

Orange County Children's Partnership (OCCP)

March 17, 2016 Minutes

In Attendance: 26

Christina Altmayer, Eldon Baber, Chris Bieber, Sharon Boles, Lisa Burke, Helene Calvet, Karen Christensen, Amy Crowley, Betsy DeGarmoe, Supervisor Andrew Do, Ken Grebel, Eric Handler, Judge Maria Hernandez, Jana Hoffman, Gene Howard, Farrah Khan, Anne Light, Rick Martin, Janina Miller, David Nunez, Lawren Ramos, Amber Rivera, Mike Ryan, Linda Smith, Janis White, Victor Chavez

Introductions / Announcements:

Introductions were made. Mike Ryan welcomed Supervisor Do to the meeting and introduced Farrah Khan who is interested in joining OCCP as the Foster Parent representative.

Announcements as follows:

Eldon Baber announced the Blue Ribbon Child Abuse Prevention Month Kick-off which will be held April 6, 2016 at the Bowers Museum of Cultural Art in Santa Ana, California. He said additional information is available on the Raise Foundation website (www.theraisefoundation.org).

State Legislation/Budget: No update.

ACTION ITEM: Review and Approve minutes from the January 21, 2015 meeting. Minutes were approved after correction was made to remove Carol Henson from the list of attendees and include Jana Hoffman.

ACTION ITEM: Discontinue Immunization Rates from subcommittee monthly reporting. Approved, reporting will occur along with Program Update reports and as needed to address significant changes or updates.

Annual Report on Conditions of Children (Report)

Lisa Burke stated that the data gathering process has started and participating agencies will begin to receive data requests in the near future. She said the process began a month earlier than last year and implements feedback received from the satisfaction surveys including exploring the use of online platforms portals and heat mapping and overlays. Christina Altmayer announced that the Report's Steering Committee would be reconvening April 12, 2016 at the Social Services Agency's (SSA) headquarters. She invited those that participated last year to participate again and invited others to join. She stated that the Children & Families Commission of Orange County has started contacting the Orange County Board of Supervisors earlier than last year to better prepare for outreaching and the development of the Report forums. She stated that Supervisor Bartlett's office has already begun developing a plan with the Commission.

2016 OCCP Areas of Focus

Mike Ryan opened the discussion regarding the current areas of focus and encouraged OCCP to earnestly review the areas and consider if they should remain the same or be removed. He asked the members to suggest others area to be considered. Anne Light presented a brief overview of her efforts as SSA's Medical Director. She spoke on the

topic of the Working to End Child Abuse and Neglect (WE CAN) Coalition as a component of OCCP's efforts to create a Center for Excellence in Orange County. She stated that Coalition has over 100 members and includes nine task forces working with experts from all across the nation. Mike recommended, and Gene Howard concurred, that OCCP consider adding the Coalition to the list of areas of focus.

Eric Handler spoke about the Waste Not OC Coalition (www.wastenotoc.org) and its efforts as a public / private partnership to resolve food insecurity among the County of Orange communities. Eric stated that a big challenge has been not only filling the various food pantries county-wide but also as important effectively communicating the availability of food and location of pantries to those in need. He stated the Waste Not OC Coalition had an interactive mapping application which provides location and information on food pantries. He stated that other counties were impressed by the Waste Not OC Coalition's structure and were eager to replicate it. Eric said there was still much work to be done, primarily in two key efforts: working with local restaurant and grocery stores to donate excess food and identifying areas where the donated food would be of most service. He stated the Coalition's next project will be working with Santa Ana High School to create an onsite foodbank. He requested the Waste Not OC Coalition be added to the list of areas of focus.

Linda Smith stated that Family Support Network partners with Lakewood and Irvine Costco and Anaheim Walmart to provide donated food to Wraparound families.

Rick Martin requested, and Judge Hernandez concurred, that OCCP keep Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) as area of focus particularly as Orange County has much ground to make up in regard to how it responds to the CSEC population and the type of services and interventions which best serve them.

Mike proposed OCCP consider the impact Assembly Bill 403 and the short-term residential treatment centers (STRTC) will have on how services will be provided. He shared concerns about the mental health component, certification process and Medi-Cal billing. He said SSA is advocating for the state to slow down the implementation so as to allow time to better define what STRTC would ultimately entail and was working with the state to develop the program; however, with the transition to be in effect January 1, 2017 there is still not enough time to fully develop what is needed.

Chris Bieber suggested OCCP consider broadening the mental health focus and collaborating with Children's Hospital of Orange County's outreach to better assist with early prevention services. Anne Light voiced her agreement as foster families need more support and ideally an outpatient component would greatly support children. Gene voiced his agreement and said OCCP's engagement would be of great benefit in helping WE CAN better implement mental health efforts.

David Nunez stated many families were underutilizing available Cal Fresh and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) supports therefore OCCP should consider not only connecting families to food banks but also other available services and thereby providing a more holistic approach which would address food insecurity and childhood poverty. Eric Handler agreed and added housing and mental and physical health needs.

Supervisor Do thanked the membership for the robust conversation and ideas. He requested OCCP develop an ad hoc committee to brief the Board of Supervisors.

Gene requested OCCP keep Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities and Early Childhood Development as focuses as much work still remains to be done. He said seventeen organizations were assisting with Early Childhood Development project and warned about working in silos.

Eric Handler asked when the last time OCCP had revised its strategic plan. Mike stated approximately seven years and perhaps it was time to update it. The membership agreed and determined the April 21st meeting would be used to prepare for the May 19th meeting, which would have the OCCP focus on the revising strategic plan.

Considering the normal meeting room will not be available for OCCP in May, Chris Bieber offered to have the May meeting at the Probation Department's Grand Avenue Office. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Commercial Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) – No update

Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities – No update.

Immunization Rates – No Update.

Early Childhood Development – No Update

Subcommittee Reports:

1. **Annual Report Subcommittee** – No additional update.
2. **Infant Safe Sleep Collaborative** – David Nunez stated he plans to present an update on the six-month pilot during the April meeting.

General Committee Member Comments:

Linda Smith stated that new legislation will make undocumented children eligible for Medi-Cal beginning May 2016.

Public Comments: None

NEXT MEETING: April 21, 2016