

Orange County Children's Partnership (OCCP) Committee Minutes

Date: October 15, 2020

Location: Zoom meeting

Committee Members/Alternates Attendees:

Eldon Baber, Debra Baetz, Lisa Burke, Veronica Carpenter, Karen Christensen, Betsy DeGarmoe, Heidi Garrel, Mary Izadi, Laura Jose, Debra Kegel, Amber Lua, Hon. Judge Motoike, Jeffrey Nagel, Rae Lynn Nelson, Lynda Perring, Dawn Smith, Katherine Stiver, Gary Taylor, Jr., John Zeimantz

Non-Committee Attendees: Michael Arnot, Valerie Brauks, Paula Chaffee, Denise Churchill, Raina Lee, Lee Lombardo, Robyn Odendahl, Michelle Parra, Josie Roembild, Shay Sorrells, Mary Sanchez, An Tran, Kristina Traw, Laura Turtzer

- 1. Introductions / Announcements** - Self-introductions were made
- 2. Action Items - Approval of Minutes** - Meeting minutes from August 20, 2020 were approved
- 3. OCCP Committee Partnership Overview Presentations**

Raise Foundation – Eldon Baber

The Raise Foundation was formed in 1974, and its genesis is rooted in the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) for the State of California. The WIC required every county to establish a Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council. As a result, the Raise Foundation was appointed by the Board of Supervisors to fill this role. The Raise Foundation is dedicated to stopping the cycle of abuse through education, advocacy, community collaboration, and comprehensive services for families and children. These services are operated in coordination, collaboration and through donations of public and private partnerships. Primary programs consist of the following:

Orange County Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC):

- CAPC is a team comprised of a broad sector of organizations, community members, and public agencies
- CAPC's primary purpose is to coordinate the community's efforts to prevent and respond to child abuse
- CAPC provides recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on how they might direct policy in the county towards supporting families and eliminating and reducing the impacts of abuse, neglect and maltreatment

Public Awareness:

- Blue Ribbon Month (Child Abuse Prevention Month) April of every year
Blue Ribbon Committee (meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 9am)
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Print Distribution (Food Dist. Model)
- Social Media and Website

Trainings:

- Core areas of activities are trainings - Topics included Adverse Childhood Experiences, Vicarious Trauma and Substance Use Disorder
- In light of COVID-19, conferences and in person trainings were switched to a virtual model

- Trainings will be scheduled monthly
- CEUs offered at no charge

Food Distributions

- Monthly based food distributions
- Due to COVID, the Raise Foundation has increased frequency and duration of food distributions to reach as many community members as possible
- Approximately Serving: 250 Families per food distribution; 3-4 meals per week

Family Resource Centers

- Lead agency for Manzanita Park, Tustin, Downtown Family Resource Centers

To participate with CAPC, Blue Ribbon Committee, Food Distributions or upcoming trainings, please contact:

Eldon Baber (eldon@theraisefoundation.org) or Gary Taylor (gary@theraisefoundation.org)

First 5 OC Children & Families Commission – Lisa Burke

First 5 Orange County was created by a tax placed on tobacco products which designates resources be spent on youth between ages 0-5 and their families. First 5 Orange County's goal is ensuring all Orange County children reach their full potential.

First 5 OC is committed to resilient families, quality of early learning opportunities, and children's health and development. The following strategies are used in ensuring these outcomes:

- **Early intervention, prenatal through age 3**
- **School District Partnerships**
- **Family Homeless Prevention**

In fiscal year 2019/20, First 5 OC funded more than 1.3 million services to children ages 0 - 5 and their families. For example:

- 46,000 home and office visits were conducted to improve parent knowledge of healthy child development
- 11,500 children received developmental or behavioral screenings
- Children and their family members received 99,630 emergency or transitional shelter bed nights

An additional strategy is **Elevating Equity**. First 5 Orange County is able to target their investments by using data to identify communities that have the greatest need and opportunity for support. First 5 works with all school districts in Orange County conduct an Early Development Index (EDI) assessment. EDI measures children's ability to meet age-appropriate developmental expectations in five general domains:

- Physical Health & Well-Being
- Emotional Maturity
- Communication Skills & General Knowledge
- Language & Cognitive Development
- Social Competence

Based on this information, First 5 Orange County has begun to engage with specific neighborhoods and seek parents' voices in four communities in Orange County: La Habra, Santa Ana, Anaheim, Garden Grove.

Last strategy is **Aligning Systems of Care**. Due to their declining revenue, First 5 OC has found innovative resources to support programs for young children and their families. Lisa expounded on the work being done through collaboration and with partners, for example:

- Detect & Connect OC – Developmental Screening Initiative
- OC Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorder Collaborative – Parents' Mental Health
- Prenatal to Three and Home Visiting Coordination – Early Intervention
- OC Child Care + Workforce Analysis

Lisa also provided an update on the Orange County Child Care and Workforce Analysis. Full report can be found on First 5 OC's website <http://occhildrenandfamilies.com/childcare/>

Lastly, First 5 OC is **Calling all Child Care Champions** to promote child care and get the word out. Please contact Lisa.Burke@cfcoc.ocgov.com for additional information.

4. **2019-20 Foster Youth Education Outcomes data – Raina Lee**

Raina Lee provided an update on the 2019-20 Foster Youth Education Outcomes data. The data is created by the Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program to highlight achievements along with partnerships. 2,245 Educational Progress Reports (EPR) were created for foster youth; this number reflects all the education updates that were provided to assigned social workers, probation officers and juvenile court. The data also reflects the work done with schools to address the identified needs with interventions and support services each time a report is created. Raina also provided a detailed overview on the following:

Preschool Enrollment:

- During the 2019-2020 school year, 65% of the youth ages 3 - 5 were enrolled in preschool. This is a 10% increase from the 55% in 2018-2019.

Graduation Rates for Orange County Dependents and Youth on Probation with a Placement Order:

- The graduation rate for 2019-2020 is 81% (145/180 students)
- Social Services cases only, the graduation rate is 83% (129/156)
- Probation Placement cases only, the graduation rate is 67% (16/24)
- Youth enrolled in Orange County schools, the graduation rate is 83% (125/150)
- Youth enrolled in out of county schools, the graduation rate is 67% (20/30)

Orange County Educational Outcomes Data – Statewide Education Indicators:

Educational outcomes data for foster youth enrolled in Orange County Schools is reported on California Department of Education's DataQuest (available online). This data includes foster youth under the jurisdiction of the Orange County Juvenile Court as well as those under the jurisdiction of other county Juvenile Courts.

Raina noted that Orange County is moving in the right direction for the majority of indicators being measured. However, there are two indicators for which Orange County is not moving in the right direction, these are:

- Increase in 5-yr cohort dropout rate
- Increase in expulsion rate

Although the movements are very small, the Department of Education will be taking a closer look at these two areas to explore strategies on how to help our county make movement in the right direction.

Lastly, Raina provided an educational overview and shared Orange County's participation with the FAFSA Challenge sponsored by John Burton Advocates for Youth. The 2020-2021

FAFSA Challenge launched on October 1st. 2019-2020 year ended with a FAFSA completion rate of 51%. In 2018-2019, the FAFSA completion rate was 53%. The FAFSA Challenge Strategic Committee will be meeting to strategize efforts towards increasing the FAFSA rate in the County of Orange. For additional information on partnerships or to receive a copy of the 2019-20 Foster Youth Education Outcomes data, please contact rlee@ocde.us.

5. Update on Conditions of Children Report – Robyn Odendahl

Robyn shared that the 26th Annual Conditions of Children Report has been sent to the publisher. The report has new content and addresses the impacts and challenges COVID-19 has had on children and families in the County of Orange. The report will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at the November 3 Board meeting. Robyn requested input and suggestions on ways to distribute the report. In addition, Robyn shared she will be sending a message to OCCP members requesting the names of their department's or organization's PIO and/or a point of contact. OCCP members also discussed innovated ways to distribute the report. The OCCP agreed to continue previous distribution methods:

- Community partners will continue to assist with distribution
- HMA will reach out to the Board of Supervisors district staff to discuss Community Forums
- Laura Turtzer is assisting in developing a press release
- Email message will be developed for distribution
- Monthly social media posts
- County Connection and department newsletters distribution

6. 2020 OCCP Areas of Focus/Goal

Legislative Updates – Kristina Traw

California's regular legislative session is over and the Governor has shown a proclivity for having health and human services bills handled through the budget process, rather than as policy bills. Further analysis of the bills that passed are underway and relevant information will be shared at a later meeting. The negotiations for the next federal relief bill is evolving hourly, though we know the current White House proposal containing \$300 million for local relief and is lower than anticipated.

7. General Committee Member Comments

None

Public Comments

Michal Arnot with Children's Cause Orange County, shared that in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the child welfare department in collaboration with other leadership groups have responded well. However, there are continued challenges we face with racism and addressing equity. Although we live in a majority, minority community, the minority is under represented. Michael suggested we elevate the Eliminating Racial Disparities Disproportionality Committee and acknowledged that the HCA Cultural Competence Committee is currently going through reforms to raise awareness. Michael solicited OCCP member's efforts to increase the participation of community-based organizations that are embedded in ethnic communities, have ethnic leadership, and are focused in providing services in those communities. Denise Churchill shared that the Eliminating Racial Disparities Disproportionality Committee which is cochaired by the HCA Behavioral Health, Probation Department and Child Welfare has been in existence since 2007. The committee is currently working on a strategic plan to address awareness, education, training, and transparency. The committee welcomes participation.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is November 19, 2020, 9:00 a.m. ZOOM meeting

Minutes taken by Esther Marquez