



The San Mateo County Child Abuse Prevention Council

Minutes: March 27, 2023

Call to Order: 10:55 a.m.

Present: Melissa Guariglia (Family Connections), Donovan Fones (CFS), Gina Quiney(BOS), Susan Swope (JJDCPC), Andrea Avina (Star Vista), Carine Verduco (CFS), Elizabeth Cauley (Stanford), Louise Robaina (BHRS), Vanessa Castillo (CORA)

Public Comment/Brown Act – No members of the public requested to comment.

Introductions –

Members introduced themselves.

Prevention Planning –

Carine reported that the Cross Sector Group continues to meet. The County has completed its self-assessment. The Evidence-Based Programming Survey has been sent out. The purpose is to assess the County's provider capacity and capabilities. Eight organizations have responded. The County has released the RFP for Child Abuse Prevention Services.

Community Update -

Gina reported that CAPC will report to the Board of Supervisors on April 11th and will receive the Proclamation declaring April to be Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Children's Memorial Flag Raising will be on April 28th, time to be announced. Gina will confirm that Supervisor Corzo will attend the April CAPC meeting.

Each agency present reported that hiring new staff, particularly Spanish speaking staff has been challenging. There are many more openings than applicants and this seems to be true county-wide.

Melissa said that Family Connections is starting a Parent/Infant group at both sites which will meet once a week. Also, registration for a 4-6 week summer program for ages 0-5 will be open to the public on 4/1.

Andrea reported that Star Vista will hold a Mental Health Matters Walk on May 21st. Elizabeth said that hiring challenges at Stanford has led to the hospital using travelling Social Workers since the pandemic started. To commemorate Child Abuse Prevention Month there will be a Pinwheels for April Pinwheel Plant on April 3rd. She will forward the flyer with further information to have it sent out to the CAPC email list.

Susan reported that the JJDCPC has engaged FLY to lead the Peer Point program which will be starting up at Menlo Atherton High School. This program facilitates healing circles for youth in danger of suspension or expulsion. The goal is to have this available in all county high schools.

Jane and Carine announced that there will be a transition at CAPC for the next fiscal year. There will be more of an effort to solidify CAPC membership and participation as a Commission of the Board of Supervisors. They will work together to make this change go as smoothly as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – April 17, 2023

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