



Alameda County Child Care Planning Council
Committee on Special Needs
October 23rd, 2006
MINUTES

Attendees:

Kim Marshall	Child Care Links
Heather Lang	Bananas, Inc.
Jeanne Virgilio	Las Positas College
Karen Baas	Kidango
Mary Jo Bernardo	UCP

Barbara Garcia	DD Council
Helisa Katz	CEID
Sharyn McDavid	Alameda County 4C's
Kate Warren	FRN

Planning Council Staff: Angie Garling

1. Welcome and Introductions, Review Minutes & Agenda

Angie announced the ECE Fr All plan rollout and encouraged people to come to the upcoming meetings.

Jeanne announced that Linda Brault is her Committee Chair for the community college project initiative. Also, they are having their conference on November 4th, called Mind, Body, and Soul.

Karen said that Regional Center is really looking for speech therapists.

Helisa Katz said that the audiology center is open. Also, the newborn hearing screening is now universal for California. She passed out flyers for their audiology service. They have evening and weekend capability as well. They are also looking for a Teacher with Sunshine preschool. CED also got a grant to do playgroups for other hard of hearing clients. Next time they are going to Children's Fairyland, which will be open to a larger group. There is also a band for children called the Sippy Cups and they will be performing on December tenth, and CEID will be interpreting it. Angie also announced that Jill Ells is a member of the Leaderspring Fellowship.

Kate announced that they had their annual conference for Spanish speaking families, and over eight hundred individuals attended.

Mary Jo Bernardo said that they have launched their new program that is vendorized through RCEB for children with cerebral palsy or other similar types of disabilities for up to five children at a time. She handed out several flyers. Children have to be clients of the Regional Center. The Group gave her many suggestions for additional outreach. They are also having a holiday party to benefit the purchase of accessible toys. They are looking for a Santa who has experience with children with special needs. Angie will give Mary Jo Stacy Frauwirth's number.

Sharyn announced that they have a new training program with Linda Bringam, who created a one sheet list of all trainings. They are also starting a new support group for providers serving children with special needs. The yoga class has also been very successful. There are still two slots available.

Km had the ooey gooey lady com and work with providers. Mostly family care providers attended.

Heather announced that they are scheduling a two part training on asthma for child care providers in early December and early January. She also attended one of the Early Start trainings. She especially liked the Sonoma State professor who talked about cultural competency, Professor Ayala.

Barbara Garcia announced that the Autism Task Force is getting together a resource guide modeled after one used in San Diego County. She also attended the Friends of Children with Special Needs program in Fremont. They have afterschool, supported living, and day programs for adults. They would be a good group to include in this committee. They would like to have the Top Eight Questions translated into Chinese. Angie will talk to Sharyn about talking to Anna Wang.



2. Discuss “Core Competencies” for Inclusion Training

The Group discussed the draft inclusion statement. See the comments below:

They wanted to add more about policies before parents come in the door. Also, add something like, “you will notice that these are also principles of quality care. Kate thinks she has something like this at her office that is more child friendly. Also get KIT things from Sharyn and Beyond Barriers from Heather and Kate. (“A welcome from every child.”).

We also need to add something about how to offer training on inclusion. Show examples of policies. Full array of training opportunities, say something about the importance of training.

Second paragraph. Add sentence “When we say All children and families we mean ALL children, including children with special needs and disabilities.”

Then list examples, and add bullet about policies. Ask Orange County if we can use their examples.

“We believe training should be plentiful, accessible, offered at all levels, and all training on general child care topics should include training on inclusion. Special topics, such as working with children with cerebral palsy and autism, should also be available. Special topics supplement the basics.

Kate will play with the second paragraph to say something like Inclusive child care programs include all of the following: They sustain and enhance the general stuff and the ECE learning community.

Then we will list other resources, like the Top Eight Questions.

Email this statement to Kate and then Angie will send out a new version. Email training thing to Heather, etc.

After this is done, look at ways to get others to sign on, including First Five, etc. We’ll try to make the statement one page.

3. Regular Updates

Inclusion Coordinators dates: the Linda Brault training has 180 people signed up. There is also a training of trainers the day before.

Moving to Inclusion: The group having the ECMH consultants and /or the Early Childhood Mentors go. Angie will bring this to the EMCH group later this week.

ECE For All: see announcements above

Autism Taskforce: see announcements above

4. Set Agenda for Next Meeting, Adjourn

The Group decided to meet again on December 18th..

Future Meeting: Monday, December 18th at Alameda County 4C’s *2-4pm*****