



Strategic Planning Results Compiled

El Cajon Collaborative Council

Input collected in July 2012

24 Responses (3 were first time attendees and did not fill out "evaluating our yesterday")

Evaluating Our Yesterday

1) What did you LIKE about Council meetings this past year? (mark all that apply)

(21) Location

(14) Time

(19) Meeting reminders (emails)

(17) Written Collaborative Updates on the back of the Agenda

(13) Verbal Collaborative Updates that the Coordinator gives at the beginning of the meeting

(15) Use of a Council member as the Facilitator

(15) Overview of the meeting Agenda given by Facilitator at the beginning of the meeting

(19) Resource sharing tables (where flyers are placed)

(16) Roundtable/Announcement time

Other (4)

- Guest speakers and opportunity to introduce self to the community
- The opportunity to meet new members of/from the service provider community and some of the presentations offered during the meeting
- AWESOME WORK!!
- A presentation from executive council on what their vision of the collaborative is
- Presentations by different agencies
- I really like to format of the meetings

Additional Notes:

- I appreciate the structure of the presentations. The presentations are timely and they don't take up the entire meeting.
- Very organized and a valuable hub of resources. I always leave with a wealth of info to share with colleagues and families we serve
- Thank you for the email reminders about when meetings are
- I can make the time but the second Tuesday would be better
- I am new to participating with the meetings. I would love to get involved and be informed about what is "OK" and not "OK" regarding outreach. Example: setting up tables outside in the community to hand out information

2) Have the monthly Council meetings been valuable to you?

(17) YES

(0) NO

(1) YES & NO I

If you answered YES, please give at least ONE EXAMPLE of how it has been valuable:

- *Opportunity to hear about community organizations events and be able to share about my organization*
- *Collaborating with other organizations and obtaining information and resources/services they provide. This has been helpful as I am a case manager and my role is to help link families I serve to other resources in the community.*
- *Because all the resources and networking.*
- *Yes, it is good to know who is out there and what are the new programs offered and the services the challenges and the needs and to create a network of collaboration. No, most of the time I don't feel comfortable with the silence and the weakness in participating of some of the members. Sometimes agencies send newer employees from different departments that have no idea what the mission of the Council is or to them its just a meeting. Also, we raise issues, challenges and problems but we don't reach solutions!*
- *It is always a valuable networking opportunity as well as a face-to-face to learn more in depth info about programs and services.*
- *Network, share info and resources and gain information*
- *Resources to community, drug topic about bath salts*
- *Provided some good resources to use with staff and clients*
- *It has helped me connect with other collaborators in the community*
- *Obtaining resources and information to take back to my organization*
- *Networking, building relationships with other providers*
- *I have had community members ask me about resources several times and I have been able to refer them to appropriate people*
- *The presentations were educational and also helped with networking with "subject experts"*
- *I am able to obtain info about projects agencies, etc in this area of East County that can or might be interested in the project the I work for. I am able to find out about community events that might be opportunities for my co-workers and I to participate in to provide information about our program*
- *Linkage to healthcare (affordable) in community. Presentations are great- gives a snapshot of an array of community programs.*
- *Speed networking and business card exchanges. Presentations by different agencies based on the monthly topics. Table of flyers/announcements.*
- *I like the roundtable/resource sharing/ networking best. That is what I come for every month*
- *To connect with other service providers. Many of the topics are beneficial to the families I work with*
- *We are updated about all of the events, resources for East County*

3) What DIDN'T YOU LIKE about Council meetings this past year? (please list below)

- *Not something you can do anything about- but I miss my lunch time and never feel comfortable about eating in front of everyone.*
- *Some of the presentations were too short*
- *The time schedule*
- *Same as my no answer above. Still, I don't see involvement of individuals from the East County (different gender, age, ethnicity). Organize and facilitate more events that require involvement of different communities. Either I am not looking or searching right, but we lack numbers and statistics.*
- *It doesn't seem that there is City of El Cajon of Chamber representation at these meetings. Would like them to have a presence and to know how they view the Collaborative and the work it does.*
- *The time. It is difficult at times getting to meetings at 12:30.*
- *N/A*
- *Time: It should begin after 1pm or prior to noon*
- *I am pleased with the Council meetings and the structure*
- *In house presentations too short (back to back to back). Seemed rushed.*
- *I didn't like that the group didn't have a specific goal they could work on*
- *I do not like the time too much for when the collaborative meets. I would prefer meeting earlier on Tuesdays like from 10-11:30 am or 11-12:30pm or later in the afternoon like from 1-2:30pm or 1:30-3pm. However, with scheduling needs I realize that changing the time for meetings might be difficult or not possible*
- *Time of the meetings. I like that it is in the afternoon, but it is hard as it is during lunch hour.*
- *The speakers are interesting but not always relevant to what I do*
- *Some topics do not apply to the work that I do in my job (or for me personally as a resident of El Cajon)*
- *N/A*
- *N/A*

Planning Our Tomorrow

Presentation Topics:

1) **What presentations would be most useful to you this coming year?** (mark all that apply)

Access to Care

Health insurance programs for low-income XX (13)
Transportation X (10)

Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs

Alcohol related incidents in East County (7)
Alcohol issues X (8)
Drug use and abuse X (13)

Basic Needs

HHS ACCESS Center updates X (8)
Medi-Cal, CalFresh, Family Resource Ctrs, etc. X (12)
Basic resources (food and shelter) X (14)

Council Attendee Organization Updates

Rotation of organizations at collaborative meetings (4)

Culture and/or Refugees

Cross cultural communicate amongst all groups XX (17)
Update on refugees XX (12)
Middle-Eastern culture X (14)
Latino culture X (11)
Other culture (please state) X (6)

-Burmese, Asian, Indian

-Native Indian

-Native Americans

Interpretation/translation services XX (9)
ESL instruction information and updates X (8)
Cultural sensitivity XX (17)
Tension between cultures in El Cajon XXXX (17)

Education

Bullying prevention and character education X (12)
Youth school support/ tutoring, supplies, transp. X (14)
Our educational system (youth and adult) X (11)

Employment

East County Career Center services X (13)
Preparing youth for employment (13)
Employment issues among refugees (10)

Finance

Financial literacy for low-income families (11)
Tax preparation for low-income X (7)

Health

County health initiative update (9)
Health trends in East County (12)
Pregnancy topics (5)
Health education (recent issues) (10)
Domestic violence (11)
Sexual health (6)
Obesity prevention (9)

Housing

Housing rights X (11)
Affordable housing programs XXX (17)
Homelessness update X (12)

Legal

Common E.C. municipal code infraction prevention (6)
Legal resources for low-income X (17)

Mental health

Signs/symptoms/referrals for common issues X (11)
Serving people who have been through trauma X (15)

Poverty

The culture of poverty/breaking out of poverty X (13)

Safety

Gang education and awareness XX (13)
Household poisoning prevention (4)

Youth

Youth mentoring programs XX (15)
Foster youth services (6)
Emancipation process (6)
Affordable activities for youth (13)

Additional Ideas or Notes:

- *Is there any directory of services printed?*
- *Information and resources on psychiatric services available for children. This is a HUGE need in the mental health field.*
- *Strengths assessment of El Cajon (i.e. services, people, activities, cultural events...)*
- *Increase housing issues, increase employment issues*
- *Employment for all residents. Need to provide more focus on all parts of the population for employment, not just refugees. A presentation from the executive council on what they look for from the collaborative*
- *Info on tobacco prevention needs/issues and tobacco cessation needs and services*
- *I would like to see youth leadership (high/middle schools and involved in the collaborative). Influence is not being utilized (maybe through school student governments)*
- *Perhaps speakers could alternate with work group/project meetings*
- *More breast health awareness and cancer information. East County has the highest mortality rate of breast cancer in all of SD County*

Meeting Format:

1. What would be most useful to you in Council meetings this coming year? (mark all that apply)

- (13) Small group discussions on community issues
 - We haven't done this in the past but if it is part of the mission then it should be done
- (15) More networking activities
- (2) Use of the Power Point for announcements- NOT SPECIFIC
- (10) Monthly
- (0) Sometimes
 - I like seeing the contact info on the screen but so many organizations aren't there
- (18) Presentations from agencies that attend Council
- (5) Announcements without the Power Point
- (19) Panels of experts on important topics
- (14) Presentations by law enforcement
- XX (13) Presentations by elected officials

Small Group Discussion:

1. What are the top 3 issues facing youth and families in El Cajon (or East Region) this coming year?

Group #1

- *Mental health/Trauma*
- *Drugs/Access to*
- *Youth/Lack of engagement and employment*

Group #2

- *Low-income families/Free and low-cost health care services/ women's health services*
- *Youth/After school activities, incentives*
- *Cultural Resources//Sensitivity-resentment in between cultures. Creating information for the public.*

Group #3

- *Youth/Healthy dating relationships*
- *Youth/Bullying*
- *Youth/Drugs and alcohol (education, prevention, resources, synthetic drugs, social host ordinance)*

Group #4

- *Drugs/Usage*
- *Youth/Lack of affordable after school activities*
- *Youth/Bullying including cyber and internet safety*

Group #5

- *Employment*
- *Housing/Safe, affordable*
- *Language barrier/Arabic need for biliterate-triliterate staff*
- *Youth/Latchkey kids, afterschool activities for kids, tutoring*

Group #6

- *Substance use and abuse*
- *Homelessness and joblessness*
- *Insurance/Low-cost. Better awareness of what is available and how to get help*
- *Housing/Affordable*
- *How to get help the quickest, the process of how to get services, where to go first*

Group #7

- *Obesity and food insecurity*
- *Substance abuse/Mental health*
- *Unemployment/Underemployment/Job opportunities*

Group #8

- *Youth/Afterschool programs; activities, mentoring, community service, enrichment options*
- *Housing/Assistance for families to apply for affordable housing, resources available in East County*
- *Cultural Resources-acculturation/Especially for non-refugee "old residents" to education the varied Middle-Eastern cultures*

2. Based on your discussions in Round #1...

What do you think the El Cajon Collaborative can do to support you in meeting the needs of youth and families in El Cajon (or East Region) in the coming year?

Group #1

- *Spread the word about opportunities for youth and adults to be engaged/involved in mentoring and out reach for resources*

Group #2

- *Create either a written or oral presentation regarding services that are available for ALL community*
- *Propose a connection between the different cultures of the East County community. A representative from the Middle-Eastern community to educate everyone on the culture and the dynamics involved. This can include a representative from the Latino community. This can trickle down to so many groups and people to provide important information.*

Group #3

- *SKIPPED*

Group #4

- *Form a committee that could bring together community members to get a grant to create a safe after school program for youth (Police, RSVP, LiveWell San Diego grant, business owners, teachers, etc.)*
- *During this program, have staff teach youth about ways to use the computer to reduce cyber bullying and increase internet safety.*
- *This type of safe space after school program might reduce levels of burden of youth, thus the level of drug usage*

Group #5

- *Include Parks and Recreation at meeting*
- *Have a list serve or website with monthly activities of all ECC groups. This would need to be translated into Spanish and Arabic*
- *Have a sub-committee for afterschool activities*
- *To address the language barrier, come up with a list of bilingual speakers*

Group #6

- *Education at young ages. Preventative Care*
- *Directory of services*

Group #7

- *Provide a needed target group of parents/youth that can benefit from nutrition education classes (such as schools, rehabs, eye's)*
- *Provide a list of services on one sheet for easy access, other than 211. Have materials translated into appropriate language. Prevention programs to target youth. Develop a youth advocacy board for El Cajon.*
- *Provide potential job opportunities to El Cajon community first (advertise, organize a job fair) and maybe a bulletin board on line or in library to advertise local job opportunities*

Group #8

- *Support development of before/afterschool programs that will accommodate "ED" population. Model of "Youth Venture" but on a larger scale.*
- *Identify the cost as a result of crime and rehabilitation of probation kids, etc. and propose using \$ for preventative programs*