



Member of the Coastal Tri-Counties Child Abuse Prevention Coalition

June 20, 2013 ♦ 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Buellton Recreation Center ♦ 301 Second Street, Jonata School ♦ Buellton, CA

MINUTES

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Deborah Holmes welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Attendance: Carolyn Contreras, Sandra Copley, Ashleigh Erving, Michelle Falvey, Flo Furuike, Deborah Holmes, Teressa Johnes, Amy Krueger, Noel Lossing, Alma Marquez, Ann McCarty, Nora Melendez, LuAnn Miller, Ambar Moran, Judi Nishimori, Suguey Sanchez, Arcelia Sencion, Rubayi Srivastava

Staff: Liz Drake, Barbara Finch

2. **Approval of May 16, 2013 Minutes**

Ann McCarty motioned to approve the May 16, 2013 minutes; Alma Marquez seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

3. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

4. **Prevention Funding: Partners & Priorities**

Barbara stated that the Child Abuse Prevention funding contracts are in place for 2013/2014. She invited those who received prevention funding to give a presentation on the services they will be providing in the coming year.

a. CALM

Deborah Holmes, Associate Director of Child Abuse Listening Mediation (CALM), gave a presentation on their Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention through Family Strengthening collaborative project (see attached PowerPoint). Deborah reported that Child Abuse Listening Mediation (CALM), the Family Resource Center Network (FRC) and the Early Childhood and Education (ECE) community have formed a partnership to more effectively provide child abuse and neglect prevention outreach services to the community. Deborah reviewed the objectives of the project and CALM's role in the collaborative. She talked about the partners in the collaboration and stated that their new proposal, which was submitted and funded, will include working with Good Samaritan in North County. Deborah shared assessment results, highlights and outcomes of the project, and the success of the Supporting Father Involvement project in Carpinteria.

LuAnn Miller, Executive Director of Isla Vista Youth Projects (IVYP), reported that collaborating with CALM has filled the need of providing clinical/mental health services to Isla Vista families. LuAnn also mentioned that between 12 and 18 families consistently make the commitment to attend a 10 week parenting education program using the Incredible Years curriculum. A family advocate works seven hours a week with the parents of babies in their program and the results are tracked through the Family Development Matrix (FDM). LuAnn stated that they are also very happy with the reflective practice piece which is given to all the teachers and the administrative team.

a. CALM (Con't)

Arcelia Sencion, Director of Health Care and Social Services at Santa Ynez Valley People Helping People, talked about their programs and role in the project. She stated that even though CALM and Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services provide mental health counseling services to their clients, the demand still exceeds the need. Domestic violence and substance abuse are common risk factors. Arcelia added that having both a therapist and a case manager on site has been positive because they work together on different levels to support the families they serve. Arcelia stated that she would like to incorporate more reflective practice with their case managers to help with burnout and vicarious trauma. Arcelia shared that overall, the combining of resources and coordination of services has been a successful match

Ashleigh Erving, Coordinator of Community Based Services at Family Service Agency, shared that she sees two main benefits of this collaborative project. First, mental health services are limited in Santa Barbara, so having a partnership with CALM has helped their advocates connect families to much needed services without a lot of bureaucracy. Also, having the collaborative has helped in problem solving. Ashleigh added that she is excited to begin offering the Nurturing Parenting program for ages 0-11 because it is a great curriculum for the prevention of child abuse and neglect. She stated that overall, it's exciting to see the participating agencies evolve and adapt to having a collective mindset.

b. Santa Maria Valley Youth & Family Center

Case Manager Ambar Moran and In-Home visitor Suguey Sanchez presented information on the Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention program offered through the collaboration of Santa Maria Valley Youth & Family Center, Santa Maria Healthy Start and the Guadalupe Family Service Center (see attached PowerPoint). Ambar gave an overview of their referral sources, case management services, criteria for referrals and flow of services. She mentioned that lack of housing is a big stressor for families right now. Ambar stated that there is also a big need to connect families with community resources. Because private insurance doesn't often cover mental health services for children, she sometimes needs to help them connect with MediCal. Finding local providers is also an issue. Ambar stated that of the families served 99% are low income, 95% are monolingual, and they are noticing an increase in the indigenous population seeking services through their program.

Suguey reported on their Therapeutic In-Home Services, which uses the evidence-based Incredible Years Home Visitor Model. Alma from Guadalupe Family Service Center helps with the assessment results and statistics. There is constant collaboration between case managers and home visitors, which proves effective in working together for the families. Suguey stated that post-assessment results show improvement in all the families they serve. She shared a success story of one father who participated in the Father Involvement program.

c. St. Vincent's

Michelle Falvey, Clinical Director of the St. Vincent's Family Strengthening Program, gave an overview of their residential program for single mothers with children ages 0-5 (see attached PowerPoint). She stated that many women and children coming into the facility have experienced some type of trauma, so the structure and environment helps them to feel secure. The communal living can present challenges, but overall it has wonderful benefits in terms of connection, modeling and support. Michelle reviewed how the program is structured and the assessments used for screening, tracking progress and measuring results. Because clients come in with a lot of needs, connecting them to CalWORKS and linking them other community resources is important. Michelle talked about their collaborative partners and reviewed the case management and long-term goals for each client. She stated that the on-site FoodBank provides a foundation of stability which helps clients focus their attention on building capacities such as parenting and independent living skills. Michelle reported on St. Vincent's assessment outcomes and the parenting curriculum used for counseling and coaching clients. She stated that they are having a lot of success with The Incredible Years curriculum.

Michelle listed the employees from various departments who have contact with and help the clients learn how to develop trust, communicate and advocate for themselves. Flo Furuike asked if there is a waiting list and Michelle stated that they currently have three openings. LuAnn Miller asked about the age limit for children at the time of admission and Michelle stated that no child over five years old is admitted of because of safety issues. LuAnn asked if Michelle was aware of any residential programs which take older children and Michelle replied in the negative. LuAnn asked if clients have to be referred for admission and if there is a discounted rate for child care.

c. St. Vincent's (Con't)

Michelle stated that people can self-refer and that their child care is offered at a low rate and often paid for by the Department of Social Services. Michelle concluded the discussion by stating that the interview process takes two weeks to a month because they try to make sure the client's benefits are in place before admission.

Teresa Johns stated that she thinks it's exciting to see the collaboration between agencies and would like to see some kind of matrix which includes *all* the agencies involved in the Child Abuse Prevention Council and the types of prevention work they are doing. She mentioned that while in a Sacramento meeting with the Family Development Matrix panel of experts she met Sarah Rock, the new Bureau Chief at the Office of Child Abuse Prevention. She reported that Ms. Rock is all about outcomes and a big advocate for the Family Resource Centers. She also reported that Child Abuse Listening and Mediation (CALM) will be featured in the Family Development Matrix newsletter for their work on prevention, particularly in regards to mental health services. She added that CALM will also be featured in the Strategies newsletter for their work on supporting fathers. Barbara mentioned that she feels it is important to continue having these kinds of presentations because it gives members a sense of what others are doing to contribute to prevention. She agreed that it would be nice for the community, KIDS Network and other stakeholders to have a comprehensive view of how each agency in the Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) contributes to child abuse prevention efforts.

5. Strategic Planning Task Force

Due to lack of time, this agenda item was skipped; however, Barbara quickly mentioned that she will be forming a subcommittee to help with projects which have fallen by the wayside and the planning of new projects for the upcoming year.

6. Updates and Announcements

- Teresa announced that the National Association for the Education of Young Children is looking at the Protective Factors to ensure that they are embedded/reflected in their accreditation tool. This is exciting for the Early Childhood Education programs. Teresa also stated that she attended Part 2 of the state-wide Family Development Matrix (FDM) Workshop and that she will send her notes to Barbara for distribution.
- Barbara shared that five scholarships for the Postpartum Depression Training were donated and raffled at the Family Advocate Training in May. Subsequent to the training, others expressed interest in attending. As a result, the Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) ended up sending 11 Family Advocates and parent leaders to the training.
- Barbara reminded those in attendance that Teresa distributed information about the Family Development Matrix In-Home Services Webinar and to please pay attention to emails that come to them from other members.

7. Confirm agenda for next meeting – July 18, 2013

This item was skipped due to lack of time.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.