

HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATING COUNCIL

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Meeting Notes of July 10, 2008

Attending: Pamela Flohr, Trish Stanionis, Leoma Lee, Ernie Brown, David Ballard, Paul Tanner, Paul Lake (ex-officio)
Absent: Melinda Avey (exc), Linda Cook (exc), Mike Mendez (exc), Ana Negron, Joe Angeles (ex-officio), Lynn Frank (ex-officio), Penelope Clarke (ex-officio)
Guests: Jessica DeBauge
Staff: Alan Lange, Paul Hicks

Issues	Discussion	Actions
Introductions	Lynn Manchester submitted her resignation from the Human Services Coordinating Council and Mental Health Board.	
Approval of Meeting Notes of 3/13/2008	Paul Tanner and Lynn Manchester were not included as absent from the last meeting.	-M/S (/) to approve Mayl minutes with noted revisions; approved.
Chair's Report	<p>The monthly newsletter is scheduled to be released on July 14; submittals from the Member Advisory Boards are due by Friday afternoon. The newsletter is published the Monday after HSCC meetings (which will be the second or third Monday of each month, depending on how the calendar falls.</p> <p>Another notice was emailed to everyone regarding the mandated ethics training class. It must be repeated every two years, so those who took it originally are due to take it again by the end of the year.</p>	
Committee Updates	<p><u>Budget and Policy:</u> Focus is turning to the 2009-10 County budget. The Committee strives to bring in participation from all of the member advisory boards. The Committee will be looking at the budget, legislative platform, report card and how they all play together; also planning to host forums in each supervisorial district over the coming year. The next Finding Common Ground forum is tentatively scheduled for October 25.</p> <p>Announcement of a forum being put on by The California Endowment will also be forwarded on to all of the HSCC members. The forum is about the State budget and its impacts on Sacramento County.</p> <p>A meeting with Nav Gill and Sharron Dwight has also been scheduled to discuss the County Report Card and learn more about the process for how it is developed.</p> <p><u>Emergency Preparedness:</u> The committee has completed its efforts to meet with representatives of vulnerable populations and has identified what were perceived as the most critical issues. A report is being developed, and might be available for the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Human Services Element:</u> The group lacks participation from any HSCC members. David Ballard expressed an interest and encouraged all of the members to carefully review the Element document as well as the prior version of the Human Services Element.</p> <p><u>First 5 Advisory Committee:</u> The Advisory Committee completed its community surveying of issues most important to children and young families. The findings will be used in the First 5 Commission's strategic plan update. Statewide, the First 5 program has drawn attention by legislators looking to ease the State budget by raiding unspent First 5 funds. To take the funds away entirely would require a approval from voters, but it is an issue that is being monitored.</p> <p><u>Alcohol and Drug Advisory:</u> There are 3 initiatives on November's ballot: Non-violent Offenders Rehabilitation Act (NORA); Safe Neighborhoods; and Victim's Rights that are correctional in nature and could impact rehabilitation alternatives to jails and prisons. Particularly NORA, which is similar to Prop 13, but would provide much more funding.</p> <p><u>Adult and Aging:</u> The Commission held its last meeting at the Asian Community Center, one of the new Focal Points for seniors. It offers assisted living and is also looking to build low cost housing in the south Sacramento area.</p> <p>Heat wave s are an issue of concern for seniors and dependent adults. The Commission is particularly concerned about</p>	-Staff will meet with David Ballad to discuss the Human Services Element.

	<p>those living in SROs with limited mobility who might not be able to make it to the cooling centers in the buildings. RT's mobility transportation plan is currently being reviewed.</p> <p><u>Children's Coalition</u>: The status of children over the next few years is going to be important to monitor. Local and state budget reductions could have a significant impact. The Children's Report Card will be out in November. Child Protective Services recently was the focus of a series in the newspaper. The challenges are systemic and are not solely the fault or problem of CPS. There are inadequate supports required for successful outcomes. CPS has made tremendous progress over the past ten years, and it should be recognized for the positive strides it has taken.</p> <p><u>Disability Advisory</u>: Work continues with CalWORKS to improve job training opportunities for people with disabilities. Many individuals with disabilities are choosing to enroll in SSI instead of returning to work. It is the participants choice as to what they do: the County is required to inform participants of all their options. DAC is working with Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency to gain a better understanding of SHRA's disability review process to determine who they accept and who they do not.</p>	
County Updates	<p>Dept. of Human Assistance: If over the next 12 – 18 months, the budget continues as projects, DHA will likely have to change the way it does business. It could require a major overhaul of the departmental structure in order to keep serving all those who must be served.</p> <p>Dept. of Health and Human Services: No report; representative was unable to attend.</p> <p>Countywide Services Agency: No report; representative was unable to attend.</p> <p>Board of Supervisors: No report; representative was unable to attend.</p>	
Update from County Legislative Advocate (Leslie McFadden)	<p>A summary of the decisions made by the State's Budget Conference Committee was distributed. The report was produced by the California State Association of Counties. One of the big points of contention at the State remains raising revenue through new or modified taxes. Several possibilities have been identified for raising tax revenues, including new sales taxes or closing tax exemptions. To pass the budget, State requires 2/3 vote, so it cannot be done on party lines. HSCC discussed if it would be possible to do away with the 2/3 requirement and use a majority.</p> <p>The human services deficit issue needs to remain alive. Some projections indicate that Sacramento County may be missing more than \$50 million annually because the State is not adequately reimbursing for categorical programs delivered by the county.</p> <p>With several initiatives on the November ballot, a new process for reviewing and endorsing statewide initiatives was presented. Advisory Boards are included in the process. 11 initiatives will be on the November ballot, and several would lock in funding amounts for particular programs, which makes overall state budgeting difficult during deficit years because there becomes limited flexibility in budgeting decisions.</p>	
Announcements		
Adjourn		Next meeting: August 14