



**El Cajon Collaborative
Core Team Meeting Notes
December 15th, 2009**

Meeting Purpose: To provide oversight and direction for the interagency partnerships and implementation of initiatives in the Collaborative.

In attendance: Barbara Ryan, Debbie Comstock, Nora Cole, Paula Guerra (for Laura Mustari), Rosa Ana Lozada, Steven Jellá and Tamara Van Ness.

I. Welcome & Sharing Positives

Rosa Ana Lozada opened the meeting with roundtable introductions and sharing of positive actions.

II. Approval of November Meeting Notes

The November meeting notes were approved. Lea was reminded to send the link to the Oral Health Promotional Packet created by the East Region Collaborative Network (ERCN) when the next set of notes is available. The packet can be found here:

<http://www.elcajoncollaborative.org/oral-health-promotion.html>

III. Strategic Planning/Little House Follow-up

Lea provided some background documents related to previous needs assessments.

Discussion provided some additional information about who did the original assessments and what other assessments have been done in the community more recently. **Everyone agreed that an assessment of community needs should be done and the following sources of potential information were identified:**

- East County Family Justice Center focus groups,
- Healthy Developmental Services focus groups,
- other First 5 surveys,
- CAT Team assessments or client satisfaction information,
- Harder + Co. focus groups for CSF families,
- other agencies client surveys

It was noted that the timing for an assessment may need to wait until after Little House is paid off, because of Lea's time. However, a general plan to identify the themes from the current sources of information, then develop a tool to survey current needs and service priorities will be a good way to move forward when the timing is right.

Additionally, Lea will discuss with the LH Avocado, Inc. board the previous application process for renting at Little House. Core Team representatives stated that in the past they have reviewed the applications and recommended tenants to the Board. The question was raised as to what happens in the event of an eviction. Rapid Response Team could serve in an assisting role in that case.

***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. Updates from the Coordinator

- Family Night - Lea noted that this past Thursday (December 11th) was the final Family Night for 2009. Plans are uncertain for the future. Paula Guerra noted that CSF will be looking for spaces for Parent Education Classes and the church would be a good spot. The challenge is that no funds are available to leverage Lea's time at Family Night, so child supervision would have to be coordinated through Collaborative Partner agencies.
- Summit on Refugee Education and Employment
No summary of information is available, but we are hoping to hear more after a follow-up meeting on December 17th.
- SANDAG grant
Lea is attending the Stakeholders Working Group meeting later this afternoon and hopes to have a schedule for the SANDAG outreach meetings by late January.
- East Region Collaborative Network (ERCN)
The next ERCN meeting is this Thursday from 10:30-12pm at the Spring Valley Elementary School location.

V. Team/Work Group Reports

A. Finance

The Finance Team is working on strategies to help LH Avocado pay off Little House. The most recent grant request to the Grossmont Health Care District was not recommended for funding. Lea and Barbara Ryan will be going to the GHCD Board meeting on Friday. LH Avocado continues to look for gifts from the ECC Partner agencies and is also looking to refinance the building.

B. Personnel

The Personnel team met this morning to help prioritize tasks regarding Lea's time working between LH Avocado, Inc. and the Collaborative.

C. Council – no update

D. Newcomer Support Work Group – no update

VI. New Business/Announcements/Accomplishments

Lea shared a re-draft of the 2009 Collaborative Accomplishments document and feedback was positive, although it was again recommended to include the number of MOUs and Letters of Support created by the Collaborative this year.