

Commission Actions 8/26/09:

- ⇒ Commissioners Joel Gordon and Oscar Chavez were elected Chair and Vice Chair.
- ⇒ Minutes of 7/17/09 and 7/22/09 were approved.
- ⇒ Approved funding of \$78,629 for Community Action Partnership to provide oral health services at WIC sites.
- ⇒ Approved Final Allocation Plan for FY 2010/11 – 2014/15.

Meeting Minutes

Sonoma County Children and Families Commission

August 26, 2009

Santa Rosa, CA

The Sonoma County Children and Families Commission met this date in regular session with the following members present: Commissioners Jo Weber, Jane Escobedo, Joel Gordon, Dr. Katherine Foster, Tamah Hulett, and Oscar Chavez. Supervisor Efren Carrillo and Rita Scardaci were absent.

- I. Call to Order**
Chair Weber called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
- II. Public Comment**
There was no public comment.
- III. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**
Joel Gordon was nominated for Chair and Oscar Chavez for Vice Chair.
Approved (Hulett, Escobedo, 6 yes, 2 absent).
- IV. Consent Calendar**
 - Minutes of July 17, 2009, 2009
 - Minutes of July 22, 2009**Approved** (Hulett, Foster, 6 yes, 2 absent).
- V. Recommendation to Fund Provision of Oral Health Services at WIC Sites**
Dr. Foster, Chair of the Oral Health Committee, reported that two applications were received in response to the July RFP to provide preventive oral health strategies at WIC sites. The review team, comprised of Viveka Rydell, Executive Director of the Pediatric Dental Initiative, Wynne Grossman, Executive Director of the Dental Health Foundation, and Dr. Foster, recommend funding the proposal submitted by Community Action Partnership in the amount of \$78,629 for two years.

Commissioner Chavez explained that because his agency was an applicant, he would not participate in the discussion or voting on this item. He then left the room.

Motion: Fund Community Action Partnership in the amount \$78,629 for two years to provide oral health services at WIC sites.

Approved (Foster/Hulett, 5 yes, 1 abstain, 2 absent).

Commissioner Chavez rejoined the meeting.

VI. Recap Strategic Planning for FY 2010/11 – FY 2014/15

- Review Revised Objective and Strategies
 - Strategy 4C2: *Partner with Department of Health Services Alcohol and Other Drug Services to provide perinatal treatment and advocate for policies that increase the availability of perinatal treatment slots.*
Jennie Tasheff explained this strategy was added to reflect the Commission's decisions in that regard made during the July 22 strategic planning meeting.
 - Strategy 5C1: *Collaborate with other First 5 commissions to advance programs and policies that support children and families.*
This strategy was broadened to include statewide First 5 efforts as well as those of the Bay Area region.
 - Strategy 5E3: *Collaborate with the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce to support Turning Pages and expand the Worksite Held Employee English Learning (WHEEL) program.*
This strategy was added under Objective 5E, engage the private sector to understand and value the return on investments in early childhood, in response to the Commission's decision to continue funding for the Turning Pages program which has become central to the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce's Worksite Held Employee English Learning (WHEEL) program.

- Final Allocation Plan

Jennie Tasheff reviewed the allocation chart showing added funds for Alcohol and Drug Treatment and the Turning Pages literacy program.

Motion: Approve the Final Allocation Plan for FY 2010/11 – 2014/15.

Approved (Gordon/Foster, 6 yes, 2 absent)

VII. Report on First 5 California's Legacy Project Planning

Jennie Tasheff reported that since 2002, First 5 Sonoma County has received matching grants from First 5 California for school readiness, children's health initiative, CARES, and special needs. To decide the direction of their future funding, First 5 California asked a panel of experts to prepare a list of potential measurable program goals in the areas of family functioning, child health, child development, and systems of care. Those goals were shared with Commissioners. On August 27th, Ms. Tasheff will attend one of the three public meetings First 5 California is holding to gather public input. Commissioners provided direction to Ms. Tasheff on input to provide.

VIII. Proposed Criteria for Flexibility Fund

Jennie Tasheff suggested Commissioners agree on criteria for use of the \$274,000 budgeted for the flexibility fund. A three-level 12-item review process modeled on the one used by First 5 Monterey County was discussed. Commissioners expressed their support for the proposed criteria, and their interest in using the flexibility fund for programs or projects that are unique or more innovative than those that might be funded through the matching grant program.

Commissioner Chavez left the meeting at this time.

IX. Evaluation Committee Report

Commissioner Weber, Chair of the Evaluation Committee, reported that the committee met August 11th and decided on three principles for evaluation of the evidence-based programs. 1) Data collection will be tightly focused on desired outcomes. 2) Evaluation tools will be the same as those used in the original program. 3) The degree of fidelity to the program model will be evaluated to ensure the same outcomes. The committee has asked Learning for Action (LFA) to develop short term benchmarks that show programs are on track to achieve the long term outcomes demonstrated by the model program.

X. Staff Report

- Per Diem and Expense Report

Jennie Tasheff reported \$425 in per diem was paid to Commissioner Foster during this reporting period.

- Local, Regional and Statewide Activities

Jennie Tasheff reported that First 5 Sonoma County sponsored the “School Talk” Spanish language radio show in August. One show featured *Pasitos* and listeners telephoned to ask if *Pasitos* could be made available in other areas.

Commissioners Hulett and Escobedo attended the recognition for 42 Filtration Group employees who completed their English language classes. Three employees spoke about the positive change in their lives resulting from improved English skills – with their children, the school, medical appointments, and ability to help friends. Ms. Tasheff reported that since implementing the classes, Filtration Group has seen a 4% increase in productivity.

To attract candidates from the private sector, commissioner recruitment will be re-opened until September 30.

Following discussion, the Commission directed staff to modify the ordinance to change the Commission’s name from the Sonoma County Children and Families Commission to the First 5 Sonoma County Commission.

Kits for New Parents were distributed August 2nd at Kaiser's annual Neighbors in Health event that provided free health services 400 children.

Ms. Tasheff reported that the total invoiced by Healthy Families to provide insurance coverage to Sonoma County children during the period 12/15/08 – 6/30/09 was \$32,790.44 less than the anticipated amount approved by the Commission in January. First 5 California has contributed \$81.4 million to provide coverage for 200,000 children 0-5 through June 30, 2010.

The timeline for the Mental Health Services Act Early Childhood Prevention and Early Intervention RFP has been extended to September 14th. Selections are scheduled to be announced October 26th.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.