

**Local Coordinating Committee (LCC)
Minutes**

Thursday June 8, 2006, 3:30 P.M.

Location: Imperial County Office of Education
FLC Room B (Building C)

Attendees:

Bruce Coon – IC Public Health	Denise Cabanilla – ICOE/SWBFR
Alejandra Pasillas – AmeriCorps	David Wise – ICDSS
Guillermo Garcia – AmeriCorps	Carmela Ruiz – ICDSS
Wendy Jensen – ICOE / IFRC	Ben Horton – CHARLEE Home
Janet Thornburg – ICOE / ICS	Joanna Ruiz - AmeriCorps
Georgia Christensen - ICBHS	Cathy Vizcarra - EDD
Mary Morris – Fact Center	Martin Medina – Clinicas De Salud
Lupe Garibay – Calworks	Maria Lara Wyatt – ICBHS A&D
Alicia Ruvalcaba – ICOE/SPFRC	Claudia M. Camarena - ICDSS
Cherly Anderson – March of Dimes	Deborah Zendejas – ICOE / SWBFR
Javier De Anda - CalWorks	Charles R. Cruz – ICDSS
	Vivian Perez - American Lung Association

I. Welcome and Introduction

Bruce Coon, LCC Co-Chair, opened the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves and identified the agencies they represented. There were 23 attendees at this meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes for May 11, 2006.

There were three corrections to the April minutes:

Page 3 should be TAY (Transition Age Youth) not TAG (Transition Age Group)

Page 4 San Pasqual FRC reported, not Niland FRC

Page 5 David Wise reported advertising at the movies not movements.

A motion was made by Wendy Jensen and seconded by David Wise to approve the May 11, 2006, minutes with the noted corrections. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Mentoring Children of Promise Program facilitated by Denise Cabanilla, ICOE

Denise gave an update on the Mentoring Children of Promise (MCofP) program and the need for mentors, especially males in the Brawley area. This program targets mentoring 5-15 year olds who currently have one or both parents incarcerated. Since the beginning of this program, presentations to recruit volunteer mentors have been made at most of the Valley's churches, groups, and organizations. Denise now is asking the members of this committee and the organizations they represent to volunteer as mentors and to help in recruiting mentors. MCofP staff are available to do a ten-minute presentation to recruit mentors, distribute pamphlets, and answer any questions at staff meetings. Also, if their organization is having an event, please contact Denise so that MCofP program staff can setup an information/recruitment booth. Denise distributed pamphlets with the telephone number: 760-312-6498 and email address: mentor@icoe.org for anyone interested in contacting the MCofP program.

A mentor must be 18 years of age or older, complete an application that includes his/her interests and activities to better match him/her to a mentee, clear a fingerprint background check, and agree to spend at least one hour a week with his/her mentee. Once a month, the MCoFP program plans a group outing for all of the mentors/mentees to attend. MCoFP tries to match a mentor with a mentee who lives in the same community, although many mentors do not mind driving to another town to meet with their mentees.

Each year the program recruits new mentees through referrals from schools, family members, and various other referring agencies. Currently, there are approximately 25 youth who need to be matched; but again, most of these are males who need male mentors.

The feedback from the schools, families, and referral sources is very positive about the difference mentoring has made in the youth's lives who are being mentored.

IV. Minor Consent (MediCal Option) by Charlie Cruz and Claudia Camarena, DSS

Charlie Cruz, Program Manager for MediCal Intake and Claudia Camarena, Program Manager for MediCal Ongoing, are interested in providing minors with continued ongoing MediCal services due to drug/alcohol use, without their parent/s income or knowledge necessary for the MediCal application. Applications have to be completed yearly and approved and currently the minors have to go through certification every month in order to keep the MediCal active. Since most youth cannot go after school without their parent/s knowledge, DSS is requesting assistance from the FRC's to provide use of their facilities where DSS staff can meet with applicants on campus during school time. CA Ed Code 40610.1 states that a student can be excused from class for confidential medical reasons without the parent/s or guardians consent.

Behavioral Health (BH) Drug & Alcohol, who counsels the students for drug/alcohol use, has been routing everything to DSS, but State Regulations state that an Eligibility Technician (ET) from the DSS should be doing the forms. The certification takes approximately five minutes to complete, whereas the actual application does take longer. Hopefully, the Access Worker from BH will have most of the application filled out prior to the student's arrival to cut down the student's time out of the classroom. A fax machine and enclosed room are necessary for the confidential needs of the student.

Currently sixteen school sites are participating in this program, serving 420 students countywide. However, the budget no longer permits the ET to go around to all of the sites; hence, the request for the FRC's to assist in accommodating the needs of providing a confidential room and fax machine. DSS would like for this to be done in August. The ages of the students eligible to participate in this program are 12 years and older.

Eight school sites will have a scheduled ET for their needs. They are Aurora, Calexico Community, Calexico High School, Willie Moreno Junior High, Calipatria High School, De Anza Junior High, Southwest High School, Del Rio.

It was suggested that DSS, BH, and the FRC Coordinators meet with the Superintendents at their next meeting in the fall to go over this item. However, in the meantime, the two agencies (DSS and BH) could meet with the FRC Coordinators to discuss this.

V. 10th Annual Interagency Youth Conference

Janet Thornburg would like designated persons from each agency to serve on the conference committee, such as Probation, DSS, BH, ICOE. Janet will send out an email asking for volunteers.

A. Date - October 11 or 18

B. Theme – Keynote Reconnecting with Youth

C. Location - CalWORKs

D. Topics – Repeat successful topics from other conferences plus suggestions, such as College Going Initiative; “My Space” predators; STDs and Teen Pregnancy; Drinking & Driving; Ice; Immigration/Customs & Emigration; and speakers with experiences losing loved one/s to drugs/alcohol or bad experiences of their own.

VIII. Status Reports on Previous LCC Agenda Items

A. Calexico FRC - Hortencia Armendariz

- No report

FACT Center – Mary Morris

- 108 families being case managed
- Recommended for funding toward continuing case management
- Quarterly parent meetings
- Provide family therapy, but still need to develop criteria

Imperial FRC – Wendy Jensen

- IID bills – 10-12 calls for REAP just this week
- Summer enrichment for Pre K – 6th grade youth will include bullying, conflict resolution, and prevention and awareness of substance abuse
- Superintendent went to the school board regarding the continuation of the FRC. It was agreed to continue the FRC for one more year and then reevaluate.

San Pasqual FRC – Alicia Ruvalcaba

- USDA Food Bank – 110 applications from the community
- Trying to start after school snack program with the USDA

B. ISC Coordinator Update

n/a

IX. Other Agencies Updates

- Girl Scouts will be closing their office in Imperial Valley (IV) at the end of June; however, San Diego Representative Jackie Benton will be in I.V. on Thursdays and can be reached at the same phone number 353-2840.
- Javier De Anda from CalWORKs announced that I.V. Transit in conjunction with the Spectrum Summer Program will be providing bus passes for youth ages 13-18 to get to the swimming pools and around the county this summer. Passes will be available at the City Halls. Once a pass is completed, the youth can fill out the registration card and be entered into drawings, which include four iPods.

Announcements

- AmeriCorps Team Leader Guillermo Garcia announced the Annual Recognition Ceremony for the AmeriCorps Members will be August 18. Since members have to pay out of pocket for this annual event, they are asking for donations of food, decorations and use of a facility. It was suggested that a letter of request be submitted to the IID-Public Relations for monetary assistance. Veteran’s Hall and the Methodist Church were two facility suggestions that might not charge for this event.
- Cheryl Anderson announced that the world’s largest baby shower, which will include an ice cream social, is being sponsored by the Breast Feeding Coalition and El Centro Lactation Initiative. It will be held in July at the fair grounds for moms and dads. Last year they expected 50 participants at Pioneer’s Hospital, but ended up with over 200.
- Vivian Perez announced June 15th is the Air Quality Forum at the Farm Bureau starting at 6:30 PM.
- David Wise announced that Children Family Services (CFS) received information for an application to develop a Kinship Services Support Services Center for relatives and caregivers of children who have been contained for counseling and group therapy. The center primarily would be operated by relatives and caregivers. CFS needs co-sponsors of any agencies to submit their Letter of Interest by Monday’s due date. Please contact Dave at 481-2009 or Peggy at 482-2014.

VI. Items for Future Meetings

n/a

VII. Next Meetings:

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| ✓ | September 14, 2006 | Farrar Leadership Center, Room B |
| ✓ | October 12, 2006 | 1398 Sperber Road |
| ✓ | November 9, 2006 | El Centro, CA 92243 |

LCC Webpage--<http://www.icoe.k12.ca.us/ISC/Local+Coordinating+Committee-LCC.htm>