

**FIRST 5 - PLACER
CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes, March 9, 2006

Attendees – Commissioners & Staff:

Dr. Sandra Naylor-Goodwin, Chair-Commissioner, Children's Behavioral Health
Catherine Goins, Vice-Chair, Commissioner, Childhood Development
Tamara Lieberman, Commissioner, Community Based Organization
Elaine Rowen, Ph.D., Commissioner, Early Education
Jim Holmes, Commissioner, Board of Supervisors, District #3
Bob McDonald, Commissioner, Early Intervention
Kim Haswell, Commissioner, Consumer
Don Ferretti, First 5 Director
Nancy Baggett, Staff Support, Administration
Christa Darlington, County Counsel
Bobbie Reagan, Staff Support, Admin.

Commissioners & Staff Not in Attendance:

Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner, Placer County Health Officer
Cathy Capps, Staff Support, Admin.
Jo McCormack, County Counsel
Mike Romero, Staff Support, Epidemiology

Public Attendees:

Paula Anderson – UCCE Ready to Succeed – Nutrition & Literacy
Mary Wagner Davis, Breastfeeding Coalition
Cheryl Cox, Breastfeeding Coalition
Michael Rahilly, Early Childhood Relationship Support Project

Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:35 pm

Late arriving documentation to be added to the agenda - Return On Investment (ROI) Pilot Case Evaluation - a request for Commission Sponsorship, which must be acted on prior to our next meeting.

Action Required

Action to add this item to the agenda under Commission Action Items No. 6

Holmes/McDonald VOTE: 7:0

A discussion followed explaining how it came to the attention of the Commission after posting of the agenda. An orientation meeting was held on March 7th regarding the ROI sponsorship. Several Commissioners were in attendance and were asked to sponsor the program. A decision by the Commissioners at that meeting to take formal action on the request by adding to the agenda for the March 9th meeting.

I. Public Comment

Persons may address the Commission on items not on this agenda. Please note that although the Commission is very interested in your concerns, the California Brown Act prohibits the Commission from taking any action at this meeting on items not published on this agenda.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from December 8, 2005` meeting.

Lieberman/Rowen/Unanimous

III. Commission Action Items

1. Updating the First 5 - Placer Strategic Plan

The current First 5 – Placer Strategic Plan covers the period ending on June 30, 2007. The plan is required by law and among other things; it must include an explanation of the outcomes the Commission would like to achieve, along with a description of how the commission will use its funds to achieve these outcomes.

As discussed in the recent Commission Strategic Planning meeting, to have an updated plan approved by the Commission before June 30, 2007, the Commission will need to implement planning activities during fiscal year 2006-07.

Action Requested

Approve the attached activities and time frame for updating the First 5 – Placer Strategic Plan

Holmes/Lieberman/Unanimous

2. Fiscal Year 2006-07 Contract Recommendations

First 5 Commissions must use outcome-based accountability to determine future expenditures. To actualize this mandate the First 5 – Placer Commission approved a rating scale for its staff to use in making contract renewal recommendations for fiscal year 2006-07. Although all partner contracts are funded through 2007, the Commission must renew each contract annually based on achievement of outcomes.

Action Requested

Approve the attached contract renewal recommendations for fiscal year 2006-07

Rowen/McDonald/Unanimous

3. Placer ARC Application

Placer ARC is the administering agency for the First 5 funded Early Childhood Relationship Support Project (ECRSP). This is a collaboration of agencies working to provide early identification and follow up mental health services to children 0-5 and their families.

Michael Rahilly, ECRSP Project Coordinator, submitted an application for \$5,000 to fund a follow up training on “Reflective Practices” that was originally delivered by Dr. Victor Bernstein in October 2005. The follow up training would be held on March 23-24, 2006.

The follow up training will focus on how individuals are implementing the principles and practices from the initial training. It is proposed that as a result of this training, there will be an increase in reflective, strength-based practices with children and families, which will in turn result in improved family functioning in areas such as care-giver self esteem, child self-esteem, and child development.

The Community Resource Committee (CRC) discussed the application with Mr. Rahilly and recommends funding. Given that the two CFC members who reviewed the application are on the ECRSP Steering committee, the Executive/Finance committee also reviewed the application. The Executive/Finance committee recommends funding this application if the following conditions are met:

- a. The applicant and First 5 staff must reach agreement on contract outcomes, performance measures and an appropriate budget, and
- b. In order to justify a follow up training the applicant will be required to provide an accurate count of the number of people who will attend the training who have actually been using the training with the prenatal through 5 population. This would include information on where they have been practicing the methods, and what role they play in their agency (i.e. staff, parents, home visitors)?

Action Requested

Approve funding in the amount of \$5,000 to provide follow up training to those who are using Dr. Victor Bernstein's "Reflective Practices" methods to serve 0-5 children/families contingent upon the above conditions being met.

Lieberman/Rowen/Unanimous

4. Evaluation and Report Coordination Staff Support

As discussed in the recent Commission Strategic Planning meeting, First 5 California has adopted a new statewide evaluation and annual report process that exceeds the current First 5 - Placer staff capacity. In order to comply with the new requirements additional staff is needed to conduct and coordinate evaluation and reporting activities for the Commission.

Action Requested

Authorize staff to develop a draft Scope of Work and Cost Estimate for evaluation and report coordination activities to comply with First 5 California Evaluation framework. This information is to be approved by the Commission prior to public release.

Holmes/McDonald/Unanimous

5. Kings Beach School Readiness Funding 06-07

School Readiness (SR) programs are the centerpiece of First 5 California's work with children and families. The purpose of the SR program is to improve the ability of families, schools, and communities to prepare children to enter school ready to succeed. First 5 California provides funding for SR "high priority" schools in deciles 1-3 of the Academic Performance Index-API. King Beach Elementary School is the only school in Placer County that meets the SR eligibility criteria.

First 5 - Placer has funded a SR program in Kings Beach since 2002. State funding for the program ends on June 30th. The State has issued a request for proposals for continued funding that is due on April 3rd. State funding must be matched at the local level at a dollar for dollar ration. Placer is eligible for \$145,797 in State SR funds.

A key aspect of the application process is the completion of a comprehensive community needs assessment. In working with the Kings Beach community to respond to the State application it was clear that we are not ready to apply for new funds until we complete a valid community needs assessment. This means that we would apply in January 2007, but in order to be eligible for new funding the State has initiated a "maintenance of effort" provision, which basically says that we must continue funding current SR programs at their existing levels in fiscal year 06-07 while we prepare to apply under the January 2007 deadline.

The full cost of the 06-07 Kings Beach SR program is \$141,500. There will be approximately \$60,000 SR roll over from this year. To comply with the maintenance of effort provision First 5 - Placer will need to augment the program by \$81,500.

Action Requested

- a. Approve an allocation up to \$81,500 in fiscal year 06-07 to continue existing School Readiness activities for the King Beach Elementary School.
- b. Authorize staff to submit required School Readiness Application documents to First 5 California.

Holmes/Rowen/Unanimous

6. Return On Investment (ROI) Pilot Case Evaluation/Sponsorship

On March 7th, there was an orientation meeting to discuss the proposed pilot evaluation study to measure the cost benefit of the Focused Learning conversation method upon the outcome based performance measures of First 5 contracts. The study will be completed by May 31, 2006.

Meeting participants were the project consultant, Holly Burkett, and commissioners Catherine Goins, Elaine Rowen, Kim Haswell, and Tamara Lieberman. First 5 staff participants were Don Ferretti, Nancy Baggett, and Mike Romero.

During the orientation meeting the Commissioners requested that an action be taken at the March 9th Commission meeting to formally sponsor the case study.

Formal sponsorship of the study will not involve any new expenditure, but it would involve the following:

- Commission and staff participation on a core team to provide a visible leadership commitment, and
- Provide subject matter experts, and
- Provide outcome data in a timely manner

Action Requested

Approve the request for the Commission to sponsor the case study.

Rowen/Lieberman/Unanimous

IV. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Naylor-Goodwin: Concerned about quorums for future meetings. Suggested a commitment from Commissioners to plan a few months in advance in order to confirm a quorum. If not available we could possibly change the date. Request that a survey be sent to commissioners with dates of future meetings asking if their calendars will allow attendance through June.

Commissioner Lieberman – This is her last meeting. She shared with us how thoroughly she has enjoyed her commissioner connection with First 5, how very difficult it is to leave, and hopefully in the future she will still be able to contribute.

Commissioner Naylor-Goodwin presented her with a First 5 appreciation plaque for her contribution to Healthy Children, Families and our Community.

VI. Advisory Committee Reports:

- **Community Collaborative of Tahoe/Truckee**
None
- **Community Resource Committee**
None
- **Child Care Local Planning**
None
- **Placer Collaborative Network**
None

VII. Director's Report

- 2006 Annual Statewide Conference coming up, May 25th and 26th.
- Shiloh Center Building has been sold with this being the last meeting here. It will be leased for other purposes. Don is looking at other venues.
- At the Strategic Planning Retreat, Commissioners brain-stormed ideas for a communications plan which has been given to Roger and Assoc. and will be on the April agenda.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:03 pm