

Orange County Children's Partnership (OCCP) Committee Minutes

Date: January 17, 2019

Location: HOA Conference Room A
333 W. Santa Ana Blvd, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Committee Members/Alternates Attendees:

Anne Bloxom, Arif Shaikh, Karen Christensen, Kim Doyle, Eric Handler, Susan Leibel, Tracy LeSage, Denise Schleicher, Paula Noden, Eldon Baber

Non-Committee Attendees:

Lisa Burke, Samantha Calloway, Lori Maze, Kelly Pijl, Raina Lee, Mark Lawrenz, Tiffany Kalaitzidis, Denise Churchill, Jackelyne Sanchez, Curtis Condon, Nichole Quick, Kristina Traw

1. Introductions / Announcements

Self-introductions were made.

2. Action Item: Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes from September 20, 2018 and November 15, 2018 were approved.

3. Action Item: Authorize the Conditions of Children Steering Committee to create ad hoc committees for the 2019 Conditions of Children Report

Item approved.

4. Budget Update – Anne Bloxom

The lack of state funding for the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program has a big effect on the SSA budget. Currently, there is enough funding to support the program, but in the coming years, this may become be a bigger issue. The child welfare allocation for RFA recruitment has decreased by a third. Additional allocations for CCR are also being reduced. SSA/CFS is requesting to continue to receive funding for the Bringing Families Home program. The program has helped families to reunify. SSA/CFS currently has about 60 families since the program began.

5. Annual Conditions of Children's Report – Lisa Burke

Lisa is continuing to distribute the Conditions of Children's Report. She has approximately 1,000 reports remaining. There is a community forum regarding the 24th Annual Report on the Condition of Children in Orange County scheduled for February 15, 2019 at Mission Hospital from 2:00p.m. – 4:00p.m. The speakers include Dr. Jeff Nagel, OC Health Care Agency; Dr. Heather Huszti, CHOC Children's Hospital; Mayu Iwatani and Mimi Marrocco, Orange County Department of Education; and a panel of youth representatives from the Be Well Orange County Youth Committee. Lisa will distribute the flyer. Work on the 2019 Conditions of Children report will kick off in March. Lisa will convene adhoc committees for the report as needed. There was discussion

regarding having a community forum at CSUF. It was determined that this could be an area of focus for an Adhoc Committee.

6. Suicide Prevention Efforts – Mark Lawrenz

Dr. Handler's hope is for OCCP Committee to be actionable instead of reportable. He asked the group to consider what they could commit to after Mark's presentation. The benefits of stakeholders coming together is to collectively look at data, become more aware, look at the entire framework and determine how to enhance it. Collective impact is the goal. Mark Lawrenz, Division Manager for OC Health Care Agency Behavioral Health Services oversees Prevention and Intervention Behavioral Health, provided a presentation on Youth Suicide Prevention. Suicide in OC is the leading cause of premature death for 15-19 year olds. There are 12.7 teen suicides in a year. Suicide Prevention Resource Center includes nine elements for a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention: identify and assist, increase help seeking, postvention, respond to crisis, effective care/treatment, life skills and resilience, reduce access to means, connectedness, and care transitions/linkages. The Upstream Approach increases connectedness, life skills, resilience, and help seeking behaviors. There are a lot of services in schools that can reduce risk factors. Some training options are Safe Talk, a three-hour training about suicide prevention. It is live training and it is free through Didi-Hirsch, but there is a wait list. There was discussion about the training having a wait list. Dr. Handler asked Mark Lawrenz to check if the wait list could be eliminated. Mark will report back on options to not have a waiting list for the training. Another training option is Directing Change, a free program directed towards youth to reduce stigma related to mental illness and prevent suicide. Directing Change is appropriate for youth, age 14 and up. There is a call for children to make a video. Know the Signs website was also offered as a good resource. It can be accessed at <https://www.suicideispreventable.org/> Attendees were also referred to the Directing Change flyer and Dos and Dont's handout. In an effort to promote suicide prevention, Mark Lawrenz suggested to do the following things: provide parent education training and encourage parents to listen to their kids. Anne Bloxom said the committee could help educate on mental health as a goal for 2019.

7. Reports on CCR - Denise Churchill

Denise distributed a handout with a visual and brief description of each category transitioning from a Group Home (GH) to a Short Term Residential Treatment Program (STRTP). The four identified main themes in CCR are: Home Based Care, Needs Met Where They Are Placed, Teaming and Collaboration and Assessments. There are 11 mandates that come with CCR including: Shelter Transition, Resource Family Approval (RFA), Intensive Services Foster Care (ISFC)/Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC), STRTP, Presumptive Transfer, Child and Family Teams (CFTs), Memo of Understanding (MOU), Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI), Child and Adolescent Needs and Services Assessment (CANS), Interagency Placement Committee (IPC), and Level of Care (LOC). Since the last time Denise provided a CCR update to OCCP, SSA staff met with several Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) that SSA contracts with to hear from Family Care Network, Inc. from San Luis Obispo, to discuss Intensive Services Foster Care (ISFC) in their County. There was a lot of interest to contract with OC for ISFC placements. Denise mentioned if they could enter in to a contract with HCA, they can bill Medi-Cal. SSA currently contracts with about 50 Foster Family Agencies (FFAs), and use about 30 plus FFAs, but none that bill for the extra rate have a home in Orange

County. The gaps are in meeting the needs of high need youth. There are about 8-9 group homes in Orange County, one has decided not to enter into a contract with SSA, and three have provisional licenses they need to finalize. Olive Crest, Rite of Passage and New Alternatives have a total of 66 beds in OC; all on provisional licenses at this time. Childhelp, Hart, Mary's Path, NAI SAF, and SCCS are all seeking STRTP licensure for a total of 92 beds. The challenges to successfully transition to a 10-day shelter are sibling groups, school of origin, and high need youth. SSA is continuing to recruit for those areas. SSA does not have the intensive services in place yet and FFAs are not equipped to take high need youth. Staff are working to develop emergency placements, but there is lack of intensive residential based placement resources. By January 2021, the 10-day shelter requirement needs to be met in order to keep the shelter open. SSA has to report back to the legislature in January 2021.

8. 2018 OCCP Areas of Focus/Goal

- **Legislative Updates** – Kristina Traw
Item not discussed

- **Secured Facility Committee Updates** – Anne Bloxom

- **2019 OCCP Areas of Focus/Goals** – Anne Bloxom
Suicide Prevention will be a focus for 2019, Anne Bloxom will share the goal with Supervisor Do. The committee requested to continue receiving legislative updates through 2019. Kristina Traw requested that a legislative person from HCA with expertise in suicide prevention be invited to provide legislation updates related to suicide prevention. Dr. Handler will provide updates related to suicide prevention legislation.

9. General Committee Member Comments

- Anne Bloxom asked the committee to review the draft bylaws in preparation for the next meeting.
- Lisa Burke requested information on how to apply for membership to the OCCP committee. Karen Christensen to research statute.
- Raina Lee noted that she was almost done with the hiring process.

Public Comments

None

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on February 21, 2019 at the Hall of Administration Office.

Minutes taken by Jackie Sanchez