



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION COUNCIL

General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Meeting held via Zoom Virtual and In-Person

Solano County Office of Education 5100 Business Center Drive, Fairfield 94534


PRESENT:


Neely McElroy, Dr. Shandi Fuller, Tammy DeWitt, Candy Pierce, Dennis Chapman, Nicola Parr, Isabel Montano, Cheryl Countee, Juan Cisneros, Guadalupe Lopez, Phil Lockwood, Nora Macias, Nicole Saltzman, Troy Nichols, Lisa Eckhoff, Kathy Lago, Sonya Wright, Megan Murphy, Rachel Fulton, Magie Chiang, Norma Ramirez, Kwiana Algere and Chris Hoene

STAFF:

Zoila Perez-Sanchez, Ronda Kogler, and Jessica Gabbart

MINUTES:

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm
I. Introductions and Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Candy Pierce announced that the Solano Family Justice Center will be holding a Strategic Planning Meeting on March 8th & 9th. If you are interested in being a part of it, please let them know. They would like as many voices as possible to give input on what the Family Justice Center should look like and what kind of services to provide. <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Solano FJC Strategic Planning I</p> </div>

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
II. Presentations	<p>Welcome Candy Pierce welcomed everyone and thanked members for attending.</p> <p>Advancing Better Outcomes for All Children – Reporting Solano County Child Welfare Data Using a Race Equity Lens; Solano County H & SS Child Welfare Services staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CWS staff presented on disparities and disproportionality among clients being served. Discussion included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What’s next; choosing a focal point (entries, in care, exits, etc.) to complete a root cause analysis, determine the cause and then implement intervention. ○ CWS is planning to create an infographic to share data with community and in planning to continue ongoing data analysis. ○ Attendees asked if the slide show could be shared. Nicole indicated it would be once presentation notes were removed. ○ CWS requested that if anyone has any data specific questions to contact Nicole. <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Race Equity PPT - Community Partners</p> <p>Proposed Governor’s Budget; Chris Hoene, Executive Director, California Budget & Policy Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Highlights from the presentation included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Food assistance (CalFresh SNAP) no expansions, millions of Californians are about to lose emergency food benefits that were provided in response to the pandemic. That will result in about a \$500mil hit to the state of CA. For an average household it is about a \$80 loss a month in food, if you are very low-income household with a number of children you could be losing \$200 in benefits. The big losses are homes with children in them and there was thought that the governor might propose one-time funding to fill the gap but that is not on the table yet. ○ CalWorks there will be an increase in cash grants for household about 3% ○ Early Education- Transitional Kindergarten/Pre-K: the governor has already committed prior year budget \$\$ to universal expansion for all 4-year-olds; we are in the first few months of that build out. The governor’s budget continues to provide the funding for that build out and will continue to do that in the future years. State Preschool program has some expanded support to provide more preschool spots for low and moderate families, dual language learners and kids with disabilities.. ○ Universal TK is having a dramatic effect on the childcare system. We have a childcare subsidy program that has already been operating in crisis due to lack of investment and has been made worse due to the pandemic. This system is now having challenges due to the TK expansion. The childcare system already has too few slots for the number of kids who are eligible and a system with too few childcare providers. It is driven by reimbursement rates that are among the lowest in the country for a very high cost of living state. Family fees are still required and those are still really high. The state had been making an effort to reduce the fee to make childcare more accessible as a result to pandemic, but that policy is set to expire this year. ○ First year of baby bonds or child savings account. The HOPE Trust Fund Accounts is for children who were in long term foster care or who lost a parent/guardian to COVID 19.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
III. Theory of Change	<p>Continue working on the Theory of Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion around CWS data presentation. How does that data fit into our work? What did that data do to you? ○ Participants asked a lot of questions about the data presented, many of which require knowledge about the root causes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Noticed a large peak of Black children in care in 2017 and 2018 and then it started going down; what happened and how can we continue that downward slope? When you see some spikes, what happened in those years it spiked, what was going on with the drop offs. What was different? ○ What are the barriers? ○ What is keeping kids in care? ○ Why are they in the system or what is it the parents can't engage in to prevent entry?
V. Future meetings	<p>Future Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ March– Continue Theory of Change ○ April – Child Abuse Prevention Month
VI. Adjournment	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM</p>