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

Strategic Planning Session

May 25, 2010 @ 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Tehama County Department of Education - Assembly Room
1135 Lincoln St., Red Bluff, CA 96080

MINUTES

Participants: Commissioners – Beverly Grace, Chairperson; Paula Brown-Almond;
Tony Cardenas; Larry Champion; Cynthia Cook, Mildred Johnstone; Valerie Lucero;
Charlene Reid; George Russell
Staff – Michelle Rosauer; Rhonda Meadows
Consultant – Cathy Adams-Minicucci, Minicucci Associates

Facilitation: Lois Lang
Evolve Partner Group LLC

I. Welcome / Agenda Review / Meeting Agreements

a. Mission/Vision Review

The planning session was scheduled to determine and reaffirm the funding philosophy of the Commission working toward a decision on the desired level and mix of intensity of services (nature of services and duration), sustainability of programs, collaboration with partners and type of services (prevention, early intervention and/or treatment).

The Commission reviewed the Mission Statement and the adopted 'Philosophy of Service Delivery' that names capacity building, School Readiness as the flagship program and integration of services as cornerstones for all First 5 Tehama efforts. The Mission Statement was last reviewed in January 2010 and one idea emerged that when the statement is reviewed again, may want to consider moving "socially" by the word "cognitively prepared" to read "cognitively and socially prepared".

II. Historical Look at Funded Programs

- a. Funded programs & projects
- b. Coalitions

Cathy Adams-Minicucci walked the Commission through the historical and current matrix of services and programs and noted the availability of one-page summaries of each individual program.

III. Funding Philosophy of Commission Moving Forward

- a. Intensity of Services (nature of services & duration) – light, medium, high

- b. Sustainability of Programs – low, medium, high
- c. Collaboration with Partners – low, medium, high
- d. Type of Services – prevention, early intervention, treatment

Cathy and Lois reviewed the wall hanging that detailed each program for dates of service, intensity of service, potential sustainability of the program and the mix of service type, whether prevention, early intervention and/or treatment.

IV. Commission’s Philosophy & Commitment to Program Funding
a. Strategic Direction

The following points were stated by Commissioners during the rest of the planning session:

1. Collaboration of community partners is paramount in light of the State budget cuts
2. School Readiness is our flagship program
3. There is a lack of clarity of what the community need is in some areas, i.e. how many other child care providers are there for us to provide training and support to?
4. We would prefer to fund a few programs and do it well, then fund too many and not be able to adequately support them
5. If a RFP process is started, sustainability must be a focus – others stated that while this is ideal, the reality is that there is little funding out there to ensure this goal
6. Consider Head Start as a potential for the Dad’s development
7. Focus on quality
8. Look at sustainability as funding outside of First 5 Tehama to continue providing services
9. Clarified that historically School Readiness was financed 50% by First 5 Tehama and 50% by State match; moving forward it will be 100% by local First 5 Tehama
10. We need to do thoughtful, deliberate decision making during the choice of what funding scenario to choose
11. Difficult to choose among worthy programs, especially with uncertainty of cuts and potential matches of dollars need to pull down other potential legacy programs
12. CARES Plus is to be the first legacy program to be rolled out by First 5 California
13. Sustainability needs to also consider the sustainability potential within the system that the services/programs are being offered, not just their search for additional funds and partners

V. Match of Commission Philosophy of Funding to Financial Scenarios
a. Decision on Financial Model
b. RFP Process

Commissioners did ‘dot voting’ to indicate their funding philosophy – there were six dots (not ranked) per category.

Level of Service Intensity	# Dots
Low	8
Medium	21
High	20

Sustainability Potential	# Dots
Low	5
Medium	35
High	7

Collaboration with Partners	# Dots
Low	6
Medium	12
High	33

Mix of Service Types	# Dots
Prevention	17
Early Intervention	21
Treatment	11

Funding Scenario comments:

1. Consider not breaking the RFP amounts (in Scenario # 2 & #3) into \$30 K for Family Functioning, \$30K for Improved child Health and \$30K for Integrated Services, but combine it as a potential \$90K total for Scenario #2 and \$ 20K for Scenario #3

What does the Commission need to make a decision on the future funding scenario options?

1. Executive Director (Denise Snider's) perspective
2. Knowledge about the current level of saturation or gap of services and needs in the community
3. Potential State and federal cuts
4. Emerging federal funding opportunities
5. A new funding scenario created where:
 - a. Administrative cost of First 5 Tehama is scaled back – decide on overhead %
 - b. School Readiness is scaled back without compromising integrity of the program
 - c. Mobile Dental Unit at current level
 - d. Funds left for RFP to be around \$ 120,000 – 150,000
 - e. Reserve balance after 10 year projection of \$ 500,000
6. Another funding scenario created where:
 - a. Administrative cost of First 5 Tehama is scaled back – decide on overhead %
 - b. School Readiness is expanded to increase participant and geographical reach
 - c. Mobile Dental Unit is modestly expanded from current funding
 - d. Reserve balance after 10 year projection of \$ 500,000
7. Need breakdown of Administration cost for next meeting with highlighted areas that are state mandated

The Commission requested two additional scenarios be developed for review at the June meeting.

VI. Public Comment

- a. CCRE's, Michelle Kinner: ELAC requirements will ask for local match and so will CARES funding opening up soon. More info on these items will be presented at the June meeting.

VII. Adjournment: Planning session adjourned at 4 p.m.

The June 22, 2010 meeting will be held at Northern California Child Development, Inc. 220 Sycamore St., Red Bluff.

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.

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