



The San Mateo County Child Abuse Prevention Council

Minutes: May 4, 2020

Call to Order: 10.45

Present: Samantha Taylor (Star Vista), Stephanie Loera (Family Connections), Aracely Vasquez (Star Vista), Bruna Oliveira (Star Vista), Kristine Averilla (Family Health Services), Gary Beasley (CFS), Brittney Reiser (CORA), Donovan Fones (CFS), Susan Swope (JJC), Alyssa Canfield (Star Vista), Maria Del Rio (Star Vista), Chris Perry (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 June 15th CAPC meeting – there will be a presentation by LaRay Hilt of CASA. A June 1st check-in meeting will be a conference call.

Kristine – Reported that Family Health is moving forward with their Home Visiting, Healthy Families and Pedi programs but that staff is working at maximum capacity doing COVID work as well. Staff is doing discharge planning and testing. Clients are being seen virtually and they are getting more pre-natal, post-partum and child referrals so are looking for other programs to refer their clients to because of the increased demand for services. They do have lots of online resources for parents if they have the technical capability.

Brittney – Calls to CORA are not increasing but the length of the calls is. Parent drop-in groups and DVD groups are being held over ZOOM. This has been found preferable to doing in person meetings with masks. People are needing more help with safety planning because of the stay at home orders.

Bruna – Reported both for herself and Samantha. Case management for kids in Foster Care is being done over Zoom and is happening once a week. The kids seem to prefer phone contact to Zoom so that is being done as much as possible when appropriate. They are also keeping In touch with schools, CASA's and therapists. They are doing a lot of homework help using games and planning activities for a summer that won't include any camp programs.

Gary – Expressed appreciation to the group for all the work they are doing and said that the meetings have helped him to understand the scope of the work, and how CFS and the agencies can work together. He said the CAPC is now more important than ever. CFS has been having lots of conversations about what the "new normal" will look like. There will continue to be tele-work and families need to be engaged. In addition, providers need to be educated on how to assess issues of possible child abuse or neglect without actually seeing the children and families in person. Families are being contacted more often, once a week, and there is an effort to keep families safe without being intrusive.

Donovan – There are a number of new facilitators for child and family team meetings. This is challenging both because of the issues involved and technological issues for families. One issue that has arisen is reunification planning when there are only virtual visits with the parents – adjustment to returning home can be difficult in those circumstances.

Susan – JJC is putting together a strategic plan. She is working on a Parent Handbook and preparing proposals for the Board of Supervisors. She is also working on doing more about delinquency

prevention and working with the schools. The schools feel that the biggest issue there is truancy.

Maria – There are openings in groups for families in North County and on the Coast. These are online groups and places where parents can check in.

Alyssa – The tri-plex unit in SSF is being renovated and will be ready the second week of June. In the meantime youth have been in a hotel.

Stephanie – Caseload is full and families are being seen weekly. There is an IT specialist giving trainings to staff and accessible to families. There has been an uptick in anxiety and depression in families.

Aracely – Her group is servicing families through Zoom, FaceTime and phone calls. Families are checking in more than usual – twice a week for many. It has been challenging to find services for undocumented families. There has been an increase of CSEC cases – 5 or 6 in the last month. These have been a challenge because there is no face to face contact.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00

NEXT MEETING – June 15, 2020, 10:45-12:00

Meeting Adjourned: Time

Jane Smithson, CAPC Coordinator

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