



DIVERSITY & EQUITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: April 22, 2019

Start Time: 6:00 PM

End Time: 7:00 PM

Location of This Meeting: Regional Center of the East Bay

500 Davis Street, San Leandro

1320 Willow Pass Road, Concord

ATTENDEES:

Staff Present: Lisa Kleinbub, Ronke Sodipo, Paulina Copp, Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Edda Banuelos, Sandra Coss, Jairo Guiza

Guests: Morena Grimaldi, Anna Wang, Esther Wong, Sister Marygrace, Arthur Lipscomb

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Esther Wong: Concerns in the Asian Community

NEW SERVICES UPDATES

Sandra Coss:

- The parent support group “Padres Guerreros” will celebrate children’s day on April 28 at Edendale Middle School baseball field in San Leandro. Families are encouraged to RSVP by contacting Teresita de Jesus at (650) 576-6636.
 - Food, games, prizes, music and lots of fun activities will be offered.
 - A flyer with more details was circulated among committee members.
- The leader of a parent support group in Brentwood moved to Fremont, therefore a new leader is being sought. In the meantime, a new parent support group started in the Fremont area led by Raquel Enciso.
- The Disparity Fund Program at La Familia continues doing outreach. For example they participated in the picnic organized by the San Leandro Police Department where roughly 150 families participated in the event.

Anna Wang:

- Friends of Children with Special Needs will implement 2 outreach activities in the near future: the Spring Carnival on May 19th and the Family Fun Festival in Milpitas on June 8th.

- There will be dancing and other types of entertainment as well as sharing volunteer experiences.
- Currently FCSN has 150 consumers on the waiting list for various services.

Sister Marygrace: We are currently developing programs for Vietnamese/Cantonese speaking consumers in the San Leandro area.

SUPPORT GROUPS SUMMARY – Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez/Sister Marygrace Puchac

Sister Marygrace:

- The mothers attending the support group shared life challenges during their last meeting. For example: “My husband has cancer”. In response, the group sang a song that said something like “You’re not alone, we’ll go with you”.
- A couple of mothers who find it challenging to fall asleep used heavy blankets that promote relaxation. Currently the center is being equipped with hammock oasis indoors and outdoors where mothers can relax.

Elvia Osorio Rodriguez:

- One supervisor attended an event in San Lorenzo and made a presentation for 15 parents which was conducted in English and Spanish.
- On April 25th a presentation on Respite will be made to a parent support group in San Leandro.
- Ten mothers attended the last meeting at Madres Unidas. Two mothers will take turns to provide carpooling and two mothers with adult children also attended. The mothers expressed that they learned a lot.

DIVERSITY & EQUITY SPECIALIST SUMMARY – Jairo Guiza

- On March 30th Lisa and Jairo conducted a presentation on POS data in Brentwood where roughly 100 people attended. Some suggestions included: Collaborating with the city’s Park and Recreation Department to provide socialization opportunities for consumers, improving existing services for adults, creating new services, provide transportation services and find housing and employment solutions for adult consumers in the area. Attendees also suggested holding more community meetings like this one throughout the year.
- Please fill out the survey “Community Resource Development Plan” posted on RCEB’s website and encourage community members to do the same.

- Upcoming events: Congreso Familiar in Oakley on April 27th and an IFTAR celebration for families with children with Special Needs in Pleasanton on May 12th.
- Proposals for Family Home Agencies are due on April 26th at 5 pm. Please encourage interested parties to submit an application.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER

n/a

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Esther Wong: Concerns in the Asian Community

- Asian families are not using programs for fear of losing IHSS benefits. Esther is working with IHSS staff to help educate the community so that they understand that they can keep their IHSS services while participating in available programs in the community.
- Many parents are aging and becoming unable to continue providing care for their loved ones with Developmental Disabilities.
- Asian families also need orientations so they are informed about services and how to access them.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 20, 2019 at 6:00pm

- San Leandro
- Concord