



Member of the Coastal Tri-Counties Child Abuse Prevention Coalition

September 19, 2013 ♦ 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Buellton Recreation Center ♦ 301 Second Street, Jonata School ♦ Buellton, CA

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions

Deborah Holmes welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Attendance: Florene Bednersh, Elaine Chatterley, Sandra Copley, Elizabeth Drake, Ashleigh Erving, Flo Furuike, Carlos Gonzalez, Katie Henson, Deborah Holmes, Noel Lossing, Alma Marquez, Ann McCarty, Nora Ivette Melendez, Lucia Perez, Arcelia Sencion, Rubayi Srivastava

Staff: Liz Drake, Barbara Finch

2. Approval of July 18, 2013 Minutes

Flo Furuike motioned to approve the July 18, 2013 minutes; Sandra Copley seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Public Comment

Deborah announced the untimely death of Michelle Falvey, Clinical Director of the St. Vincent's Family Strengthening Program. Barbara added that after a rigorous six week battle with cancer, Michelle died on September 14th and that her death will be a big loss to our community. Deborah asked those in attendance for a moment of silence to honor her memory.

4. Supporting Father Involvement (SFI)

- a. **Background** – Barbara distributed two handouts: *Supporting Father Involvement, Santa Barbara's Cohort Approach* and *Santa Barbara's Vision for Father Engagement* (see attached). Barbara reviewed the first handout, which gives a background of how Supporting Father Involvement was adopted in Santa Barbara County. Our county is now a model for how SFI is being implemented across the state. She then reviewed *Santa Barbara's Vision for Father Engagement* which is a culmination of the visions each participating agency has for father engagement.
- b. **Agency Outcomes** – Barbara asked those who participated in the SFI program to share their experiences and outcomes. Carlos Gonzalez, Santa Barbara County CalWORKS/Welfare to Work (WTW) supervisor, spoke about the positive outcomes their division has seen as a result of implementing SFI. They have made a concerted effort to include fathers more in case management, interviews and even phone calls. They made educational resources available to clients and staff, and are poised to accept the Supporting Father Involvement intervention as an approved activity that meets requirements for Welfare to Work. Alma Marquez, Arcelia Sencion and Ashleigh Erving also shared how their agencies are working to engage fathers more and the positive results they have seen in some of their clients and staff members. All stated that historically the concentration has been on the female head of household in regards to case management and that the shift to engage fathers is an ongoing and worthwhile process.
- c. **Child Abuse Listening Mediation's (CALM's) SFI Group** – Deborah gave a background on CALM's history with father engagement. In 1999, the Office of Child Abuse Prevention mandated father involvement; however, no

guidelines or curriculum were given. Deborah hired Family Advocate Jose Moctezuma to help them with this endeavor. Because the Great Beginnings program allowed them to start working prenatally, they really made a big effort to engage fathers early as this is oftentimes when fathers drop off the radar screen. CALM also started exploring and addressing the possibility that some of their female practitioner's may have counter-transference issues towards fathers. Like many other agencies, CALM had a history of only engaging the mothers. Over the years, they have learned how to involve the fathers in a way that makes the men feel comfortable. Fortunately, there are now more tools and resources available to help them with this effort.

Jose Moctezuma then gave an informative PowerPoint presentation on his experience teaching the Supporting Father Involvement (SFI) 16 week curriculum (see attached). This curriculum is a family-focused, evidence-based intervention aimed at engaging fathers as key participants in family support and strengthening. He reviewed the activities and principles taught each week, why it is important to include fathers, and some of the misconceptions about men and their ability to be good fathers. Jose shared the experiences of six fathers who graduated from the program and how each family benefited from the father's participation. He shared the results from the Adult Adolescent Parenting Inventor (AAPI-2) from Fall 2012 to Spring 2013 (see slide 21). Scores on all composites improved after the parenting classes and some showed dramatic improvement indicating a decreased risk for child abuse. Jose concluded his presentation by stating that the curriculum works for both married and divorced fathers. Barbara added that Ventura County uses the program for divorced fathers and has seen positive results. The focus is on co-parenting because it's so important to the child's well-being.

Jose answered questions about the program and Barbara stated that she would like to see it launched county-wide. Alma mentioned that getting families to commit to 16 weeks can be difficult, and Barbara stated that there is some flexibility in the program. Funding was also determined to be an obstacle; however, applying for grants and collaborating with other agencies can help mitigate the cost.

5. Prevention Focus 2013-14

Barbara distributed and reviewed a list of the CAPC goals and activities (see attached) and mentioned that due to staffing changes, some have fallen by the wayside. She asked those in attendance to review the handout and provide feedback as to whether any activities or goals need to be added or removed. She added that the CAPC recently signed an MOU with the Network of Family Resource Centers and the Child Care Planning Council to keep Strengthening Families on the forefront. She asked members to provide feedback as to how to help spread Strengthening Families throughout the county and if they have any ideas for additional topics which need to be incorporated into the CAPC activities. After a brief discussion, all agreed that the CAPC should concentrate on the following topics:

- Reflective supervision
- Trends in child maltreatment, specifically neglect.
- Drug, alcohol and mental health issues
- Formalization and coordination of various networks for parent engagement

Barbara concluded the discussion by stating that the next step will be to figure out how to use the CAPC's organizational structure to form committees and ensure that the CAPC is moving forward in the new and existing areas of focus.

6. Leveraging Training and Conference Investments

Barbara gave a brief history of how Parents Forever got started. She stated that a few years ago, the Coastal Tri-Counties Child Abuse Coalition decided to send staff and parent leaders to the Child Abuse Prevention Conference. In return, they asked those who attended to contribute four hours to child abuse prevention in some way, whether it was with their own agency or with a CAPC project. The parent leaders, along with their respective staff liaisons, created a booklet about the protective factors. The booklets were then used to teach the protective factors in various settings within each community. She stated that she would like to see the CAPC continue with similar projects.

a. Postpartum Depression (PPD) training resources and information

Barbara shared that the KIDS Network sponsored 12 people to attend the recent Perinatal Mood Disorder workshop and that many CAPC members sent their family advocates. She asked those in attendance for permission to reach out to those who attended the workshop and ask them to present what they learned and to perhaps create an advocate toolkit from the workshop materials they took back with them. If a client has been screened by their doctor and comes to a Family Resource Center for help, the toolkit will help the advocates be prepared to help them. Those in attendance agreed that they liked the idea of having the workshop attendees present what they learned at a CAPC meeting.

Leverage Training and Conference Investments (continued)

b. Summit Workshops

Barbara mentioned that two parent leaders received scholarships to attend the Preventing Child Abuse & Neglect: The Power of Community Statewide Summit. She asked those in attendance for ideas on what expectations there should be as far as bringing back what was learned to the CAPC and the community. Deborah suggested having them present what they learned at a CAPC meeting.

c. Strategies Trauma Informed Practices Training Dec. 5th

Barbara announced that the Strategies is bringing their Trauma Informed Practices training to the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) on December 5th. The all-day training is geared towards people who are new to the field. After a previous discussion with Deborah, Barbara stated that they decided it might be a good idea to get therapists, advocates, and Child Welfare Services staff from North, South and Mid County to attend so that a team can be formed to help move the issue forward in the community. Please contact Barbara if you would like to recommend someone for the training. Deborah added that it would be great to have people who attend the training report back at a CAPC meeting.

7. Updates and Announcements

a. Strengthening Families Roundtable

Barbara reported that she attended the most recent Strengthening Families Roundtable, which is currently in the process of restructuring. The Roundtable is California's attempt to bring the Strengthening Families work statewide. The meetings are held in Sacramento quarterly and anyone is welcome to attend. Over forty states are now implementing some type of Strengthening Families framework in their child abuse and neglect prevention efforts and California is one of thirty-one states that have a broad-based Strengthening Families initiative. Barbara reviewed the new structure of the Roundtable and shared what she learned about Shasta County's approach to Strengthening Families. She concluded by stating that Santa Barbara has been very active in the Roundtable and has been a model for other counties in the state on how to effectively implement the Strengthening Families framework.

b. California Family Resource Association (CFRA)

Barbara stated that the California Family Resource Association (CFRA) is asking for letters of support regarding Child Abuse and Neglect reporting. There is a legal case in the lower courts which ruled that law enforcement does not have to notify Child Welfare Services when it receives a report of suspected abuse. The case is being appealed and the CFRA would like to have it heard in the Supreme Court. Barbara will send information to members via email.

c. Members

Sandra Copley distributed the final versions of *Parent Links Healthy Coping* resource guides for South, Mid and North County (see attached). She stated that electronic versions can be found on www.sbcphd.or/mcah. She added that she will send the .pdf version to Liz for distribution and that CAPC members may disseminate the brochures as they see fit. She also distributed final copies of the fact sheets titled *Perinatal Mood & Anxiety Disorders: Impacts on moms, babies and families* and *Alcohol and Illicit Drug Use During Pregnancy* (see attached). Maternal Child & Adolescent Health (MCAH) will be taking the fact sheets to providers and community organizations in order to promote screening for depression and drug use. She asked members to please use them and to report back to her how they're being used and where they are being distributed. Lastly, Sandra reviewed and passed out the *Maternal Child & Adolescent Health Program Highlights FY 12-13* (see attached). She mentioned that she is looking to form a advisory group from throughout the county to give input on their next Five Year Community Assessment.

8. Confirm agenda for next meeting – October 17, 2013 (5 min)

Because many members of the CAPC will be attending the Preventing Child Abuse & Neglect Summit on October 17th, it was decided that the CAPC meeting on that day will be canceled. Barbara will form an Academy workgroup meeting in order to plan for the November 8, 2013 Child Abuse Prevention Academy. Ann and Alma said that they will participate in the workgroup and Flo mentioned that she will send someone from the Child Care Planning Council to participate.

9. Adjourn for Grants Consortium Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.