



To: Monica Nino, Contra Costa County Administrator
From: Kathy Gallagher, EHSD Director
Subject: Community Services Monthly Report
Date: June 2021

News /Accomplishments

- The new Executive Director of the Community Services Bureau (CSB), Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, went on his first of many site visits on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, to George Miller Concord. All of the staff were delighted to meet Aaron and were excited to show off their classrooms and the great work they do with children. Aaron was welcomed with banners and a custom made GMC t-shirt! During the month of June, Aaron visited 6 centers: 7 more go! We are looking forward to future site visits!
- The Economic Opportunity Council met the week of June 21, 2021 to create an overarching statement to drive their work over the next two years, which is as follows, *"The Economic Opportunity Council declares that the top factors in order to lessen the effects of poverty and foster the health and well-being of all individuals in Contra Costa County are (1) Affordable Housing & Shelter, (2) Food & Nutrition, (3) Mental Health Access and (4) Employment & Job Training leading to skilled-based, livable wage jobs. In addressing these top factors that have been compounded by the pandemic, we recognize that there are overarching systemic issues to meaningful access, namely service capacity limitations, delays in timely service response times, difficulties linking to appropriate, culturally competent services and service integration. Health and well-being refers to the recognition of poverty as a public health issue and that the health and well-being of all residents is an overarching concern as it relates to all priority areas"*.
- The Comprehensive Services team was recognized by the California Early Learning and Care Division in their Year End Celebration recognizing the heroes of early childcare; they were honored in a statewide celebration along with many other childcare partners.
- CSB's partnership with the Early Childhood Mental Health Program has been renewed for a second year, they will continue to provide MH services to CSB Countywide through a contract with Behavioral Health Services.
- Several staff attended the Virtual NHSA Leadership Education and Development Summit (LEADS) on June 22-24, 2021. The intent of the conference was to gain skills to lead with confidence as we emerge from the devastating effects of the pandemic. Inspiring words were shared by Yasmina Vinci, Executive Director of the National Head Start Association (NHSA) and Dr. Burgeron, former Director of the Office of Head Start.
- CSB is proud to congratulate Afi Fiaxe and Jennifer Kirby, Education Managers, for their participation and completion of the Program for Infant Toddler Care (PITC) training. Both are now certified trainers for PITC modules 1-4! PITC is a commitment to care for infants and toddlers in a manner that respects the diverse cultures, lifestyles, preferences, abilities, learning styles, and needs of the children and families served. PITC is responsive to what the infants and toddlers and their families bring to care and emphasizes relationship-based implementation strategies. We are excited for Afi and


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Jennifer to bring the knowledge and strategies learned back to the classroom to support our Infant/Toddler teaching staff.

- Three Teacher Assistant Trainees (TAT), who all currently work at our George Miller III location, have completed 12 units and therefore have completed our work study program through the apprenticeship track with Contra Costa College! This is such an accomplishment, and they completed their courses in a pandemic no less! We look forward to these staff applying for permanent Associate Teacher positions! Congratulations!
- The Community Services Bureau, in conjunction with EHSD's Fiscal Unit, is preparing to receive funds as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). These funds will benefit our 13 Head Start and Early Head Start centers, all of our childcare partner agencies as well as our community action efforts. We are thrilled to see the positive impact that these funds will have on our children and families!

I. Status Updates:

a. Caseloads, workload (all programs)

- o Head Start enrollment: 64.1%
- o Early Head Start enrollment: 88.8%
- o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership enrollment: 83%
- o Head Start Average Daily attendance: 79.6%
- o Early Head Start Average Daily attendance: 85.1%
- o Early Head Start Child Care Partnership attendance: 82.8%
- o Stage 2: 377 children
- o CAPP: 346 children
 - In total: 723 children
 - Incoming transfers from Stage 1: 12 children
- o LIHEAP: 114 households have been assisted
- o CARES LIHEAP: 86 households served
- o Weatherization: 7 households served

b. Staffing:

- o During the month of June, CSB hired an Executive Director, Departmental Fiscal Officer, two Accountant IIIs, an Administrative Assistant, Teacher Assistant Trainee and an Associate Teacher-sub. The Bureau also processed temporary upgrades and extensions. For all other vacancies, the Bureau is working through the established process to fill vacancies permanently or by TU with support from EHSD Personnel and HR.

c. Union:

- o There are no union issues to report

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

II. Emerging Issues and Hot Topics:

- There are no emerging issues and hot topics to report.

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