



Minutes: Children and Families Commission Meeting

330 North D Street, Fifth Floor, San Bernardino, California 92415

Meeting Location San Bernardino City Hall
Council Chambers
300 North D Street
San Bernardino, California

Date, time, place Date: September 8, 2010 - Agenda 09-2010
Time: Vice-Chair Haugan called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.
Place: Council Chambers

Pledge of Allegiance The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chair Haugan

Attendees

Commissioners Present

- Mark Daniels
- Leslie Egge
- Linda Haugan
- Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D.
- Guillermo Valenzuela, M.D.
- Nancy Ruth White

Staff Present

- Karen Scott, Executive Director
 - Cindy Faulkner, Operations Manager
 - Ann M. Calkins, Executive Assistant
 - Stacy Scranton, Supervising Office Assistant
 - Regina Coleman, Commission Counsel
 - Marco Airo, Supervisor
 - John Pi, Supervisor
 - Debora Dickerson, Administrative Supervisor
 - LuCretia Dowdy, Office Assistant II
 - Mary Jaquish, Staff Analyst II
 - David Ramos, Staff Analyst II
 - Ronnie Robinson, Staff Analyst II
 - Shirley Simmons, Staff Analyst II
 - Trinh Wong Macdonald, Staff Analyst II
 - Bonnie Woodrome, Communication and Resource Specialist
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**Report –
Advisory
Committee,
Leslie Egge
Chair**

The Special Needs Workgroup (FIT team) of the Advisory Committee met on August 5th to further define the term “Special Needs” and review the purpose of the workgroup, specifically, determining existing resources in SB county, how F5SB can support existing partnerships and collaboratives, and utilizing needs assessments and parent groups to identify gaps in services, whether geographical, income, or service related.

The committee is working on consolidating and categorizing information from existing databases of Special Needs resources to put on our First 5 website, while still working with 211 to enhance their Special Needs focus page.

The committee will explore partnering with the Departments of Public Health and Behavioral Health to see if we can utilize their needs assessments.

The next regular scheduled Advisory Committee Meeting is September 23 at noon at the First 5 offices in San Bernardino.

**Report –
Karen E. Scott,
Executive
Director**

SAVE THE DATE

F5SB Commissioner Workshop – Wednesday, October 6, 2010
3:30 pm – 5 pm San Bernardino County Government Center - Citrus Room, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, San Bernardino
Commission’s Responsive Initiatives - \$2.3 million (January 2011 – June 2011)

The regular Commission meeting for October, which was delayed to allow for public hearing and presentation on the completed audit and annual report before it is submitted to the State, is now rescheduled to October 28. State deadline is Nov. 1.

Although previously planned to be dark in November, please plan that we may need to have a regular Commission meeting. It may not be on November 3 as that is only a week from the prior meeting. Based on decisions made at the October 6 workshop, we will plan to conduct business, approval of RFA’s or other actions to support our strategic plan related to Commissioner’s Responsive Initiatives.

STAFFING

On Friday, September 10, F5SB prepares to bid adieu to Miki Carpenter, who contributed greatly to new evaluation and outcomes strategies. She will continue to work with the Technical Assistance Advisory Committee. We welcome Marco Airo, Supervisor who will take over where Miki left off. We also welcome Livanya White, our Staff Analyst I assisting our fiscal department.

Through Human Resources, we are working to fill our Staff Aide position and expect that to recruitment to open in the next week.

Agency Training

Persimmony – web-based data collection system; F5SB utilizing the full array of capabilities to support our operation processes, lending to more accountability, better reporting and greater efficiency.

In the first quarter we had standing room only or had to turn away agencies and create additional training sessions as we provided:

- Data Persimmony Training- Trained over 150 agency staff members. Reviewed data collection process, participant consent, best practices for data entry and maintaining the data base.
- Fiscal Persimmony Training- Trained 20 agencies. By second quarter, all agencies will have the ability to invoice F5SB via Persimmony.

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- Assessment tools – (ASQ3 and ASQ-SE) training provided by Desert Mountain SELPA where 25 agency staff members participated.

This work will continue through the month of September with training also in Case Management and Life Skills Progression or LSP. Case Management was mandatory for all resource centers, wherein they are required to use a social worker like model of case management and the LSP is mandated for use in monitoring progress of participants.

SOUTHERN REGION COMMISSIONER FORUM

On August 27, a meeting record was sent to each Commissioner of our August 12 Southern Region Commissioner Forum.

7 of the 8 Southern Region Commissions were represented by Commissioners, Executive Directors and/or other key staff. Only Imperial County was absent.

Participants were asked to share what they are passionate about and what brought them to First 5 and keeps them engaged.

Aside from the goal of engaging and strengthening systems, the common response was our ability to educate and support parents on prevention and early intervention and having a real impact on the lives of children from the beginning of life.

Participants identified similarities and differences among participating Commissions activities in mandated result areas.

Similarities: All focusing on early childhood education; health access, oral health, family support; focus on prevention and early intervention programs; moving toward place-based funding; targeted approaches; supporting 2-1-1.

Differences: The degree to which Commissions are leveraging other funding/partnering with other funders; having a variety of ECE workforce approaches; mix of direct services versus capacity building strategies; policy agenda and advocacy efforts; variety of champions locally.

Participants agreed on some big **lessons learned** over the past several years:

Early interventions do close the gap in that multiple types of early childhood education investments support each other.

Screening and referral programs are important to early identification.

First 5 has been successful in building community and promoting local decision making.

Using evidence based models somewhat mitigates the need for longitudinal studies to assess whether programs work.

We will achieve more profound results by moving from targeted initiatives to place-based approaches taking work deeper rather than wider and focusing on those most in need of interventions.

NEXT STEPS:

- Be proactive and engage Commissioners
- Conduct briefing for gubernatorial candidates – taking advantage of this opportunity to tell them about priorities and allay misinformation
- Identify constituents whom which we can meet and share our mission

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- Hold a luncheon together for legislators shared across Commissions to showcase what we are doing in their districts; highlight with families and children served
- Consider Kids' Day in 2011 – determined by Commissioners' input

First 5 Los Angeles will host the next Southern Region Commissioner Forum.

SENATE BILL 1381 – KINDERGARTEN READINESS ACT OF 2010 (COVERED ON PAGE 1 AND 4)

The State legislature recently passed this bill and it now heads to the Governor's office for his signature. Currently, if a child turns age 5 by Dec. 2, they can attend kindergarten. With the new bill, a child must turn 5 by Sept 1 in order to enter kindergarten that school year. In addition to this strategy that ensures children are truly ready to enter and succeed in school, it is supported by a "transitional kindergarten" component whereby 4 year olds would receive a high-quality early learning experience in Title I schools funded by the monies that would have been spent on regular kindergarten.

CHILD CARE AND EARLY EDUCATION

ECE providers have reported that it may be more difficult this year to obtain bridge loans during the budget delay if lenders are nervous about whether the programs will ultimately be funded, in spite of Legislative reassurance.

- First 5 Humboldt is working with a local economic development agency to establish a loan fund but said the commission and the local agency are concerned about the risk involved.
- First 5 Sonoma reports that their commission voted to provide emergency loans for child care providers. The policy requires borrowers to expend their lines of credit prior to accessing the loan fund.
- First 5 Monterey's loan documents from last year are being shared with Commissions and are posted on the Association's website
- Any other model documents will also be shared via posting to the Association website.
- The legislative analyst for the Association emphasized the importance of continuing to show how county First 5 commissions are helping their communities during the budget crisis, both to protect First 5 and to continue to educate legislators about their activities.

This will be discussed at the October 6 workshop.

Our featured First 5 San Bernardino staff member for this month is Ronnie Robinson.

Changes to Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

Consent

A motion was made by Commissioner Ohikhuare and seconded by Commissioner Valenzuela to approve the following consent item:

Item No.	CONSENT ITEM
1	Approve minutes of August 4, 2010 Commission Meeting

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Item No.	DISCUSSION ITEMS
2	<p>Approve the following Child Care contract service agreements to provide direct licensed child care services and to participate in Early Care and Education Quality Improvement activities for Program year 2010-2011 with an option for an extension for two additional one-year periods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Bridgette Walker dba Kids Kingdom Child Care B. Easter Seals Southern California, Inc., C. Jeanette Howard dba Howard's Family Day Care D. Lorine's Learning Academy E. Mountain View Christian Preschool F. Promiseland CCC G. Ready, Set, Grow H. Resurrection Academy I. Teddy Bear Tymes <p>(Affected Districts: All) (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 387-1502)</p> <p>Commissioner Haugan abstained from Agenda Item 2 due to Easter Seals' involvement with County of San Bernardino Preschool Services, whom Commissioner Haugan oversees.</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Valenzuela and seconded by Commissioner Egge to approve Item 2. With Chair Gonzales absent and without further comment or objection, motion carried.</p>
3	<p><i>Continued from August 4, 2010 Commission Meeting, Item No. 10F</i></p> <p>Approve Direct Services Contracts in the amount of \$172,938 for Program Years 2010 – 2013 for services in Child Safety Education: Child Car Seat Use Training and Distribution with San Bernardino City Unified School District contract number FS039 in the total amount of \$172,938. (Presenter: David Ramos, Staff Analyst II, 387-1518)</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner White and seconded by Commissioner Valenzuela to approve Item 3. With Chair Gonzales absent and without further comment or objection, motion carried.</p>
4	<p>Conduct Public Hearing for California Children and Families Commission Annual Report Fiscal Year 2008-09. (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 387-1502)</p> <p>The Public Hearing was conducted. No comments were presented on the item.</p>

Item No.	Information Items
5	<p>Receive information on resolved Audit Findings for the 2008-2009 Audit Report (Presenter: Debora Dickerson, Administrative Supervisor II, 387-1505)</p>
6	<p>Receive information on "Water Safety" and "Read Aloud" Educational Campaigns. (Presenter: Bonnie Woodrome, Resource and Communication Specialist, 387-1515)</p>

Public Comment

Marjori Chambers, Greater American Care Center dba High Desert Youth Center; Asian-American Resource Center – Hoa Nguyen, Channita Newton, Dr. Victoria Seitz, Rasmey Sam, Venerable Sokha Chan

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**Commissioner
Roundtable**

None

Adjournment

Without further comment or objection and with Chair Gonzales absent, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

**Next
Commission
Meetings**

October 6, 2010 Special Meeting
San Bernardino County Government Center
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, Citrus Room
San Bernardino, California

October 28, 2010 Regular Commission Meeting
San Bernardino County Government Center
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, Covington Chambers
San Bernardino, California

Attest

Linda Haugan, Vice- Chair

Ann M. Calkins, Commission Secretary
