



**El Cajon Collaborative
Core Team Meeting Notes
March 16th, 2009**

In attendance: Suzanne Moser, Tammie Glowacki, Rosa Ana Lozada, Paula Guerra (for Laura Mustari), Leslie Luna, Joe Eberstein, Tamara Van Ness, Barbara Ryan, Nancy Saint John, and Steven Jellá.

I. Approval of February Meeting Notes

The February meeting notes were reviewed and no changes were made.

II. Smoke-Free Multi- Housing Resolution

This discussion was rescheduled to the next meeting. The speaker has a meeting that ends at 10:30AM and will not be able arrive until 11AM.

III. Updates on changes in regional services

- Institute for Public Strategies (IPS) noted that law enforcement partners are experiencing cut-backs which is impacting the prevention work that they are able to do. IPS is supporting additional work as they can and also providing assistance with Neighborhood Forums in Lakeside and Spring Valley.

- Home Start is able to offer parenting classes in Arabic and Spanish at Lexington Elementary School.

- El Cajon Branch Library is experiencing more mentally-ill and/or drug-addicted individuals in the library. A while ago, they reduced library staff in order to hire a security guard.

- McAlister Institute is still waiting to hear back from the County regarding some RFP's that they have proposed services for. However, they have started laying off some staff as a result of cuts and they are possibly going to move their offices. They are offering a new program for men/women who want residential treatment which has a cost of \$45 per day. They are still able to offer discounts on drug testing for students at local school districts.

- Probation Department, has not had any specific cuts in East Region yet, but they are waiting for more information and likely will be downsizing programs to provide mostly mandated programming.

- San Diego Youth Services (SDYS) is getting creative to deal with cuts and shuffling services and staff. They have been able to replace some services, but are looking for tough times ahead. They are also waiting on grants/RFPs to be awarded.

- Suzanne Moser is still able to offer her class on "What to Do When Your Child Gets Sick" for free through the Collaborative and also noted that First 5 kits recently became available again.

- Harmonium, Inc. is experiencing some reductions, but also some increases. They are being very mindful of planning and will be able to continue their partnership with El Cajon Police and the first time offender program.

- Rady Children's Hospital has had cuts in child abuse prevention and Medi-Cal. They are surviving with the cuts, despite 55-60% of their population is insured through Medi-Cal.

Vision: Through our collaboration, El Cajon's children, youth and families are safe, empowered and thriving.

Mission: The El Cajon Collaborative builds relationships, leverages resources and promotes best practices to enhance the quality of life for children, youth and families in our community.

IV. Strategic Planning

The team reviewed the work that has been done thus far on the Strategic Plan and agreed to take on the objectives and goals for “Collaborative Structure” as well as “Operational Priorities” (which had previously been assigned to an ad-hoc team). The Core team updated the timelines on the action plan charts and moved to begin discussion on the Guidelines review as well as increasing parent/community members in the Collaborative. The current Operational Guidelines will be sent prior to the meeting next month so that representatives can review in advance.

V. Updates from the Coordinator

- Lea distributed a new “Coordinator’s Report” which summarizes key work by the Coordinator for the past month. The report does not currently include resources distributed by the Coordinator used by outside entities, but she would like to find a way to include that information. Rosa Ana asked that everyone consider how that may function in their entities and then we would have more discussion in April. A recommendation was made to include the topics for resource requests by staff and clients in a quarterly summary. Lea will add this and also plans to share at the upcoming Executive Team meeting.
- East Region Collaborative Network (ERCN) meeting is this coming Thursday, March 18th at 10:30AM.
- The Grants/MOUs/Letters of Support chart was reviewed.

VI. Team/Work Group Reports

- A. Finance Team report came from Barbara Ryan who noted that we are on track to do very well for 2009-10 Fiscal Year. She also discussed that the capital campaign for Little House has yielded about \$5000 from Partner organizations. We still have follow-up to do with a few representatives of the Executive Team.
- B. Personnel has met to discuss the Coordinator’s role and shared duties with LH Avocado, Inc. They are looking at potential changes to the job description and recommendations to Executive Team probably in July.
- C. For an update on Council, Lea pointed to the Coordinator’s report which noted that there were almost 50 participants at the March meeting where Newcomer Resources were discussed. A Power Point of the presentation is available online:
http://www.elcajoncollaborative.org/uploads/1/4/1/5/1415935/newcomer_resources_presentation_3.10.pdf