



**El Cajon Collaborative  
Core Team Meeting Notes  
September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

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

**I. Approval of August Meeting Notes**

August meeting notes were reviewed and approved without any changes.

**II. Partners' Presentations**

Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS) Presentation by Nora Cole:

Nora presented on FHCS and shared their mission to ensure all persons in San Diego have access to affordable, high quality healthcare. She noted that they are the second largest community based primary care organization in the country. They see about 100,000 unique clients each year at their offices which are primarily located in East and Central San Diego County. They also provide mental health services in traditional clinics, in schools and within their primary care clinics. Nora discussed the trend to co-locate therapists and psychiatric services within primary care clinics, which is something they have been able to do successfully. They also provide health care for the homeless and Sue Christopher from Crisis House noted that this has been a particular blessing for her clients.

**III. Update from Strategic Planning Team**

*Feedback on revised Mission, Vision, Values and Strategic Direction*

The Core Team reviewed the strategic planning documents and discussed the revisions to the mission, vision and the addition of values and statements about the strategic direction for the next year. There were comments about the language of the value statements and a resolution to make them less absolute (words like "must" and "always" will be removed). After further discussion, the addition of an "evaluation" component to the planning was recommended to help with sustainability of the plan and be pro-active about revisions instead of starting all over again next year.

**IV. Updates from the Coordinator**

- Lea introduced Bonnie Aguiar, an MSW Intern at SDSU who will be working with us this year. Bonnie will be doing part time with the Collaborative and part time with El Cajon Valley High School to complete her clinical work.
- In follow-up to our last meeting, Lea informed everyone that the discussion about the CSF RFP was referred to the Rapid Response Team who made the decision that our Collaborative would not participate in the CSF Proposal, but would work with Home Start if they are awarded the contract. Paula Guerra from Home Start expressed disappointment at the timing and communication of the decision, but stated that they did submit the RFP on time and should hear back in November. Lea noted that the process used to make the decision involved a "contract involvement assessment" which is being recommended for further use to determine the Collaborative's participation in future proposals and contracts. This will be discussed at the upcoming Executive Team meeting.
- Lea noted Family Night has started up again; we have one 12 week cycle of Effective Parenting classes on Thursday evenings at Meridian Baptist Church from 6-8PM.

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*Vision: An El Cajon community working collaboratively to ensure children, youth and families are safe, empowered and thriving*

*Mission: The El Cajon Collaborative builds relationships, leverages resources and implements best practices to serve the children and families of the El Cajon Community.*

- East Region Collaborative Network (ERCN) meeting is on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30AM.
- The Salvation Army and the El Cajon Collaborative have partnered to host a Food Coordination Meeting for the El Cajon area. This meeting is on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, from 1:45-3pm at the Salvation Army and will also include some discussion of coordinating holiday programming.

#### **V. Team/Work Group Reports**

- A. Finance team had no meeting in August and there were no issues for recommended discussion to the Finance team.
- B. Personnel team is now Chaired by Suzie Moser (in her role as Vice Chair of the Collaborative Executive Team), although they meet on an as-needed basis Lea wanted everyone to be aware that any issues related to Personnel can be directed to Suzie. This will be a standing agenda item to allow for any issues to funnel to Personnel team as-needed.
- C. Lea passed around the Council 2009-10 schedule of topics and asked if anyone would be interested in participating as a presenter on the list of selected topics. Lea is hoping for a year of continued attendance and enhanced networking opportunities through potluck meetings.
- D. Newcomer Support Work Group has been discussing the lack of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes in the El Cajon area. Due to the large number of refugees that are being relocated into El Cajon, there is an increased demand for ESL classes. Without attending ESL for a certain amount of hours per week, many of the refugees will not be eligible to receive their public assistance. Currently, due to budget cuts - there has been an enormous challenge to expand capacity of convenient ESL classes. It was recommended that next month we have a longer discussion about this topic.

#### **VI. New Business/Announcements/Accomplishments**

Sue Christopher announced that Crisis House is going to be able to offer a one time gift card of \$25 when individuals access food resources from their organization. She will have more details on the program and how it will work next month.

#### **VII. Upcoming Meetings**

- a. **Executive Team 10/9/09 – review agenda items**
- b. ECC Council Meeting: (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday; 12:30 – 2pm)
- c. Finance Team: (September 28<sup>th</sup>, 4-5pm)
- d. Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Team Meeting: (TBA, 3-4:30PM)
- e. Newcomer Support Work Group: (October 1st, 10:30am-12pm)

#### **VIII. Next Core Team Meeting**

October 20<sup>th</sup>; 10 AM