

Orange County Children's Partnership (OCCP)

September 17, 2015 Minutes

In Attendance:

Alexis Abbott, Carol Wiseman, Eldon Baber, Karen Christensen, Judge Maria Hernandez, Susan Leibel, Rick Martin, Amber Rivera, Martin Schwarz, Ken Grebel, Chris Bieber, Linda Smith, David Wesson, Janis White, Denise MacAllister, Dr. Martin, Inna Liu, Helene Calvet, Dr. Nunez, Marcy Garfias, Betsy DeGarmoe, Lauren Ramos, David Nunez, Sharon Boles, Jana Hoffmann, David Wesson, Lisa Burke, Gene Howard, Julie Poulos.

Introductions / Announcements:

Introductions were made. Judge Hernandez referenced the upcoming Juvenile Justice Summit which is scheduled for November 20, 2015. Judge Hernandez is interested in bringing attention to the work done within the OCCP and requested Quick Guides, highlighting the primary indicators in the Conditions of Children Annual Report, to distribute to the attendees. Approximately 400 people, including Senators, are expected at the Summit. Judge Hernandez stated her belief that providing hard copy information via the Quick Guides will help bring awareness to the initiatives and the identification of gaps in services. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court will be the keynote speaker at this event. Lisa Burke mentioned that the Quick Guides are online this year however she will look into printing some hard copies to assist. Lisa will get an estimate of the cost for 500 Quick Guides.

State legislation/budget: No update.

ACTION ITEM: Approve minutes from the August 20, 2015 meeting. Approved.

ACTION ITEM: Discuss and approve Gene Howard's request for OCCP to establish a sub-committee that would work to improve the early childhood development of Orange County Children. Approved.

21th Annual Report on Conditions of Children – Lisa Burke reviewed project timelines and the status of the Annual Report. The Annual Report is on schedule to print on October 15, 2015. The presentation to the Board of Supervisors is set for October 20, 2015. The Quick Guide has been approved. Health Management Associates (HMA) is working to get the Quick Guide and Supplemental Tables on-line. Lisa stated that she and Christina Altmayer have meetings set with the Board of Supervisor offices to established Community Forum topics. Amber Rivera announced that the First District's Community Forum will be held at the Hall of Administration. Supervisor Do selected childhood obesity for the topic. Lisa asked for OCCP members' assistance with obtaining dynamic speakers for the forums. Karen Christensen stated that food insecurity may tie into the childhood obesity topic as often times inexpensive food is not healthy. Dr. Nunez stated that many food insecurity programs are underutilized and perhaps the forum is an opportunity to highlight available resources.

Lisa discussed the timelines for the Community Forums. The Second District will focus on teen pregnancy. Gary Taylor indicated that Orange County (OC) Children and Family Services has worked with community partners to focus on youth reproductive health. This has resulted in new service delivery and the development of policies. Gary stated that he may have some ideas for speakers for this topic. The Third District will focus on the “protective factor of education”. The Fourth District will present on young children’s mental health. A date has not been confirmed however the location will likely be Cal State University of Fullerton. The Fifth District selected teen mental health as the primary topic. Dr. Nunez stated that the Health Care Agency has a collaborative for Perinatal and teen mental health. Dr. Handler is working with Kaiser Permanente and other hospitals to initiate teen mental health screenings.

Lisa stated that the Annual Report steering committee meets next week and will discuss options to increase accessibility of data by uploading it to additional websites. A representative from the Health Care Agency will present on an existing online database created to show “living” profiles of older adults.

2015 OCCP Areas of Focus- Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) and Mental Health Transition beds/substance abuse- Gary Taylor stated that OC SSA submitted its plan/protocol to serve the CSEC population to the State. OC SSA was selected as one of the Tier II counties, as was San Diego and Los Angeles. Counties selected as Tier II will receive higher funding. It appears Tier II funding was awarded to counties which have already put efforts into place to support the CSEC population. OC SSA is preparing a Memorandum of Understanding and has advanced efforts already in place. Overall thirty five counties are participating in this initiative. The formal opt in date is October 1, 2015.

Safe Sleep Collaborative- Dr. Nunez stated that the collaborative is actively printing brochures on safe sleep. The brochures and training materials are available on the Family Health website. The official launch of the Safe Sleep Collaborative is set for November 1, 2015.

Immunization rates – Dr. Nunez stated that that there has been local pressure at schools and county meetings to oppose vaccines. Vaccines still appear to be in debate despite the new legislation outlined in Senate Bill 277.

Subcommittee reports -

1. Annual Report Redesign Subcommittee –Please see above for update.
2. Infant Safe Sleep Collaborative- See above for update.
3. High School Completion/Educational Resources – High School: Rick Martin stated that the Governor has until October 1, 2015 to decide whether to eliminate the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). If it is eliminated, any person that did not pass the CASHEE may be able to get a diploma. This will be a local decision. Students who graduated in June 2015 have already been exempted and diplomas have been given to them.

General Committee Member Comments: Linda Smith asked about the new Resource Family Approval (RFA) process. Gary Taylor stated that currently there are separate and different placement approval processes for licensed and certified placement homes. In 2017, the State will adopt one placement approval process. The Resource Family Approval program, requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), in consultation with county child welfare agencies, foster parent associations, and other interested community parties, to implement a unified, family friendly, and child-centered resource family approval process. This new approval process will replace the existing processes for licensing foster family homes, approving relatives and non-relative extended family members as foster care providers or legal guardians, and approving adoptive families by combining elements of all the processes into a single approval standard. Gary stated that OC SSA will start this process in January 2016 and inform the State regarding how the implementation is going. Gary stated that the end result will be higher financial compensation for relative caregivers however this will impact only new relative caregivers and will not be retroactive.

Public Comments: None.

NEXT MEETING: October 15, 2015