

Orange County Children's Partnership (OCCP)

June 15, 2017 Minutes

In Attendance: 27

Eldon Baber, Anne Bloxom, Sharon Boles, Lisa Burke, Karen Christensen, Denise Churchill, Curtis Condon, Supervisor Andrew Do, Kim Doyle, Kerri Dunkelberger, Marcy Garfias, Dr. Ken Grebel, Matthew Haines, Dr. Eric Handler, Judge Maria Hernandez, Susan Leibel, Norean Lubchenko, Jean Martin, Rick Martin, Cheryl Meronk, Sandy Nash, Paula Noden, Michael Perez, Mike Ryan, Catherine Stiver, Carol Wiseman, Victor Chavez

Introductions / Announcements:

Introductions were made.

State Legislation/Budget:

Mike Ryan reported the Orange County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the Social Services Agency (SSA)'s budget. The impact of In-Home Support Services (IHSS), anticipated at \$28 million to the County, has been delayed as the State implemented a plan in which it will provide \$400 million of anticipated \$592 million IHSS, statewide shortfall for fiscal 2017/18. Counties will be required to utilize 1991 realignment dollars to cover the \$192 million dollar gap. It is anticipated that SSA's fiscal impact will be around three million dollars for fiscal 2017/18, growing to an anticipated ten million by fiscal 2019/20. The State has agreed to a reopener for discussions regarding the IHSS program, in FY 19/20. Mike also reported CalWORKs cuts of \$200 million statewide. Judge Hernandez reported the State budget impact continues to be detrimental, particularly for Dependency Court. The Courts will be forced to restructure their business model.

ACTION ITEM: Review and approve minutes from the May 18, 2017 meeting. Approved.

Annual Conditions of Children's Report

Lisa Burke reported the Report is in great shape. Health Management Associates (HMA) has collected approximately half of the data and has started updating the narratives and indicators. Approximately 35% data still required from agencies, mostly for the education indicators. An additional 10% of the data is in development.

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

Dr. Ken Grebel reported the subcommittee met on June 12, 2017 and will continue with monthly meetings in order to engage group homes and help them transition to the STRTP model with intensive mental health services, and will also include foster family agencies. He distributed the ninth edition of the CCR Newsflash. Editions 1 through 9 of the CCR Newsflash are available at the revised CDSS website: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Continuum-of-Care-Reform/Communications>. Dr.

Grebel reported SSA, the Health Care Agency (HCA), County Probation Office (Probation) and group home and foster family agency partners meet to discuss budgets, service models and the challenges to meeting the State's Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) program, and STRTP and Therapeutic Foster Care service models. He reported HCA anticipates presenting a master agreement to the Board late August. The agreement will have approximately twenty mental health component providers. Denise Churchill reported the subcommittee has developed into a good system for providing communication between the participants, especially as all are struggling to develop services that agree with the wavering State model, which best meet the needs of the County and that engage high needs populations.

Judge Hernandez reported Assistant Sheriff Steven Kea was close to completing the *Stepping Up Commission* report which promises to be robust and compelling. Once he has completed reviewing/amending information from ten subcommittees, he will present the report to the Board. Supervisor Do recommended Mr. Kea obtain the Board's input before the report is finalized for consistency.

Foster Family Agencies Continuum of Care (FFACCR) Subcommittee

Norean Lubchenko reported the committee is scheduled to meet Tuesday, June 20, 2017. To date twenty-two providers have shown interest in participating. She reported that the governor's budget makes an assumption that 20% of cared for children will require STRTP services, however, counties project that number to be substantially higher and complicated by the varying needs of the children to be served. The committee continues to address the need for additional family based caregivers and caregivers capable and willing to provide care to children and youth with more behavioral or mental health concerns. Further, the State needs to provide additional guidance as to the Treatment Foster Care (TFC) and therapeutic foster care services models, and other mental health services. Norean reported the State is willing to discuss TFC services to be provided in relative/NREFM homes, however, such services require much strategizing so plans are well developed and services are impactful, and costs must be considered.

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:

Denise Churchill reported the San Francisco Chronicle (Chronicle) released a second article related to the county shelters. The article focuses on the impact of charities and local leaders seeking to keep shelters open. It also reported on the use of law enforcement to assist shelter staff with youth. Orange County was identified as one such county. Denise reported Orangewood Children and Family Center (OCFC) is

different from the other shelters in that law enforcement is available 24 hours a day, primarily for parking lot enforcement and to maintain unwanted visitors from entering the complex. Additionally, OCFC is adjacent to the Juvenile Court and Medical Health center. Mike Ryan added that SSA chose not to respond to the Chronicle unless it first completed the public records request process, therefore the Chronicle sought information from community partners.

Dr. Eric Handler reported Waste Not OC has launched a program which allows families to text the word "FOOD" to 877-877 and they will be provided information on nearby locations where free meals are available for children during the summer.

Supervisor Do announced the Board of Supervisors has allocated \$750,000 over the next six months to provide staff outreach to the homeless population living along the riverbed. The project partners with local nonprofits that will provide basic needs, showers and other services on adjacent sites to the riverbed. It will also include a monitored system which tracks people living in homeless encampments by requiring a permit and adherence to usage provisions. The usage would be temporary in nature as individuals would be transitioned into emergency shelters, temporary housing and ultimately to permanent housing. These efforts would be similar to those implemented by San Antonio, Texas to help resolve its homeless crisis. Its model involves an all service facility which partners with multiple agencies to provide a range of services including case management, job training, and mental health and substance abuse services. Supervisor Do envisions three separate facilities, north, central and south Orange County.

Public Comments:

None

Next Meeting: Next meeting to be held July 20, 2017