



To: David Twa, Contra Costa County Administrator
From: Kathy Gallagher, EHSD Director
Subject: Community Services Monthly Report
Date: January 2017

Camilla Rand, M.S.
Director



I. Good News Update/Accomplishments:

- CSB Director, Camilla Rand, and several managers, site supervisors and teaching staff attended the California Head Start Association's (CHSA) Annual conference the week of January 9, 2017. Participants received updates from CHSA's director and had the opportunity to attend several education workshops and exhibit halls, which provided developmentally appropriate practices, taught critical new skills, broadened one's awareness and disseminated valuable resources that related to children ages zero to five.
- Sung Kim and Christina Reich represented CSB at the California Head Start Association (CHSA) conference held at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento on January 9th – 13th with their co-presentation on *Managing Change with Data Driven Decision Making*, and Isabel Renggenathen and two CSB Site Supervisors presented on Conducting Peer Coaching Circles.
- February 3, 2017 – CSB, in collaboration with the Contra Costa Dental Society will participate in the annual and nationally recognized Give Kids a Smile Day, which promotes oral health care for children. Local dentists will provide on-site dental exams and fluoride varnish applications to children at five CSB sites. Comprehensive Services staff will support parents in need of obtaining follow-up dental treatment for those children in need. Last year, over 500 children received screenings and treatment and we are hoping to surpass that number this year.
- CSB and child care partners staff participated in the *Trauma-Informed Training* facilitated by Alliance to End Abuse. The training was design to build sensitivity among staff who work with children and families impacted by trauma. The staff also received tips on how to manage their own stress. The over-arching goal of the training is to promote a healthy and safe work environment.
- The East Bay Community Foundation gave the Lawrence Hall of Science (LHS) a small grant to provide free science workshops to Richmond Preschools. The collaboration between Balboa Center and the Lawrence Hall of Science is now in its fourth year of LHS bringing science experiences to our preschool classrooms. Over 100 preschool children along with their teachers actively participated in a 45-minute program that introduced them to various physical science learning experiences focusing on gravity. Balboa children and teachers are grateful to the Lawrence Hall of Science and the East Bay Community Foundation for providing them with the opportunity to experience science and learn about gravity in such a fun and meaningful way.
- CSB and Community Financial Resources (CFR) are collaborating to provide our families with a parental financial education program – *Family Financial Fitness*. CFR's parental financial education program (funded by the Anne E. Casey Foundation) includes group workshops and activities, participant materials and incentives for parents who are able to demonstrate beneficial money management behaviors such as setting up a children's savings account. Families



will have the opportunity to participate in the following three rotating modules: Setting Financial Goals; Taking Control of Your Cash Flow; and Banking and Credit. January workshops will be held in East County; February workshops will be held in Central County; and March workshops will be held in West County.

- CSB is excited to announce that we will pilot and offer the *Make Parenting a Pleasure* Curriculum to families. *Make Parenting a Pleasure* is a group-based positive parenting curriculum that promotes child and family well-being by focusing on parents and their strengths. The curriculum provides staff with resources and information to train parents on topics such as child development; parents as teachers; and positive parent and child interactions. Site Supervisors, Shawn Powers and Ellen de Senna and Master Teachers, Maria Rios and Alma Lyons were trained and are ready to assume the role of parent educators. They will implement the full curriculum in thirteen modules whereas all other Site Supervisors will offer components of the curriculum based on the interests of parents at their individual centers. Both will explore key topics and guide families to help them discover unrealized parenting knowledge.

II. Status Updates:

a. Caseloads, workload (all programs)

- Head Start enrollment: 100.18 %
- Early Head Start enrollment: 103.82%
- Early Head Start Child Care Partnership enrollment: 100%
- Head Start Average Daily Attendance: 62.2%
- Early Head Start Average Daily Attendance: 70.6%
- Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Attendance: 70.6%
- Stage 2: 313 families and 504 children
- CAPP: 78 families and 123 children
- In total: 391 families and 627 children
- Incoming transfers from Stage 1: 19 families and 20 children
- LIHEAP: 433 households have been assisted
- Weatherization: 28 units

b. Staffing:

- During the month of January 2017, CSB participated in a career fair in an effort to hire qualified temporary employees and build its substitute pool. The Bureau continues to schedule interviews to fill the Intermediate Clerk position. Interviews for the Administrative Services Assistant II position were held on January 23, 2017. A candidate has been selected for this position. Additionally an Oral Board for the Comprehensive Services Manager position was held on January, 26, 2017. The Bureau continues to actively recruit to fill vacancies.

c. Union issues:

- There are no current issues with the Union.

III. Emerging Issues and Hot Topics:

- Adequate staffing continues to be a challenge. Our program, along with other programs State-wide struggle to find qualified, credentialed teachers and supervisors. We continue to creatively recruit and grow our own through the Teacher Assistant Trainee program.
- Anne Linnehan from the Office of Head Start informed grantees at the CHSA conference that although there is not yet confirmation, we can expect a .19% reduction in Head Start and Early Head Start funding in 2017.

cc: Policy Council Chair
Family & Human Services Committee
Nicole Porter, ACF