

## First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday, August 13, 2013, 5:30PM  
601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield, CA

### Attendance

Commissioners: Linda Seifert, Dana Dean, Dan Ayala, Jay Speck, Elise Crane, Marisela Barbosa, Liz Niedziela, Aaron Crutison, Stephan Betz

Staff/Public: Commission staff and 14 members of the public were present.

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:33PM with a salute to the flag led by Mr. Patrick Duterte

### I. Public Comment

Alan Kerzin, Executive Director, The Children's Network of Solano County introduced himself to the Commissioners as the new Executive Director for The Children's Network of Solano County. Mr. Kerzin thanked the Commission for their support of the CARES Plus initiative and the Family Strengthening Program.

### II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for August 13, 2013
- B. Approve the minutes of the June 4, 2013 Commission Meeting
- C. Approve 2014 Commission Meeting Schedule

**Moved: Commissioner Ayala**

**Vote: 9-0-0**

### III. A. Honor First 5 California Commissioner/Solano County Health & Social Services Director Patrick Duterte

Commissioner Seifert read and presented resolution #2013-04 to Mr. Duterte thanking him for over 12 years of service to Solano County, and the many additional years that Mr. Duterte served in Public Service.

Mr. Duterte spoke to the Commission and public reflecting on his years of service, emphasizing his dedication to children over the years in Solano County. Working in Solano County, with programs such as BabyFirst Solano, Nurse Family Partnership and achieving the NACO Award, afforded Mr. Duterte the opportunity to push forward on important initiatives, covering all children with health insurance, the transitional youth initiative to continue health insurance for children turning 18 in foster care. Mr. Duterte message is, if he could start over again he would scream loud and hard about how important the first 5 years are. Mr. Duterte encourages the Commissioners, the First 5 California Commission to really advocate heavily for those kids 0-5.

Commissioner Ayala thanked Mr. Duterte for his passion and enthusiasm and supporting First 5 Solano, congratulating Mr. Duterte on his retirement.

Commissioner Betz said he remembered when Mr. Duterte moved Santa Clara County into insuring all children with health coverage; the cause and effect that the movement had on

Contra Costa County and the large urban counties throughout the Bay Area. He thanked Mr. Duterte for his strong leadership.

Motion: Adopt and present resolution #2013-04 honoring Patrick Duterte for his many years of dedicated service to the residents of Solano County.

**Moved: Commissioner Dean**

**Vote: 9-0-0**

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

##### **A. Systems and Policy Committee** *(Commissioner Dean)*

1. Consider approval of a challenge grant of up to \$20,000 to support the 2014 California Dental Association Foundation (CDA) CARES Clinic in Solano County.

Discussion: Christine Shipman, Health Programs Manager, presented the Commission with a packet with information for the CDA CARES Clinic that will be held in April of 2014, in Vallejo. Commissioner Betz asked about outreach for the event. Commissioner Seifert and Ms. Shipman reported that currently there is little to no outreach needed, the program is highly regarded and is advertised by word of mouth from dentists and patients, and local press covers the preparations. The program is so well known among people that are in need of services that individuals look for the events.

Motion: Approve a challenge grant of up to \$20,000 to support the 2014 California Dental Association Foundation (CDA) CARES Clinic in Solano County

**Moved: Commissioner Betz**

**Vote: 9-0-0**

##### **B. Program and Community Engagement Committee** *(Commissioner Betz)*

Committee did not meet.

#### **V. 2012-2015 Funding Cycle: Grantee Presentations**

- A. Receive an overview of the Children's Health Initiative grant. Tamera Owens, Solano Coalition for Better Health, Interim Executive Director, gave a brief presentation on the Solano Kids Insurance Program (SKIP). SKIP is a collaborative effort that works together with other First 5 Solano Grantee's. SKIP goes throughout Solano County and screens all child development centers to insure that all children ages 0-5 has health insurance. Ms. Owens expressed how grateful the Coalition is for the support of First 5 Solano.
- B. Receive an overview of the Early Children Mental Health Services grants. Carla Denner, Children's Nurturing Project. Gave an overview of Partnership for Early Access for Kids (PEAK) and the collaboration with the partners that First 5 Solano funds. The PEAK program is a far reaching program for children 0-5 and their families. Solano County was the first county in California to use the First 5 Solano funds and the federal MHSA funds to work together for early mental health services. Ms. Denner thanked the Commission for the continued support of the collaborators for PEAK and the dollars matched for the PEAK initiative. Commissioner Seifert asked the collaboration to introduce themselves and their agencies to the Commission.

Commissioner Crane asked if data information is being tracked and if there is a system in place to that assists with the tracking of the services provided by PEAK. Ms. Denner answered that the data is being tracked in the Persimmony system.

Commissioner Betz asked what happened with Circle of Security and if the system is continued to be used in Solano County. A representative from Child Haven answered that she is currently the only person in the County that is certified to use this particular program.

## **VI. Executive Director's Report**

Discussion: Christina Arrostuto, Executive Director, commented about the excellent service of Patrick Duterte and the high quality of Commissioners that he selected for the First 5 Commission throughout the years. She made a special thanks to Cherelyn Ellington Hunt for organizing the Commissioners to visit the Pre-K academies and the hard work that she put into the Pre-K business champions campaign. She also recognized the First 5 College Intern, Joshua Bongawil, for all of his hard work and dedication over the last few months. She reported that World Breastfeeding week and the Breastfeeding Friendly Express van at the Solano County Fair was again a great success, with a lot of traffic and lots of educational/informational materials distributed. Ms. Arrostuto reported that First 5 California is currently in a strategic planning process. Also, the First 5 movement turns 15 this year, with plenty of events throughout the State planned.

## **VII. Commissioner Remarks**

Commissioner Barbosa commented that it was a pleasure to visit the Pre-K academy and she wants to find ways to keep this momentum going. She is also looking forward in continuing the Business Champion movement to continue to bring in funds for Pre-K academies.

Commissioner Speck wished the Commissioners, staff and audience a "Happy New School Year" as school was starting that week for many. The back-packs that First 5 received from the K-to-College program were a great success. He noted the commencement speech (the shortest given) for the Pre-K academy was "As you enter school there are the three most important things, learn to read, attend school every day unless you are ill and be kind to each other."

Commissioner Ayala commented that he also attended a Pre-K academy and enjoyed himself. The children recited their ABC's and the art project that he participated in was about the letter L and turning a plate into a lion. He said it was a lot of fun helping out in the class and watching the children learn.

Commissioner Crane commented that she represented First 5 Solano Commissioners at a recent First 5 CA strategic planning event in Sacramento and found the day very interesting in watching the groups work together. Commissioner Crane said she would like talk to the Commission about funding for planning for Solano to participate in the child care/development quality rating and improvement system. She said we need to know where we are in order to know what we need to do to get the rich resources for our providers.

Commissioner Seifert thanked the staff for all of the time that was spent attending the Breast Feeding Friendly van at the Solano County Fair, Christina Arrostuto and Cherelyn Ellington Hunt opened and closed the van each day of the fair. Commissioner Seifert let everyone know that she really appreciates the community partners in joining the meeting and knowing what is going on with all of the things that we are all doing on behalf of children 0-5.

Meeting adjourned: 6:41

Approved: Denise Wenzel