1470 Civic Court,
Suite 200
Concord, CA
94520

P: 925 681 6300
F: 925 313 8301

www.cccounty.us/ehsd

News /Accomplishments

- The Community Services Bureau (CSB) completed the Focus Area Two (FA2) Federal Review on February 14, 2020. During the weeklong review, eight federal reviewers visited 56 classrooms, conducted interviews with management staff, Site Supervisors, Lead Teachers, Board of Supervisors, Policy Council members and Head Start parents. Site Supervisors and teaching teams were excited to show off their classrooms and the wonderful activities that the children participate in. Although we are still awaiting the official report, we are confident that there are no areas of concerns as the reviewers were clearly impressed with our program, having several areas to highlight as strengths in their pre-report.

- The Office of Head Start (OHS) held an onsite review at CSB's Administrative office on February 24, 2020. Administration of Children and Families (ACF) Program Specialists, Chris Pflaumer and Rachel Gannon, met with the Director and several to CSB and YMCA managers to review documents and interview staff regarding the area of non-compliance as a result of a child being improperly released at CSB's partner site, the YMCA, in August 2019. The onsite visit concluded with a visit to the YMCA 8th Street center where ACF Specialists, CSB and YMCA managers were able to observe successful child pick-up transitions. We hope to receive the report of clearance within 60 days.

- CSB held its annual Give Kids a Smile day on Friday, February 21st. With the hard work of CSB staff and dentists within the community, 272 total children received an exam and fluoride treatment. Our goal is always to provide positive dental experiences to the children so they walk away with a smile!

- California Department of Education conducted a Federal Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act (IPERIA) review on February 4th, 2020. The IPERIA review consists of random sample file review in the following areas: Family's eligibility, child's attendance and agency's family fee collection process. We are pleased to say that no issues were brought to our attention and overall the reviewers were pleased with the file organization.

- Site Supervisors and Education Managers participated in their third training through the Lead, learn, Excel program. The training focused on data and how to engage teaching staff in site data analysis.

- CSB was randomly selected to participate in the Early Head Start (EHS) Family and Children Experiences Survey also known as Baby FACES 2020. Mathematica Policy Research is conducting the survey under a contract with the Administration of Children and Families' Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation department. The survey will collect rich data to better understand how EHS programs promote the development of infants and toddlers through responsive relationships among caregivers, parents and

children; comprehensive support to families; and the provision of quality child care and home visiting. Researchers will visit four EHS directly operated and partner centers, and our Home Visitor programs to interview teachers, parents. The survey will be conducted in late-March 2020.

- On Monday, February 24th, the Economic Opportunity Council hosted its 5th annual Roundtable Event at 500 Ellinwood in Pleasant Hill. Referred to as one of the most important events of the year, the EOC along with its community partners came together and share success stories, provide in-depth information on their services, and outcomes from the previous year. With the Census 2020 right around the corner, two EOC members discussed the effects of misrepresentation on federal funding and also shared resources that our partner could use to obtain outreach material.

- On February 18th, the Community Action unit submitted its annual Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) report to the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD). With the support of its twelve (12) subcontractors, CSBG funding was able to provide 500,000 pounds of food, Emergency Temporary Shelter to 83 at-risk youth and skills and competencies needed for employment to over 300 contra costa county residents.

I. **Status Updates:**
   a. **Caseloads, workload (all programs)**
      o Head Start enrollment: 100.3%
      o Early Head Start enrollment: 101.61%
      o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership #1 enrollment: 101.39%
      o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership #2 enrollment: 97.89%
      o Head Start Average Daily Attendance: 81.65 %
      o Early Head Start Average Daily Attendance: 83.01%
      o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (CCP) Attendance:
         - CCP 1: 90.52%
         - CCP 2: 82.58%
      o Stage 2: 540 families and 675 children
      o CAPP: 128 families and 234 children
         - In total: 668 families and 909 children
         - Incoming transfers from Stage 1: 20 families and 29 children
      o LIHEAP: 336 households have been assisted
      o Weatherization: 9 households have been assisted
   b. **Staffing:**
      o During the month of February, CSB promoted five Teachers to Master Teachers and two Infant/Toddler Teachers to Infant/Toddler Master Teachers. Interviews were conducted to fill two Child Nutrition Food

Services Transporter positions. However, no selections were made and the Bureau continues to interview to fill these vacancies. In addition, interviews are being scheduled to fill vacancies in various classifications, as well as to build CSB's substitute teaching pool.

II. **Emerging Issues and Hot Topics**:

- CSB is fully engaging in Census 2020 efforts countywide to ensure the hard to count population is reached. Activities include parent and staff education on the Census, self-help kiosks and CSB's largest centers and continued outreach through social media.
- Balboa's Heitor Cerrera, age 3, was killed by a driver as he was walking with his family. The CSB staff have rallied around the family, supporting them in various ways and grief counselors were disbursed to Balboa to support staff and families through this difficult time.

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