

Approved 2/10/2006

**FIRST FIVE SACRAMENTO COMMISSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
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**MINUTES: January 13, 2006**

**Attending Members:** Al Blum, Ernie Brown, Terry Jones (Vice Chair), Matt Mengelkoch, Taheerah Mujahid, Theresa Roberts, Suzanne Skrabo, Amy Lin Tan, Steve Wirtz

**Absent Members:** Jude Antonyappan (Chair) (excused), Effie Hubbard-Ruggles (excused), Sharon Mamuyac-Floyd (excused), Tosca Toussaint (excused), Betsy Uda (excused)

**Staff:** Kay Merrill, Michele Watts

**Commission Staff:** Lin Batten, Erin Blount, Linda Fong-Somera, Debra Payne

**Guests:** Sheila Anderson, Katherine Arrue, Oralia Bermudez, Stephanie Biegler, Wilmer Brown, Blessilda Canlas, Connie Chan Robison, Shawn Edwinson, Karen Ellis, Jillian Faucett, Diane Keys, Michael Lawson, Meghann Leonard, Olga Lockett, Pat Mangan, Chris McCarty, Lourdes Ordon, Marilyn Ratkay, Angela Rosas, Bonnie Shapiro, Leslie Simmons, Sally Sutter, Cynthia Torres, Lynn Zender

Issues	Discussion	Actions/Recommendations
<b>1. Regular Business</b>		
Call to Order. Welcome & Introductions. Chair's Report.	Vice Chair Terry Jones called the meeting to order at 2:35 PM and welcomed members, staff, and guests. Self-introductions were made.  The Vice Chair did not make a report in order to allow more time for the Draft Strategic Plan agenda item.	
Commission Report	Executive Director Lin Batten reported that at its January meeting, the Commission approved Sacramento County's portion of the funding for the <i>Healthy Kids</i> product and administration.  Commission agenda and meeting materials are available here: <a href="http://sackids.saccounty.net/meetings/index.html">http://sackids.saccounty.net/meetings/index.html</a>	
Community Building Initiative	Program Planner Linda Fong-Somera reported that the next micro and mini grant application deadline is Wednesday, February 1, 2006 at 5 PM.	
Minutes of December 9, 2005	The Minutes of December 9, 2005 were approved as written.	<b>M/S</b> Ernie Brown/ Matt Mengelkoch to approved the Minutes of December 9, 2005 as written. <b>Approved.</b>
<b>2. First 5 Sacramento Commission Draft Strategic Plan Update for 2007/08 – 2009/10</b>		
Discussion of Draft Update & Public Comment Received To Date	<u>Content of the Draft Update</u> Michele presented the Results-Specific Approaches and Initiatives.  <u>Comments from Member Advisory Boards</u> Michele presented the following comments from the MABs:  <i>Adult &amp; Aging Commission</i> No presentation or public comment. The Adult & Aging Commission did not meet as a whole or in any appropriate subcommittee during the public comment period.  <i>Alcohol &amp; Drug Advisory Board</i> The AOD Board voted to authorize its executive committee to draft a letter recommending an integrated approach of addressing substance abuse, including co-occurring disorders, across all of the Commission's approaches and initiatives: Substance abuse plays a major role in child abuse and neglect, including child abuse and neglect deaths. The board expressed concern about the absence of a substance abuse priority in the 2007-2010 plan, given the fact that the current Strategic Plan includes the	

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	<p>priority, "Decrease the number of injuries and deaths in prenatal and children 0-5 by reducing substance abuse among parents and childcare providers."</p> <p><i>Children's Coalition Executive Committee</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Effective Parenting efforts must be linguistically and culturally appropriate and respectful.</li> <li>➤ The high rate of SIDS in Sacramento County should be addressed.</li> <li>➤ The desire for safer neighborhoods expressed in the Community Survey should be addressed.</li> <li>➤ Affordable, decent housing is a core component to child health and well-being.</li> <li>➤ The plan reflects a commitment to the prevention of child abuse and neglect.</li> <li>➤ Family Resource Centers and home visitation are good programs.</li> </ul> <p><i>Disability Advisory Committee</i></p> <p>No presentation or public comment. The Disability Advisory Committee did not have room on its agenda or on the agenda of any appropriate subcommittee during the public comment period.</p> <p><i>Human Services Coordinating Council</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Good to see the focus on families in this plan</li> <li>➤ Given that substance abuse is a major factor in child abuse and neglect, it should be explicitly addressed in the plan.</li> <li>➤ The plan provides a good structure for making funding decisions for 2007-2010.</li> </ul> <p><i>Mental Health Board</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Pleased to see that the plan reflects the need for mental health services in the Health Initiative.</li> <li>➤ Recognize that parent and child mental health are strongly connected when it comes to young children. Addressing a parent's mental health needs is part of ensuring the mental health of a child.</li> </ul> <p><i>Public Health Advisory Board</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Attend to the potential conflicts between supporting parents and interfering in family life under the Effective Parenting Initiative. Support programs or activities where parents provide support to one another (peer mentoring approach).</li> <li>➤ Address immunization rate deficiencies in Sacramento County.</li> </ul> <p><u>Public Hearings</u></p> <p>Commissioner Marilyn Ratkay expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to hear from the public at the hearing she attended on Tuesday, January 10, 2006.</p> <p>The following Advisory Committee members attended one or both public hearings: Al Blum, Ernie Brown, Sharon Mamuyac-Floyd, Suzanne Skrabo, Amy Lin Tan, and Steve Wirtz. Several of these members shared their observations and impressions about the public comment, noting the following: (1) Respect for the courage of parents who spoke in a situation they were not experienced in was expressed; (2) A variety of comments were made in addition to the many people who came to speak about the Effective Parenting Initiative; and (3) the high turnout of consumers to speak about the Effective Parenting Initiative at the hearing was a demonstration of community empowerment.</p> <p><u>Member Comment on the Draft Update</u></p> <p>Regarding Result R16 in the strategic hierarchy, "increase caregiver use of developmentally appropriate practices: The use of "developmentally appropriate practices" should be better defined; consider language such as "practices shown to be effective in promoting child well-being."</p> <p>There is a significant disparity between the funding for Access to Quality Early Care and Education and the School Readiness Initiative: \$3 million and \$13 million respectively. Given that 40% of children in Sacramento County are enrolled in preschool/ 60% are not, shouldn't there be a closer balance in terms of funding for these two areas? How will children outside of the school-based system be served?</p>	
Call for Additional	The Vice Chair opened the public comment session. The following comments were made (speakers' names and key topics are presented in	

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Public Comment	<p>bold print):</p> <p>- <b>Sheila Anderson</b>, Chair, Family Support Collaborative</p> <p>The recommended approximate allocation for the proposed <b>Effective Parenting Initiative</b> represents a cut to community infrastructure and the continuum of services for families. The recommended allocation should be increased to \$12 million. The currently funded <b>Birth &amp; Beyond</b> program leverages funding; if it is not funded in the next cycle, Sacramento County will lose an additional \$8 million. At this point in time, funding to replace the Commission’s investment in this program is not available.</p> <p>- <b>Dr. Angela Rosas</b>, Chair, Child Death Review Team</p> <p>The <b>Birth &amp; Beyond</b> Family Resource Centers support families.</p> <p>Sacramento County has seen a reduction in child abuse and neglect homicides in the past ten years, due to community programs such as those funded by the Commission. However, Sacramento County has the third highest rate of child abuse and neglect morbidity in the state; effective parenting can reduce and prevent child abuse and neglect. The recommended approximate allocation for the proposed <b>Effective Parenting Initiative</b> should be increased to \$12 million.</p> <p>From a pediatrician’s perspective, there is not enough time to address all of the important child health issues, such as asthma, during office visits; this is something on which community based Family Resource Centers can educate parents.</p> <p>Allow for applications from one agency to be submitted across the results-specific approaches and initiatives.</p> <p>- <b>Wilmer Brown</b>, Mutual Assistance Network</p> <p>The parent voice was heard at the hearing on Tuesday evening (Public Hearing # 2). As a provider, I see a system of care and collaboration that is now in place as a result of the Commission’s current funding of the <b>Birth &amp; Beyond</b> Family Resource Centers. The Family Resource Centers serve as a basis of operation for the resources that families need, such as health care. Approximately 16,000 – 24,000 have received assistance at MAN. The recommended approximate allocation for the proposed <b>Effective Parenting Initiative</b> should be increased.</p> <p>- <b>Oralia Bermudez</b>, La Familia</p> <p>We need to continue the existing infrastructure to meet the needs of isolated families. The <b>Birth &amp; Beyond</b> Family Resource Centers are the doors to our community. Without them, we would not know where to go. The recommended approximate allocation for the proposed <b>Effective Parenting Initiative</b> should be increased and agencies should be permitted to apply for funds across the results specific approaches and initiatives.</p> <p>- <b>Chris McCarty</b>, Sacramento Children’s Home</p> <p>Increase the recommended approximate allocation for the proposed <b>Effective Parenting Initiative</b>. The <b>Birth &amp; Beyond</b> Family Resource Centers are extended families and the whole is more than the sum of its parts.</p> <p>- <b>Diane Keys</b>, Folsom Cordova Schools Foundation</p> <p>Increase the recommended approximate allocation for the proposed <b>Effective Parenting Initiative</b>. The Commission enabled the creation of the <b>Birth &amp; Beyond</b> Family Resource Centers and the community does not want to lose these. They provide the opportunity for families to get the services they need through “any door.” We have already been through site reduction (Arden Arcade Birth &amp; Beyond closure) and do want to lose any more.</p>	

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	<p>- <b>Lynn Zender</b>, The Effort &amp; Family Service Agency</p> <p>I administered the closure of the Arden Arcade <b>Birth &amp; Beyond</b> and it was a very painful experience. I now work at the North Highlands sites and have seen community identity evolve at this site. Increase the recommended approximate allocation for the proposed <b>Effective Parenting Initiative</b>.</p> <p>- <b>Leslie Simmons</b>, Child Action, Inc.</p> <p>A letter submitted on behalf of Jaci White, Director of Community Services, Child Action, Inc., was read into the record. The recommended approximate allocation in the <b>Early Care and Education</b> Approach should be increased to \$5 million. The currently funded <b>Quality Child Care Collaborative</b> is a successful program and should be maintained.</p> <p>- <b>Karen Ellis</b>, Child Action, Inc.</p> <p>The <b>Quality Child Care Collaborative</b> provides information, education, resources, training, on-site technical assistance, and consultation to <b>Early Care and Education</b> providers. Quality child care refers to a continuum from home to school-based care and preschool. Providers have found the support from the QCCC incredibly helpful.</p> <p>- <b>Sally Sutter</b>, St. Stephens Preschool, Elk Grove</p> <p>The <b>Quality Child Care Collaborative</b> has been a valuable resource at St. Stephens Preschool. My preschool has 52 children; 12 have special needs. The QCCC helps keep children with special needs in the program by providing technical assistance and consultation. The QCCC also supports parents.</p> <p>- <b>Shawn Edwinson</b>, Cottage Kids</p> <p>The <b>Quality Child Care Collaborative</b> supports my center; I have had support from the QCCC eight times in the last year and a half. The QCCC helps keep children in their child care setting, addressing problems there with consultation. As an administrator, I have expertise in appropriate settings and human resources, but I don't have all the answers for each child at my site; the QCCC is a needed resource. The QCCC also assists in teacher retention by giving teachers the information and techniques they need to work with all children in the classroom.</p> <p>- <b>Jillian Faucett</b>, Beanstalk</p> <p>Beanstalk represents 338 children in 91 Family Child Care homes. The <b>Quality Child Care Collaborative</b> is a ready resource for our providers, enabling children to remain in their setting. The QCCC assists in the early identification of children with special needs. Beanstalk also participates in the Program for Infant Toddler Caregivers.</p> <p>- <b>Lourdes Sardona</b>, Sacramento County Office of Education Infant Development Program</p> <p>The <b>Quality Child Care Collaborative</b> is a valuable resource because it can assist in the integration of children with special needs into child care settings, but does not require a formal diagnosis to provide this assistance. The QCCC keeps children in their settings, provides education and training for parents and providers, and assists parents in getting appropriate assessments for their children when needed.</p> <p>- <b>Cynthia Torres</b>, Parent, CBI Grantee</p> <p>The currently funded <b>Community Building Initiative</b> supports families by putting money directly into the hands of parents and who have ideas for improving their communities. This is a very efficient use of funding that brings together volunteers; the small amount of funding (\$500-\$5000</p>	

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	<p>grants) goes directly to the community-planned projects. These grants also increase visibility for First 5 in the community.</p> <p>- <b>Bonnie Shapiro</b>, Shapiro Consulting</p> <p>Written comment was read into the record. Pursue community-driven approaches and strategies in the proposed <b>Community Connectedness Initiative</b> that will truly lead to Empowered Families.</p> <p>- <b>Connie Chan Robison</b>, Center for Collaborative Planning, CBI Consultant</p> <p>The currently funded Community Building Initiative has begun the work on the 2007-2010 goal of “Empowered Families.” Continue to fund this work in the proposed <b>Community Connectedness Initiative</b>. Parents connecting with one another is a key component of the current and proposed initiatives. Community building supports all the other results specific approaches and initiatives in the draft plan.</p> <p>- <b>Katherine Arrue</b></p> <p><b>Birth &amp; Beyond</b> has been very helpful to me as a mother of a premature baby. I am not from Sacramento, so I did not know the system to get assistance. I appreciate the weekly parenting classes, which help me with my baby and my older child.</p> <p>- <b>Michael Lawson</b>, Community School Solutions of California</p> <p>We have heard many compelling statements, at today’s meeting and Tuesday’s hearing, all of which document needs in our community. The difficult task is to determine priorities. The Commission’s Vision and Mission should inform this process. The <b>fluoridation</b> approach does not seem to be as important as the other proposed results specific approaches and initiatives.</p> <p>All public comments received by January 18, 2006 will be submitted to the Commission with the Draft Strategic Plan Update document.</p>	
Advisory Committee Formal Response	<p>The Advisory Committee raised several questions and topics for consideration, including (1) what role did the evaluation of existing programs play in the development of the plan and (2) given the many comments expressing concern about the potential loss of currently funded programs, what are the Commission’s expectations for sustainability and what responsibility exists to continue to support programs that leverage other funds?</p> <p>It was agreed that there was not enough time left in the meeting to discuss the Draft Update. Therefore, the committee voted to convene an additional meeting for this purpose. Michele will coordinate the scheduling of the meeting via e-mail; it will take place before the Commission considers the Draft Update for approval on February 6, 2006.</p>	<p><b>M/S</b> Theresa Roberts/ Al Blum to convene an additional meeting for the purpose of drafting a formal Advisory Committee response to the Draft Strategic Plan Update.</p> <p><b>Approved.</b></p>
3. Future Agenda Topics & Announcements/ Comments	None.	
4. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 4:10PM.	<p><b>Next Regular Meeting:</b>  <b>February 10, 2006, 1111 Howe Ave., Ste. 610.</b></p>