

**FIRST 5
BUTTE COUNTY
CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION**
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT
Friday, August 25, 2017

A regular meeting of the First 5 Butte County Children and Families Commission came to order at 9:06 a.m. in the Tahoe Room at 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville, California.

Commissioners present: Shelby Boston, Maureen Kirk, Sandra Machida, Andy Miller, Cathy Raevsky, Vice-Chair Tim Taylor, Seng Yang. Commissioners absent: Chair John Burghardt, Cathy Raevsky, Lorenzo Tobias. Staff present: Yvonne (Nenadal) McQuaid, Anna Bauer, Troy Franzen, Eva Puciata. Others present: representatives from Butte County Child Abuse Prevention Council, Butte County Office of Education, Butte County Public Health, Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, Northern Valley Indian Health, Sherrise Allen independent contractor, Jovanni Tricerri facilitator, and Wittney Smith, CSU student.

Item 1. Call to Order, Introductions, Agenda Review

Vice-Chair Taylor led the meeting in the absence of Chair Burghardt. There were no changes.

Item 2. Public Comment

Members of the public were invited to comment on matters within the Commission's purview that are not on the agenda, and address the Commission for up to three minutes each. The Commission cannot take action on any matter not listed on the agenda, but may provide staff direction.

Margie Ruegger of the Child Abuse Prevention Council said she is certified as a trainer for Darkness to Light's, Steward's of Children trainings, and passed out pamphlets. The trainings raise awareness to help end the sexual abuse of children.

Item 3. Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar items are considered routine and are voted on with one motion, unless a member of the Commission or the public requests discussion on an item.

A. Approve Commission Meeting Minutes – June 23, 2017

MOTION: I MOVE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR. Commissioner Kirk made the motion and Commissioner Machida seconded.

VOTE: THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY with Commissioner Boston abstaining, as she was absent during that meeting.

Item 4. Committee Reports

Administration Committee

Chair Taylor reported the committee met on August 2, 2017 and discussed with the Health Committee Chair (Sandra Machida) the Health Committee's recommendation to pursue the development of a Help Me Grow system in Butte County. Admin Committee members recommended the Commission approve the development of an RFQ to contract with a consultant (not to exceed \$50,000) who will facilitate an advisory committee in the design of a Help Me Grow project for Butte County.

In response to the Commission's request to hire a facilitator for its August 25 Commission meeting, Giovanni Tricerri has been contracted. Committee members reviewed and approved Mr. Tricerri's proposed scope of work.

Strategic Plan & Evaluation Committee

Commissioner Boston reported the committee met on August 18, 2017 and the committee discussed and made recommendations as needed on four grantee annual reports.

Health Committee

The Health Committee meeting was rescheduled.

Director's Report

Director McQuaid reported we have received seven applications for a Registered Dental Hygienist to provide oral health education to caregivers and voluntary fluoride treatments to preschool children, as was previously provided by Laura Scudder, RDH, who moved from the area. Staff is now reviewing the applications and scheduling interviews, and hope to have a contract in place for work to begin again on this project soon.

One application has been received for the two vacancies currently on the Commission. Dr. Lourdes Valdez, a pediatrician who has previously received a First 5 Children's Champion Star for her work in establishing a Reach Out and Read program at Northern Valley Indian Health Children's Health Center, has met with Commissioner Machida and Director McQuaid to discuss her interest in serving on the Commission.

The First 5 Association has partnered with Sesame Street in the production of a free booklet entitled "*Care, Cope, Connect: Comforting and Supporting Kids During Community Stress.*" Printed in English and Spanish, the booklet is specifically designed for parents and caregivers to use with their children as a way to help their children feel safe and secure during difficult times.

Butte Baby Steps has a story in the Maternal Child and Adolescent Health/California Home Visiting Program state newsletter. "Brittiney's Story: From Homeless to Helping the Homeless" tells the story of a single mother of three young children, who credits her Butte Baby Steps home visitor with helping her turn her life and the lives of her children around.

Ready4K is a FREE research-based text messaging program for caregivers that is designed to help boost a young child's readiness for kindergarten, providing easy learning tips involving meal time, grocery shopping, and bath time.

Item 5. Strategic Plan Facilitation

Jovanni Tricerri guided Commissioners to 1) Help the Commission clearly define what "systems Strengthening" means, 2) Identify the Commission's successes in "creating more effective systems for the well-being of children," 3) Identify best practices and definitions among other First 5 Commissions across the state, 4) Provide a framework for understanding "systems change work," and 5) Help the Commission identify possible strategies that will determine future funding decision.

A. Overview: Director McQuaid provided a review of the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, highlighting how the three following Initiatives were developed by the Commission:

- a. Health
- b. Family Strengthening

c. Systems Strengthening

She also reviewed the intentional design of the graphic which illustrates how the three Initiatives influence and are interdependent on one another for achieving success when working with our families and community partners.

Commissioner Taylor did share his concern that quality early education does not seem to be called out distinctly as a priority within the strategic plan or the three Initiatives. Commissioners discussed that the phrase "ready to succeed in school" (within the Vision Statement) seems to imply early education, but there may need to be more direct language around this. There was a suggestion that this be a future discussion for the Commission. Director McQuaid reminded commissioners that the Strategic Plan is reviewed annually and can be revised as needed.

B. Focus: Systems Strengthening

- a. Understanding "systems change work"
- b. Identify current/past initiatives that address Systems Strengthening
- c. Identify best practices among other First 5 Commissions
- d. How does this impact direct services?

Systems change work been a part of the First 5 mandate at the state level since its inception in 1998. However, there was a lack of understanding statewide what this actually meant. Commissioners had a clearer understanding of the traditional practice of funding direct services, and so gravitated naturally to this practice. Now, with declining revenues, the importance of systems change work has resurfaced, and commissioners statewide are investing resources to better understand what systems work requires in the current climate.

Throughout the discussion, it was pointed out how the Commission is already engaging in systems change work via its active involvement in the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Coalition, the Mothers Strong Community Collaboration, and First 5's Reach Out and Read project. The Quality Rating System (QRS) for early education is slowly being implemented in Butte County. These efforts have traditionally not been referred to as "systems change" work, but in reality that is exactly the focus of these projects. In addition, the Commission has now made a commitment to hire a consultant to guide the Commission through the development of a Butte County Help Me Grow project, which will focus on creating an effective and robust early childhood assessment and referral infrastructure.

A number of other First 5 Commissions are now actively designing their systems change work. This is a new and growing focus for commissions statewide. Work plans and budgets are being developed to support this change in work focus. Butte County can be assured that it is in line with other commissions in terms of the development of its systems change focus.

C. Strategy: Guidance on future funding decisions

- a. Identify values
- b. Articulate initiative goal
- c. Guidelines

Commissioner Machida discussed the need to work more closely with pediatricians, who work at the most primary, early intervention level with young children. Working more effectively with pediatricians would be a significant piece of systems change work. Reach Out and Read and Help Me Grow are two examples of ways to work more closely with pediatricians.

Commissioner Taylor talked of the essential need for leadership to change its thinking about systems work. This type of work cannot be done effectively without the support, vision, and active involvement of leadership.

Commissioner Miller discussed the need to truly understand what people want and need in order to make systems more effective.

Staff Anna Bauer shared how staff from eight different agencies are being trained in ACEs work. The goal is to pair these staff to cross-train in one another's' agencies and to work towards developing a team approach among agencies regarding how to implement ACEs work within and between their agencies.

Ann Dickman talked about the power of leveraging and being able to drawn down federal dollars with First 5 monies when systems change is at work.

There was discussion about pediatricians being overwhelmed with their daily requirements. Several audience members shared examples of this and how we might be able to more effectively partner with pediatricians.

Please refer to the attached notes for an additional summary of the discussion's main points.

Item 6. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Machida asked how and who will flesh out today's Strategic Planning session. Staff and the SPEC committee will draft the results.

Commissioner Miller asked for an agenda placement of First 5 Butte's endorsement of "opioid prescribing guidelines," to address the opioid addiction crisis in the County. A number of agencies will be endorsing these physician guidelines, including Butte County Public Health.

Commissioner Boston recommended a presentation of "Healthy Body, Every Body," at a Commission meeting.

There being no further comments or formal business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m. The Commission will reconvene on Friday, October 27, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the Tahoe Room, at 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville, California 95965.

Minutes by Yvonne McQuaid and Eva Puciata.

Approved _____

FACILITATED DISCUSSION: STRATEGIC PLAN & SYSTEMS CHANGE WORK
Commission Meeting - August 25, 2017

WHAT IS SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING? WHAT DOES THIS PHRASE MEAN?

- *Integration (curriculum and people)*
- Shared/Cross Training (curriculum)
- Shared Materials (curriculum)
- Changed Mindset (people)
- Adapted Capacity (people)
- *Cohesion*
- Shared Information
- Intersected Education
- Educators and Practitioners
- Enriched Resources, with Broad Access
- Diversified Funding
- *Collaboration*
- Multiple Service Streams

OUT OF THE ABOVE LIST, WHAT WOULD BE THE 3 PRIMARY GOALS OF SYSTEMS CHANGE WORK FOR FIRST 5 BUTTE?

- Integration
- Cohesion
- Collaboration

These goals can be accomplished through:

- ✓ Motivation
- ✓ Establishing trust between partners and agencies, with community and with those we serve
- ✓ Focusing on policy – local and state
- ✓ Concerted effort on branding – Commissioners concerned that First 5 doesn't receive enough recognition for its work.

SYSTEMS NEEDING CHANGE:

- Medical Providers (health payment system)
- Need a Culture of Caring (motivation; process)
- Cultural/Language Barriers

STRATEGIC PLAN (2015-2020) REVIEW:

- What's missing from the plan? What is not clearly called out in the plan?
 - ✓ Education – (gap) > policy changes (eg: Transitional Kindergarten)
 - ✓ *Pre-education – 3-5 years*
 - ✓ Primary prevention

EXAMPLES OF SYSTEMS CHANGE WORK IN FIRST 5 BUTTE COUNTY:

- Mothers Strong
- Reach Out and Read (16 pediatricians now participating)
- ACES Coalition (trauma-informed training)

EXAMPLES OF SYSTEMS CHANGE WORK IN OTHER FIRST 5 AREAS THROUGHOUT THE STATE:

- QRIS (Quality Rating Improvement System) > North State collaboration of 9 counties working on designing this framework to improve the quality of early education
- AB992 – Home visiting (CalWORKS population) – statewide model to provide voluntary home visiting services to Cal WORKS families with pregnant women and/or children up to age 2

HOW DOES THIS FOCUS ON SYSTEMS CHANGE WORK IMPACT FIRST 5 BUTTE’S FUNDING OF DIRECT SERVICES?

- Blended funding – more creative ways to think about how to fund priorities
- Changed Mindset of Leadership – this type of new focus must start at the top with visionary and committed leadership
- Break down the silos
- Interaction
 - ✓ Education
- Connect Pieces
 - ✓ Establish Trust