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"Making a positive difference in the lives of young children"

Commission Meeting

March 23, 2010 @ 3:00 p.m.

Department of Education @ 1135 Lincoln Street, in The Gallery - Red Bluff, CA 96080

MINUTES - Amended

Attendance: Paula Brown Almond, Larry Champion, Mildred Johnstone, Valerie Lucero, Charlene Reid, and George Russell.

Absent: Cynthia Cook, Beverly Grace, and Tony Cardenas

1. **PUBLIC HEARING: First 5 California Annual Report** – Denise Snider presented the report and offered copies to whoever is interested – please call the commission office for more information.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None heard
3. **CONSENT AGENDA: These items include routine fiscal and administrative actions to be approved by a single majority vote.**
 - 3.1. **Minutes from February Meeting**
 - 3.2. **General Warrant Register**
 - 3.3. **Claims**

Commissioner Valerie Lucero made the motion to approve the consent agenda as submitted; Commissioner Charlene Reid seconded, motion carried 8/0.

4. **REGULAR AGENDA:**

4.1. **INFORMATIONAL: Director's Report**

Major Activities:

- Action Planning
- Updating Request for Proposal
- Annual Statewide Conference
- Commission Meeting Prep
- Community Engagement
- Cheyenne Humphrey, Grand Jury's Chair-Health and Welfare Committee submitted the draft report on the Commission. All comments were positive and complimented the commission on the work that is being done in Tehama County. Denise Snider will submit a couple of minor clarifications to the committee other than that she reported that she could not have asked for a better report. The report will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors in April and then made public after that.

- The Child Care Recognition event was held over the weekend. Mildred Johnstone reported on this during commissioner updates.

Council & committee meetings:

- Mental Health Services Act Steering Committee; InterAgency Coordination Council.
Please contact Denise Snider if you have any questions or concerns regarding any of these activities.

Local Partnerships:

- We have agreed to be recognized on the donor wall in the main lobby at Mercy Medical Center in Redding because of our support to the Sisters of Mercy through Mercy Foundation North, the fiscal agent for the Perinatal Education program we funded FY 02/03 – 07/08.
- Early Start (ES) and School Readiness (SR) are currently working closely with two babies who were in ES and due to cuts they were picked up by SR and being co-case manage. SR does home visits twice monthly and developmental screenings quarterly and send the results to ES. ES consults with SR for activities to help with the developmental concerns and monitors their progress. If they dip back into the ES criteria, they can pick them back up.

State Partnership: First 5 Association:

- Renewed attack on fund balances via Senator Cox. He is once again claiming commissions are "sitting on more than \$2 billion." What Senator Cox continues to fail to do is subtract the portions of the fund balance that are encumbered, committed to multi-year initiatives, and dedicated to sustaining programs as tobacco taxes decline.
 - The Senate Health Committee is scheduled to hear SB 1109 (Cox) on Wednesday, April 14. The bill is nearly identical to SBX8 41, which was heard by the same committee earlier this month. Even though SBX8 41 failed passage, it remains extremely important to voice your opposition to SB 1109. In order to be listed on the official bill analysis, the Health Committee must receive your opposition letter by close-of-business Wednesday, April 7. You can find a sample letter, a copy of the bill, and the analysis of SBX8 41 at <http://www.f5ac.org/item.asp?id=4190>
 - Sr. Pat Manoli from St. Elizabeth Community Hospital received a response to her letter to Senator Aanestad. Mr. Aanestad's letter was full of erroneous information and was forwarded to First 5 Association for their information.
- FY 08/09 Commissions spent more than we brought in. As revenues drop, we are using funds conscientiously saved from previous years to maintain services, in accordance with our statutorily required long term financial plans. Remaining fund balance not reserved or designated for any purpose is \$ 126,682,099.

4.2. INFORMATIONAL: Project Updates

GRANTEE..... Tehama County Health Services Agency
Project NamePerinatal Substance Abuse Program (PSAP) & DADs
Project Coordinator..... Linda Rose, Patrice Tamp

Project Description: PSAP - Program targets pregnant women and women parenting children up to one year of age, who use drugs or alcohol. A Registered Nurse and a Drug/Alcohol Counselor provide case management; prenatal and post-partum assessments are provided in the client's home, as well as, assistance with access to drug and alcohol treatment and transportation. DADS - A program for parenting men with substance abuse issues – offering parenting education, parent/child lab, transportation and case management.

Status: Project staff from both PSAP and DADS were introduced by Linda Rose and Patrice Tamp. The group presented a PowerPoint Presentation that highlighted the projects and updated on the service delivery model. Group also distributed program summary including info on sustainability and program gaps.

4.3. INFORMATIONAL: Reporting from Annual Statewide Conference

- Attendees reported on highlights from the conference held March 10-11, 2010 in Sacramento School Readiness, Michelle Rosauer: Was impressed by the high quality of speakers from a diverse group including Alison Gopnik, the author of *The Philosophical Baby*. Michelle shared quotes from this speaker that meant a lot to her and the work that Early Childhood programs provide.

Executive Director Denise Snider: She too was impressed with the diverse assemblage at the conference. She was especially impressed with keynote speaker Joan Lombardi and her comment on the number of people in attendance. Denise liked the panel discussions on the 2nd day the most. She reported the common theme was that the First 5's had an obligation to reach out to all 0-5 organizations and shore up the gaps in service with collaboration and commitment from all.

Commissioner Mildred Johnstone: Loved that the Kit for New & Expectant Parents was highlighted and the overall positive response from all attendees. This one tool is valued statewide and impacts families and caregivers with children through age 5. Mildred found the home visiting program information interesting and learned the extent of its importance and was glad to hear Federal and State funding will be focused on this important program delivery process.

4.4. Financial Committee Report (Enclosure)

- **DISCUSSION/ACTION:** Preliminary FY 2010/2011 Annual Budget (Enclosure)
Commissioner George Russell made the motion to approve the Financial Committee's recommendation to approve the Preliminary FY 2010/2011 Annual Budget as submitted; Commissioner Paula Brown-Almond seconded, motion carried 6/0.
 - Interest rates have decreased to approximately 1.5% - this change will be made to the financial plan assumptions beginning FY10/11.
- **DISCUSSION:** Begin Preliminary Financial Plan Updates – over the next couple of months the commission will be reviewing decisions for funding and adjusting the financial plan to accommodate the program funding levels. Three scenarios will be brought to the commission

with the financial committee's review and guidance. Professional services will be broken out so that consultant costs can be reviewed.

~~Commissioner Charlene Reid suggested~~ the Audience member, Phyllis Avilla-Turner mentioned the website *California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (CEBC)*: It provides child welfare professionals with easy access to vital information about selected child welfare related programs. The primary task of the CEBC is to inform the child welfare community about the research evidence for programs being used or marketed in California. The CEBC also lists programs that may be less well-known in California, but were recommended by the expert* for that topic area.

*The national Scientific Panel is comprised of five core members who are nationally recognized as leaders in child welfare research and practice, and who are knowledgeable about what constitutes best practice/evidence-based practice. The Panel will assist in identifying relevant practices and research and provide guidance on the scientific integrity of the CEBC products.

4.5. INFORMATIONAL: State Budget Updates/Impacts for pregnant women and children age 0-5

- Dept. of Social Services: CalWORKS – Childcare subsidy and other supportive activities for 170 families of young children; Children's Services – not clear if Path I/Differential Response system will continue and services to Path I and Path II families have not been able to be sustained; Commissioner Reid commented that it is not clear if this program will continue.
- Early Start – no longer purchases services for children in the prevention program & children ages 2 -3 will now have to meet stricter criteria in order to be served.
- Steps to Success - behavioral intervention program to support children, families, teachers, and agencies in order to maximize children's social & emotional development – funding ending this year; this funding ends FY 09/10.
- Corning Family Resource Center – S.H. Cowell Foundation funding up in the air for next year.
- Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP): Has had to cut services – now only allowed to serve participants 18 years and younger with children up to 18 months of age. The funding will serve 32 clients per month.
- Family Planning: This funding may be lost statewide.
- Cal SAFE Program: The Legislature and Governor have made Cal SAFE a tier 3 program. This change has allowed local school districts to eliminate or cut the program at the local level. Because it is considered local general fund revenue, the funds can be braided with General Child Care Center (CCTR) for those teen students who are low income and are in school. These decisions are being made that the district level sponsoring the Cal SAFE programs. Northern California Child Development, Inc. wrote the Early Head Start grant with the intention of using the Cal SAFE facilities – this program now may be a home visiting only program.

4.6. INFORMATIONAL: Personnel Committee – Distribution of Input to Executive Director Evaluation Form (*Form will be distributed at meeting*)

- Commission was asked to complete and return the input form to Commissioner Russell no later than April 15 (727 Oak Street; P.O. Box 250, Red Bluff, CA 96080). This form is optional; however, in order for any issues or comments to be used as part of the evaluation dialogue process, documentation must be received. There will be a closed session during the June, 22, 2010 commission meeting to review the evaluation document provided by the personnel committee.

4.7. INFORMATIONAL: Committee Updates

- Commission members were asked to bring their calendars next meeting as the commission may consider a ½ day strategic planning session to focus on program prioritization and maximum use of First 5 funds.

4.8. INFORMATIONAL: Commissioner Updates – This is also a time to increase on-going knowledge that First 5 Commissioners have regarding the current State budget proceedings (Action Plan Item 3.2).

- Commissioner Charlene Reid: Collaboration and areas are strained during these hard budgeting times. Commissioner Reid would like to see our community collaborate on the *Network of Care*. **Network of Care** is a highly interactive, single information place where consumers, community-based organizations and municipal government workers all can go to easily access a wide variety of important information. The resources in this "virtual community" include a fast, comprehensive Service Directory; links to pertinent Web sites from across the nation; a comprehensive, easy-to-use Library; a political advocacy tool; community message boards; and many others. **Network of Care eLearning** is an online education resource for government agencies as well as the general public. States and counties can manage their employee training and development process of both online and classroom courses, while the general public may access an extensive catalog of online courses. The 0-5 Network can be reached at <http://networkofcare.org/index2.cfm?productid=3&stateid=6>. Commissioner Reid also reported that the Poverty Symposium will be in October including other agencies working on poverty.
- Commissioner Paula Brown-Almond: The 0-3 funding looks good for Tehama County – no cuts forecasted for next FY.
- Commissioner Mildred Johnstone: Attended the 11th Annual Provider Recognition event last Saturday. This event is sponsored by Tehama County's Local Child Care Planning Council and is supported in part by First 5 Tehama. There were four commission members in attendance, Larry Champion, Paula Brown-Almond, Cynthia Cook along with herself. Commissioner Johnstone thought the event was well done and recommended the Commission send out a formal thank you to the LCCPC for their efforts and their ongoing commitment to this event. Executive Director Snider also commented that they had less funding this year to provide this event and should also be commended for continuing on a smaller budget.

- Commissioner George Russell: Health Care was signed by the President – feels this was a good thing, a monumental event. The budget crisis continues as we all know and feel. Doesn't see an end to the cuts at this time.
- Commissioner Larry Champion: Budget is affecting us all – 18 school districts within Tehama County all making hard, independent decisions. On the brighter side – Special Education received an award for the “Barkery” program – providing skills in producing and marketing their home made dog biscuits. Order forms are now on the TCDE website and delivery is included!

4.9. ADJOURN

Next meeting April 27, 2010

Communications received by the FIRST 5 TEHAMA, Tehama County Children and Families Commission and Commissioner Information Packets are on file at the Office of the Executive Director, 1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff.

If you need disability modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Commission office at (530) 528-1395 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Government code Section 54954.2(a).

Any written materials related to an open session item on this agenda that are submitted to the Commissioners less than 72 hours prior to the Commission meeting, and that are not exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act, will promptly be made available for public inspection at the Commission Office, 1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff, California, during normal business hours.