

Executive Committee
Monterey County Children's Council
September 6, 2018
901 Blanco Circle Salinas, CA

Executive Committee Members Present: Katy Castagna ∞ Henry Espinosa ∞ Elsa Jimenez
∞ Nancy Kotowski ∞ Marcia Parsons

Others Present: Megan Kennedy-Chouane ∞ Mayra Perez Diaz ∞ Francine Rodd

Welcome

Kotowski called meeting to order at 8:06am.

Administrative Items

Parsons moved to approve the Minutes of August 2, 2018. Castagna seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Information/Discussion:

- I. Debrief of August General Assembly meeting and plan for September meeting
 - a. Members all mentioned loving the cross correlation and interaction of all general members.
 - b. Members asked which were the major cross-cutting topics that emerged from the four groups. Perez Diaz informed members the cross-cutting topics that emerged were housing and immigrations.
 - c. Kotowski proposed setting the next couple of meetings to go into more detail as to how these topics relate to impacts on the well-being of children to stay with the focus of the Children's Council mission. Members agreed to begin with the focus on Housing for October meeting and begin the discussion of immigration for the November meeting.
 - d. Kotowski expressed she wants to be sure these topics align with Bright Beginnings and Bright Futures initiatives.
 - e. Castagna proposed providing some context to general members at the September meeting to better prepare one topic per meeting the next few months. Castagna also proposed providing brief information on Prop 1 and Prop 2. These propositions are on the November ballot regarding housing. Part of the discussion at the October meeting could be on how the council advocates for a bill that is in the best interest of children. Members agreed with proposition.
 - f. Rodd mentioned advocating not just for affordable housing but have childcare or preschool part of these incoming developments is important too to keep the focus on the well-being of children.
 - g. Espinosa informed members of the state releasing one-time funds for Homeless Emergency aid programs (\$12.5 million for Monterey and San Benito counties). This funding is more directed to those that are living in the street. Kotowski mentioned MCOE also received a grant around homelessness and proposed to mention these grants to members as they related to housing issues.
 - h. Jimenez expressed \$12.5 million is not enough and the council shouldn't really focus on this but it's a good start to address the need and begin conversations.

The Health department is also getting one-time funding as well (\$1.3 million) Jimenez and Espinosa will present at the general meeting on these grants.

- i. Members discussed proposing to establish a “Champion for Children” recognition and award. Rodd, Perez Diaz, to connect with Nina Alcaraz to draft documents to present for approval from the general council. Rodd proposed the City of Gonzales as first recipient of recognition for adding ECE language to their city general plan. Members agreed.
- j. Kotowski asks what the criteria would be for this recognition. Members discussed and agreed the criteria would be: impactful system change and policy for the well-being of children and youth and/or allocating resources as well.

II. MCCC Website

- a. Item was tabled at this time.

General Assembly Agenda Setting

I. Action Items

- a. Approve the minutes of the August 13, 2018 Monterey County Children’s Council meeting
- b. Recognition for championing system change for children and youth in Monterey County
 - a. Criteria for recognition
 - b. Recognition for City of Gonzales

II. Discussion Items

Harnessing Our Energy (Kennedy-Chauane)

- a. Bright Beginnings Home visiting strategy and grant opportunities
 - o Alignment of Bright Futures Continuum
 - o Next steps from cross cutting topics (Rodd to provide reading material)
- b. State update on housing and homelessness initiatives
 - o Prop 1 and Prop 2 (Castagna)
 - o Grants (Espinosa, Jimenez and Kotowski)

III. Information/Announcements

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:31am