



Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Members Present: Chair Toni Campbell, Emily Balli, Lisa Hindman Holbert, Bruce McPherson, Diane Munoz

1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum

A quorum was established upon arrival of Commissioner McPherson at 1:20 PM.

2. Review and Adopt Agenda

M/S/P: (Commissioner Lisa Hindman Holbert / Commissioner Diane Munoz) unanimously moved to approve and adopt the Agenda.

3. Consent Agenda – Action Item

A. Approve Commission October 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes

B. Accept Financial Report for the period ending December 2020

C. Accept First 5 Santa Cruz County Grant Application Tracker, 01/20/2021

D. Accept FY 20/21 First 5 Santa Cruz County Contracts Executed Under Executive Director Authority, 01/20/2021

E. Accept FY 20/21 First 5 Santa Cruz County Sponsorships report, 01/20/2021

M/S/P: (Commissioner Bruce McPherson / Commissioner Lisa Hindman-Holbert) unanimously moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

4. Community Oral Communications

None

5. Commissioner Oral Communications

None

6. Together We Care Unite Us Presentation – Information Item

Staff from the Health Improvement Partnership (HIP) and Unite Us presented on the Together We Care/Unite Us platform implementation in Santa Cruz County.

Prior to the presentation, Director Brody provided a brief historical summary. He stated that Santa Cruz County has been a pilot county of a statewide initiative known as Whole Person Care and in our county called “Cruz to Health.” This pilot, with leadership from the Santa Cruz Health Information Organization and supported by the Health Improvement Partnership (HIP), launched Together We Care. Its vision was to build upon existing secure data systems to facilitate the expansion of person-centered, comprehensive care, designed to enhance care management in clinical settings, and to provide a resource directory and closed loop referral system for use in both clinical and non-clinical social service settings. Two vendors were selected: (1) Activate Care, to support intra and inter-clinical care management, and (2) Unite Us with its comprehensive resource directory and closed-loop referral platform.

Director Brody introduced Shelley Barker, Behavioral Health Program Director, and Heather Thomsen, Care Coordination Program Manager, both with HIP. Director Brody stated that they would be introducing the Unite Us team after their presentation.

Director Brody next welcomed Moira Kinney. Ms. Kinney had previously led the 5 Association of California and is now the Unite Us Network Director for the State of California. He also welcomed Jeff Freeland, Senior Account Manager for Unite Us, who is helping oversee the implementation in Santa Cruz County.

Heather Thomsen began the presentation by introducing herself as the Care Coordination Program Manager at the Health Improvement Partnership and her colleague, Shelly Barker, the Behavioral Health Program Director. Ms. Thomsen announced the launching of the Community-wide Resource and Referral Directory on the Unite Us platform. She stated that a patient's health is much more than clinical care. Overall health must also include the social, housing and nutrition needs as contributing factors to the health of the individual. Ms. Barker stated that the Health Improvement Partnership (HIP) and the Santa Cruz Health Information Organization (SCHIO) are working to advance systems level change in care coordination through interagency communication and strengthening relationships among providers serving families and children. In addition to "Care Coordination," she spoke of "Closed Loop Referrals" and "Social Services Directory" for the coordination of tasks across the care continuum, the sharing of patient information, seamless communication among multidisciplinary partners, and the Care Management and Community Resource Referral System.

7. 2020-2021 Budget Revision – Action Item

- a) The Commission will consider approval of the Revised First 5 Santa Cruz County Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget in an amount not to exceed \$3,526,058
- b) The Commission delegates authority to the Executive Director to negotiate, execute, and amend contracts up to the amounts specified.
 - i) **Operating Expenses – General Admin/Program Support/Evaluation**
Approval of contract with the United Way of Santa Cruz County for First 5 Administrative, Program Support, and Evaluation between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$625,035.
 - ii) **Strategic Priority Investments**
 - (a) Approval of contract with the United Way of Santa Cruz County for First 5 Strategic Priority Investments between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$1,487,246.
 - (b) Approval of contract with the Santa Cruz Health Information Organization for implementation of the Together We Care/Unite Us software platform in Santa Cruz County in an amount not to exceed \$35,000. This contract is funded by the County of Santa Cruz Thrive by Three Children's Fund.
 - (c) Approval of contract with Pajaro Valley Unified School District for Quality Counts Santa Cruz County block grants and request for resources in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 (\$35,100 for the Migrant Seasonal Head Start program, \$11,700 for the Buena Vista Children's Center, and \$3,900 for the Infant Development Center). This contract is funded by the California Department of Education QCC Block Grant contract.

Director Brody stated that historically the Commission has always done a budget revision each January for any necessary adjustments since passage of the budget approved in June.

Director Brody said he was pleased to receive notice that the Monterey Peninsula Foundation granted us \$150,000 specifically toward our ongoing work in support of our childcare community with the childcare emergency response fund. This funding also supports costs related to the ongoing work to convert the SEEDS of Early Literacy work

to a virtual platform, as well as to implement that work. These funds had not been budgeted since staff were not certain they would be received.

Director Brody added that First 5 also received a two-year grant of \$100,000 for each fiscal year from First 5 California to support the Home Visiting Coordination grant, with the primary function to create a home visiting coordination action plan for our county. Creating the plan would primarily occur during the remainder of this fiscal year and then implementing the plan in the next fiscal year. Director Brody reported that the home visiting grant activities align well with the local Thrive by Three initiative.

Director Brody stated that Kaiser-Permanente has awarded a \$75,000 grant for the 2021 calendar year in support of the Baby Gateway program.

The expenses related to those two grants would be an increase of almost \$45,000 in staffing for early learning and health teams. In addition, there would be a holding place for \$100,000 essentially for the childcare emergency fund that would be distributed to childcare community and approximately \$70,000 for contracting expenses related to working directly with partners in the home visiting coordination efforts.

**M/S/P: (Commissioner Bruce McPherson / Commissioner Emily Balli)
unanimously moved to:**

(1) Approve the Revised First 5 Santa Cruz County Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget in an amount not to exceed \$3,526,058;

(2) Approve the contract with the United Way of Santa Cruz County for First 5 Administrative, Program Support, and Evaluation between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$625,035;

(3) Approve the contract with the United Way of Santa Cruz County for First 5 Strategic Priority Investments between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$1,487,246;

(4) Approve the contract with the Santa Cruz Health Information Organization for implementation of the Together We Care/Unite Us software platform in Santa Cruz County in an amount not to exceed \$35,000;

(5) Approve the contract with Pajaro Valley Unified School District for Quality Counts Santa Cruz County block grants and request for resources in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 (\$35,100 for the Migrant Seasonal Head Start program, \$11,700 for the Buena Vista Children's Center, and \$3,900 for the Infant Development Center.

8. Information Items

- a) Director Brody reminded the Commissioners to file their Form 700 by March 1, 2021.
- b) Director Brody reported on staff selection as Oral Health Heroes by Dientes Community Dental, to be recognized at the Oral Health Summit on February 4, 2021 at 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Director Brody said he was pleased to announce that Dientes Community Dental is recognizing First 5 staff, specifically Alicia Fernandez, as well as himself, as "Oral Health Heroes" at their Oral Health Summit on February 4, 2021 at 10 AM. He added that it was going to be a brief, virtual summit chaired by Supervisor Friend. Director Brody said he also has a speaking role related to the OHA strategic plan, as well as many other community partners working in oral health.

Director Brody said he emailed the registration information to Commissioners and staff that morning and encouraged everyone to participate in the virtual event.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm.