



The San Mateo County Child Abuse Prevention Council

Minutes: February 22, 2021

Call to Order: 10.50 a.m.

Present: Stephanie Loera (Family Connections), Rosie Gutierrez (Family Connections), Yadira Medero de Cardenas (Family Connections), Maria Del Rio (Star Vista), Araceli Garcia (Star Vista), Jazz Lamadora (CFS), Lisa Molinar (SVC), Chris Perry (SVC).

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

Introductions – Members introduced themselves.

Member Check-In:

Jane announced that in April, Child Abuse Prevention Month, CAPC will be receiving a proclamation from the Board of Supervisors on April 6th. There will be a short presentation to the Board about prevention programs of CAPC members, with representatives from Star Vista highlighting some of their programs. The meeting will probably be done remotely and Jane will send out the access code when it is available. It would be great to have a good showing from CAPC for this event. There will also be a special presentation at the April CAPC meeting on Self-Care, an acknowledgement of how difficult the past year has been and how hard members have worked to take care of their own families, their clients' families and perhaps not having time to take care of themselves. There will also be online materials that will be distributed as they become available and if anyone wants hard copy materials Jane can deliver these to you. There will be a presentation by PCRC for the May meeting and several other ideas are in the works for other meetings. Any suggestions members have for possible speakers will be appreciated.

Rosie reported that over Christmas kids received gifts and a donor got them gift cards. Family Connections is in the process of surveying families to see if they want to have in-person classes, hybrid, or keep doing things remotely.

Stephanie reported that Family Connections has increased their clinical side capacity – they now have a full-time intern and two part-time interns. Because of this the clinical services are being fully utilized and there is no wait list.

Araceli is working with Star Vista's Housing program for former foster youth. They are still meeting remotely and by phone. They are providing housing to about 20 kids, including 9 in the single site unit and are taking new clients even if the youth were not in foster care in San Mateo County. Because of the high cost of living in this County some youth want to relocate and since contact is being done remotely the program is being more flexible about this. The program encourages compliance with Covid-19 protocols, but it is difficult to gauge compliance. Staff has qualified for vaccines and that process has begun.

Yadira also reported on the family survey on the types of classes families want. Family Connections is hoping to have whatever the families want in place to begin after Spring Break. They are trying to support parents as much as possible and taking their feedback into consideration.

Jazz reported that since hotline referrals have declined since the lock-down CFS is trying to raise awareness with schools and teachers on the need to be observant and still report when they suspect abuse. She is also overseeing Supportive Services like visitation and transportation. There is a great

need to keep Social Workers, caregivers and families safe. They have expanded the list of locations for in-person visits. The state has adopted the Family First Prevention Services Act which will shift Title IVE funding to emphasize prevention. Child Welfare dollars will be targeted to prevention services. This will be a big change statewide and there is a process for determining how it will be implemented. The Receiving Home has been redesignated as a Short Term Residential Therapeutic Treatment Program (STRTTP) and has been certified and licensed. It is the first one in the state.

Maria reported that CAPS is doing OK; they are doing outreach to connect with families since there has been a decrease in referrals. They will be hosting a Diaper Drive-Thru Event to distribute diapers and information about the program. If your agency wants to participate please let Maria know – she will send a flyer out when it's ready. Since the parent group collaboration at the CSM Child Care Center has worked so well the clinicians have expanded the program to include Skyline College as well.

Meeting adjourned at 12:09

NEXT MEETING – March 15, 2021 10:45-12:00

Jane Smithson, CAPC Coordinator

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