Minutes

In Attendance: 19

Sharon Boles, Lisa Burke, Karen Christensen, Denise Churchill, Kim Doyle, Marcy Garfias, Dr. Eric Handler, Judge Maria Hernandez, Raina Lee, Tracy LeSage, Norean Lubchenko, Cheryl Y. Meronk, Mike Ryan, Douglas Sanger, Shatoya Wallace, Carol Wiseman, John Zeimantz, Veronica Zuniga, Victor Chavez

Introductions / Announcements:

Introductions were made.

No announcements were made.

State Legislation/Budget:

No discussion.

ACTION ITEM:

Review and approve minutes from the October 19, 2017 meeting. Minutes were approved.

Foster Youth Services Coordination Program Update – Raina Lee

Raina Lee, Orange County of Department of Education Foster Youth Services Coordinator, presented on the 2016-2017 End of the Year Highlights for the program which included statistics on foster youth utilizing services, training, and graduation rates.

HateFreeOC – Don Han

Don Han, Senior Human Relations Specialist with the Orange County Human Relations Commission, presented on the HateFreeOC campaign which is a public education and awareness campaign that seeks to promote the importance of diversity and eliminate prejudice, intolerance and discrimination in Orange County. Don also distributed the commission's 2016 Hate Crime Report which provides calendar year 2016 Orange County hate crime and hate incident data. He stated the data is based on a target population starting with middle school youth 13 years and older and ending with young adults, no more than 22 years of age. Shatoya Wallace inquired as to possibly including a younger group, perhaps at the elementary school level. Don stated the commission elevated previous campaign data and determined the targeted population would result with cleaner data. He stated that younger youth are influence by sibling and peers and therefore may not provide their own opinion. Don added that the commission also considered their available resources and limited outreach. Shatoya suggested the commission expand its outreach beyond its current Twitter and Facebook platform. Don asked interested parties to contact him for presentations.

Annual Conditions of Children's Report

Lisa Burke reminded the membership to contact her for additional copies of the report. She said the First District's October 27, 2017, forum on immunization and obesity at the Delhi Community Center in Santa Ana had ninety-one attendees. She said the Fifth

District will hold its forum on December 13, 2017 at Mission Hospital, from 10:00 am to noon. The topic will be mental health. It will include a presentation by Dr. Anne Light on mental health and round table discussion on mental health issues topics such as mental health in the schools, stigma reduction, mental health education and family resource centers and prevention and intervention. Facilitators include a wide range of experts including representatives from Health Care Agency, Social Services Agency (SSA), CHOC Children's, Mission Hospital, NAMI and Saddleback Valley Unified School District. The Fourth District, in partnership with St. Joseph's Hospital, will hold its forum February 1, 2018, at California State Fullerton in the morning. The focus will also be childhood mental health. Lisa distributed the Orange County Community Indicators Report which is released annually and tracks health and prosperity trends in Orange County. This year's report identified three critical subjects: Children's Health, the Opportunity Gap, and Housing. She asked that those seeking additional copies or related presentations to contact her directly.

Short-term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP) Continuum of Care Subcommittee

Veronica Zuniga reported that eight group homes had submitted program statement for county review. Of those eight, two had been awarded letters of support from Orange County equating to approximately 30 beds. Denise Churchill reported that the State has been seeking feedback from shelter counties as it seeks to identify barriers which cause group homes not to take certain populations. She added that the State needs to better understand the amount of collaboration required to support homes and foster youth.

Foster Family Agencies Continuum of Care (FFACCR) Subcommittee

Norean Lubchenko reported that less than half of available foster care agency beds are used for Orange County foster youth. She said that currently there are approximately 500 beds in Orange County with approximately 400 of those filled, of those 173 are being used by Orange County youth. She added that smaller agencies took in more Orange County youth than did the larger agencies. Those agencies which did not fill beds with Orange County where generally housing Los Angeles youth. Norean said the RFA process may be beneficial as appropriate bed space and room size mandates allow for four youth per room whereas CCR limits to two. Denise Churchill reported that shelter counties had teleconferenced with the State November 15, 2017 to continue the conversation regarding the transition to 10-day shelter. The State has acknowledged it need to provide additional information regarding timelines and that the mental health component needs clarification. Individual and collective phones call between counties and State are ongoing and continue addressing barriers to providing services for foster children and what is needed for successful outcomes.

OCCP Areas of Focus: All areas are on hold.

- Assembly Bill 403
- Commercially Sexually Exploited Children
- Child Abuse / Neglect – WE CAN Coalition
- Early Childhood Development
- Food Security

- Mental Health Advocacy for Adolescents

General Committee Member Comments:

Mike Ryan informed the membership that SSA, in collaboration with County Counsel, had created bylaws for the OCCP. These will be distributed via email for the membership to review and provide feedback. Once agreed upon, SSA will calendar the bylaws for Board approval.

Public Comments:

None

Next Meeting:

The December 21, 2017 Meeting is cancelled.

The OCCP will reconvene on January 18, 2017. Location to be determined.