# Sacramento County Human Services Coordinating Council

## Meeting Minutes: September 12, 2019

Meeting Location:

Dept. of Human Assistance

2700 Fulton Ave

Sacramento, CA. 95821

Conference Room 58

Facilitator: Ernie Brown, Chair

**Staffed by:** Cindy Marks

Meeting Attendees:

* HSCC Members –Ernie Brown, Erica Jaramillo, Melinda Avey, Raymond Kemp, Robert Silva, Jr., Kula Koenig, Paul Tanner, Steve Orkand, Randy Hicks, Leslie Julianel, Paula Green, Caroline Lucas, Teresa Ogan,
* Ex-Officio Members –Eduardo Ameneyro (DHA), Michelle Callejas, Martha Haas (DCFAS), Xochitl Gomez (BOS), Erin Maurie for Julie Gallelo (First 5)

Absent Members:

* HSCC Members – N/A
* Ex-Officio Members: Bruce Wagstaff (CEO), Cindy Cavanaugh (Homeless Initiatives), Peter Beilenson (OFCA)

**Public**:

Patty Gainer

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| Call to Order | Chair, Ernie Brown, welcomed everyone, introductions were made, and meeting called to informal order. |
| Approval of August 8, 2019 Minutes | Approval of August 8, 2019 Minutes with corrections by Ernie Brown and Melinda Avey. |
| Special Presentation: Michelle Callejas with DCFAS | Michelle Callejas with DCFAS presented a status update for the HSCC.  Quick Stats:   * The DCFAS Budget was approved on September 4 and is relatively the same that was presented at Recommended Budget in June. The Age-Friendly Initiative supported by the Board of Supervisors in January is moving forward. Public conservator notes stated that there were challenges when it comes to housing adults and older adults under conservatorship are there are not enough community and sub-acute beds. Many have very serious MH diagnoses and become homeless and they are afraid to ask for services for fear they will be ineligible. The good news is that the Care Plus program (step individuals down from sub-acute settings) had been helpful from a humanitarian and cost-savings perspective. * Housing Efforts: Sacramento was one of the cities that applied for $500,000 and received $263,000 for two years via the Home Safe program. This is working with the Adult Protective Services population as more older adults are experiencing homelessness. One time funding can be used for rental deposits, hotel vouchers, immediate needs, etc. The eligibility is any APS client that is homeless or is in imminent risk of homelessness. * IHSS- the IHSS team is focused on transitioning IHSS recipients and providers to the Electronic Timesheet Services (ESS) system based on a new federal requirement. Once this is complete, Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) will take place and will track when the provider arrives, leaves and services provided during the visit. There is a hope that there will be reduction in timesheet errors and increase accountability. The challenges are that electronic devices and language barriers can impede this process. * Maintenance of Effort-The county’s obligation to provide money to particular programs * Child Protective Services Title IV-E Waiver-This is largest funding of child welfare and is categorical and restrictive. The waiver waives these restrictions so CPS can provide services and supports that would otherwise be disallowed. The waiver included resources to for prevention, intensive family finding and kinship support to assist and strengthen families. The Waiver is ending effective 9.30.19 and if not extended, the county will face a loss of $29 million. States and counties are still attempting to fight for the Title IV-E Waiver extension, but we will not know the decision until after the 30th of this month.   First 5 funds services in the Family Resource Centers for children under five, but we need services to continue for ages 6-12 due to need. Expansion of Early Intervention Family Drug Court also occurred with Waiver funding and has helped with overall efforts to reduce the number of children entering foster care.   * Families First Prevention Services Act-There was bipartisan support on legislation that focuses on prevention (support for communities with higher risk factors). This allows DCFAS to pay for, for example, domestic violence, substance abuse, and mental health services. This will not go into effect until October 2021. The federal government has been approved some services that will be allowed in the Families First Prevention Services Act. These include: Parent-Child Interactive Therapy, Multi-Systemic Therapy, Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. These are all approved under Medicaid, so behavioral health funding must be used for these services. Home visitation is provided following the Healthy Families America model. This is a limited model as this is only for first time parents with a child under the age of three months. * Bringing Families Home-State developed July 1, 2017 to obtain housing for families involved in child welfare that are also experiencing homelessness. CPS worked closely with DHA and SHRA and have housed 135 families as a result of this program in a little over two years. * Perinatal substance abuse referral program-This is focused on pregnant women without any other children. DCFAS partnered with public health division and the division’s Baby Line to provide free support to women who are using substances while pregnant. A public health nurse can then work with them during the course of the pregnancy and soon after, focusing on connecting them to resources and pre-natal care. * Informal Supervision- This program has helped decrease the monthly average of detaining children by 29 percent. There is an intensive social worker that works with severely high risk families. As long as family cooperates via wrap around services, etc., then the children can avoid being placed elsewhere. Of the 559 children that were served, only 3% (17 children) ended up needing formal court intervention.   Questions from HSCC:   * Caroline Lucas- Is there interim state funding for some programs? Michelle stated that DCFAS has been meeting with the state senate and assembly members who are also alarmed as $320 million will be lost for child welfare services. * Steve: The Title IV-E program comes through DHHS, so what are the bottlenecks in regards to upcoming federal changes. Michelle stated answer in Families First discussion. * Bob: Refugees are growing exponentially. Can you obtain federal funding? Michelle stated that there are community based organizations that serve those populations, but resources are limited. * Randy: Are there special people who are DDS, ASL, etc. There are contracts through NorCal, etc. to assist with possible barriers due to language, disabilities, etc. - Michelle’s response was that the county contracts with the following agencies: A Show Of Hands; Class Act Alliance; Eaton Interpreting Services; Wilder Interpreting Services; and NorCal Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing. * Melinda: Do we have some local money for older adult housing? Michelle will check into this. There are roughly 80 housing slots set aside for older adults and we are also hoping to leverage resources with the Home Safe Program for older adults involved with APS. * Melinda: Is there funding for rental deposit? Yes, although the amount is divided up for one-time payments as opposed to the ongoing payments * Do you ever use community resources to assist families? Yes! Slowly DCFAS has been moving families towards seeking other resources to assist with them during and after DCFAS has become involved * Erica: What is the number of older adults were victims of financial abuse? Michelle’s response: in FY 2018-19, APS received 1620 allegations of financial abuse. Of those, 466 (28.8%) were confirmed; 957 (59%) were inconclusive; and 197 (12.2%) were unfounded. * Erica: How is the $263,000 allocated? This is shared with the county and SHRA. * Erica: What is the money for the Title IV-E Social Worker program used for? It is used specifically for social workers that want to go into the child welfare profession. Several universities have Title IV-E Programs --this IV-E money is separate from what goes to counties.. * Leslie: Does anyone look at where the money gets allocated (concerning the $25,000 per month estimate for care per older adult. * Raymond: Do they need to see a crisis before the government restores the program? There are politics involved and this has become a complex issue. No actual answer for this in general at this time.   Michelle thanked her DCFAS team for the work they do and HSCC members for their support. |
| Member Comments | Randy shared comments from printout of the Disability Advisory Commission’s June and July Minutes.  Melinda stated that the Drug and Alcohol Council are working to reduce the population of the Sacramento County Jail. They will be visiting Well Space next week to see how they operate and how they can assist the county. Drug and Alcohol Council are looking at more walk-in detox family availability. In addition, there is a five month wait to get an appointment for Access to get their prescriptions. In addition, when someone is released from jail with a prescription for psych meds, for example, they are five miles from the nearest approved pharmacy as well as without transportation. |
| Public Comments | No comments. |
| Announcements | Regional Transit will be the speaker at the October HSCC Main Council meeting. |
| Adjourn | Meeting adjourned. |