

Minutes of the
Interagency Steering Committee
February 26, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: John Anderson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., on Monday, February 26, 2007, in the ICOE Board Room, El Centro, California.

Roll Call: Present: John D. Anderson, Bruce Coon, Jose Guillen, Robin Hodgkin, Victor Jaime (for Paul Pai), Sandy Liera (for Ray Loera), Mary Rangel-Ortega (for Mike McFadden), Dr. Stephen Roeder, Jim Semmes, Warren Sherlock

Absent: Robertta Burns, Ralph Cordova, Jr., Sam Couchman, Judge Barrett Foerster, Mark Gilmore, Mike Horn, Norma Jauregui, Mike Kelley, Ray Loera, Mike McFadden, Gilbert G. Otero, and Paul Pai

Others in Attendance: Krista Byrd, Anne Mallory, Alicia Ruvalcaba, Janet Thornburg and Theresa Bonillas

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES:

Motion by Jose Guillen, second by Stephen Roeder to approve the minutes of January 29, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

SPRING SURVEY-
IVC AND SDSU:

Krista Byrd, Behavioral Sciences Division Chair, IVC, reported on the Spring Survey of IVC and SDSU student use of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD). She asked the Committee if they would be interested in having sexual assault questions related to drug use on the survey. She stated that 75% of students are reporting this type of assault. It was the consensus of the committee that these types of questions should be asked but also stressed that anonymity must be assured so that the students feel safe in answering honestly and that there is no liability to the ISC.

Krista will have a draft copy of the survey sent to Janet who will distribute with the April agenda.

Mary Rangel-Ortega stated that the U.S. Department of Education will be awarding grants to fund the prevention of binge drinking on school campuses that IVC may be eligible to apply for with the information gathered on the survey which will show a need for this program in the County.

OVERVIEW OF
SAN PASQUAL
FAMILY RESOURCE
CENTER:

Alicia Ruvalcaba, Coordinator, San Pasqual Family Resource Center, gave an overview of the FRC and spoke about some of the services offered.

- FRC opened in May 2007
- Agencies represented at FRC:
 - ✓ Imperial County Behavioral Health
 - ✓ Department of Social Services
 - ✓ CalWorks
 - ✓ ICOE Migrant Education
 - ✓ Imperial County Rehab
 - ✓ Center for Family Solutions
- 140 referrals
 - ✓ 40 enrolled in Chat Program for Therapy
 - ✓ 15 families served for on going case management
 - ✓ 125 registered at One-Stop in January
 - ✓ 661 different services accessed
- Department of Social Services
 - ✓ 239 clients seen last month
 - ✓ Child care issues limited – centers are full
 - ✓ Child support questions
 - ✓ Medi-Cal
 - ✓ CalWorks paying child care services in Arizona
- Behavioral Health
 - ✓ At FRC every two weeks
 - ✓ Nurse has made 75 follow-up home visits and administers medication as needed
 - ✓ Pharmacy issues/filling of prescriptions has been resolved
- Food Bank
 - ✓ 32 families received assistance
 - ✓ Senior brown bag program
 - ✓ Back pack program for students
 - ✓ Hosting nutrition outreach
 - ✓ Different grades – different time schedule
- Campesinos Unidos
 - ✓ Emergency assistance given to 150 families during the winter months and 200 families received assistance during the summer
- The Child Abuse Prevention Grant
 - ✓ 40 children in the program
 - ✓ Reduce incidences of abuse
 - ✓ Charlie Gregg is here three times a week and sees 16 students a week
 - ✓ Students are referred by school psychologist
 - ✓ Students are assisted to fill out the Minor Consent paperwork

- ✓ Transportation provided three days a week
- ✓ Students transported to Behavioral Health
- ✓ Good response on program
- ✓ Grant is a yearly grant from the State of California
- ✓ Grant is in second year of operation
- ✓ Program is on-going as long as funds are available from the State
- Department of Public Health
 - ✓ Space is available now for delivery of dental services

RENEWAL OF ISC
COORDINATOR MOU:

Janet Thornburg informed the Committee that the MOU for the ISC Coordinator expires June 2007. She stated that the Drug Free Communities Grant covers the next four years. Student Well-Being wrote the Healthy Start Grant for Heber and the Coordinator position is written in for two years. This will help reduce the monetary contributions made by agencies toward the position. Agencies participating in the past are ICOE, Department of Social Services, and Behavioral Health contributing \$20,000 each. Public Health's contribution has been \$5,000 in the first and second three-year MOU. (ICOET and IVROP were also \$5,000 contributors in the first three-year MOU.) With the reduction, agencies contributing \$20,000 would contribute about \$17,000 and \$4,200 instead of \$5,000. Contributing agencies stated there was no problem with being charged the same amount. Janet will prepare the MOU and bring back to the April meeting for final approval and forwarding for signature.

OTHER:

Jose Guillen reported that Imperial County Court System is one of sixteen projects identified as being in immediate need of a Family Court and the Court's plans to purchase 20 acres from ICOE on property across the street from the current ICOE site to build a new court system complex. The complex is a \$34,000,000 project and the plan is to have it built by 2012. The planned complex may possibly house a cafeteria, gymnasium, child care center to provide child care to parents who are there for court proceedings.

He stated the courts are experiencing a shortage of parent education and anger management training. This problem could be remedied by obtaining those types of services from ICOE.

The courts have a need for Mediation Counselors and will be putting out an RFP for Family Mediation Counselors.

It was suggested that a letter be written in support of the concept for a new Family Court Complex and sent to our legislators. A

letter for signature by every department head will be brought to a future meeting.

ARREST TRENDS:

Janet Thornburg reviewed the Imperial County Juvenile Drug Related Arrest Trends with the Committee.

**ISC PRIORITIES
AND FOCUS:**

Janet Thornburg reviewed the Draft of the ISC Priorities and Focus for the next 12 months. She stated the top three priorities are:

1. The development of the Heber Family Resource Center (FRC)
2. The development of a comprehensive collaborative approach to address methamphetamine issues in addition to existing substance abuse prevention/
Education efforts (e.g., to support community adoption of the Social Host Ordinance)
3. School Resource Officer on school campuses/school in addition to existing efforts to address student health and safety

Janet did report that the planning grant for the Heber FRC has been submitted and will know in April if grant is awarded. The Department of Corrections has awarded an After School Program Grant to Heber.

Motion by Robin Hodgkin, second by Jim Semmes to adopt the ISC Priorities as presented.

There was discussion that #2 may be something to big for ISC to attain. What pieces of the statement are attainable? It was stated that one goal was to educate teachers about methamphetamine. It was suggested that the word “comprehensive” be removed from the statement.

Motion by Robin Hodgkin, second by Jim Semmes to amend the language of Priority #2 by removing the word “comprehensive”. Motion carried unanimously.

Jim Semmes asked that the Committee review quarterly the progress of the adopted priorities.

LCC/ISC REPORT:

LCC

Bruce Coon reported that LCC met on February 8 and the following presentations were made at the meeting:

- After School Program – Mary Rangel Ortega
- Interagency Youth Conference – Jose Carrillo

- How Safe is Your School? – Janet Thornburg

Janet Thornburg reported that attendance at the meetings has been decreasing. The LCC meets on a monthly basis and gets updates from the FRCs and other presentations. Community based representatives have dropped out and are not attending the meetings.

Janet stated that the mission of the LCC is to support the ISC and take direction from the ISC. She said it might be time to consider changing the LCC model and maybe think about holding quarterly meetings instead of having LCC meet monthly. It could be a two-hour meeting with an informational speaker and discussion regarding policy issues. Janet stated that ISC has not directed LCC with any tasks recently. Janet will send out a list of LCC representatives/alternates currently serving to agencies for an update.

It was suggested that the IVC surveys may be assigned to LCC. It was also the consensus of the Committee that without assigned tasks from ISC the LCC could meet quarterly and monthly if the LCC has been assigned a task and it is being worked on.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held Monday, March 26, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to bring before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.