



To: David Twa, Contra Costa County Administrator
From: Kathy Gallagher, EHSD Director
Subject: Community Services Monthly Report
Date: November 2016

Camilla Rand, M.S.
Director



I. Good News Update/Accomplishments:

- On November 12, CSB held a Facilitative Leadership training at our Civic Ct. office in Concord. There were 16 parents and staff who participated in the training. The group included Policy Council members and CSB staff. Some of the training topics included 3 Dimensions of Success, Pathways to Action, and Forming an Agreement.
- On November 14th, education managers, Amy Wells and Jessie Black, held a hands-on training for all preschool teaching staff and site supervisors on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math). The training was held at the Pacheco Community Center for approximately 125 teachers and site supervisors. The training was dedicated to giving teachers additional knowledge and strategies on how to implement STEAM related activities in the classroom. Participants were given the opportunity to partake in hands-on group work which involved creating and building from various materials.
- CSB Head Start centers are having "community work days" now through December 2016. Parents and CSB staff are encouraged to spend a few hours to help beautify our schools. Activities for the volunteers include organizing book shelves, cleaning the yard, and other things that support the learning environment for children at that preschool.
- Three CSB Site Supervisors went to a Train-the-Trainer training in Oregon to learn about the *Make Parenting a Pleasure* curriculum to be piloted at CSB centers in February 2017. *Make Parenting a Pleasure* is a group-based positive parenting curriculum that is research and evidence based and promotes child and family well-being by focusing on parents and their strengths. The central theme of *Make Parenting a Pleasure* is that it values, respects and supports parenting. Staff shared their enthusiasm about the engaging activities to do with the parents once the trainings start. Parents will be introduced to the curriculum during their December and January parent meetings and the January Policy Council meeting.
- Parental Financial Education (Train-the-Trainer) training was held for CSB Site Supervisors and Comprehensive Services staff. The training was provided by Lauren Leimbach and Cristina Trujillo from Community Financial Resources. The training was engaging for the staff as they participated in role plays regarding money management and ways to keep track of how money is spent on a monthly, weekly, and daily basis. More trainings on Parental Financial Education are scheduled for 11/22/16, 11/29/16 and 12/1/16 to include the CSB partner staff and Site Supervisors.
- CSB Director, Camilla Rand, will begin *Communication Circles* during the months of December and January. These informal meetings at the centers allow center-based staff to hear updates and provide feedback.

II. Status Updates:

a. Caseloads, workload (all programs)



- o Head Start enrollment: 100 %
- o Early Head Start enrollment: 103.2%
- o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership enrollment: 103%
- o Head Start Average Daily Attendance: 85%
- o Early Head Start Average Daily Attendance: 86.3%
- o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Attendance: 86.3%
- o Stage 2: 338 families and 542 children
- o CAPP: 72 families and 114 children
- o In total: 410 families and 656 children
- o Incoming transfers from Stage 1: 17 families and 19 children
- o LIHEAP: 136 households have been assisted
- o Weatherization: 15 units

b. Staffing:

- o During the month of November CSB conducted interviews to fill various vacant positions. The Bureau hired 2 Associate Teachers-Project, a Teacher-Project and a Site Supervisor III. The Bureau continues to hire substitute teaching staff to build a viable pool of substitutes. The Bureau also actively recruits to build a pool of temporary child nutrition workers and clerical support.

c. Union issues:

- o CSB worked with the County Counsel on a respond regarding Unfair Practice Charge filed by PEU, Local 1 – CSB Site Supervisor Unit and a response was submitted to Public Employment Relations Board (PERB).

III. Emerging Issues and Hot Topics:

- CSB Director and staff attended the Bay Area Cluster 5 workgroup to discuss the Head Start federal poverty income guidelines and the continued difficulty in recruiting families within the Bay Area who fall within the guidelines. This meeting came after key CSB staff met with Senator DeSaulnier’s staff and shared the same challenges. The workgroup would like to engage CHSA Director and members to continue advocating at the national level to align Head Start guidelines with the State’s preschool program income guidelines, which is 193% of the Federal Poverty Line.

cc: Policy Council Chair
 Family & Human Services Committee
 Maureen Burns-Vermette, ACF