



The San Mateo County Child Abuse Prevention Council

Minutes: May 4, 2020

Call to Order: 10.45

Present: LaRay Hilt (CASA), Carina Ramirez (Star Vista), Samantha Taylor (Star Vista), Stephanie Loera (Family Connections), Kirandeep Johl (OCAP), Randy Torrijos (Board of Supervisor Dave Pine), Aracely Vasquez (Star Vista), Bruna Oliveira (Star Vista), Lisa Molinar (SVC), Bryan Alicea (SVC).

Item: Public Comment/Brown Act – No members of the public requested to comment.

Introductions – Members introduced themselves.

Agency Check-in: Jane began by updating the group on the 5/18 CAPC meeting – the scheduled presentation has been postponed due to the COVID-19 situation. She encouraged members to subscribe to the OCAP newsletter and will send the materials from the Charlie Appelstein webinar.

LaRay – CASA is putting the new volunteer training online – they are calling it CASA University. Volunteers are seeing the kids virtually or sending cards and gifts trying to keep connected. She expects a large group of new volunteers will be needed once assignments can be made again.

Randy- The Board of Supervisors would like information on what the needs of the community are, what will work, and what agencies are requesting. The County expects demand for services to continue to be high even after the shutdown is lifted and if agencies can help the Board identify those needs that will be helpful. There will be gaps and the County may run out of resources, and there may be lay-offs which will compound the situation.

Kiran – Mentioned that there is some money for FRC's and agencies that act like FRC's. The application deadline is tomorrow but the Great Bay Area Coalition is applying and that may benefit San Mateo County if any part of the grant is awarded to the Coalition. She also gave the contact information for the OCAP newsletter so members can subscribe. There is a huge need for essentials and CDSS is looking for volunteers to handle an emergency help line to address this situation.

Stephanie – Has 12 clients she is seeing weekly and calling others on an as needed basis. All families have computers that have been donated but she is seeing one or two clients in person with social distancing. She is helping clients reduce their stress levels by doing some pilates with them.

Samantha – Conducting Zoom meetings with youth and expanding the type of services provided – tutoring, additional services to caregivers, help with distance learning. There is a focus on the summer since camps will probably not be available and kids will need engaged activities during that time.

Aracely – There has been an increase in referrals for DV and sexual abuse by someone outside the family. The parents are protecting the kids but the families need help dealing with the trauma. Families are under a great deal of stress because many are ineligible for aid because they are undocumented and may never get their jobs back. Isolation is a big problem for this population. Families are continuing to get training to use Face Time and Zoom.

Bruna – Echoed Samantha's comments about working with youth and planning for the summer.

Personal Check-In: Members shared what they are doing to take care of themselves during this difficult time. It is a challenge and the prospect of the present situation continuing and knowing that things may very well get worse is daunting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05

NEXT MEETING – May 18, 2020, 10:45-12:00

Meeting Adjourned: Time

Jane Smithson, CAPC Coordinator

Phone: (650)743-4934 | E-Mail: jane@sharedvisionconsultants.com