

## Minutes for San Bernardino County Children’s Policy Council

July 26, 2023  
12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.  
First 5 San Bernardino  
735 E. Carnegie Dr., #150  
San Bernardino

Minutes Recorded and Transcribed by Denise McKinney, Secretary II

OPENING REMARKS	PRESENTER	ACTION/OUTCOME
<p>A. Call to Order B. Welcome and Introductions</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendees were welcomed to the meeting.</li> </ul>
CONSENT ITEMS		
<p>C. Approve June 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes</p>	<p>Judge Poncin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes were reviewed. One correction was made – Rishad Mitha from Housing Authority was in attendance.</li> <li>• Michael Koenig made a motion to approve the minutes as written with the one correction. Dr. Michael Sequeira seconded the motion. <b>Rollcall Vote: 14 yay/0 nay. Motion carried.</b></li> </ul>
<p>D. Approve Funding for Eleven (11) Projects for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year</p>	<p>Wendy Alvarez</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children’s Policy Council is asked to approve funding of eleven projects for the 2023/2024 fiscal year, using the Children’s Trust Fund money that was designated for child abuse prevention.</li> <li>• Wendy is asking that items 1 - 9 be tabled until the September 27 meeting – these items need further review and consideration.</li> <li>• Wendy is asking that items 10 and 11 be approved due to the urgency of funding:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>#10: Children’s Network Annual Conference - \$10,000.00</li> <li>#11: Foster Youth Summer Camp Sponsorship - \$300,000</li> </ul> </li> <li>• These two events will total \$310,000.</li> <li>• Treva Webster asked if the summer camp money would affect the monetary allotment for the other items and was informed that it would not – there is enough money in the Children’s Trust Fund to cover it.</li> <li>• Jacquelyn Greene made a motion to approve items 10 and 11 – \$10,000 for the Children’s Network Annual Conference and \$300,000 for Foster Youth Summer Camp Sponsorship. Jeany Zepeda seconded the motion. <b>Rollcall Vote: 14 yay/0 nay. Motion carried.</b></li> </ul>
<p>E. HOPE: San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department Community Services and Re-Entry Division</p>	<p>Mike Jones Vicki Wentworth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike Jones presented a PowerPoint presentation about the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department HOPE Program.</li> <li>• In 2014 Sheriff McMahon implemented the program to help improve the quality of life for the citizens of San Bernardino County.</li> <li>• The mission of H.O.P.E. is to balance proactive outreach with enforcement of the law, while</li> </ul>

		<p>connecting members of the homeless population with resources that may help them transition from homelessness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ultimate goal is to reduce the rate of recidivism, incarceration, and reduce the current costs associated to homeless related crime.</li> <li>• HOPE works county-wide to contact homeless individuals and refer them to multiple county agencies, service providers, and Veteran’s Affairs to receive assistance, services, and housing.</li> <li>• HOPE also provides education to the community and business owners about quality-of-life crimes and panhandling.</li> <li>• Nicholas Fisher asked about the percentage of homeless individuals that want to be homeless vs. homeless that want help. Mike answered that it was a small percentage of that wanted to be homeless, and it was mostly due to substance abuse or mental health issues.</li> <li>• Cesar Navarrete commented that Children’s Fund helps families that are just one or two paychecks away from being homeless, and that the cost-of-living has really hurt families.</li> <li>• Jeany Zepeda mentioned that homeless foster youth can receive services quickly from CFS.</li> <li>• Dr. Michael Sequeira mentioned that there’s a new meth on the streets that brings on paranoia and increases mental health issues.</li> <li>• Diane Rundles inquired about homeless individuals receiving services after hours. Mike stated that they struggle to get families a hotel room overnight or over the weekend until offices open again the next day (or Monday) for them to apply for services. Redlands Family Assistance Program does give out hotel vouchers during the after-hours.</li> <li>• Supervisor Joe Baca asked Mike about what the County can do? Mike answered with ESG and roadblocks with service providers receiving reimbursements. Redlands Family Assistance Program quit offering services for a while because they weren’t being reimbursed.</li> <li>• Melinda Corral asked about how many former homeless go back to being homeless? Mike answered that it’s less than 10%, but it’s usually because they get kicked out of their housing.</li> <li>• Rishad Mitha pointed out that it’s more than just getting them housing – they need family support services, mental health services, and jobs.</li> <li>• Jacquelyn Green mentioned that Preschool Services Department accepts homeless students. She also suggested hosting a “one-stop shop” once a month for homeless families to visit and apply to services all at one time.</li> <li>• James Moses mentioned that Child Care Resource Center can also help provide childcare for homeless families.</li> <li>• Wendy Alvarez offered to send all of this information to the Family Resource Centers throughout the County.</li> </ul>
INFORMATION ITEMS		
F. Legislative Update	Megan Kidwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Megan spoke about the following priority bills: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>SB 326 – The Behavioral Health Services Act:</b> This bill is a complete reform of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), it revises the distribution of funding for behavioral health programs and services. <i>Status: Passed the Senate (39-0) and Assembly Health urgency clause (15-0), re-referred to Assembly Health Committee.</i></li> </ol> </li> </ul>

G. Children's Network Update	Wendy Alvarez	<p>2. <b>SB 14 – Serious felonies: human trafficking:</b> Adds human trafficking of a minor to the list of 'serious' felonies subject to enhanced penalties under California's Three Strikes Law. <i>Status: Passed the Senate (40-0) and Assembly Public Safety (6-2), referred to Assembly Appropriations.</i></p> <p>3. <b>AB 391 - Child abuse and neglect: nonmandated reporters:</b> Would require a person making a child abuse or neglect report, who is not a mandated reporter, to provide their name, telephone number, and reason for the suspicion of child abuse or neglect. <i>Status: Passed the Assembly (78-0-2) and Senate Public Safety (5-0), referred to Senate Appropriations suspense file.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Network Conference will be held on September 21 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Ontario. Registration is now open and can be accessed on the Children's Network website – <a href="http://cn.sbcounty.gov">cn.sbcounty.gov</a>.</li> </ul>
H. Children's Fund Update	Cesar Navarrete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children's Fund is in the middle of their back-to-school backpack giveaway. 1000 backpacks have been distributed.</li> <li>Children's Fund is moving forward with their scholarship initiative.</li> </ul>
I. Public Comment		None
J. Open Discussion		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jeany Zepeda mentioned that Kim Epps from Probation said that there is a lot of money in the JJCC reserves and they are looking for proposals from youth-serving departments/agencies.</li> <li>James Moses stated that he was interested in seeing how SB326 was going to affect the County's children and Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI). Diane Rundles answered that they are doing a financial review of the programs and departments and will keep everyone posted.</li> </ul>
Adjournment		Being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.
<b>Next Meeting</b>		<b>August 23, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m. – First 5 San Bernardino, 750 E. Carnegie Ln., #150, San Bernardino</b>

**July 26, 2023 ATTENDEES:**

**Present**

Alvarez, Wendy	Children's Network		Bitker, Brian*	Children's Advocacy Group
Baca, Supervisor Joe	Fifth District Supervisor		Burcham, Dane*	Children's Advocacy Group
Corral, Melinda	CSUSB		Cunningham, Allison	Dept. of Behavioral Health
Faulkner, Cindy	First 5 San Bernardino		Dugas, Joshua	Public Health
Fisher, Nicholas*	CASA		Durham, Paul	SBCSS

**Absent**

Greene, Jacqueline*	Preschool Services Dept.		Edber, Daniel	Public Defender
Hougen, Dr. Tim*	Dept. of Behavioral Health		Epps, Kimberly*	Probation Department
Jones, Mike	Sheriff's Department		Gallardo, Edyth*	Inland Regional Center
Kidwell, Megan	HS Legislation		Gates, Brad*	Workforce Development
Koenig, Michael*	Children's Advocacy Group		Hendrickson, Trisha*	CASA
Kilchenstein, Danielle	United Way		Locurto, James*	Transitional Assistance
McKinney, Denise	Children's Network		Mancha, Laura	Fifth District Supervisors Office
Mitha, Rishad	Housing Authority		O'Farrell, Jennifer	BBBS
Moses, James*	Child Care Resource Center		Pierre, Myrlene*	SBCSS
Navarette, Cesar*	Children's Fund		Razo, Maria*	Housing Authority of SB County
Chair, Hon. Lynn Poncin*	Juvenile Dependency Court		Scott, Karen	First 5 San Bernardino
Ramos, Gilbert*	TAD Administration		Yoshioka, Dr. Georgina	Dept. of Behavioral Health
Rundles, Diane	CAO's Office		Young, Amy, M.D.	LLUMC - CAC
Sequeira, Dr. Michael*	Dept. of Public Health			
Surber, Julie	County Counsel			
Webster, Treva*	Inland Regional Center			
Wentworth, Vicki	Probation			
Zepeda, Jeany*	Children & Family Services			

\*Denotes Children's Policy Council Voting Member