

Orange County Children's Partnership (OCCP) Committee Minutes

Date: March 18, 2021

Location: Zoom meeting

Committee Members/Alternates Attendees:

Eldon Baber, Debra Baetz, Anne Bloxom, Lisa Burke, Paulette Chaffee, Karen Christensen, Dennis Cole, Heidi Garrel, Mary Izadi, Laura Jose, Debra Kegel, Hon. Judge Motoike, Rae Lynn Nelson, Lynda Perring, Bryan Prieto, Denise Schleicher, Dawn Smith, John Zeimantz

Non-Committee Attendees: Michael Casteel, Denise Churchill, Lee Lombardo, Raina Lee, Steve McNally, Ellen McQuirk, Tawnya Medina, Michelle Parra, Kristina Traw, Laura Turtzer

1. Introductions / Announcements - Self-introductions were made

2. Action Items –

- a) Meeting minutes from February 18, 2021 were approved.
Dawn Smith modified general committee member comments.
- b) Review and approve Conditions of Children Steering Committee's recommendation.
OCCP authorized the COC Steering committee to modify and bring forward recommendations.

3. Overview of Child Welfare System Improvement Plan (SIP) Process

Ken Santini and Michael Casteel provided an overview of the Child Welfare System Improvement Plan (SIP) Process.

Assembly Bill 636, enacted the Child Welfare Services Outcomes and Accountability Act, requiring the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to establish the California - Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR) process. C-CFSR process operates on a philosophy of continuous quality improvement, interagency partnership, community involvement, priority service provision, and public reporting of program outcomes. C-CFSR process includes three components:

- **System Improvement Plan (SIP)**
Operational agreement with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to establish a five-year plan to improve services offered to our children and families in orange county. The SIP operational agreement requires child welfare and probation departments to provide periodic reports to CDSS. SIP also requires Board of Supervisors approval.
- **County Self-Assessment (CSA)**
A comprehensive review of the child welfare and probation placement programs, from prevention and protection through permanency and aftercare. CSA process includes focus groups, interactive stakeholder sessions, online survey, and reflective sessions.
- **Peer Review**
Provides counties with qualitative examination of the County's Child Welfare Services and Probation practices. Driven by the idea that social workers and probation officers have valuable insights on how the system works and how to affect change in the outcomes for children, youth, and families.

Planning committees are assembled to oversee the C-CFSR process. Members include: Consultants from CDSS Outcomes and Accountability Bureau, Office of Child Abuse Prevention, Orange County Social Services Agency and Probation Department, and with the input from public and private partners.

4. 2021 OCCP Areas of Focus/Goal

a) **Legislative Updates** – Kristina Traw/Debra Baetz

No additional updates. Negotiations continue related to budget and policy proposals. California budget is moving forward quickly, with budget committee meetings already concluding at the end of March and are anticipated to resume in May 2021. The American Relief Act has been approved. Goal is to lift families out of poverty.

Bryan Prieto reported that the Probation Department is watching Senate Bill 493 and Assembly Bill 503.

- **Senate Bill 493** looks to revise and recast required components of the multiagency juvenile justice plan including the Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Account – SLESA which includes Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funding. The County of Orange currently has a multidisciplinary plan that is funded by SLESA. Senate Bill 493, if adopted as written, would require no less than 95% of the funds to be distributed to community-based organizations and other public agencies that are not law enforcement. Additionally, the bill would require the local juvenile justice coordinating council to have seven members, 50% of which would represent community interests. If not amended, the bill would require the County to significantly change its local multidisciplinary plan and possibly the make up of its coordinating council.
- **Assembly Bill 503** looks to limit to 6 months the period of time in which a court may place a ward of the court on probation. If the bill is passed, there are unintended consequences, in particular the impact the shortened time frame may have on victims in determining/establishing restitution.

Lee Lombardo from the YMCA shared a legislative item of interest. **Assembly Bill 791** Trauma-Informed Child Care Training. This bill will offer Trauma-Informed Child Care training to all early childhood educators.

b) **OCCP Ad Hoc Committee Update** – Debra Baetz

The ad hoc committee met and discussed OCCP's offsite meeting, reviewed goals and objectives. The ad hoc committee determined that there is a significant amount of prework to be done prior to OCCP's offsite. The ad hoc committee also recognized the need for subject matter experts specifically for Health and Education goals. The committee is requesting experts from the Department of Education and CalOptima.

Next steps: The ad hoc committee will schedule a second meeting to refine goals that align with current vision statements and will report back to the OCCP committee.

5. General Committee Member Comments

- Dawn Smith provided an update: The Adolescent and Adult Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) located at the Be Well North Orange Campus is able to take involuntary clients. 5585 for youth (ages 13 and over) or 5150 legal hold for adults can now be served at the campus.
- Lisa Burke provided a Conditions of Children's community forum update. District forums are taking place. Districts are focusing on mental health and impacts of COVID. Great participation.

Public Comments

None

Next Meeting

The next meeting is April 15, 2021, 9:00 a.m. ZOOM meeting

Minutes taken by Esther Marquez