

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

**Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday, June 3, 2014, 5:30 PM
601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield, CA**

Attendance

Commissioners: Jay Speck, Aaron Crutison, Elise Crane, Erin Hannigan, Dan Ayala, Liz Niedziela, Stephan Betz, Marisela Barbosa

Staff/Public: Commission staff and 16 presenters/members of the public were present.

Call to Order

Chair Speck called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

I. Public Comment

No public comment.

II. Consent Calendar

A. Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for June 3, 2014

B. Approve Minutes of the April 1, 2014 Commission Meeting

Moved: Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded: Commissioner Ayala

Vote: 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Speck, Crutison, Crane, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, Betz, Barbosa

Nay: None

Abstain: None

III. Presentations

A. Consider approval of Resolution #2014-02, honoring Dixon Family Services for 30 years of dedicated service

Commissioner Ayala presented the Resolution to Cookie Powell from Dixon Family Services and spoke about the great work that Dixon Family Services does in the Dixon community. Commissioners Betz, Crutison, and Speck also commended Dixon Family Services for the great work integrating services for the Dixon community and Cookie for her years of dedicated service.

Moved: Commissioner Ayala; Seconded: Commissioner Crutison

Vote: 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Speck, Crutison, Crane, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, Betz, Barbosa

Nay: None

Abstain: None

B. Consider approval of Resolution #2014-03, proclaiming June 2014 as “Child Safety Month”

Ciara Gonsalves, Policy and Fund Development Manager, presented the Resolution to Commission and highlighted the recent finding that 51% of calls to the California Poison

Control hotline for children ages 0-5 are for e-cigarette-related poisonings. Commissioner Hannigan commented that on June 10 the Board of Supervisors is hearing a revision of the Solano County smoking ordinance to include a ban of e-cigarettes on Solano County-owned property. Commissioner Hannigan invited anyone who is interested in the topic to attend.

Moved: Commissioner Ayala; Seconded: Commissioner Hannigan

Vote: 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Speck, Crutison, Crane, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, Betz, Barbosa

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Christina Arrostuto did a brief presentation on the CDA Cares event which took place in April. The event provided free dental care for many Solano County residents including 38 children ages 0-5 and dental education for over 1,500 parents. She presented the Commission with dental brochures that were produced by First 5 in association with Kaiser and Partnership HealthPlan on dental health services in Solano for young children. Christina also presented Chris Shipman, Health and Well-Being Manager, with some tokens of appreciation for being on the planning committee and participating in the event.

IV.

Award of Funding – Request for Proposals #2014-04: Early Childhood Mental Health Services

A.

C

Consider approval of awards of funding of up to \$3,003,568 for the period September 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017 to the Partners for Early Access for Kids (PEAK) joint agency partners (Children’s Nurturing Project, Aldea Children’s and Family Services, Child Haven, EMQ FamiliesFirst, Solano Family and Children’s Services, and Youth and Family Services) in the amounts listed in the staff report, subject to the recommendations of the Review Panel as outlined in the staff report.

Chris Shipman, Health and Well-Being Manager, provided the background information regarding the funding allocation decisions previously made by the Commission as well as the Request for Proposal process. Chris noted that per the recommendations by the review panel this item is asking the Commission to deploy up to the maximum amount available for this project to the six grantees, but the amounts for each grantee may shift somewhat (but not exceed the total allocation) during the contract negotiation process so the program as a whole can address all of the review panel recommendations, including more stringent state requirements for services/outcomes than in previous MHSA funding cycles.

Commissioner Hannigan thanked staff for all of their hard work and including her on the process, as she learned a lot being a part of it. Commissioner Crutison asked if it was typical for the funding to be designated as a set amount for the collaborative and individual amounts as part of the contract negotiations. Christina Arrostuto responded that it is not typical, but due to the new guidelines that the Mental Health Services Act is required to follow, we need to be sure that all components of what they need to see in their plan are covered. We know that collectively all the partners will be able to provide these services, but services may need to be shifted between partners to ensure this coverage of services. In addition, we have checked with county counsel on the wording of this item and it is acceptable.

Moved: Commissioner Betz; Seconded: Commissioner Hannigan

Vote: 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Speck, Crutison, Crane, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, Betz, Barbosa

Nay: None

Abstain: None

V.

Committee Reports

A. Systems and Policy Committee

1. Consider recommending approval of a timeline and process for planning for FY2015/16 and beyond

Christina Arrostuto introduced Dr. Lori Allio from Hatchuel Tabernik and Associates. Dr. Allio has led the Commission through previous strategic planning processes and has been contracted to assist the Commission in decision-making regarding strategic planning, program investment, and long-term financial planning. Christina introduced the item and the different options and timelines available to the Commission, including the decision of whether or not to update the Commission's strategic plan and whether to, as an alternative, use Collective Impact (CI) as a model for a broader, community-wide process to develop a common agenda for young children. She suggested the Commissioners could think of this as an opportunity to embrace a new era in their organizational life cycle (they have been through a start-up era, a full-service era and are now entering a "legacy" era, as funds decline).

Dr. Allio further described the timeline options and what would be possible with each timeline, noting that the timeframe for a CI initiative would be equivalent to that of "Option C" in the choices for a traditional strategic planning process. Dr. Allio also gave a description of Collective Impact.

Commissioner Barbosa stated she though Collective Impact sounded like an interesting way to engage the community. Commissioner Hannigan stated she needed further information on how Collective Impact would fit within any of the options. Commissioner Betz compared Collective Impact to what is already happening in the Early Childhood Mental Health Collaborative where the partners were already working together toward a common goal. Commissioner Barbosa inquired as to whether the Commission could do their own strategic planning process and also participate in Collective Impact. Dr. Allio stated that may be a possibility. Commissioner Barbosa also inquired how old the data is on the previous strategic plan. Dr. Allio responded that it depends on the data point of how old the data is because some data is released more timely than other data, but that data is usually 1-3 years old based on available sources.

Commissioner Crutison clarified that the Committee only reviewed the timelines and the Committee was varied on what they thought the best timeline option was so they decided to bring it to the full Commission without a recommendation. He stated the Committee did not review the information on Collective Impact. Christina agreed and noted that the idea of offering a CI alternative had come up since the committee meeting.

The Commissioners discussed possible timeframes and activities for their next cycle. Several Commissioners noted that a majority of the current Commission was not in service yet when the last Strategic Plan Update was approved, even though that was only 18 months ago. Commissioner Betz additionally noted that a lot has changed since the Commission's last strategic planning, including Child Welfare Realignment,

Affordable Care Act, and Local Control Accountability Plans. After this discussion, Commissioners agreed that they prefer a timeframe for planning that aligns with Option C, with the understanding that this timeframe would require extending their current contracts for 12 months (through June 2016). Commissioners weren't sure if they preferred a traditional process or a CI initiative. Commissioner Crane noted that Collective Impact would fit with the "Funding the Next Generation" timeline and framework. Commissioners directed staff to return in August with both Option C and a more detailed outline of a CI initiative, including how their own strategic goals and funding priorities would be addressed through a CI process.

2. Consider deployment of up to \$30,000 to Children's Network of Solano County for the period July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015 as a grant to support the activities of Funding the Next Generation Solano and direct the Executive Director/designee to serve as a member of Funding the Next Generation Solano

Christina Arrostuto introduced the item and described the efforts that Solano County partners have taken around "Funding the Next Generation Solano." The project aims to explore the feasibility of generating additional local resources in Solano County for children's services. A portion of these funds would be earmarked for First 5 Solano to mitigate the impact of its declining tobacco tax revenues. To that end, Children's Network is acting as the fiscal agent for an ad hoc planning group to conduct polling and other research as to what types of revenues might be optimal and which children's needs the community considers most critical. Some community partners have already pledged small amounts toward the poll. First 5 Solano's contribution would help fund an initial poll, with small additional amounts to Children's Network for coordination and administration.

Commissioner Hannigan asked if First 5 would be privy to the information gathered in the poll. Christina responded yes. Commissioner Hannigan also asked if we would be giving additional funding for the campaign itself. Christina responded no, once it was on the ballot, we would not and could not be a part of the process. Supporting research at this stage of the process is an allowable use of First 5 funds.

Alan Kerzin, Executive Director of Children's Network, stated during public comment that there was a lot of community support and collaboration around this initiative.

Moved: Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded: Commissioner Ayala

Vote: 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Speck, Crutison, Crane, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, Betz, Barbosa

Nay: None

Abstain: None

B. Program and Community Engagement Committee

1. Receive the First 5 Solano FY2012/13 Video Annual Report

Megan Richards, Deputy Director, introduced the Video Annual Report to the Community. She explained that, while Commission submits a written report to First 5 California as part of the requirements in the law, First 5 Solano also creates a more user-friendly report to the community. This year, we created a Video Annual Report in lieu of the written report, to better tell the First 5 story and to take advantage of social media, which is widely used by First 5's parents and providers. The video was

produced under the leadership of Cherelyn Ellington Hunt and features many of the programs that First 5 funds, as well as comments from Commissioners, staff, local providers and parents.

The Commission viewed the FY2012/13 Video Annual Report and all agreed is a great way to highlight the great work the Commission and its community partners are doing. The video will be on the First 5 Solano website tomorrow morning for the community to view.

2. **Accept the 3rd Quarter FY2013/14 Performance Report**

Christine Shipman introduced the item which reflects that most grantees are on target to meet their performance measures for FY2013/14 by the end of the Fiscal Year. One grantee, HSS/BabyFirst Solano is not meeting all their performance measures around the Healthy Families America portion of their grant. In accordance with the Commission's policy on contract compliance, this issue was discussed in detail at the Program and Community Engagement Committee. First 5 staff and the grantee will be revising the scope of work and some performance measures to better-reflect the requirements of the program, as well as drafting a Compliance Action Plan.

Commissioner Hannigan stated she thought the report was well-drafted and there was a thorough discussion of the BabyFirst Solano grant during Committee. She stated from what was presented, the original Performance Measures for Healthy Families America did not fit with the services the grantee is providing and how far along they were in implementing the evidence-based Healthy Families America program. She felt comfortable with staff taking the lead on revising the scope of work to be a better fit and keeping the Committee apprised of the progress.

During public comment, Nancy Calvo, Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Administrator representing BabyFirst Solano, stated she felt the Draft minutes of the Program and Community Engagement Committee did not reflect the 2-page report submitted by the grantee. In addition, she commented that a lot of work has been done to implement and maintain fidelity to the evidence-based home visiting program. The grantee and First 5 staff have an initial meeting set for June 13 to review the model and revise the scope of work. A HFA representative from the state will be available at that meeting to answer any questions regarding the model and outcomes. Lastly, Ms. Calvo handed out a flyer on Social Impact Bonds and encouraged the Commission to think about how First 5 may use these in the future.

Moved: Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded: Commissioner Barbosa

Vote: 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Speck, Crutison, Crane, Hannigan, Ayala, Niedziela, Betz, Barbosa

Nay: None

Abstain: None

VI. **Executive Director's Report**

Christina Arrostuto gave her Executive Director's Report which highlighted Letters of Support that have been signed for SB 837 and 1123, as well as a letter of support for Children's Nurturing Project for an Autism Speaks grant.

Christina also mentioned a possible future partnership with Child Start, Inc. (Solano County's Head Start provider) that is in development regarding the vacant childcare space at 275 Beck Ave in Fairfield. (The County Administrator's Office would like to see that space continue as a childcare facility, and asked Ms. Arrostuto to explore ways to accomplish this.) Child Start is applying for Early Head Start (EHS) expansion funding to support this possible partnership. Child Start may be able to partner with First 5 to provide Head Start and Early Head Start services in that space. Christina will bring back more information for the Commission as it becomes available.

VII. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Barbosa commented that the Pre-K Business Champions EDC Breakfast was great and she really enjoyed it. Commissioner Barbosa also stated that the Latina Agenda is now open in Vallejo.

Commissioner Niedziela commented that she, too, enjoyed the Pre-K Business Champions EDC Breakfast and that Commissioner Hannigan was a great fund-raiser.

VIII. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date/Location

Future agenda items include: Community Partner Presentation on tobacco products; Committee Reports.

The next Commission meeting will be held on August 12, 2014 at 5:30 PM at 601 Texas Street, Fairfield.

Meeting adjourned: 7:10 PM

Approved: 
Megan Richards, Deputy Director