

Meeting Minutes

Committee Name: Vulnerable Families

Meeting Purpose(s): Cover agenda items below	
Leader:	Star Graber
Facilitator:	Star Graber
Recorder:	Jaci DiCarlo
Meeting Called	
Time: From:	9:00 am
To:	10:30 am
Date:	June 5, 2007
Location: DSS Higuera Street, Room 358	
Members Present:	
1.	Star Graber
2.	Jaci DiCarlo
3.	Linda Gendron
4.	Julia Miller
5.	Carol Jones
6.	Linda Baker
7.	Tracy Lang Wood
8.	Dee Torres
9.	Dodie Dunton
10.	Lee Gulliver
11.	Jan Campbell
12.	Gary Joralemon
13.	Brenda Harker
14.	Laurie Morgan
15.	Peggy Fowler
16.	Paula Tripp
17.	Phyllis Braiotta
18.	Nancy Sugerman
Agenda Items	Comments/Conclusions/ Actions (If Any)
Agenda Adjustments	Star opened the meeting with introductions. There were no corrections to the notes dated May 1, 2007, and no additions to the agenda.
Universal Referral and Release of Information	Star reported that she has meet with Sue Hoffman, Patricia Gomez, Nancy Sugerman and Mark Haas regarding the Universal Referral & Release/DSS 815 combo. The changes from the last VF meeting were incorporated at the meeting. Nancy stated that she believes they will be successful on the referral piece, and they are still working on the release. Patricia Gomez is reviewing it, but thinks the release of information portion will be changed. Currently the Universal Release is just for the referral piece, not for follow-up information. Individual agencies should continue to obtain follow-up releases, and VF will continue to train in this way. Mark Haas will set up another meeting for all the parties to meet.
SDQ Pilot Update	Linda Gendron reported that 100% of the SDQ's have been received back from the teachers, and 70% back from the parents. They are working on getting the results. Teachers report that they like the format and ease of use. Results have been consistent because just one teacher is doing the reports. The group discussed putting together a protocol in the Fall. More updates next meeting.
Parenting Resource Matrix Update	Julia reported that she is still working on this, and her PRS, Carol Wagner, has identified 38 resources so far. Julia will be gone in July, but hopes to have the list completed by August. VF would like to identify the resources that are out there so we can figure out how best to support them.

ASQ Registry	Some issues have come up with County Counsel about the disclosure of information and the ASQ. Star reported that she is meeting with Martha's Place this Thursday to discuss this with them since they will be the main recipients of these children.
Homeless Services Coord. Council	<p>Lee Gulliver reported that the Homeless Services Coordination Council has put together a list of the gaps in SLO County's homeless services. Top gaps identified include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County does not have a detox facility. • The need for more emergency shelters. The 2005 re-enumeration of the homeless showed 900 homeless (but the estimate is 2500), and only 235 shelter beds in the County at present. South County has 1/3rd of the homeless and no shelter, and North has 1/4th of the homeless and they have a shelter for only 35 people. Most of the homeless services are in San Luis Obispo. • There is a lack of affordable housing, and more and more affordable housing in SLO County is disappearing. • Transportation was in the top 5. There is no direct public transportation – early and late bus service not available in the North. • DSS homeless response – 5 and 10-day responses are not practical with the homeless. DSS is working on a new protocol that will give special attention to homeless response. Ideal would be an out-stationed CWS worker at the homeless shelter. Nancy is working on this part of it. She stated that a response protocol is being written. She will report on the progress. <p>Dee explained that the numbers obtained in the re-enumeration are not completely accurate partly because the collection of data was all done by volunteers, and also because the figures are self-reported. Many homeless do not want to be found. What the re-enumeration did show is that a surprising amount of the homeless are local – they grew up in SLO County. Top reasons for homelessness are medical and dental problems, and women that are divorced, or have left an abusive partner. However, Dee reported that the number one reason people are homeless is mental illness and physical disabilities, then trauma. This is severely underreported in the re-enumeration because people do not want to admit mental illness/trauma. The real stats that came out of the re-enumeration are the 800 + children that are homeless.</p> <p>Lee reported that the Homeless Outreach Program, a case managed program to house the severely mentally ill, has had the funding pulled from the State budget. We have 80 people in SLO County that may be back on the streets if this program is not funded.</p> <p>Lee stated that when the County does get the funds for a shelter, it would likely be a campus model with all services located on the site. HSCC has been going out and looking at different models and bringing ideas back to the committee. They are hoping the city/county will donate the building.</p> <p>Star asked how VF should proceed since homelessness is one of our top 8. Dee, Laurie and Peggy attend the HSCC Meetings regularly. They will report back to the group. The next meeting will be at the Vets Hall at 10:00 am. Usually it falls on the last Wednesday of the month, but Dee will email Jaci with the exact date, and Jaci will email it out to the VF Committee.</p> <p>Dee reported that there is a real lack of services for homeless children. She is currently trying to get Summer programs for children. The Women's Shelter through the Chat Program is looking at doing work with kids this Summer, and Kid's camps are filling a big gap. However, at Prado they have problems just providing things like breakfast and vitamins for homeless children. Dee has 5 to 15 kids at Prado each day now, but if there was a regular breakfast she predicts there would be closer to 20. She suggested that if the VF Committee wanted to do something simple to help, we could secure vitamins or breakfast for these children.</p> <p>The group discussed the formation of a subcommittee to volunteer to help with breakfast at Prado. The Breakfast Pilot Program will be on the July 3rd agenda. At the July meeting the group agreed to bring breakfast items.</p>
Next Meeting	The next meeting is on July 3 rd at DSS in Room 358. August meeting will be cancelled.