



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

**June 17, 2021** ♦ **9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**  
**via Zoom**

**MINUTES**

**1. Mindful Moment**

Elizabeth Adams guided the group through a mindful moment.

**2. Welcome and Introductions**

Barbara Finch welcomed everyone and introductions were made. Yvonne Nelson was not able to attend. Folks shared their favorite way to relax and rejuvenate during the summer months.

**Attendance:** Elizabeth Adams, Ama Atiedu, Amy Buckner, Lori Goodman, Tony Hollenback, Cynthia MacDuff, Natalia Mendez, Sol Messeguer, Rynn Schumacher, Shawn Small, Eva Tagle, Kimberly Valenzuela,

**Staff:** Barbara Finch and Gloria Munoz

**3. Approve Minutes from May 20, 2021**

Sol Messeguer motioned to approve the May 20, 2021 minutes and Amy Buckner seconded the motion. Natalia Mendez and Shawn Small abstained from voting; all others voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

**4. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

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

The Protective Factor of the Month was Social & Emotional Competence of Children. Folks were divided into triads and asked to discuss the following: When have you been most impacted by youth leadership on social issues? What conversations have you had about this, especially with children and youth? Folks shared the following:

- Recently, there have been a lot of youth led protests on the Black Lives Matter movement around the entire nation and they have seen them take charge and responsibility.
- Folks appreciated the exercise and the opportunity to connect with others.
- Elizabeth attended the symposium on Solutions to End Youth Homelessness and mentioned that there were a lot of workshops and panels that were full of youth or led by youth. Something that hit home for her is that youth are angry and upset at the system. She felt that they do a good job in our county but realized that she does not know what the youth actually think. It is important to be careful about how they ask youth for their involvement because they grow up in a culture of

thinking that they should only speak when they are asked to and not voice their open and honest opinion.

- Sol also attended the symposium. The part that impacted her the most was learning everything that youth can go through when they are homeless.
- Barbara mentioned the upcoming County Self-Assessment. Rather than inviting youth to us, perhaps we can go to the youth and make sure that we are getting ideas about prevention and systems change.

## 6. CAPC Reflections on Bridges to Resilience Conference

CAPC representatives shared the following on the conference:

- **Lori:** Prefers a different platform. The presenters were good. Breakout was reasonable. Hopes to do it in person next time.
- **Elizabeth:** She did not attend but her team did. The feedback she got back was that they thought it was incredible and really enjoyed it. They are having a team meeting this afternoon and they will be discussing what they took away from the conference and how they want to incorporate it into their work.
- **Cynthia:** They were able to have more staff attend because it was virtual. She had a new Family Advocate attend and it was a nice introduction to the work. She enjoyed the networking opportunities. Cynthia expressed wanting to attend sessions that were happening at the same time. Barbara informed everyone that the keynote and educational sessions were recorded. They will be posted on the Bridges to Resilience website.
- **Kimberly:** She was not able to attend but it was nice to be able to offer it to all of their staff.
- **Tony:** He was hoping to attend but was not able to. On his first year in Santa Barbara, he attended and it felt like coming home. He looks forward to the next in person gathering.
- **Shawn:** Was attending a CCR conference at the same time and was not able to attend. He heard good things from his people that did attend.
- **Natalia:** Attended and loved all the information the keynote presented, especially epigenetics and how it is impacted even pre-conception.

## 7. Innovation, Integration & Alignment

- **Overview of the ACEs Aware initiative**
- **Santa Barbara County Grantees – Round One**
- **Cottage Health Network of Care Implementation Grant**
  - **Leadership Committee**
  - **Vision and goals**
- **CAPC insights and recommendations for including prevention**

Barbara gave an overview of the ACEs Aware initiative, the activity has been happening in Santa Barbara County, and gave details about the Network of Care Implementation Grant. The ACEs Aware initiative is a first-in-the-nation effort to screen patients for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) to help improve and save lives. As part of Governor Newsom's California for All initiative, ACEs Aware strives to create a better world for children, families, and communities by working together across sectors to prevent and address the impact of ACEs and toxic stress (see attached PPT).

Ama shared that they are providing sub-grants to increase access to buffering services. You can find the link at: <https://www.cottagehealth.org/population-health/initiatives/pediatric-resiliency-collaborative/> Applications are due July 1<sup>st</sup> and they will be having an application workshop on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 from 1-2pm.

Ama went over the results of the first assessment. There were about 22 organizations who participated and the scores were about two or three out of five. Part of this was because the ACEs Aware initiative is really particular about what moves you from one level to another. Often times, it requires the use of ACEs

Aware approved materials and resources. Ama stated that it does not necessarily take into account our local wisdom and materials that we have been using prior to it being stamped as approved by the ACEs Aware initiative. She noted that there are awesome resources that exist in our community. It was really helpful to get an understanding of where we currently are and where the opportunities are for movement as a community. This was their first assessment and they will be doing it again in July. Folks may receive an email requesting that they participate in the assessment and they hope that they do. They will complete the survey again in 2022, at roughly six month intervals.

Barbara went over the preliminary goals established for our Network of Care, the challenges they are currently working to overcome, and the Leadership Committee Visioning (see PPT). Barbara asked folks to reflect on what parts of the vision statement speak to them with our Child Abuse Prevention agenda. Folks shared the following:

- The multi-disciplinary approach; if you look at all the folks on the screen and all the partners that were mentioned, there is a strong overlap
- From a Probation perspective, as they become more aware on how trauma impacts everything in terms of behaviors and positive youth development and whether or not they need to utilize force in certain environments, it definitely goes into decision making processes.
- Putting the kids and families in the center is important.

Barbara continued going over the CAPC Intersections: 10 Categories of ACEs, Prevalence of ACEs in California, Strengthening Families Protective Factors, ACEs Aware Protective Factors, and Strategies for Prevention Adverse Childhood Experience (see PPT).

Folks were asked the following when looking at the CDC Preventing ACEs, ACEs Aware Prevention Continuum, Strengthening Families Protective Factors, and ACEs Aware Protective Factors: How does prevention messaging intersect and align? Folks shared:

- **Lori:** Is struck in a positive way that the ACEs Aware Protective Factors are easier to understand. While the Strengthening Families and the ACEs Aware Protective Factors align nicely, she thinks that the ACEs Aware language is very accessible.
- **Ryyn:** Where do culture and health equity fall in this? Barbara stated that when she looks at this, it is not obvious. Ryyn mentioned that he wanted to bring this up so that these discussion can come up in future discussions.
- **Sol:** In her experience teaching parenting classes for more than 20 years, she feels that people are now more aware about ACEs, CRM, resiliency and self-care. It is important to continue teaching parents in the parenting classes because they are the ones who are going to be parenting their kids and talking with their kids. Barbara agreed that we need to have a multi-generational approach to continue helping people heal their own ACEs.
- **Ama:** Sol's comment reminded her of the Vision that was created for the Network of Care of keeping the families and children at the center. The work that she is doing to provide that understanding of ACEs, toxic stress and resiliency is very important. It is also helpful because when parents hear about ACEs for the first time, it doesn't necessarily have to be in the doctor's office but in a safe space first. How do they embed the work of organizations like Sol's who are preparing families to engage in these conversations with their provider and with whoever they are referred to for services on the front end and not just as a referral?
- **Elizabeth:** In regards to Lori's comment about the ease of words, she encouraged folks to keep in mind that language should never be above a sixth grade reading level (when describing the Protective Factors).
- **Ryyn:** A word that recently got him thinking is resiliency. He thinks it is because black and brown people have to be resilient in a system that failed them. Resiliency was something positive, something that helped them get through it but they had to do that (be resilient) because the system was not able to get them what they needed to be successful. Perhaps resiliency is not

really the right word to describe how to congratulate youth on surviving. Barbara mentioned that she has heard before that the word resilience does not necessarily land for Spanish speakers and it is infused in all this work. But, how do we begin to shift that narrative? It is definitely worth bringing up again and again to honor the resilience that people bring with them. Elizabeth added that in the Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference the theme was From Surviving to Thriving. Changing the word to thriving can change the way you think about things.

- **Natalia:** In her experience with ACEs Aware Protective Factors, specifically buffering relationships, it reminds her that every child needs that one person who is crazy about them.

## 8. Announcements & Closing Thoughts

- **Lori** asked who will be making the decisions about the ACEs Aware grants. Barbara mentioned that the Leadership Committee will have a sub-group that does not have a conflict of interest with those that are applying.
- **Elizabeth** mentioned that they are working on a project and wanting to improve their website. They currently want to learn from stakeholders on where they go to learn about resources that are available. She hopes to send an email next week with a survey. There are surveys specifically for service specific, youth, parents and in English and Spanish. She encouraged folks to forward the email to their networks. The next virtual Youth Empowerment Summit will be on October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- **Lori:** Invited folks to their virtual fundraising event on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.
- Topic for next CAPC meeting:
  - Home visitation – look at what First 5 is doing and the opportunities through Public Health. What does our community need around home visitation?

## 9. Adjourn at 10:50am - Next meeting: July 15, 2021

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Gloria Munoz*