

Child Abuse Prevention Council

A partner of the
Children's Network
of Solano County

SOLANO COUNTY CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION COUNCIL

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 01, 2023

12:00 -2:00 PM

[Hybrid Meeting](#)

Join in person at Solano County of Education
5100 Business Center Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534
or **Join by Zoom at**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84535063643?pwd=L0Q4eDVHd0tueDYvdlo2T0N0M1RPZz09>

Meeting ID: 845 3506 3643 **Passcode:** 368229

Telephone: +1 669-900-9128

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| I. Introductions & Announcements | 12:00-12:20 |
| II. CAPC Governance and Structure | 12:20-12:25 |
| III. CAP Month Activities (Action Item) | 12:25-12:40 |
| ○ Family Resource Center Support Letter | |
| ○ Coordinated public awareness | |
| IV. Comprehensive Prevention Plan | 12:40-1:25 |
| ○ Continue working on Theory of Change | |
| V. Suggestion for Future Meetings | 1:25-1:30 |
| April – Child Welfare Presentation/Child Abuse Prevention Month | |
| May-Healthy Families America/Family Nurse Partnership | |
| VI. Adjourn | 1:30 |

Next Meeting Date: April 05, 2023



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></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>

**Solano County Child Abuse Prevention Council Membership
Feb-23**

Members	Agency/Organization
Public Services: Child Welfare Services, Children's Services, Probation	
VACANT	District Representative, Solano County Board of Supervisors
Gene Ibe	First 5 Solano Children & Families Commission
Tara Knobbe	Solano County Child Support Services
Neely McElroy	Solano County Health and Social Services , Child Welfare Division
Tracy Lacey	Solano County Health & Social Services, Behavioral Health Division
Dr. Shandi Fuller	Solano County Health and Social Services , Public Health Division
Tammy DeWitt	Solano County Probation, Juvenile Division
Criminal Justice System: Law Enforcement, District Attorney, Courts, Coroner	
Candy Pierce	CASA of Solano County
VACANT	
Dennis Chapman	Law Enforcement
Prevention & Treatment Services Communities: Medical & Mental Health; Community-based Social Services; Public and Private schools	
Juan Cisneros	Child Start, Inc.
Cheryl Countee	Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
Kerry Ahearn	Aldea Children & Family Services
Guadalupe Lopez	North Bay Regional Center
Nicola Parr	Solano County Superintendent of Schools
Isabel Montano	Vacaville Family Resource Center
Community Representatives: Community Volunteers; Civic Organizations; Religious Community	
Phil Lockwood	Community Representative
VACANT	Local Child Care Planning Council
Nora Macias	Religious Community
Angelina Mackelvie	Voices Solano

Working Draft: Solano CAP Theory of Change

Vision: Solano County is an inclusive community that delivers equitable access to trauma free systems, services, opportunities and supports ensuring **all** community members are empowered with the knowledge to be safe and thrive.

Problem we are trying to address:

There were 369 substantiated allegations of child maltreatment in 2020 in Solano County (4.1 per 1,000 children 0-17 years of age).

- Children under the age of 1 are most at risk. (15 per 1,000 children)
- Black and Native American children are more than 2X as likely to experience substantiated maltreatment.
- Substantiation rates are highest in the following zip codes: 94591, 94590, 94585, 94571, 94533.

Overarching Goal: Solano County’s System of Care will apply policies and deliver programs that decrease child maltreatment and ensure **that African American and Native American** families have equitable access to trauma free services and supports to keep children safe and promotes community wellness.

If these things happen....(implement these strategies)	We can expect to see these results (Short Term Outcomes)	And then we want to see these results (Intermediate Outcomes)	And then we want to see these results (Long Term Outcomes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interagency collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Share best practices and information on resources. ○ Identify and foster areas for partnerships. • Policy advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase supports for families. • Community engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide a safe forum to connect with community members, empowering them to advocate for their interests and needs. ○ Engage community members to better understand root causes of disparities and disproportionality. • Public education campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide education about preventing maltreatment. ○ Increase knowledge about resources and how and where to access them. • Workforce Training/Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide trauma free, culturally appropriate services. ○ Use a family-strengthening approach with those served. ○ Provide a culture of self-care for the workforce. ○ Recruit so that workforce represents community served. • Identify, leverage, and create funding strategies to support work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solano County shares a common framework for preventing child maltreatment. • Community members and community agencies partnering to address child abuse prevention and early intervention efforts. • Services and programs are identified and developed to fill gaps based on family services/program needs. • Families in our communities know about available resources that promote health, safety, stability, and self-sufficiency. • Families understand the importance of having informal and formal support networks. • Solano County residents understand that all families need support. • Solano’s workforce has the training and tools to promote a healing environment for themselves and those they serve. • Solano’s workforce is supported to partner with families, helping them plan goals and address accessibility and other barriers. • Families can access services that are culturally accessible and responsive to their unique needs. • The Solano community identifies new funding or braided funding strategies to support resources and services for families. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Solano County community provides coordinated, comprehensive systems of support to meet families and children's needs. • The Solano County community has the resources needed to support children and families. • Solano families: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ feel comfortable seeking support, ○ access the resources they need to be healthy, safe, stable, and self-sufficient, ○ receive services and programs that are culturally, and linguistically appropriate, and ○ feel respected and recognized for their expertise and wisdom. 	<p>Decreased child maltreatment.</p> <p>Decreased disproportionality in system involved families.</p> <p>Families have the knowledge, skills, and tools they need to thrive.</p> <p>Children are safe and protected.</p>

From the Child Abuse Prevention Council:

Addressed to our Assemblymember and Senator

RE: \$75M Request to Stabilize & Strengthen Family Resource Centers (FRC)

Dear Assemblymember Wilson and Senator Dodd,

We are pleased to support the budget request sponsored by the Child Abuse Prevention Center, California Family Resource Association, and California Alliance of Child and Family Services to provide an allocation of \$75 million (\$25 million per year over three years) to family resource centers (FRC) in California. These FRCs provide comprehensive, cost effective and culturally responsive support some of the most marginalized children and families in our communities, particularly amid the impacts of the pandemic and the resulting economic crisis.

Family resource centers play a vital role in communities throughout California, serving as trusted partners connecting children and families to resources and services that help lessen the everyday stressors that can often be a precursor to child abuse and neglect. In Solano County, our Family Resource Center Network is comprised of a convening agency and 6 agencies that provide direct services to families in each of our county's cities. These agencies include:

- Benicia Police Department in Benicia
- Children's Network of Solano County
- Dixon Family Services in Dixon
- Fighting Back Partnership in Vallejo
- Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, with 3 Healthy Start FRCs (2 in Fairfield and 1 in Suisun City)
- Rio Vista C.A.R.E in Rio Vista and
- Vacaville Police Department's FIRST Office in Vacaville.

Our county's family resource centers are community-based, flexible, family-focused, and culturally sensitive hubs of support and resources that provide programs and targeted services based on the needs and interests of families. They support the development of strong communities of support for parents and caregivers. In addition to assistance with concrete needs like housing and utility assistance, childcare, and food, our family resource centers often provide parent education and skills training, community events and resource fairs, and mental health or family counseling, among other things. For Solano County, this funding is especially crucial for the preservation and/or expansion of community strengthening programs given the historical and continuing lack of foundation funding that Solano County receives compared to other counties in the region.

We greatly appreciate the COVID-19 response funding provided by the Newsom Administration and Legislature over the past three years to help the children and families most impacted by the pandemic. However, as that funding drops off later

From the Child Abuse Prevention Council:

this year, FRCs statewide will find it exceedingly difficult to continue providing services without ongoing funding, forcing many to the decrease service levels while needs continue to grow exponentially. This instability will hit at a critical time when the state and counties will need a reliable “community pathway” infrastructure to fully implement the federal Family First Prevention Services Act and build alternatives to mandated reporting.

We urge you to support the request to stabilize and strengthen FRCs by providing \$75 million in the California State Budget. The Solano Child Abuse Prevention Council appreciates your consideration of this budget request and strongly encourages your support for it in the Assembly and Senate’s budget packages.

If you have any questions regarding our position or the request itself. Please contact Dawn Koepke, advocate with McHugh Koepke & Associates for the Child Abuse Prevention Center and California Family Resource Association, at dkoepke@mchughgr.com or (916) 606-5309. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Candy Pierce, President
Child Abuse Prevention Council of Solano County

Cc: Assembly Majority Leader Eloise Reyes
Nancy Skinner, Senate Budget Committee Chair
Caroline Menjivar, Senate Budget Subcommittee 3 Chair
Phil Teng, Assembly Budget Committee Chair
Dr. Joaquin Arambula, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1 Chair