

**FIRST 5 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
June 24, 2009**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Katcho Achadjian	SLO County Board of Supervisors
Penny Borenstein, M.D.	SLO County Public Health
René Bravo, M.D.	SLO County Medical Association
Carol Capito	Child Care Planning Council
Julian Crocker	SLO County Office of Education
Rosalinda Rodriguez	Community at Large

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED

Lee Collins	SLO County Social Services
Don Dennison	Children's Services Network
Janet Murphy	Community at Large

STAFF PRESENT

First 5: Susan Hughes, Jason Wells, Anne Tognazzini; County Counsel: Ann Duggan

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Achadjian called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

MARTHA'S PLACE PRESENTATION – PROGRAM UPDATE

The Clinical Director for Martha's Place Children's Assessment Center, Nisha AbdulCader, M.D., gave a presentation on Martha's Place, which provides assessment and treatment for children who exhibit high risk behaviors or who have been prenatally exposed to drugs and alcohol. Martha's Place specializes in children from birth to five years of age, and receives funding from First 5. She reported that in 2008-09, 154 children were referred to Martha's Place, 156 assessments and recommendations were completed, and 52 children are currently waiting for intake.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Commissioner Capito reported that because so few providers seemed to be using the ASQ and ASQ-SE (Ages & Stages Questionnaire, and Ages & Stages Questionnaire: Social-Emotional) assessment tools, the Child Care Planning Council recently provided ASQ-SE training to 30 providers, and intends to provide at least two more trainings next year. She noted the Child Care Resource Connection also recently received a grant for ASQ train-the-trainers training.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Approval of the June 3, 2009 minutes.
- 2) Adoption of the final resolution declaring the Commission's intent to enter into a contract with the CalPERS retirement system.
- 3) Approval of a Commission recommendation to extend the terms of designated members; Lee Collins, Julian Crocker, and Penny Borenstein; to July 20, 2013 and submit the recommendation to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors for final approval.
- 4) Approval to join a list of organizations in signing an advocacy letter to Governor Schwarzenegger opposing cuts to child welfare, foster care and CalWORKs.

Commissioner Crocker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bravo and passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL PLAN (AMENDED) AND CURRENT STRATEGIC PLAN (5TH AND FINAL REVISION)

Susan Hughes noted that approval of the Strategic Plan (which includes the Financial Plan) is an annual requirement by the state.

She highlighted changes to the Financial Plan, which included adjusted revenue projections and estimated expenditures.

She noted that program expenditures for 2009-11 included contracts for 14 programs (for a total of \$3,028,750), as well as increased funding for oral health, shifted funds for perinatal substance abuse social marketing, and a new Emerging Needs 2009 Investment Initiative. She explained the Emerging Needs Initiative will better equip the Commission to address emerging needs, anticipate increased needs, and allow flexibility.

She also noted Section VII was added to the Strategic Plan and includes 2009-11 funding decisions, as well as the timeline for comprehensive strategic planning. She added that the Appendix includes all program objectives for 2009-11, and she thanked Tom Keifer (First 5 consultant/evaluator) and Jason Wells (First 5 Program Officer) for their work on the objectives.

There were no questions or comments from the public or the Commissioners.

Commissioner Borenstein made a motion to approve the Strategic Plan (5th and final revision) and Financial Plan (amended). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Crocker and passed unanimously.

PARTNER CONTRACTS FOR 2009-2011

Jason Wells reported on Partner Contracts for 2009-2011. He noted that the two SLO County Public Health contracts that were pending at the last Commission Meeting (Tobacco Control Program/Baby's First Breath and the WIC Program/Oral Health) were completed since then.

He also explained that for most of the Partners, the contracts continued at the same level of funding as in the previous contract cycle. He explained changes in two programs: Vision Screening and the Oral Health Coordination Project (which amends an existing contract with Kathleen Phipps).

Mr. Wells thanked all partners and Tom Keifer for their help in putting together Scopes of Work and Budgets.

Chairperson Achadjian asked when the Commission would receive the next report from Oral Health Coordination team, and was told it would occur at the August Commission meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Voting proceeded as follows, on the new (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011) contracts, for a total amount of \$3,028,750:

Organization/Program (Funding Awards 2009-11)	2-year amount	Vote
Community Action Partnership (Head Start Transition to K)	\$190,000	6 yes, 0 no.
Community Action Partnership (Martha's Place)	\$500,000	5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Borenstein)
Gary Englund (Vision Screening)	\$60,000	6 yes, 0 no.
Health and Harmony Media (Children and Families Monthly Update)	\$36,000	6 yes, 0 no.
Kathleen Phipps (Oral Health Coordination Team)	\$279,000	6 yes, 0 no.
Parents Helping Parents	\$80,000	5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Borenstein)
Pediatric Physical Therapy Services (BEST PALS)	\$106,000	6 yes, 0 no.
San Luis Obispo Child Abuse Prevention Council (Beginnings)	\$60,000	6 yes, 0 no.
San Luis Obispo Child Abuse Prevention Council (Postpartum Depression Support Services)	\$16,000	6 yes, 0 no.
San Luis Obispo County Health Agency, Public Health, Tobacco Control Program (Baby's First Breath)	\$148,000	5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Borenstein)
San Luis Obispo County Health Agency, Public Health, WIC Program (BABES)	\$416,666	5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Borenstein)
San Luis Obispo County Health Agency, Public Health, WIC Program (Oral Health)	\$51,132	5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Borenstein)
San Luis Obispo County Office of Education (State Preschools Expanded Day)	\$304,442	5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Crocker)

Prior to the vote on the Children's Health Initiative contract, County Counsel Anne Duggan clarified the statutory provisions of Government code 1090 and the Political Reform Act. As a health care provider, Commissioner Bravo exited the room for the vote on the CHI contract.

Children's Health Initiative of San Luis Obispo County	\$781,510	5 yes, 0 no
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COMMISSION DISCUSSION: HOW CAN FIRST 5 SLO ADDRESS THE BUDGET CRISIS?

Susan Hughes introduced the budget discussion by stating that with the State budget still in a state of flux, it was difficult to talk about unknowns. However she noted the value of “staying ahead of game” and in attempting to do so, the First 5 State Association is asking for feedback from counties. Specifically the Association is trying to identify needs across counties, and trying to gauge whether counties are interested in a state focus as well as a local one.

In regards to anticipated state cuts to the State’s Healthy Families insurance program, Ms. Hughes reported that First 5s may be asked again to assist in funding Healthy Families. She also reported on the reaction of other First 5s to that possibility, and stated most felt it was too early to anticipate their commissioners’ opinions on the issue.

There was additional discussion about Healthy Families, with input from Kena Burke, CHI Executive Director, and Joel Diringer of Diringer and Associates. The final consensus was that the Commission was open to consideration of a proposal to assist in funding Healthy Families, but would need more information. Staff was asked to bring back more information to the August meeting, if it is available, for possible action.

There was brief discussion about other possible impacts of the state budget crisis on other programs including dental care, early intervention, child abuse prevention, poison control, and early childhood education.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Bravo encouraged everyone to get involved regarding the budget crisis, to speak up and write letters.

Chairperson Achadjian reported on the issue arising from CHC’s (Community Health Center’s) recent decision to continue to provide free breastfeeding support only to mothers who are uninsured or on MediCal, but requiring all others to pay. He noted he has called a meeting about it for next week, which Ms. Hughes will be attending, noting it was information only at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned, at 5:48 PM, to a “Celebration of Community Partnerships,” at which Partners and supporters of First 5 were recognized for their work on behalf of children and families in our county.

All materials referred to in these minutes are available at the First 5 Children & Families Commission office. For a more detailed account, recordings of the meeting are available by calling (805) 781-4058.

The next regular Commission meeting will be:
Wednesday, August 26, 2009, 4:00–7:00 p.m.
Dept. of Social Services, 3433 So. Higuera St., Room 115, San Luis Obispo