



Marin Children and Families Commission
Meeting Minutes – January 5, 2011

I. CALL TO ORDER (5:30 pm)

Cio called the meeting to order at First 5 Marin at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present

Aideen Gaidmore
Supervisor Steve Kinsey
David Bonfilio
Cio Hernandez
Heather Ravani
Sister Joan Hanna
Alicia Suski
Regina Archer
Sparkie Spaeth

Staff Present

Amy L. Reisch
Michelle Fadelli
Tiffany Steeves
Barbara Clifton Zarate

Representatives from the community

Victor Meneses – Children’s Health Initiative, DHHS
Marie Trejo – CHI, DHHS
Jara Dean Coffey – JDC Partnerships
Jill – JDC Partnerships
David Haskal – North Bay Children’s Center
Peter Toyal – MAPE

II. MEETING MINUTES

Cio asked if there were changes, additions or corrections to the November 3, 2010 Commission minutes.

Minutes were approved as submitted.

III. COMMISSIONER COMMENT

- Alicia announced that the Marin Community Clinic is implementing electronic health records which will provide the clinics with seamless access to patient records. Alicia added that the clinics are already providing an e-prescribing service.

- Heather announced CHI staff will receive more training on how to help families assess their eligibility. CHI staff will also do more community outreach to families to access their needs and eligibility. Department of Social Services staff will soon conduct screenings at Ritter House and Homeward Bound. Finally, the County is working on making the CHI staff positions into limited hire benefited positions.
- Aideen reminded the Commission that Stage 3 families affected by the cuts will continue to receive transitional assistance from the Marin Community Foundation, Marin County Department of Health and Human Services and First 5 Marin through January. Aideen added that January will be a busy month for MC3. The families who exhaust their child care eligibility in Stage 2 will no longer be able to transition into Stage 3 child care services—families will require a lot of support during the transition. Amy said the First 5 Marin has already provided \$60k in transitional funding for Stage 3 families. Amy added that First 5 Marin will provide the remaining allocation promised should it be necessary.
- Cio invited the Commissioners to attend the PromotoresMarin “HUB” launch on Wednesday, January 12 from 10a-12p at the Board of Supervisors Chambers Room 330, Civic Center, San Rafael, CA 94903.
- Cio announced that the County of Marin Point-in-Time Count of Homeless Persons homeless survey will take place on Thursday, January 27. The Point-in-Time Homeless count is conducted during the last seven days of January and takes place every two years. It provides a one-day snapshot of unduplicated numbers of homeless families and individuals in sheltered and unsheltered locations in Marin County.
- Cio announced that Healthy Marin Partnership will soon release the 2010 Community Needs Assessment report. This year’s report will be different than in previous years as it focuses more on the higher-level causes of health-related problems.
- Barbara updated the Commissions on the car seat program. She reported that the School Readiness Coordinators are working to identify certified installers and candidates who will be trained in communities that do not have certified installers. Sparkie says that DHSS will order car seats to be delivered to each School Readiness community. The certified installers in each community will provide the installation service for families with children 0-5.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

- David Haskel updated the Commission on North Bay Children’s Center (NBCC), Garden of Eatin’ project. David announced that the Garden of Eatin’ recently received USDA approval and funding for its garden curriculum. David thanked the Commission for its financial support to help establish the on-site garden as a part of a comprehensive childhood obesity prevention program. The grant helped to establish one of California's first on-site learning gardens for children under the age of five.

David also announced that the NBCC is also working with the Marin County Food System Program—a collaborative and participatory process examining community food issues and assets so as to inform actions to make the community healthier. There will be an ECE Health Summit on Tuesday, January 25 from 11am-1pm at First 5 Marin. The goal of the Summit is to discuss healthy food choices.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT

Health

Children's Health Initiative - Amy informed the Commission that the Children's Health Initiative (CHI) will use the funds that have been pledged by First 5 Marin, Sutter, Marin General Hospital and the Marin Community Foundation to continue enrollment in CalKids through June 2011. MCF is still considering covering the premiums for kids between 6-18 years of age with additional money from Sutter. Amy assured the Commission that the partners are working hard to clearly communicate any and all changes to the community. The goal is to make sure that families currently enrolled know that they will still have insurance for their children. Steve inquired about the transition from CalKids to the Partnership Health Plan. Heather said she is on the Partnership Steering Committee and that she will provide the Commission with a full report in February.

Public Policy and Communications

MarinKids - Amy announced that the California Endowment has indicated its willingness to commit to three years of funding for the MarinKids project, though official word will not come until February. This funding, along with First 5 funding, will allow MarinKids to hire a staff person to coordinate the work of MarinKids and maintain the social media sites. Amy, Dorene Schiro (a Leadership Committee member has a donor directed fund at MCF), and MarinKids Chair Dana King will meet with Marin Community Foundation President and CEO, Tom Peters and Board Chair Ann Mathieson in February to discuss matching funds. The Governance Committee is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, January 11 at 10am to a discuss job description and work plan going forward.

Alicia inquired about how many people have visited the MarinKids Web site. Michelle said that she will follow-up with Commission to provide those numbers. Sister Joan said that she would be happy to send a Web link to the families at Saint Rafael's to hopefully get them engaged. Cio asked that Sister Joan share MarinKids with the Dioceses.

VI. COMMISSION DISCUSSION

- Election of Officers

January is the time to elect new officers. The Commission practice is to vote to make the vice-Chair the Chair's (assuming the vice-Chair is amenable), having used the vice-chair tenure to familiarize him/herself with the responsibilities of the Chair. A new Vice-Chair is nominated at the same time. Cio nominated Heather Ravani as Vice-Chair and Aideen Gaidmore as Chair. Heather and Aideen accepted the nominations and the Commission voted.

Motion to nominate Aideen Gaidmore as Chair of the Marin Children and Families Commission.

Motion: Bonfilio/Kinsey

Yeas: Kinsey, Bonfilio, Hernandez, Ravani, Hanna, Suski, Archer, Spaeth

Nays (0)

Abstain (1): Gaidmore

Absent (0)

Motion to nominate Heather Ravani as Vice Chair of the Marin Children and Families Commission.

Motion: Bonfilio/Kinsey

Yeas: Kinsey, Bonfilio, Hernandez, Gaidmore, Hanna, Suski, Archer, Spaeth

Nays:(0)

Abstain: (1): Ravani

Absent: (0)

- **Resolution for the Bank of West Access**

Resolution for the Bank of the West was presenting, authorizing Aideen Gaidmore, David Bonfilio, and Amy Reisch to conduct any and all interactions with the Bank.

Motion to pass the resolution for the Bank of the West.

Motion: Bonfilio/Kinsey

Yeas: Kinsey, Bonfilio, Hernandez, Gaidmore, Hanna, Suski, Archer, Spaeth, Ravani

Nays:(0)

Abstain: (0)

Absent: (0)

- **Summerbridge/Kinder Academy Evaluation 2010**

Jill Casey of jdcPartnership presented the Summerbridge/Kinder Academy Evaluation of 2010. The evaluation examined four developmental areas: Social-Emotional, Physical, Cognitive and Language. The evaluation focused on 12 classrooms of 5 consecutive weeks of instruction serving 229 children in all five school readiness communities in Marin: San Rafael (5 classrooms), Novato (4 classrooms), Shoreline/West Marin – 1 classroom, Marin City/Sausalito (1 classroom) and San Geronimo Valley (1 classroom). See handout for full details.

The Commission also discussed the Summer Bridge Points of Entry/Program Referrals graphic designed by jdc partnerships. Revisions to the graphic will be made based on the Commissioners feedback.

- **Dinner with David Lawrence**

Amy announced that David Lawrence, of the Children's Movement of Florida, will be the keynote speaker at the First 5 Marin Annual breakfast on May 13, 2011. He also offered to be available the evening before for an informal, brainstorming discussion with whomever we choose to invite. Amy proposed an informal dinner the night before inviting the Marinkids leadership committee, Ted Lempert of Children Now (which has just done a soft launch of a California Campaign for Children), MCF, Ken McNeely of the Bay Area Council, perhaps other foundation folks (TCE, SF Foundation, Silicon Valley Foundation – all of whom have some kind of social marketing campaigns), President and ED of North Bay Council, Bay Area First 5 EDs, and First 5 Marin Commissioners and staff. Staff will invite around 50 people, expecting about 30-35 to attend. The event should cost no more than \$5k. Amy reiterated that this is a great opportunity to bring together a variety of new efforts working toward the same outcomes for children and to meet with someone who has successfully transcended party politics and brought business, non-profit and public service providers, education, government and the general public together on behalf of children. The Commission confirmed that this is a great opportunity, and to move ahead with planning and present a budget for review at the February or March meeting.

VII. CLOSED SESSION – Personnel Matters

VIII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION – Nothing to Report

IX. FINAL COMMENTS - None

X. ADJOURN

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 2, 2011 - 5:30PM

First 5 Marin 1101 5th Ave, Ste 215

San Rafael CA 94901