



September 26, 2011

Commission Meeting Minutes

River Room, Mendocino County Office of Education
2240 Old River Road, Ukiah, CA 95482

And by Video Conference from
300 A Dana Street,
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Commission Members Present in Ukiah:

Lucresha Rentería	Jim Levine	Paul Tichinin
Stacey Cryer	Jeremy Mann	Rebecca Wilson
Dan Hamburg		

Commission Members Present in Fort Bragg:

Paul Tichinin

Commission Members Absent:

Diane Pauli

Public Present in Ukiah:

Sid Gardner	Patty Michalski	Gloria Gutfeld
Jill Carey	Jenny Midel	Leslie Kirkpatrick
Jody Johnston	Jean Glentzer	Greg Lords
Sharon Bowls		

ITEM 1 Welcome & Introductions by Commission Chair, Lucresha Rentería

Commissioner Rentería called the meeting to order at 1:16 p.m. Those present introduced themselves.

ITEM 2 Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items

None.

ITEM 3 Consent Calendar (*Action*)

- A.** Approve Agenda
- B.** Approve Draft Minutes of August 29, 2011 Commission Meeting

Motion to approve the consent calendar. Motion/Mann, Second/Levine (Rentería, yes; Levine, yes; Mann, yes; Cryer, yes; Wilson, yes; Hamburg, yes; Tichinin, yes). Motion passed.

HEALTHY CHILDREN

ITEM 4 Children and Family Futures

Sid Gardner, President of Children and Family Futures, presented interim evaluation results of the Mendocino County Family Dependency Drug Court (FDDC). FDDC has served 126 children in Mendocino County, 57% of the children were ages 0-5.

The program's objectives are to increase parent participation in FDDC, increase retention and completion of the program, reduce parental substance use, support safe and timely reunification

or permanent placement of children, reduce the reoccurrence of child maltreatment, and prevent children's reentry into foster care due to parental substance abuse.

Demographics of the Mendocino County FDDC include:

- 81.5% of participants reported methamphetamine as their primary drug problem;
- 86.4% of participants are unemployed or not in the labor force;
- 35.4% of participants have less than a high school education;
- 80.2% of participants are women with an average age of 32.1;
- 4.8% of women were pregnant at the time of admission to the program;
- 70.4% of participants are Caucasian;
- 17.3% of participants are Native American;
- 7.4% of participants are Hispanic; and
- 2.5% of participants are Multi-racial

FDDC partners include: the Mendocino County Child Welfare program, the Mendocino County Alcohol and Other Drug Program, the Mendocino County Juvenile Court, and the Mendocino County Counsel's office.

Preliminary data indicate that:

- 87.8% of FDDC parents who graduate are more likely to have a positive treatment than those who do not graduate;
- 50% of FDDC participants do not finish the program;
- FDDC children averaged 375 less days in foster care than children who were not in the program;
- FDDC parents who graduate are twice as likely to reunify with their children.
- FDDC children experience no reoccurrence of maltreatment within six months of their parent's entry into the program compared to the 9.1% reoccurrence rate for Mendocino County, the 7.1% for California and the 5.1% for the U.S.; and
- FDDC children have lower reentries into foster care than children who were not in the program.

According to the preliminary data, FDDC will enable Mendocino County to save approximately \$1 million a year in out of home care costs alone.

MAXIMIZE OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

ITEM 5 Director's Report

1. The Round Valley Food Pantry served 212 people, representing 62 households, with 82 bags of emergency food assistance. The pantry also assists with Food Stamp and Medi-Cal applications.
2. The Pediatric Dental Initiative (PDI) has served 5,563 children with 1,179 from Mendocino County. A PDI fundraiser will be held at the French Garden Restaurant in Sebastopol on Thursday, October 13 at 5:00 p.m.
3. FDDC will present to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, September 27 at 10:00 a.m.
4. Terri Davis, Program Assistant for Raise & Shine, shared a thank you note from a parent who received parenting support through the program.
5. CARES Plus, the professional development program from early childhood educators is underway. The current program is for two years from 2011-12.
6. The Round Valley Family Resource Center contract is signed.
7. Alex Rorabaugh Center lease is in progress.
8. The Children's Action Committee, a sub-committee of the Policy Council on Children and Youth has banners up above State Street in downtown Ukiah with anti-child abuse messages.
9. Yes on Libraries appreciated the Commission's resolution.

10. The United Way Day of Caring was held on Wednesday, September 14 in Mendocino County. Staff volunteered at the Nokomis Head Start Garden and at Ford Street.

ITEM 6 Election of Officers (*Action*)

Executive Director Molgaard stated that each year the Commission elects a Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair and one additional member at large to serve on the Executive Committee.

Motion to elect Commissioner Rentería as Chair, Commissioner Levine as 1st Vice Chair, Commissioner Mann as 2nd Vice Chair and Commissioner Pauli as the member at large to serve on the Executive Committee. Motion/Tichinin, Second/Mann (Rentería, yes; Cryer, yes; Hamburg, yes; Levine, yes; Mann, yes; Tichinin, yes; Wilson, yes). Motion passed.

HEALTHY CHILDREN

ITEM 7 Rethink Your Drink (*Action*)

Adrienne Binder, Nutrition and Fitness Advocate VISTA, presented an overview of the current Rethink Your Drink campaign. According to the data, the average American drinks fifty gallons of pop each year with 41% of 2-11 year olds drinking at least one pop every day.

Potter the Otter: A Tale About Water, a children's book created by First 5 Santa Clara, is being distributed locally to partners such as: WIC, Head Start, Child Care Providers and State Preschools. The book is also being promoted at outreach events.

The Commission suggested that next year, the Nutrition and Fitness Advocate explore children's fitness, safe routes to school, availability of drinking fountains, non-smoking ordinances, biking safety, and issues regarding fast food.

ITEM 8 Commissioner Reports, Announcements & Additional Materials

Commissioner Levine stated that outreach on Imagination Library is needed at the Gualala Library.

Commissioner Hamburg invited the public to attend the FDDC presentation to the Board of Supervisors.

There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.