

## Orange County Children's Partnership (OCCP)

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### February 18, 2016 Minutes

#### **In Attendance:**

Karen Christensen, Carol Henson, Judge Maria Hernandez, Yana Kennedy, Rick Martin, Denise MacAllister, Amber Rivera, Mike Ryan, Martin Schwartz, Gary Taylor, David Wesson, Janis White, Marcy Garfias, David Nunez, Sharon Boles, Gene Howard, Janina Miller, Lawrence Ramos, Victor Chavez

#### **Introductions / Announcements:**

Introductions were made. Announcements as follows:

Sharon Boles announced Ilia Rolon has been hired as the Children & Families Commission of Orange County (Commission) Health Policy and Programs Director, a position formerly held by Alyce Mastrianni.

**State Legislation/Budget:** Mike Ryan stated that budget wise overall the Social Services Agency (SSA) was doing well, however, concerns continue over the funding allocation for the implementation of California's Child Welfare of Continuum of Care Reform. Mike provided as an example the Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention and Support which was awarded an allocation of a little more than one million dollars, which is far less than the six million SSA had requested. Further the State made the allocation announcement late December 2015 and has not committed to rolling over the funds to fiscal year 2016/17.

**ACTION ITEM:** Review and Approve minutes from the January 21, 2015 meeting. Approved.

#### **21<sup>th</sup> Annual Report on Conditions of Children**

Item was addressed with "Review of Condition of Children's Report Indicators."

#### **2015 OCCP Areas of Focus**

**Commercial Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)** – Judge Hernandez reminded OCCP attendees of the upcoming Endure Justice Conference 2016 which will be held March 4 – 5, 2016 at Vanguard University, Costa Mesa, CA.

Gary Taylor announced he would be traveling to Texas late February to view a CSEC recovery center for underage female victims. The facility is called Freedom Place and is part of Arrow Child & Family Ministries which has long history of providing services to CSEC and has traditional residential homes in Riverside and Temecula, California. Gary announced that he would also be traveling to Florida early March to view a CSEC drop-in center administered by Kristi House. He stated the Kristi House model first started as a CSEC residential facility but continual AWOL activity of participants required they changed their model to a drop in center, which has been more successful.

**Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities** – No update.

Marcy Garfias announced that the Health Care Agency (HCA) has a substance abuse treatment contract with Touchstone. She stated HCA has renovated the service facility inside out, increased staffing and added security cameras. She stated HCA and the Probation Department are utilizing the service and that HCA would like to work with

SSA to make the facility suitable for SSA referrals. Gary stated he would follow up with his staff to identify barriers preventing SSA participation and work with HCA to resolve.

**Immunization Rates** – David Nunez reported that results from the state indicated a mark improvement in kindergarten immunization rates. He stated they are anticipating seeing a decrease in immunizations exemptions. Mike asked that the monthly reporting on the item be discontinued. The discontinuation of the Immunization Rates subcommittee monthly reporting will be placed as an Action Item for the next meeting.

**Early Childhood Development** – Gene Howard reported that two meetings have been held since OCCP's last meeting and have garnered much interest. Two areas of focus have been identified:

- Although new parents are flooded with information at hospital and at onset of prenatal care, keeping parents informed and engaged later on is not as easy. The committee plans to use social media such as Twitter to keep parents informed.
- The Commission and Orange County United Way have teamed up with the City of Santa Ana to identify a small area of Santa Ana and where strategized efforts can be focused in hopes of improving outcomes for families and youth.

**Review of Condition of Children's Report Indicators** – Sharon Boles gave a PowerPoint presentation which summarized satisfaction survey results and areas of focus/concern. She said some of these included:

- At the implementation phase, the Commission will meet with contributors to review data and identify areas to be highlighted in report.
- The report will explore heat mapping and overlays to identify multiple areas of concern and positive indicators.
- The reports will continue to be provided in printed formatted and, starting in March 2016, the Commission will begin developing options for online platforms portals for dissemination of information electronically.
- The online platforms will include ten minute segments of the Condition of Children Report forums.

A discussion was had regarding the various indicators, how they were and are currently addressed in the report, and where all previously gathered data which is not included in the report is maintained. She stated consideration would be made for additional future data evaluation and placement into the report however what date and where it would be placed, as well as mapping strategy and overlays had not been determined. Mike stated the report should indicate areas which OCCP and its members have been involved with and advocated. He requested the OCCP reevaluate the current Areas of Focus and determine which should continue or be removed, and if others should be implemented. Karen Christensen requested the discussion be placed as an Action Item for the next meeting. Mike asked Amber Rivera for suggestions from Supervisor Do.

#### **Subcommittee Reports:**

1. **Annual Report Redesign Subcommittee** – Addressed in Review of Condition of Children's Report Indicators above.

**2. Infant Safe Sleep Collaborative – No update.**

David suggested that after the St. Joseph's Hospital report, which is due in a couple months, is made public that OCCP consider discontinuing monthly reporting on this item.

**General Committee Member Comments:** None

**Public Comments:** None

**NEXT MEETING: March 17, 2016**