

Local Coordinating Committee (LCC)
Minutes
Thursday January 12, 2006, 3:30 P.M.
Location: Imperial County Office of Education
FLC Room B (Building C)

Attendees:

Janet Thornburg – ICOE – ISC
Cathy Vizcarra – EDD
Carmela Ruiz – Social Services
Bruce Coon- IC Public Health
David Wise- Social Services
Monica Martinez- ICOE
Patricia Duenas- NFRC
Jose G. Carrillo- ICOE-GEO

Alejandra Pasillas-Americorps
Claudia Quiroz – ICOE - SWB&FR
Guillermo Garcia-Americorps
Fernando Moreno- Probation
Daniel Tewalt- ICOE
Maria Wyatt- ICBHS
Amelia Rosas Carlos- ICBHS
Raul Navarro- ICOE-SWBFR

I. Welcome and Introduction

Bruce Coon, LCC Co-Chair, opened the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves and identified the agencies they represent. There were 16 attendees at this meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes for November 10, 2005.

There was a motion made by Bruce Coon and seconded by Jose G. Carrillo to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Presentation of Mentoring Children of Promise by Daniel Tewalt

Daniel handed out a mentor handbook and reviewed the impacts of having a parent incarcerated, the program's goals, and the importance of having consistency that a mentor can provide. Daniel explained that the children being mentored are those children who have a father or mother who are incarcerated in a federal institution that are between the ages of four and fifteen years old. He reported that last year's grant target was to mentor two hundred children, one hundred and ninety eight children where mentored. This year's goal is to provide two hundred children with a mentor with carry over of fifty children from last year, planning to reach out to two hundred and fifty children.

Daniel reported that the national statistics showed that eighty percent of children who have a parent who is incarcerated will be incarcerated themselves by the age of twenty-one. Yet through the work of mentoring, it has been demonstrated that over eighty percent of children who have a mentor will either go on to college, plan to go to college, or have a goal in life.

IV. Presentation on the Introduction of the Drug Testing Program by Monica Martinez

Monica announced that Student Well-Being and Family Resources has been awarded a grant called Project TEST to provide voluntary drug testing services, which will be used in combination with other programs to reduce the incidents of students drug use. By reducing the incidents of drug use this will also lead to reducing incidents of truancy, disciplinary referrals, suspensions, and expulsions. If students are found in need of any type of

intervention, then the services will also guide the student and their parents to the appropriate services needed to help the student. Monica will be assist the participating school districts to develop and expand their student drug testing policies and provide them with any other assistance. This is a random drug-testing program, only for students involved in any athletic program or extra curriculum activities. Brawley High School will be working with this project first, since they have an existing drug-testing program already that they have been working with for a year and a half now. Due to the success of the existing program and the implementation of this new project, the community will be able to use Brawley as the model for other schools who are interested in creating a drug testing policy. Other schools that will be participating in the program are Calexico High School, De Anza Junior High, William Moreno Junior High and Holtville High. CalTest will be working with the program since they will be doing the testing. Students will be tested for amphetamines, cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamines, and alcohol, since these were the drugs that were used by teenagers in the surveys used to gather the data. The goals of the project are to create a drug free atmosphere within the schools.

Maria Wyatt encouraged the development of non-punitive drug testing policies.

V. Presentation of the Mental Health Services Act Community Report by Amelia Rosas-Carlos

Amelia provided the community update brochure and gave an update on The Mental Health Services Act. Amelia announced that a written report was created for the community, since they had not gone out to the community for about one year. She then proceeded with presenting the report, she explained what The Mental Health services Act is, how they learned what the community needs, who they hear from, what they learned, understanding what they heard, and how the information will be used.

Janet Thornburg said that the report is available on-line at <http://www.icoe.k12.ca.us/ISC/Agency+News.htm>

VI. Update and Discussion of Youth Services Resources Map by Janet Thornburg

Janet gave an update on the Youth Services Resource Map, which she has sent out repeatedly. She announced that she has sent thirty-six responses and only have received fifteen. Janet discussed that if problems arises to fill them out by hand and fax them over. Furthermore, Janet thanked those who have submitted the surveys. Janet requested the help of those present to find anyone who is not on the list, with this in mind several agencies were mentioned and will be included to the list. Furthermore, Janet also requested ideas on how to encourage people to respond. It was further discussed how to approach the next target group, which is the schools.

VII. Status Reports on Previous LCC Agenda Item

A. FRC Coordinator's Updates

Wendy Jensen reported being trained to do Reduce Energy Assistance Program Applications. A Services that is needed in Imperial. Wendy announced that they have been working with Center for Family Solutions to bring support groups to deal with adolescent

issues through support groups, meetings, and training. On January 31 of 2006, they will have a girls group, and on February 2nd of 2006, a boys group.

Raul Navarro reported that the Seeley FRC has been working with the community. Seeley FRC will be conducting the Asthma Fair. Dr. Baig will conduct those asthma screens. They are working with a Youth Advisory Committee for after school activities and the Center for Family Solutions is conducting anger management classes.

In San Pasqual Alicia Ruvalcaba is working with Youth Multi-Disciplinary Team Formation MOU's.

Patricia Duenas announced that 220 community members attended the Christmas event. An issue that arose was a shortage of toys. They will work on that issue for next years Christmas event. Niland FRC is continuing parenting classes and Second Step Violence in all the classrooms. They are also conducting support groups for Special Ed. youth. Patricia announced that they would be holding their third annual Children & Family's Health Fair in April.

B. LCC Co-Chairs and ISC Coordinators Reports

The Youth Organization responses have been very slow in coming in for the Resource Map. Everyone's responses are needed.

VIII. Agency Updates

Maria Wyatt reported there are now 16 schools with alcohol and drug treatment on campus.

IX. Member/Training Announcements

- WIC program will bring a psychologist from Mexicali next month
- Radio Show Calendar, English show on Thursdays and the Spanish show on Wednesdays. See the calendar at <http://www.icoe.k12.ca.us/ISC/Agency+News.htm>
- EDD Job Search Workshop are being conducted call the office for more information
- AmeriCorps is sending members to local schools to provide information on Martin Luther King

X. Items for Future Meetings

- Centralized (all programs) Child Care Eligibility List -CDS Update

XI. Next Meetings:

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| ✓ February 9, 2006 | El Centro, CA 92243 (312-6498) |
| ✓ March 9, 2006 | Imperial County Office of Education |
| ✓ April 13, 2006 | Farrar Leadership Center, Room B |
| ✓ June 8, 2006 | El Centro, Ca (312-6498) |

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

