



CSN Agenda

3563 Empleo Street, San Luis Obispo CA
February 5, 2020
1:15 – 3:00 p.m.

Dan Dow, Chair
SLO County District Attorney's Office

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jim Roberts, Vice Chair
Family Care Network, Inc.

Dr. James Brescia
County Office of Education/
Latino Outreach Council

Jill Bolster-White
Transitions Mental Health Association

Devin Drake
Department of Social Services

Lisa Fraser
Center for Family Strengthening

Michael R. Hill
SLO County Health Agency

Bruce S. Gibson
2nd. District Supervisor

Ian Parkinson
SLO County Sheriff's Office

Kayla Plourde-Reynolds
Juvenile Justice & Delinquency
Prevention Commission

Jim Salio
Probation

Elizabeth Steinberg
Community Action Partnership

Linda Belch
CSN Manager

Cherise Day
Network Secretary
cday@co.slo.ca.us

General:

- Introductions
- Announcements and Board "Round Table"
- Additions to the Agenda
- Public Comment

Action Items:

- Approval of October 2, 2019 Minutes
- Approval of revised CSN bylaws

Information/Discussion items:

- High-Needs Shelter Care – Jim Roberts
- Child Abuse Prevention Plan – Lisa Fraser
- AB2083 – Linda Belch

Standing Agenda Items:

- Priority: Homeless Services for Children and Families – Laurel Weir
- SLO County CSEC Collaborative – Linda Belch
- Child Advocacy Center of SLO County – Lisa Fraser

Future Agenda Items:

Next Meeting:

May 6, 2020
DSS Empleo
3563 Empleo St.
San Luis Obispo
1:15 – 3:00 p.m.



Minutes February 5, 2020

Present:	Chair, Dan Dow – District Attorney	Vice Chair, Jim Roberts - FCN
	Devin Drake – DSS Director	Kayla Plourde-Reynolds – Juvenile Justice
	Jim Salio – Probation Chief	Linda Belch - DSS
	Laurel Weir, DSS/HSOC	Lisa Fraser - CFSSLO
	Bruce Gibson - BOS	Elizabeth (Biz) Steinberg - CAPSLO
Excused:	Ian Parkinson – Sheriff	Dr. James Brescia – Office of Education
	Michael R. Hill – Co. Health Agency	Jill Bolster-White - TMHA
Staff:	Cherise Day – DSS/CSN Secretary	
Guests:	Jon Nibbio – FCN	Melinda Sokolowski – CAPSLO / First 5
	Meghan Boaz-Alvarez for Jill Bolster-White	Belinda Benassi – DSS
	Anne Robin – Behavioral Health	Jessica Thomas – Office of Education
	Penny Borenstein – Public Health for Mike Hill	Jill Rietjens– Behavioral Health
	Teresa Tardiff - CASA	Amalia Plemons – Juvenile Justice Commissioner

Introductions, Announcements, Critical Issues and Additions to the Agenda:

Chair Dan Dow called the meeting to order at 1:15 P.M.

Announcements:

The Children’s Services Network Executive Board is pleased to announce their newest member, Teresa Tardiff. Teresa is the Executive Director for the Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children of San Luis Obispo County, known as CASA. CASA strives to transform the lives of abused, abandoned and neglected children, by providing them with a trained and supervised advocate, assuring the child’s needs are met as they navigate through the court system. Welcome Teresa!

Transitions Mental Health is holding their annual Journey of Hope with speaker and comedian Adam Grabowski, on February 5th at the New Life Church in Pismo Beach and February 6th at the Cuesta Campus in Paso Robles.

The Board of Supervisors is supporting an educational opportunity re: sexually transmitted disease on February 19th at the Vets Hall at 3:00 pm with a dinner to follow.

The SLO Co. District Attorney’s office has partnered with the Office of Education to implement a program initiated by Los Angeles County, entitled “Project Lead”. Beginning with two 5th grade classrooms in Oceano, this project is meant to educate children with the justice system and will culminate with a mock trial. The program is being led by Judge Gurrero, who is a remarkable role model for the community, providing a positive influence on children at a crucial time in their development.

Additions:

None

Public Comments:

None

Action Items:

1. Approval of CSN October 2019 minutes

Motion: Biz Steinberg

Second: Jim Salio

Motion Passed: Unanimous voice vote

Action Items:

2. Approval of revised CSN bylaws

- *Note: An incomplete version of the bylaws was inadvertently handed out at the meeting. Prior to approval, it was confirmed that the final revision included the wording "A member of the Board of Supervisors."*

Motion: Jim Roberts

Second: Jim Salio

Motion Passed: Unanimous voice vote

Information/Discussion Items: High-Needs Shelter – Jim Roberts

Jim Roberts has no updates for High-Needs Shelter at this time and referred this subject to Jim Salio.

Jim Salio reports: The Probation Dept. is expecting representatives from the CA Dept. of Social Services (DSS) Licensing Division to tour the Coastal Valley Academy on February 19th at 9:00 A.M. This visit will allow DSS to assess and verify the possibility of transitioning the facility into a licensed, secured Community Treatment Facility (CTF) for juveniles. Representatives from CSN are encouraged to attend the tour, which will begin at the Juvenile Hall. Currently, there's a budget for a contractor to facilitate a pediatric PHF (Psychiatric Health Facility), however, the cost to renovate the Juvenile Hall facility, including the potential for approval, is unknown. Jim Salio will set a meeting with Wade Horton to discuss the possibility. CSN will revisit this issue at the next quarterly meeting in May 2020, writing a letter of support if requested.

Information/Discussion Items: Child Abuse Prevention Plan – Lisa Fraser

The 2018/2019 referrals and substantiated child abuse cases confirmed that the North County of San Luis Obispo had the highest rates of child abuse. One year earlier, Lisa Fraser and Belinda Benassi were tasked with establishing a Child Abuse Prevention Planning Team (CAPPT) to develop a Child Abuse Prevention Countywide Infrastructure. CAPPT has conducted an analysis of the current prevention services available in the county and the demographics of what part of the county is experiencing the highest number of child abuse rates. CAPPT is currently utilizing this information to propose a strategic plan to improve the Child Abuse Prevention Infrastructure. Initially, the focus would be in the North County to address their current needs, then a countywide plan will be established. A draft plan should be ready to share by August of 2020, hoping to have collective input from the CSN committee executive members.

Information/Discussion Item: Assembly Bill 2083 – Linda Belch

This Bill was sent from the State to both Social Services and Health Services agencies, regarding the new system of care requirements. AB2083 allows an opportunity for SLO County to create a system of care for children, specifically foster youth, focusing on prevention efforts and creating a "one door" path to assistance. The mandate of AB2083 is to have a MOU for all agencies involved, outlining how to work together via data sharing, screening and staff training. Locally, there's a core team which is researching guidance and creating a joint quarterly training plan for staff. The training would include an overview of DSS, Probation and Behavioral Health, focusing on how we work with families, incorporating trauma informed practices. The goal is for all new staff from partnering agencies to get an overview of how these multiple agencies work together.

Standing Agenda Item: Homeless Services for Children and Families – Laurel Weir

A contract with the City of Paso Robles was recently signed regarding the North County Homeless Services Program, with funding provided by the HEAP grant (Homeless Emergency Aid Program). This grant will allow the expansion of the ECHO shelter, adding 10 beds and increasing the hours to a 24-hour facility. In addition, the grant will pay for a newly constructed building on land donated by the City of Paso Robles, naming the new facility; "The First Step Housing Navigation Center". This facility will operate a daily dinner program and will have an on-site case manager, while half the year it will act as a warming center. An additional one-time only

HAP grant of 3.3 million dollars will bring overdue HEAP projects to completion, as well as initiate a priority project centered on the North coast, possibly between Cambria and Los Osos. HSOC is currently applying for the grant and expects to hear confirmation from the State by April, with a 5-year timeline to allocate the funds.

Regarding housing programs available to homeless children, the Department of Social Services provides a CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP). This program assists families who are living on the streets, in shelters, or who have received eviction notices. Families must be eligible for the CalWORKs program, which in turn, makes them eligible for HSP. The HSP can provide a security deposit and short-term rental assistance, as well as case management and support. This service helps to stabilize family housing with up to 2 years of assistance. However, there are a few gaps in the program, such as those who are undocumented are not eligible for the HSP. Additionally, there are smaller programs, such as the “Emergency Solutions” grant, which can provide rapid rehousing assistance for families, but with different eligibility criteria. The State of CA has recently made FEMA trailers available as additional shelter options. The County is asking primary shelters if they’re able to take the trailers, or how they can be used effectively, since they’re mandated to have full staffing, prove they have plumbing and electricity, and have an approved property location.

Standing Agenda Item: SLO County CSEC Collaborative – Linda Belch

CSEC has received 3 new referrals since November 2019 and January 2020. Currently there are 4 identified individuals in CSEC, 2 are placed out of State, one is AWOL and the last is in the AB12 program.

Program updates: CSEC is currently collaborating with the SLO Co. Office of Education to implement AB1227, which refers to prevention and education requirements. In addition, we’re looking for ways to incorporate the CSEC plan into development training for Foster parents, expanding voluntary family maintenance services to support prevention, adding a Youth Mentor, and exploring different harm reduction models, in order to serve this population.

Standing Agenda Item: Child Advocacy Center of SLO County – Lisa Fraser

The CAC Steering Team is in the process of clarifying the next step towards becoming a Child Advocacy “model”, incorporating best-known practices. The CAC is working closely with the CAIT manager (Child Abuse Interview Team) to clarify how to exchange information between SART (Suspected Abuse Response Team) and the Medical Examiner. The entire process must evolve into a system of support that connects families to services, while combining the protocols of each agency into one dedicated protocol for the CAC, specifically focusing on children. The CAC also recognized there is a need for a “Family Advocate” who would ensure the follow through for these families, connecting them with services in a timely manner.

Future Agenda Items:

- Clarification of approved bylaws and handout – Linda Belch
- CalWorks program overview– Jean Simpson
- Coastal Valley Academy/PHF update – Jim Salio
- High-Needs Shelter Care Update – Jim Roberts
- Child Abuse Prevention Plan Update – Lisa Fraser
- Crises Youth Triage Program Update – Anne Robbin
- LEAD Program Update – Dan Dow

Adjournment: 2:30 PM