



To: David Twa, Contra Costa County Administrator
From: Kathy Gallagher, EHSD Director
Subject: Community Services Monthly Report
Date: January 2020

News /Accomplishments

- Community Services Bureau (CSB) staff are gearing up for the Federal Focus Area Two review the week of February 10. Seven reviewers will be on site for five days to visit 56 classrooms, interview staff, parents and Board members, and review data to inform quality management systems and program services.
- In partnership with Counseling Options and Parent Education (COPE), EHSD's Children and Families Services, Child Abuse Prevention Council, the County Office of Education, Health Services and First 5, CSB celebrated January as Positive Parenting Awareness Month (PPAM). PPAM brings awareness to the critical role that parenting education plays in lives of families and the importance of de-stigmatization of the services they receive. CSB distributed calendars with family focused events, fun activities and resources to families at our directly operated centers, partner sites, and to community partners. Additionally, on Tuesday, January 21, the Board of Supervisors proclaimed January as Positive Parenting Awareness Month and presented a resolution to the collaborative partners.
- In December, Lifelong and La Clinica Dental vans visited centers in East and West County, and provided dental exams to a total to 93 children. Providing regular dental exams and referrals to families is a critical part of preventive health care. CSB is honored to be able to provide these services, and look forward to expanding them to all of our families during the Annual Give Kids a Smile Day, which will be held on February 21, 2020.
- In collaboration with Teachstone, CSB started two CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System®) Coaching Services for Early Head Start (EHS) teachers at our Partner sites. Teachstone is an organization that offers in-person and online training and coaching programs to improve student-teacher interactions. Angela Beeck, Teachstone Consultant, will offer an in-person training on *Making the Most of Classroom Interaction* (MMCI), to one of the groups, while the other group receives an online training on *My TeachStone Direct*. Both teaching teams are excited about the opportunity and look forward to bringing their learnings into the classroom.
- The Partner's Unit conducted a training for all EHS Family Child Care providers. The training was held on Saturday, January 11, 2020. It included a refresher on all content areas, such as, Comprehensive Services, Education, Services for children with disabilities/Mental Health and Child Safety. The Partner team also provided guidance to Family Child Care providers on the Federal Focus Area Two Protocols.
- The Economic Opportunity Council (EOC) is preparing for its annual Roundtable event for the 2020-2021 awardees of the Community Services Block Grant Funds on February 24. With the number of attendees growing each year, this year the Roundtable will be


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held at 500 Ellinwood in Pleasant Hill. The purpose of this event is to network, create a system of care among the subcontractors, and to share Census 2020 Outreach activities.

- On January 2, 2020, CSB was notified by the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) of a federal spending package which proposes an increase in 2020-2021 Community Services Block Grant funding. CSBG funds will be used to support existing programs that serve Contra Costa residents in four (4) areas: Employment/Job Training, Housing/Shelter, Food/Nutrition, and Comprehensive Health Services.

I. Status Updates:

a. Caseloads, workload (all programs)

- o Head Start enrollment: 100.15%
- o Early Head Start enrollment: 99.68%
- o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership # 1 enrollment: 97.22%
- o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership # 2 enrollment: 100.53%
- o Head Start Average Daily Attendance: 74.8 %
- o Early Head Start Average Daily Attendance: 77.21%
- o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (CCP) Attendance:
 - CCP 1: 84.46%
 - CCP 2: 73.80%
- o Stage 2: 530 families and 665 children
- o CAPP: 118 families and 224 children
 - In total: 648 families and 889 children
 - Incoming transfers from Stage 1: 18 families and 33 children
- o LIHEAP: 418 households have been assisted
- o Weatherization: 8 households have been assisted

b. Staffing:

- o During the month of January, CSB hired a Master Teacher, Infant/Toddler Associate Teacher, and a Child Nutrition Food Services Transporter. An Associate Teacher was promoted through the competitive County process to Teacher-Project.
- o Interviews were conducted to fill a vacant Comprehensive Services Manager-Project position and for a County temporary Translator to interpret to and from Spanish during parent meetings. The Bureau continues to interview to build its substitute teaching pool.
- o CSB is working with HR to open recruitment to fill vacant Administrative Services Assistant II and III positions.

c. Union:

- o Business agents for both Local 1 Site Supervisors Unit and the Line Staff Unit requested separate meeting to discuss matters specific to their members. Meetings are scheduled in late February 2020.

cc: Policy Council Chair
Administration for Children and Families
Program Specialist, Chris Pflaumer

II. Emerging Issues and Hot Topics:

- CSB has over 30 active vacancies and continues to struggle to find qualified teaching staff. Per the Department and Board's request, County Human Resources conducted a salary comparison study of teaching staff, nutrition worker and building services worker positions to determine CSB's comparability throughout the region. We are awaiting the results.
- The US Supreme Court ruled to uphold the public charge immigration rules proposed by the administration and although we do not know the timeline, there is concern that it will have impacts on the families we serve. Head Start is no longer included as one of the programs to be considered a "public charge", we understand that many of our families depend on the services that are included such as CalFresh and MediCal. EHSD released a press release stating that we are committed to continuing to support the needs of the communities we serve.

cc: Policy Council Chair
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