

Minutes of the
Interagency Steering Committee
September 29, 2008

- CALL TO ORDER: John Anderson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., on Monday, September 29, 2008, in the ICOE Board Room, El Centro, California.
- Roll Call: Present: John D. Anderson, Yolanda Bernal, Amanda Brooke, Mary Camacho, Sam Couchman, Jerry DeMorse (for Ray Loera), Judge Donal Donally, Mark Gillmore, Victor Jaime (for Ed Gould), Ed Gould, Mike Kelley, Mike McFadden, Jim Semmes, Warren Sherlock, Debra Owen (for Gilbert G. Otero), Dr. Stephen Roeder
- Absent: Jose Guillen, Robin Hodgkin, Mike Horn, Norma Jauregui, Ray Loera, Gilbert G. Otero
- Others in Attendance: Gabriel Aguirre (IVROP), Leticia Ibarra (Clinicas de Salud), Pam Littrell, Amanda Occhiuto, Michelle Merino, Ken Phillips (Centinela Prison), Robert Robbins (IVROP), Gerry Uyeda (IVROP), and Theresa Bonillas
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Mike Kelley, second Victor Jaime to approve the minutes of June 30, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.
- ANNOUNCEMENT: Mike Kelley took a moment to announce that this may be his last or next to last meeting before the new Chief of Probation takes office and starts attending the meetings. Mike stated he has sat on the ISC Committee since its inception, 17 years ago.
- PROJECT SOBRIO: Gabriel Aguirre, IVROP Project Coordinator, gave a power point presentation on SOBRIO (Sobriety Results in Opportunities), a three-year grant to reduce alcohol abuse among teens. The focus is to provide effective programming and strategies aimed at reducing alcohol use and binge drinking. The targeted schools are Aurora High School, Desert Valley High School and Sam Webb Continuation School. The presentation explained:
- what binge drinking is
 - the effects of alcohol on the body and on the adolescent brain
 - how alcohol abuse affects teens
 - project services
 - challenge activities
 - universal activities for career exploration and leadership development

PROJECT PUENTE:

- project goals

Robert Robbins, IVROP Youth Development Specialist, gave an oral presentation on Project PUENTE (Positioning Unified Efforts for Needed Training and Education). Project PUENTE is funded through the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency. The Project will serve as a bridge by addressing the growing problems among young people by targeting 150 youth, ages 14-24, who are current gang members, gang involved, or are at high risk of gang involvement, within Imperial County.

UPDATE ON SARB:

Amanda Brooke reported that all school superintendents are committed to the Truancy Program and only need to have approval from their governing boards. Richard Dubbe stated that the Prison is ready to print the posters as soon as they know the size and quantities; he explained there will not be cost for the printing except to have the paper replaced. The size of the posters and the quantity needed will be determined and the prison informed.

ISC COORDINATOR/
LCC CO-CHAIR
REPORT:

a. LCC/FRC Update

Amanda Occhiuto introduced Yolanda Bernal, Co-Chair of the LCC. The next LCC meeting is scheduled for November 13. Amanda explained that a matrix of services being provided at the FRC's will be provided to the Committee.

Mike McFadden explained that the funding from the Alliance Grant for the Seeley FRC is expended, but that the new superintendent is very supportive of the center/program. Amanda stated that a plan of action for sustainability of the FRC will be on the October agenda. All in all, the FRCs are operating successfully.

b. Interagency Youth Conference

The Conference is scheduled for November 6th at CalWORKS. Amanda stated the registration fee has been increased by \$5 this year with a late registration fee for those who register after October 27th.

c. Meth Assessment

Amanda will be attending a meeting on October 15 in San Diego with the researchers for the project. She reported that the committee is close to ready to begin creating an assessment tool.

d. Family Justice Center

Progress has been slowed down because of funding. Amanda will take part in a webinar next this week which will be focusing on the Anaheim Center as a model.

Amanda reported that Jose Guillen informed her that AB1407 has passed and funding will be coming through. This funding will support the building and collaborative efforts for the new Family Court.

e. Mental Health Services Act

Amanda reported she has been asked to sit on the Prevention and Early Intervention Planning Committee. She has also attended the Community Forums that have taken place to gather community feedback about program needs.

f. DFC

Amanda reported that continued funding for 2008-2009 has been received.

ON-GOING
FUNDING SOUGHT:

Funding for implementation of Strategic Plan Strategies and FRC support funding.

FUTURE AGENDA
ITEMS:

1. Center for Family Solutions
2. Truancy Program
3. Expansion of ISC membership

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be Monday, October 27, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to bring before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.