



El Cajon Collaborative Council Meeting

October 6th, 2009 Meeting Notes

12:30 – 2 PM

Meeting Purpose: *To engage service-delivery staff and community members in resource sharing, networking, and action to benefit the youth and families of the El Cajon Community.*

I. Welcoming Remarks & Introductions

Pam Toohey was unable to lead the meeting due to her child being ill, so Lea Bush welcomed everyone and facilitated short introductions.

II. Collaborative Updates

- Lea introduced the draft framework for the El Cajon Collaborative strategic plan and invited anyone to share comments and/or questions. A survey is being developed to solicit more specific feedback on the El Cajon Collaborative and will be available in the next few months.
- Lea also announced new Be Well Classes from 5-6PM on Thursday evenings at the Meridian Baptist Church a flier was distributed.
- Kara Vickery was not available to share information on the Newcomer Support work group, Lea shared that this work group meets the first Thursday of each month at the Cajon Valley School District Offices from 10:30-noon. Currently the group is focused on finding resources to increase ESL class capacity and advocacy for funding.
- Tiffany Atalla and Lindsley Shaw from the Community Services for Families (CSF) program shared that they currently have 16 prevention, 20 voluntary and 22 dependency cases and that they are in need of double strollers, car seats, beds and bed frames. They are also looking for holiday donations and individuals who would be willing to “adopt a family” for the program.

III. Presentation – Domestic Violence and Healthy Relationships

Ma’at Crook from Center for Community Solutions and Laura Carter an East Region Public Health Nurse both shared information on domestic violence and healthy relationships. They presented a “Power and Control” wheel which summarizes the tactics used by perpetrators of abuse and violence in the home. They also shared a video and an interactive activity to demonstrate the damaging nature domestic violence can have on our community members.

IV. Community Announcements, Resource Sharing & Other News

- Joyce Moore from Institute for Public Strategies shared a little about the crime free multi-housing ordinance that she is working on with the El Cajon Police Department.
- Carmen Chávez from Sunset Bay Academy shared that her therapeutic boarding school for teens is now working with Alliant University psychiatry interns. They are also working on coordinating a tour of the school for the community.
- Tonya Lolin from Mental Health America announced the annual Behavioral Health Conference on October 21st in San Diego.
- Honey Hira from Volunteers in Medicine, shared that 20 volunteers helped re-paint their clinic last week and also announced their Fall Festival coming up on October 17th.
- Gina Fiore with San Diego Workforce Partnership shared about her work in career assistance with youth ages 18-25+ and announced the upcoming College and Career Fair for graduating seniors on October 21st at Cuyamaca.
- Christopher Edwards from AKA Headstart shared about their 12 sites in East County.

Community Announcements, Resource Sharing & Other News Continued...

- Gwen Johnson from the Bethlehem Food Pantry at First United Methodist Church notified everyone that they offer free bread on Mondays and Saturdays from 9AM-12PM and also they are a pick up site for the Golden SHARE program, which offers affordable and high quality food for half the cost of a grocery store.
- Julie Eramo from CASA is recruiting for their Students Against Alcohol and Drugs (STAAND) program which offers a public health internship for high school students.
- Elaine McLevie from the Episcopal Refugee Network noted that their services are continuing to expand in the El Cajon area, with high demand for jobs for limited English speakers as well as sewing machines that can be donated.
- Corina Klepper from Home-Start noted that Healthy Families is open and she and Rocio Abarca of Neighborhood Healthcare are Certified Application Assistants who are available to help with families who are looking for health care coverage.
- Mark Skok from Neighborhood Healthcare shared that he supports the health educators and is doing a teen pregnancy program.
- Maegan Sakievich from Army OneSource is looking for more ways to connect military families with community services.
- Tracy Wilson from Grossmont Union High School District, Project SHIELD also announced the College Career night on October 21st and shared that they are looking for more outside resources to be a part of the event.
- Brenna Ring from the Rancho San Diego Library Branch announced their October events, including job search classes, Breast Cancer Awareness clinics and ESL conversation clubs.
- Denise Valence from Set Free Ministries shared about their Family Restoration Program which offers transitional living for about \$200 per week, the family needs to have a plan of where they will be transitioning to after 28 days. She also shared about their year long commitment for a young men's/women's faith based program.
- Romalyn Watson from East Region Health and Human Services shared that tomorrow at the El Cajon Family Resource Center there will be free depression screenings from 8:30am-12:30pm.
- Bisma Coda from Chaldean-Middle Eastern Social Services shared about their services for Arabic Speakers and that they can help with food stamps screening as well as healthy family applications.
- Denise Garcia from East Region Neighborhoods for Kids discussed using videos to help prevent child abuse.
- Eva Gutierrez from Family Health Centers of San Diego shared the comprehensive prenatal program that includes classes and healthcare services for pregnant women. She also announced that the Chase Avenue clinic now offers Saturday hours from 8:30AM-12:20PM.
- Erica Nagy from El Cajon CDC announced the upcoming Saturday Morning Clean Up on October 24th, the Trunk or Treat program on October 28th, and the Utility Art program which is collecting applications until October 31st.
- Janet Middleton from Cajon Valley Union School District shared that they now have 76 documented homeless students and that at this time last year they only had 14.
- Barbara Magoffin from Together We Grow shared about their services for medically fragile children, including pre-school and daycare.
- Cheryl Cosart from the El Cajon Library Branch shared that they are also hosting a mammogram clinic on October 17th, more library events can be found on www.sdcl.org. Additionally, they can offer an 80 person and 8 person conference room for non-profit organizations.

Next Meeting: November 3rd, 2009