



Minutes: Advisory Committee Meeting

735 E. Carnegie Drive, Suite 150, San Bernardino, California 92408

Meeting Date, Time and Location January 6, 2014
Ron Griffin, Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m.
San Bernardino County Government Center
Joshua Room
350 North Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, California 92415

Attendees

Advisory Committee
Venus Mixson, Edison Medina, Stacy Iverson, Dr. Pat Krizek, Jose Davila, James Moses, Ken Johnston, Kathy Turnbull (for Amy Cousineau) Erin Brinker, Ron Griffin, Leslie Egge, Shannon Bailey (for Veronica Rodriguez)

First 5 San Bernardino
Karen Scott, Cindy Faulkner, Mary Jaquish, Scott McGrath, Chrystina Smith-Rasshan, Ann Calkins

Harder+Co
Joelle Greene

Guests
Karini Pereira, Jessica Soto, Dr. Tim Hougen

Special Presentation Leslie Egge was recognized as the departing Advisory Committee chair and thanked for her contributions and guidance in serving the committee since 2009.

Consent A motion was made by James Moses and seconded by Stacy Iverson to approve the minutes. Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item No.	CONSENT ITEM
1	Approve Minutes of September 26, 2013 Meeting

Item No.	DISCUSSION ITEMS
2	Annual Evaluation Brief 2012/13 Dr. Joelle Greene, Harder+Co. presented a brief background on this document and how it was created. Prior to 2012, one comprehensive report was produced; very dense with appendices and well over 100 pages, however, not highly utilized. In order to produce usable data, discussions were held among Harder+Co and First 5 program staff to understand what would be useful. Since last year, two new items are now being produced, one being a data book;

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comprehensive downloaded data from Persimmony. The data book is generally for internal First 5 use. It should be shared outside of First 5 in consultation with evaluation staff to avoid misinterpretation. This document can be uploaded to Box for the Advisory Committee's use/reference.

The second item is the evaluation brief. Enclosed in the brief is data of highest quality and "best" of 2012-13. It is intended to identify key highlights. Speakers were asked to attend to talk about key focus areas:

Nurturing Families - Karini Periera from Reach Out
SART - Dr. Tim Hougen, Department of Behavioral Health
Pre-K academy - Jessica Soto, Hesperia USD.

Dr. Greene spoke about the data around the nurturing parenting program. When staff worked on the RFP for parent education one of the problems discussed was how to evaluate parent ed. There has been some skepticism for parenting education as an initiative so it was important to obtain real tangible data and maximize the opportunity to show how the program has an impact. Or, if it's not making a difference and something First 5 shouldn't be funding then that assertion should be known. Staff discussed one of the biggest challenges which is how different providers use different curricula. This is a challenge from an evaluation perspective because some of the curricula spoke of slightly different nuances of parenting. Being able to measure change and attitudes and behaviors relating to parenting became very challenging.

Karini Pereira stated that Nurturing Parenting teachers try to model parent behavior as they teach the class. She has noticed that the more sincere attention given students in turn makes them feel good about themselves. Retention could be improved on first contact, for example, on the telephone. Karini feels if a staff member is listening and empathizing with the parent about his/her troubles, then that parent is more apt to join the class. Karini stated she is working hard to keep retention levels high. Karini stressed she has done much research on marketing and how it (nurturing parenting) taps into the 6-protective factors.

About 1.5 million families have gone through this program and even if half made it, that's still 750,000 families who have experienced significant changes. To see it impact peoples' lives is so profound. Karini mentioned using Facebook and attending as many community events as possible to spread the word about the program. Karini explained this is a very hands-on, significant involvement-type program and not something you can learn fully, as a facilitator, by reading the book. Karini has found that one of the biggest challenges is getting Hispanic dads to attend classes with their significant other. Joelle mentioned that getting classes to end later in the evening would be extremely helpful to working parents. Another option may be the ability to attend other sessions to make up for any missed sessions.

Karini distributed a handout to all members entitled, "The Nurturing Parenting Programs and the Six Protective Factors".

Dr. Greene then spoke about Pre-K Academies, which are short term pre-school experiences with different variations such as year-round, 6-week, and 12-week. A paper was published in Texas which revealed the following about the significance of Pre-K Academy: children who attended had a lower percentage of being held back a grade; reduced probability of receiving special education services, and increased mathematic scores for those who spoke Spanish. Dr. Greene spoke about the graph depicted in the First 5 brief which showed the percentage of children who showed improvement in School Readiness skills after Pre-K Academy. In 2012-13, over 900 children obtained pre-school services through F5SB's Summer and Year Round Pre-K academies and 83% had no prior pre-school exposure and would have entered

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	<p>kindergarten with no school experience.</p> <p>Jessica Soto spoke about the 4 to 6 week Pre-K Academy. Jessica stated she had her doubts about the program, however, it turned out to be a very positive quality experience. Jessica noted it is important to get the right teachers to build rapport with the parents and for teachers to let the parents know they care about their child's success in school. Jessica feels the reason why they were so successful with this program is that everyone who entered the classroom was welcomed with open arms, felt valued and saw that the teachers love what they do. The quality of the pre-school environment is absolutely essential for success as well as assessing each child's needs.</p> <p>Jessica stated the CARES Plus program has made a huge impact on her staff because the teachers are utilizing the strategies to implement different things in the classroom. The teachers strive for a positive and supportive class environment. Parenting Education plays a big part as well. Jessica explained that each week the child is given a home activity to complete with their parents. The child then presents his work to the class. This requirement is made known to the parents at the start of the program. A benefit of being on a school site is the buy-in they get from the principal and other teachers. The children are able to participate in science fairs and father-daughter dances. The goal is for children to be so active in pre-school that when the time comes for them to enter into kindergarten and grade school that they will continue to be active and feel comfortable with principals and teachers. Jessica explained her program also offers Kindergarten Transition activities. Parents are given a toolbox of things to do with their child over the summer.</p> <p>Dr. Greene mentioned that 34% of our parents in this county have less than a high school diploma. Things that may be intuitive to a working class parent with a high school diploma may not be so clear to a person who does not have a diploma. In many Hispanic households, the culture dictates that young children stay home and do not attend pre-school. There may be a place for the shorter-term Pre-K programs with these families.</p> <p>The Health section of the brief talked about the Universal Screening Initiative. This initiative ensures every child in the County is screened and connected to appropriate services in their first five years. Easter Seals sponsored a similar initiative at the national level and received funding from CVS and the Safeway Foundation. Parents were able to complete this on-line. Easter Seals was able to get 3,000 screenings done in the same period of time where First 5 got 6,043 screenings.</p> <p>Dr. Tim Hougen said they are nowhere near where they'd hoped to be in the program, but things are moving along. Because First 5 funds now funnels through DBH, Dr. Hougen stated it allows them to track things a little more tightly. In 2012, about 1600 children received on-going care through the SART centers.</p> <p>Four SART providers are located at seven different locations and DBH has added in an entirely new program which is Early Identification and Intervention Services (EIIS). SART services will now be available in Big Bear, Crestline, Needles and Barstow; places DBH has not been able to reach in the past. Public Health nurses are stationed at these SART centers. Dr. Hougen hopes the conversation next year will be 'how have the children in this program changed?' Does the child have an appropriate level of attachment?</p>
3	<p>Strategic Planning Process – Pathways to Change</p> <p>Dr. Greene stated that the group is moving along in the Strategic Planning Process. The group met in November and spent their time mapping out "Pathways to Change", starting with the goals. The group determined what it would take to make sure the goals are used to guide the development of new initiatives. The</p>

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	subcommittee group will meet again on Friday, January 10, 2014.
4	<p>Public Comment/Committee Member Roundtable</p> <p>Cindy Faulkner reported that at the November 21, 2013 Commission Meeting, Commissioner Margaret Hill was voted in as Chair of the Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Kathy Turnbull observed that the strength-based family experience theme outlined today is so important to the 0 to 5 success and applauds First 5's involvement. Children's Network "Shine A Light on Child Abuse" nominations are due now.</p> <p>Erin Brinker stated "THINK Together" will have their annual food and wine event on April 10, 2014 from 6 to 9:00 p.m., at the Burrage Mansion in Redlands.</p> <p>Karen Scott reported First 5 will host an Open House on February 5 at their new location. First 5 is also changing their administrative logo.</p> <p>Karini Pereira thanked the committee and stated it has been an honor to work with First 5 and their initiatives. Jessica Soto thanked the committee and stated she loves being a partner with First 5 and feels blessed to have this partnership in the High Desert.</p>

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Stacy Iverson and seconded by Venus Mixson. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Next Meeting

Advisory Committee Strategic Planning/Research and Data Subcommittee
February 7, 2014
10:00 a.m. to Noon

Full Advisory Committee Meeting
March 20, 2014
11:30 a.m.

First 5 San Bernardino
735 East Carnegie Drive, Suite 150
Commission Conference Center
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Attest

Ann M. Calkins, Advisory Committee Secretary
