

Minutes: Children and Families Commission Meeting

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

Meeting Date, Time and Location February 6, 2013
3:30 p.m.
Chair Haugan called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.
San Bernardino County Government Center, Covington Chambers
385 North Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415

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

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Commission members shall review agenda item contractors, subcontractors, and agents, which may require member abstentions due to conflict of interest and financial interests.

A Commission member with conflicts of interests shall state their conflict under the appropriate item. A Commission member may not participate in or influence the decision on a contract for which their abstention has been recorded.

Attendees

Commissioners Present

- Mark Daniels
- Leslie Egge – in part
- Linda Haugan
- Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D.
- Elliot Weinstein, M.D.

Staff Present

- Karen E. Scott, Executive Director
- Cindy Faulkner, Operations Manager
- Ann M. Calkins, Executive Assistant
- Regina Coleman, County Counsel
- Mary Jaquish, Supervisor
- Debora Dickerson-Sims, Administrative Supervisor II
- Staci Scranton, Supervising Office Assistant
- Scott McGrath, Supervisor
- Leslie Fountain, Media Specialist II
- Ronnie Robinson, Staff Analyst II

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

Thank you to Nancy Ruth White for her service as a First 5 Commissioner. A resolution will be made by the Board of Supervisors.

Welcome to Roberta Albano, our new Staff Analyst II, effective February 23.

Save the Date – First 5 Budget Workshop – Wednesday, May 15.

In sharing information related to the ACA – Affordable Care Act and activities taking place to support it – this month’s ED report includes an explanation of the transition of children from the Healthy Families program to Medi-Cal and timetables for related changes.

At the January 23rd First 5 Association meeting, Commission Executive Directors met David Finigan, the new President of CSAC - CA State Association of Counties. The primary purpose of CSAC is to represent county government before the California Legislature, administrative agencies and the federal government. CSAC places a strong emphasis on educating the public about the value and need for county programs and services.

Mr. Finigan is a Member of the County of Del Norte Board of Supervisors and is also a founding and current member of the First 5 Del Norte Commission. Mr. Finigan is challenging his peers at CSAC, by sending a sample resolution to each county to consider declaring 2013 as the Year of the Child.

Mr. Finigan shared that he is committed to two major priorities:

- Enhancing partnerships
- Focusing on what we can do for our children

Mr. Finigan stated “We need to ask ourselves not only how our children are doing, but are we doing everything we can to help them? In every policy we develop, budgetary allocation made or decision reached, we should be asking how it will impact the children in our communities.”

Mr. Finigan’s philosophy is very much like ours here at First 5 San Bernardino. He emphasized that “We must engage our community partners and ask them often ‘how are the children?’.” It is imperative for us to recognize, listen to and work with our local groups and organizations that focus on children – this includes First 5 Staff and Children and Families Commissioners, child care councils, school boards, court appointed special advocates, foster parents, Little League and other recreational programs and church groups - the list goes on and on.

And as county leaders and advocates for children, Mr. Finigan instructed that we also need to ask our Governor and Legislature to consider the children. Invite them to become partners in prioritizing children; insist that when they are discussing policy, proposed legislation or the state budget, they, too, ask the question, “How does this impact the children?”. It is with these partnerships – on a local and statewide level – that we can begin crafting the success of the next form of realignment.

And finally, Mr. Finigan asked that we keep foremost in our minds the question, “How are the children?” continue focusing on our children – their present and future – until we can truly and without reservation answer this question with, “All the children are well.”

First 5 Commissions throughout the State look forward to working with him – and CSAC.

In keeping with this theme, First 5 Staff would like to spearhead making the month of April 2013 – the Month of the Child. First 5 Staff will discuss with the Children’s Policy Council, HS Leadership Team and all child serving organizations asking them to support a request to the Board of Supervisors to issue a resolution making April the Month of the Child.

Changes to Agenda

Ann Calkins, Executive Assistant, announced the following change:

Agenda Item 4 – To be continued to the March 6 meeting.

Consent

A motion was made by Commissioner Daniels and seconded by Commissioner Weinstein to approve the corrected Consent Items. With Commissioner Egge absent and without further comment or objection, motion carried.

Item No.	CONSENT ITEMS
1	Approve minutes of January 9, 2013 Commission Meeting. (Affected Districts: All) (Presenter: Ann M. Calkins, Executive Assistant, 387-1502)
2	Approve employment contract between the County of San Bernardino, Children and Families Commission, and Roberta Albano, Staff Analyst II, for a total annual cost of \$80,593 (\$54,455 Salary, \$26,138 Benefits), effective February 23, 2013. (Affected Districts: All) (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 387-1502)

Item No.	DISCUSSION ITEMS
3	<p>Approve support of and contract negotiations to fund the Loma Linda University Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship for one 3 year fellowship program in an amount not to exceed \$143,111 or \$46,585 in year one, \$46,940 in year two and \$49,586 in year three. (Affected Districts: All) (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 387-1502)</p> <p>Discussion Commissioner Egge asked if Ms. Scott could look into the legal ramifications of asking a fellow to give back three years of service if the Commission sponsors them for three years.</p> <p>Commissioner Ohikhuare stated to demand that type of commitment would mean we’d have to sponsor the whole amount. He stated that when a program is accredited, CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services) usually funds part of the training program and asked if there has been any attempt made to make this part of the regular fellowship program that is funded by CMS?</p> <p>Dr. Clare Sheridan was called to the podium to respond. She stated she has found someone in Orange County who wants to join as a fellow and Drs. Young and Massey plan to stay with the program. In response to Commissioner Ohikhuare’s question she stated she has discussed funding with Dr. Chang in Loma Linda. None of the fellows are supported by any other agencies. Dr. Sheridan stated you have to get your funding wherever you’re going to get it. Riverside Regional Medical Center will help with some funding since the fellow will</p>

be doing some training at that facility. All costs attributed to First 5 San Bernardino would only be for services at Loma Linda University Medical Center.

Ms. Scott asked Dr. Sheridan to explain to the Commission where she previously sought funding. Dr. Sheridan said she tried to get more money from Riverside and from other agencies like the Lions Club. Those organizations said it was too much of a commitment and too large a sum.

Ms. Scott asked if there is federal funding to be had or funding from ACGME (Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education)? Dr. Sheridan said there is not.

Commissioner Ohikhuare asked if there's a possibility of working with Riverside, as in a joint child abuse center? Dr. Sheridan stated that is her long-term goal since she is the director of the Riverside program as well. She spends a lot of time in Riverside trying to build the program. She is trying to make the programs in both counties mirror images of each other, so that the boards, steering committees, training, how the children are treated and the quality of the exams look the same. Dr. Sheridan said she hopes it will become an Inland Empire team. Clients run from one county to the other so borders don't really mean anything. Having this program would make for a high standard for the Inland Empire. Because of the requirements, the fellows have to spend two thirds of their time in Loma Linda and one third in Riverside.

Commissioner Ohikhuare stated that a real key for him is trying to keep the fellows here after they've completed their training because they're highly sought after and there's always a tendency for more money elsewhere. One of the problems we have in the Inland Empire is retention of physicians and access to care. Commissioner Ohikhuare asked what kind of incentives can you put in place to actually help this person stay here?

Dr. Sheridan said per ACGME standards you can't incentivize. But there's nothing to say that if you complete the three years, that the hospital wouldn't give you a bonus. She has been talking about that with Riverside hospital and trying to come up with something to make folks stay.

Commissioner Daniels asked what would stop parents from leaving the state once they received word their child was being examined by a forensic specialist?

Dr. Sheridan stated if it's the biological parents causing the problems they still don't want to risk losing the child and how they're approached by Children and Family Services makes a difference. CFS goes in as a helping agency so there really isn't an incentive to run somewhere else because they want what's best for the child. Law enforcement has more problems with the offenders heading for the hills. Generally, the caretakers of the child don't do that. With respect to folks coming to see the experts, most families want that because they want to be completely sure and would like the matter resolved.

Commissioner Daniels asked if there is a component for mental health services tied into the curriculum for this fellowship. Dr. Sheridan said it's not weighed in heavily. The first year is research and out of two years of clinical training you need to get experience recognizing child abuse. There are lectures in that time and they do have to achieve a certain amount of knowledge in recognizing post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and suicide. The fellow does get the opportunity to work with the therapists and they'll be able to recognize the broader issues.

Commissioner Weinstein asked what type of interaction do you have with the pediatric community as far as education, opportunities to learn about what's going on and how child abuse can be better recognized and how pediatricians can send patients to your center?

Dr. Sheridan stated they are open to presenting lectures, once invited. They are doing a training in April in Riverside for professionals on child sexual abuse. It's a whole day training. The problem is getting groups together and people making the time for different trainings.

Commissioner Weinstein asked once the three year fellowship is completed, do you have plans on continuing it with another fellow or is this a one-time thing?

Dr. Sheridan stated it's definitely not a one-time thing because it's a lot of work. After the fellowship is completed, there's the board exam and assuming the person passes the board exams, he'll be a board-certified forensic physician. She would like to have fellows in the program in a three year period. When the fellow goes into the third year, she'd like to get another for the first year. So that there's always two people in the rotation. If a fellowship is going strong and is succeeding, than you have a better chance at getting other additional funding. Once you start a fellowship there's no reason to stop it. It helps spread goodwill that the Inland Empire is a high-achieving academic area.

Commissioner Ohikhuare commended Dr. Sheridan for what she is doing and for thinking of a fellowship program for our community. He asked if Dr. Sheridan approached Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for funding, collaboration or anything else. Dr. Sheridan said she had not. She stated that this actually gave her a good idea to write up for the next fellow that they spend one third of their time at ARMC. She stated she started with Riverside because she's there all the time and there's already a child abuse program there and your fellow has to be going to a child abuse clinic.

Commissioner Ohikhuare stated we know this is a very under-reported problem so education is the big issue and he is not sure how she can partner with other First 5's and other organizations to find a way to get the message out to other providers so that they can identify child abuse. It's important to get providers in our community trained.

Public Comment

Steve Pontell, Chairman, Children's Fund – Mr. Pontell is excited about the ongoing development of this type of collaborative within the region. This is an example of the kinds of things to further enable our capabilities in this region. Mr. Pontell stated he learned from Drs. Young and Sheridan that a normal medical doctor is taught to believe what they are told. A forensic doctor is taught to not believe what they're told and to base their analysis on the evidence. There's a lot of opportunities for additional training for the community as a whole to identify how to respond. Mr. Pontell appreciates the Commission's support.

Erin Phillips, CEO, Children's Fund – Ms. Phillips is pleased this conversation is taking place and stressed the importance of the Commission's understanding of this project. The "buy-in" at the Children's Assessment Center, meaning the Governing Board, is comprised of the County CEO, Chair Haugan, the County Sheriff and District Attorney, Behavioral Health, Public Health, and Children and Family Services. During an accreditation visit in November, it was noted many times that the Children's Assessment Center is a model agency by its peers across the nation because most don't have that kind of "buy-in". Ms. Phillips stated that

	<p>through the collaborative approach that the Center continues to stay stable and thrive, but continued sustainably to serve these children is imperative and she is very proud that First 5 is taking the leadership approach.</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Ohikhuare and seconded by Commissioner Daniels to approve the item. Chair Haugan abstained due to her position on the Governing Board of the Children’s Assessment Center. Without further comment or objection, motion carried.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Approve funding of staff positions and activities occurring within a four month strategic planning period to enable Loma Linda University Medical Center - Children’s Hospital Perinatal Institute to complete work necessary to implement the First 5 Commission approved telemedicine project by July 1, 2013 to support prenatal health in the High Desert region of the County in an amount not to exceed \$46,682 for FY 2012/13. (Affected Districts: All) (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 387-1502)</p> <p><i>Agenda Item 4 continued to March 6, 2013 Commission Meeting</i></p>
<p>5</p>	<p>1. Rescind the October 24, 2012 Commission approval for the Screening, Assessment, Referral, and Treatment Request For Proposals (RFP) that was to be released in partnership with San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) and First 5 San Bernardino through a combined RFP.</p> <p>2. Approve negotiation of a selected procurement with the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health for DBH to be the contracted recipient of First 5 San Bernardino’s investment to early childhood mental health. DBH would be authorized to release the countywide SART RFP to secure providers to deliver SART services countywide to include the First 5 specific SART services not covered by Medi-Cal or other resources for fiscal years 2013/14 – 2015/16 with an expanded scope of work to fill gaps in services and improve outcomes for children to better leverage Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) and SART funds. (Affected Districts: All) (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 387-1502)</p> <p><u>Discussion</u> None</p> <p><u>Public Comment</u> None</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Egge and seconded by Commissioner Daniels to approve the item. Chair Haugan abstained as she is the County Executive Officer responsible for DBH. Without further comment or objection, motion carried.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Receive approval to engage Real Estate Services to evaluate the market and availability for relocating the First 5 San Bernardino office in FY 2013/14. (Affected Districts: All) (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 387-1502)</p> <p><u>Discussion</u> Dr. Ohikhuare asked if we have engaged the landlord to help with the utilities and the things that keep breaking down. Ms. Scott stated that the landlord says she does not have a lot of money and is doing the best she can. We have asked County Real Estate Services Department (RESA) to ask the landlord how much it would cost to replace the current air/heating system. We have not heard a response from her.</p>

Chair Haugen asked if it is less expensive to replace the air conditioning unit and take it off our rent. Chair Haugen asked Jim Miller from RESD to approach the podium and address the Commission. Jim Miller introduced Elsy Banks, Real Estate Agent II, who has been working with the landlord on this issue and allowed her to answer the question. Ms. Banks stated she has contacted the landlord about replacing the HVAC system and inquired as to the cost. The HVAC system is currently located on the roof of the First 5 office and services the entire building, not just the fifth floor where First 5 is located.

At the time Ms. Banks inquired, the landlord stated she was having cash flow issues. The estimated cost to replace the system is \$500,000. Ms. Banks has asked the landlord to give an actual cost to replace the HVAC system and also asked if we could install a secondary unit on the roof that only services the fifth floor. To date, no response has been received by the landlord.

Ms. Scott stated that at the prompting of one of the commissioners last year, an inquiry was made regarding the purchase of the building and, at that time, the landlord said "what do you want to pay for it?".

Chair Haugen asked how much it would cost to move. Ms. Banks stated estimates received from their Human Services department came to \$500,000 to move which included all the wiring, packing and moving costs. It did not include the cost that First 5 may need at a new location to build out a space.

Dr. Weinstein asked if we could get some concessions from the landlord for improving the facility then our total costs would actually be less to stay. He suggested putting the \$500,000 to improve the air conditioning system and then if the landlord lowers the rent, it would lower the cost to stay.

Chair Haugen stated we would not be able to use First 5 funds to pay for a system that the whole building uses. The landlord would have to purchase an HVAC system for the Fifth Floor only.

Jim Miller stated the County generally does not like improving landlord's buildings because you never know how long you're going to be there. Example: we install a new unit and something happens and you're only in the building for five years. This practice really only benefits the landlord; it would not benefit First 5. Mr. Miller said his office can go into the marketplace and see if there's space available. They might not be successful but there may be a few places that we don't have to spend a lot of money for improvements. Currently, there are buildings that have space. Further investigation is needed so all options can be explored.

Chair Haugen stated that by the Commission approving this item it will give RESD authorization to search the marketplace and come back to the Commission with some recommendations.

Dr. Ohikhuare stated that we also want to explore the possibility of installing a split unit; one that only supports the First 5 floor. Jim Miller and Ms. Banks confirmed this has been relayed to the landlord.

Ms. Scott stated we will discuss how to pay for this move at the May budget workshop.

Public Comment

None

	A motion was made by Commissioner Ohikhuare and seconded by Commissioner Weinstein to approve the item. With Commissioner Egge absent and without further comment or objection, motion carried.
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Public Comment Livier Acosta, El Sol

Commissioner Roundtable None

Adjournment A motion was made by Commissioner Ohikhuare and seconded by Commissioner Daniels to adjourn the meeting. Without further comment or objection, motion carried.

Next Commission Meeting March 6, 2013
3:30 p.m.
San Bernardino County Government Center
Covington Chambers
385 North Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415

Attest

Linda Haugan, Chair

Ann M. Calkins, Commission Secretary
