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*Member of the Coastal Tri-Counties Child Abuse Prevention Coalition*

**February 20, 2020 ♦ 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

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

**MINUTES**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Ashleigh Erving and Alison Wales welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

**Attendance:** Elizabeth Adams, Jacqui Banta, Kelley Barragan, Florene Bednersh, Lindsey Day, Ashleigh Erving, Flo Furuike, Lori Goodman, Tony Hollenback, Polly Huffer, Alma Márquez, Yvonne Nelson, Eloisa Patterson, Taundra Pitchford, Shana Pompa, Mayra Ramos, Marianne Reagan, Isabel Ruiz, Silvia Segoviano, Eva Tagle, Alison Wales

**Special Guests:** Elisa Pardo, Community Action Commission

**Staff:** Barbara Finch and Gloria Munoz

**2. Approve Minutes from January 16, 2020**

Flo Furuike motioned to approve the January 16, 2020 minutes; Ashleigh Erving seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**4. Partnership for Strengthening Families Protective Factor of the Month**

Yvonne Nelson had folks pair up and answer the question from the “Physical” section of the Vitality Café in a Box card. The Café toolkit is based on the realization that a strong family is a healthy family and it includes the six Vitality Domains: Physical, Mental & Emotional, Spiritual, Financial, Environment, and Social. Folks shared some of their responses with the group.

**5. Economic Empowerment**

Elisa Pardo, from Community Action Commission, gave a presentation on their Economic Empowerment Program, a program that is being implemented with a grant from the Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP). She stated that the program began at the end of 2018 and has been implemented only at CAC but it could be shared more broadly in the future. Elisa asked the members if they know of any programs that have to do with financial education in Santa Barbara County. Ashleigh stated that the Family Resource Centers use a variety of tools. One is tailored to survivors of intimate partner violence and the other one is called Making Every Dollar Count and is open to the community. Elisa mentioned that they will have a new Project Coordinator next week. Her role is to identify these types of resources and make sure that they are in 2-1-1.

The goal of the Economic Empowerment Program is to provide financial literacy education to families residing in Santa Barbara County to help reduce stress on families, and prevent child abuse and neglect. The toolkit that they use is called “Your Money Your Goals”. It includes interactive booklets that are free and online to help people begin to address common financial stressors. They have served 57 parents and they have all been successful. The targeted audience is Santa Barbara County parents who have children ages 0-5. The cohorts are about 6-10 people but advocates also work with people one on one.

Currently, the parents come in through Head Start and if they have financial goals, they determine with the advocates if they will participate one-one or in a cohort setting. To enter the program they complete some demographic questions along with a pre and a post-test. The parents set either a short-term goal or a long-term goal and they have 3-6 months to achieve it. They invite representatives from Mechanics Bank to answer questions during sessions. They hope to expand to include other banks in the future.

During the first year, 98% of the 57 participants demonstrated 40% increase overall in financial behavior management. Categories include Savings Management, Cash Management, Credit Management, and Insurance Management. They will open up the cohorts to other agencies this summer and will send an email when they have more details. They are open to joining existing programs and facilitating cohorts at other sites.

## 6. 2020 Census

Sharol Viker, from First 5 Santa Barbara County, presented on the Census 2020. Sharol is the Santa Barbara County Complete Count 0-5 Hard-to-Count (HTC) Committee Chair. She distributed materials that can be duplicated but folks can also ask the County for copies for small groups. They are available in other languages and they also have links that can be sent out so that people can make copies.

Every ten years there is a nationwide count of every person in the United States. The first census took place in 1790 and the next one will be held this year. The results of the census affect how much funding our community receives and how our community plans for the future. Sharol shared the following video produced by California Census: <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/programs-surveys/sis/resources/census-en-final-60.m4a>. In the last census, California had the highest rate of undercount for young children in the entire country. Funding can be at stake for California Kids with programs like SCHIP, Special Ed, Head Start, TANF, and others. The following video was shared: [https://youtu.be/p6E\\_nkodhVw](https://youtu.be/p6E_nkodhVw). Some of the reasons why young children are not being counted is because adults lack awareness, are unaware of the value and impact of the census, and due to personal fears. The responses to the 2020 Census are confidential and cannot be used against anyone in any way. Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone, and kiosks will be available at different locations. Families that live in rural communities will be mailed information. A household is all the people who live at one address. There is a team of census people that will count the homeless population. The census should only take about 10 minutes to complete. The 0-5 Hard-to-Count Areas are:

- Goleta Unincorporated
- Guadalupe
- Lompoc (2 tracts)
- Santa Barbara City (2 tracts)
- Santa Maria (5 tracts)
- Unincorporated areas across the county

Nearly every household will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census from either a postal worker or a Census worker. The Census Survey Timeline is:

**March 12-20** – Most households will receive an invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. Some households will also receive a paper questionnaire.

**March 12-24** – Reminder letter will be sent in the mail

**April 1** – National Census Day!

**March 26-April 3** – Reminder postcard will be sent in the mail.

**April 3-5** – Respond online to the 2020 Census; a reminder letter will be sent in the mail.

Sharol asked members if they know of a place where the First 5 van can go where they can gather families, have activities for children, and share the census information. Lori suggested that IVYP partner with CAC and have the event at the Goleta Valley Community Center. Sharol and Lori will connect to discuss this idea.

## 7. April Campaign

- **Broken Places Regional Screenings**
- **BOS Presentation on Prevention Landscape**

Barbara had folks break into regional groups to plan screenings for *Broken Places*. Barbara encouraged folks to have the screenings at a place that the community recognizes as a safe place and a community location. There can be multiple screenings but there can only be one location for each film. Barbara also had another breakout group discuss how they might structure a Board presentation in April. After the breakouts, folks shared the following:

### Goleta

Lori Goodman is the lead. She plans to have it on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Goleta Valley Community Center for a community event. They also have intentions to do something for early childhood staff and after school staff, in partnership with Girls, Inc. and Boys & Girls Club. This event may be a follow up after April.

### Lompoc

Ashleigh Erving and Yvonne Nelson are leads. They plan to have the screening on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the hospital. They will look into how they want to do the program.

### Santa Ynez

Mayra Ramos is the lead. She plans to have it on April 1<sup>st</sup> and she will look into having it at a winery where they host screenings often.

### Santa Maria (2 screenings)

Jacqui Banta and Eloisa Patterson are leads

- One screening will be at the Child Development Conference on April 18<sup>th</sup>
- Second screening will on a Thursday evening in Santa Maria. Location TBD.

Barbara asked folks to keep working on this in between meetings. For any questions, please contact Barbara or Gloria.

Folks also shared the following information:

- Barbara shared the link to the Child Welfare Information Gateway:  
<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/>  
She asked folks to keep track of all of their activities because they need to report it back to the Office of Child Abuse Prevention.
- Alison stated that they have expanded to have the pinwheels events in Guadalupe and Cuyama. If anyone has extra buckets, please let her know so that she can recycle them. CALM will be helping them with the social media campaign that day. Details are coming on where and how.
- The raising of the Children's Memorial Flag will be on April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Department of Social Services in Santa Barbara.

- We received four applications for Parent Recognition Month:
  1. Family Service Agency in Lompoc will recognize five parents and they are requesting \$450. They will host a dinner that will include the recognized parents as well as their family members and guests.
  2. Santa Ynez Valley People Helping People will recognize five parents and they will be requesting \$250.
  3. Family Service in Santa Barbara will recognize eight parents and they are requesting \$500. They will host a thank you dinner for the parents and will be given a gift basket and thank you card to recognize their dedication and service to the community.
  4. Family Service Agency in Santa Maria is recognizing one parent and they are requesting \$400. They will host a small ceremony that will include lunch for the parent and staff from FSA and Santa Maria Bonita School District.

If other agencies want to submit an application, please send them to Gloria by the end of the day.

## 8. Member Updates & Announcements

- **Barbara Finch** had the following announcements:
  - First 5 Santa Barbara County is no longer able to support the Network of Family Resource Centers (NFRC). One solution that leaders from the Network considered was to rebrand the CAPC meeting to include both networks and call it the Partnership for Strengthening Families. More NFRC representatives would be included and would meet with CAPC every month, then have an extra hour for Network business. First 5 is committed to funding FRCs through 2021 and are in the process of strategic planning. CAPC members are encouraged to participate.
  - CSOC is having a focus group on February 27th for the MHSA plan for 2020-2023. CAPC members are encouraged to attend to learn about MHSA funding and voice their opinions.
- **Taundra Pitchford** announced that there will be a screening of *No Small Matter* in Santa Maria tomorrow at First Christian Church and at La Cumbre Jr. High on Friday in Santa Barbara. Both screenings will be at 5:30pm and there will be a panel discussion after.

## 9. Next meeting – March 19, 2020

## 10. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Gloria Munoz*