



CAC MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 12, 2019 2:00 – 4:00 PM
Cabrillo College, ECE Building Room 1508
6500 Soquel Dr. Aptos

- I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS
 - B. Griffin called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm and members introduced themselves.
 - D. Munoz shared there are several member vacancies in categories:
1 - Consumers, 2 – Child Care Providers, Category – 3 Public Agency Representatives, Category – 4 Community Representatives.
New member, Katy Chevalier, Workforce Development Board is going through the appointment process.
 - Members were encouraged to refer possible candidates to D. Munoz so the Executive Committee could contact them.

- II. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
 - Consent agenda items were not approved – quorum was not met.

- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
 - D. Munoz invited community members to address the council about child care issues that are not on the agenda. Please hold event announcements till the end of the meeting.
 - J. Weed Pomerantz, Positive Discipline Community Resources shared her experience at the Empowering People in the Work Place training. Information cards were distributed to the members.

- IV. GUEST SPEAKERS: FIRST 5 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY - DAVID BRODY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, VICKI BORIACK, SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER AND MEGHAN REILLY, QUALITY COUNTS PROGRAM MANAGER, "QUALITY COUNTS SANTA CRUZ COUNTY UPDATE."
 - D. Brody introduced staff members V. Boriack and M. Reilly.
 - M. Reilly presented an overview of the Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS). QRIS is intended to improve the quality of care in participating child care programs by focusing on several critical areas: provider education, environments, child assessment and screening and family engagement.



- M. Reilly believes the Quality Improvement (Q I) is the most important part of the QRIS system.
- V. Boriack presented QRIS historical background from 2012 – 2020. Santa Cruz joined a regional QRIS effort and is one of the smaller counties that helped shape the QRIS initiative as it currently exists.
- IMPACT (Improve and Maximize Programs So All Children Thrive) Initiative works to improve quality of life for low income families in the county through many different programs and resources. The IMPACT grant will end in June 2020. First 5 Santa Cruz County will apply for the next 2020 IMPACT grant when RFA's are released.
- D. Brody stated – that Santa Cruz County QRIS Initiative reached more family child care providers than other counties.
- M. Reilly shared that 95% of centers participating in QRIS are at tier 4 or higher.
- The QRIS participating programs have seen the quality of care offered improve through professional development training, coaching and additional resources.

V. GUEST SPEAKER: US CENSUS BUREAU - TORY S. DEL FAVERO, PARTNERSHIP SPECIALIST "PARTNERING FOR THE 2020 CENSUS."

- T. Del Favero stated the 2020 Census is social justice at work – our agency wants to make sure that Santa Cruz gets all the funding that the county should receive. Their intention is to have a full and accurate count of every counties population. Everyone counts.
- The Census is an opportunity to show the federal government who we are.
- About 1,000,000.00 children were not counted during the last Census. Young children were the most underrepresented population of the county and we intend to not repeat this over site again.
- The Childhood Advisory Council's role is critical. Your members are what we call "trusted massagers" that will connect families to the Census and help get them counted.
- There are Census resources available on the web site. Partners like First 5 CA developed family friendly and bilingual handouts for families.
- We encourage you to ask all "trusted massagers" to help distribute Census materials to providers, staff and parents.
- T. Del Favero mentioned the need for a grassroots movement at the early care and education level. Programs can easily reach out to families and talk about the importance of the Census.



- Other County's learned the Census Count improved their community and children's lives. Collectively they will set their kids up for success. By having greater access to free and reduced lunch, dental care, WIC Education etc.

An accurate Census count will result in more funding to critical services and resources.

- N. Young – do you have a sense that turns awareness to action?
- D. Brody shared that there is a Santa Cruz County Complete Count 0-5 Committee meeting on Tuesday September 24th from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

VI. CAC MEETING SCHEDULE DISCUSSION

- D. Munoz shared that the Executive Committee discussed whether it was time to change the CAC meeting time, day and frequency of our meetings?
- W. Gold suggested considering a morning meeting at 10:00 AM, when there is less traffic and it will give administrators and executive directors a chance to check in with their programs before coming to a meeting.
- It was shared that Monday's or Friday's were not good days for meetings.
- A member suggested using ZOOM web conferencing for members who are unable to attend some meetings.
- It was suggested moving the meetings to mornings - 9:30 to 11:30 AM or 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.
- D. Munoz if we should change the day of the meetings.
- Thursday's are a particularly busy meeting day in September.
- D. Munoz will share member's suggestions with Executive Committee members, develop a Doodle Poll the coming weeks and share the outcomes at the December meeting.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- L. Gonzalez shared that Head Start is looking for a coach. Please contact her if you have a recommendation.
- D. Munoz reminded members about the Central Coast Early Care and Education Conference on Saturday, October 5th from 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM at Cabrillo College, Aptos.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT



- Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Our Mission is to present a unified voice for an early care and education system that meets the needs of all children and families in Santa Cruz County.

Our Vision is that every child in Santa Cruz County has access to quality affordable early care education and after-school programs.