



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
May 6, 2020 • 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
via Zoom



Meeting Minutes

Executives Present: Eulalia Apolinar, Bridget Baublits, Florene Bednersh, Lisa Brabo, Maria Chesley, Lori Goodman, Amy Krueger, Ann McCarty, Lorraine Neenan, Dean Palus, Alana Walczak, John Winckler

Staff: Barbara Finch and Gloria Munoz

1. Welcome & Establish Quorum

Barbara Finch called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

2. Approve Minutes: March 4, 2020

Florene Bednersh motioned to approve the March 4, 2020 minutes; Lori Goodman seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Public Comment –Items not on the Agenda

There was no public comment.

4. COVID-19 Check-in with Executive Team

- **What has changed within your organization/department?**
- **What successes are you celebrating?**
- **What concerns you most?**

Lori Goodman stated that she has been worried about her budget for next year and how she will run her organization. She has been invited to sit on the panel of leaders that is reviewing the opening plans for Goleta and Isla Vista. The Family Resource Center is glowing with the opportunity to serve the community, serving meals. She is now shifting to thinking about supporting families and how they can continue their parenting classes and their education, in addition to all the concrete support and referrals that they are doing. Managing childcare and figuring out what that will look like in the future is weighing heavily on her.

Amy Krueger shared that there have been concerns about the decline in reports to the hotline and they are still seeing about 50% reduction. All the counties in California are seeing anywhere from 50 to 60% reduction. They have been focused on interpreting all of the flexibilities and new COVID related regulations that apply to child welfare. Workers are still doing investigations as mandated responding to those in person and utilizing screening questions and PPE's as much as possible. They are also continuing their ongoing case management. The biggest change is that they have flexibility in being able to use video conferencing in some situations. They are using this in a very limited way, mostly with their non-minor dependents who are over 18. For the most part, they are still doing face to face visits with all of their kids and families. They are also starting to think about the future and worried about the predicted surge in abuse and neglect reports as things open up. Pre COVID they were seeing a 40% increase in their investigations over the last two years and they are thinking

about what that will look like when things start ramping up again. They will also need to take a look at budget impacts and staffing levels.

John Winckler mentioned that a lot has changed for them and they have gone to about 80 to 90% telehealth at this point. As soon as everything hit they initiated their continuity of operations plan which means that they went to minimum staffing at all of their clinics. They have about five to six staff at any time at their adult and adolescent clinics. Their IT department was fantastic in deploying mobile devices to a lot of their staff that didn't already have them so that they could work from home and do telehealth with clients. They have been doing a lot Zoom meetings with clients and their adolescent children's TAY programs have been really successful. They had not been allowed to use Zoom or FaceTime in the past but the state has loosened up a lot of their regulations around HIPAA confidentiality. The state has recognized that they need to do that in order to maintain connection between clients and therapists and caseworkers. Their doctor's prescribers are doing a lot of their services through telehealth as well. He added that they have seen an uptick in Katie A referrals with kids being home. They have had difficulty getting a hold of their adult clients because a lot of them are homeless, they don't have phones or their phones don't have the technology or the bandwidth to do telehealth. He added that they are also concerned about the budget because a huge portion of their funding comes from Medi-Cal billing. When this all hit the first couple of weeks, they were down probably 60% on our medical billing so that was a 60% hit on their budget. They are predicting that MHSA funding is going to be hugely impacted by all of this in the years to come so they are predicting a huge drop in MHSA funding, which probably funds about 50 to 60% of their programming. Realignment funding is also going to be impacted by all of this. Since they are anticipating a huge hit in their budget they are trying to do everything they can to protect themselves and their CBO's and maintain operations as best as they can.

Lorraine Neenan shared that their staff is working from home and they are providing services virtually. Every teacher calls their kids once a week and provides educational materials and a wellness check. Every center has a family service advocate who also calls the family and does the wellness check. They continue to make referrals. They don't plan to reopen until July 1 and they are making plans for that. They have seen a 60% increase in senior nutrition and are having a hard time keeping up with the delivery because they can't meet in congregate sites anymore. They are in need of volunteers so if you would like to volunteer, please contact her. All of their services are being maintained.

Dean Palius mentioned that they have closed their office except for food programming which has taken off tremendously. Traditionally, they have operated every Thursday at Creekside Apartments in Los Alamos and the Old Mission Santa Inés in Solvang and this has continued. They are looking at a minimum of a year and probably two years or more in terms of continuing the emergency food program. He hopes that over the two year period they see a decline in the actual numbers. He added that the Foodbank has fallen short on being able to provide food so they made a decision to start purchasing food from local farmers. Alfred Holzheu at El Rancho has helped them buy food on a wholesale basis. PHP is spending between \$2,500 to \$3,000 a week. People have stepped forward to provide, in some cases, large individual donations, specifically to buy food. The City of Solvang has also provided them a \$10,000 grant for this year and \$20,000 grant for next year. They are fortunate to have these donations to be able to buy food. A donor also came forward from Fresno and delivered a refrigerated trailer which is now set up in the Solvang Veterans' Memorial lot. He and a few other people in the area are trying to coordinate deliveries of fruits and vegetables. They are doing outreach to seniors and providing meals to them in Los Alamos and reallocated their staff to

do food delivery and food distribution. Negotiations are underway with the city of Solvang regarding a FEMA and California Office of Emergency Services three-meals a day program for delivery to seniors. They will be the operator of that program and the city will contract with three local restaurants that they select. This will start in a couple of days. There will be a lot of reallocation of staff and will be doing things differently when they are allowed to open up. They are also remodeling their downstairs area which will help their reception area with social distancing. He added that it is very difficult to predict what will happen next year and it is now budget season so they need to have a budget approved in June. They are looking at a fairly optimistic, but realistic budget, and then potentially without events they have lost about \$160,000-\$180,000 in event and income. They will be looking at what changes they can make to absorb reductions in their revenue over the years. He hopes to have a strong financial structure in place when the new person comes on board.

Maria Chesley is proud that the Network of Family Resource Centers was able to come together. She appreciated FSA coming together to be the lead on their grant application. It is not a lot of money but she is pleased to see FRCs are being recognized at the state level. She is really impressed with the Children's Project collaboration in Carpinteria with other agencies and this has been a primary role that she has taken on during this time. They are having weekly food calls and they have growers who are contributing food. The 93013 Fund, which was started with cannabis money is doing a lot for them. The fund has helped out with food and they restocked their emergency supply. So far, they have not had to spend more than about \$50 on food. The collaboration has been beautiful with other nonprofits, food and school supplies. The Children's Project has opened a helpline so they can do a little more coordinating in their small community. Now they can know where seniors are getting their food and they are increasingly becoming a central hub for that. In addition to seniors, other organizations are sending their referrals for families and children who need support through that helpline. All of their staff are working and they are reallocating. They are doing calls, YouTube videos and zoom calls with their classrooms every week. On Monday, they did the calculation that their FRC on average serves around 520 people a month and last month they served 3,400. That is about a third of Carpinteria.

Lisa Brabo stated that they have moved to telehealth except for most of their food distribution. They have started doing parent education classes and have parent coaching lines across the county. This has been very popular and now they are starting to provide parent education one-on-one virtually. They have been working on outreach to isolated seniors so that they can find the folks that need help right now. The majority of their time has been spent on basic needs issues and they are aware that it is only going to grow. They are also providing emotional support through counseling for students and families and seniors. Almost all of their contracts are public contracts and that has granted them the flexibility they need to provide services in the way that they need to be provided now. They are fine for this fiscal year but they are concerned for next year and they are starting to put that budget together. Staff is fully employed and they are amazing and have been balancing a lot with all the pressures.

Alana Walczak shared that they have been able to retain their staff with full wages and full benefits. Like everyone else, they pivoted to telehealth within the first three days and were able to continue providing therapy supports to children and families and students in the elementary schools across the county and teachers. With telehealth, they have noticed that they are serving more clients. They had an uptick in referrals and requests for services in early days. They are providing shorter therapy services and service minutes are going down. Staff and clients are becoming telehealth exhausted.

Families sheltering in place are finding it very difficult to do therapy at home with everything going on. There have a lot of families who are now saying we don't want to start therapy until they are "back to normal". When doing forensic interviews of sexual abuse cases or egregious physical abuse, these have been done in person with masks. Reports of child abuse are greatly down but there is an epidemic raging behind closed doors so she has had to talk some of her staff down from going out and securing PPE's and going into homes on their own because they know what is going on. They are not seeing the full extent of the damage until kids are showing up with broken bones or strangulation marks at Cottage or ER's. Abuse and domestic violence are skyrocketing. They are not going to be seeing the full consequences of this time for many years to come. It is taking a toll on her staff but they are first responders and they are in it. They have had four staff test positive for COVID and they have had many more with symptoms. They have had to manage those staffing implications and have ten of their staff out on some kind of family leave. She will be on the nonprofit county recovery reopening plan and the first meeting is today. They are starting to look at reopening and the physical and service changes that they will have to make with their physical spaces and social distancing but also protocols and policies as they reconsider face to face therapy and home visitation. She added that referrals are down so for any agencies that have families that are in need, they have staff ready and waiting in Lompoc, Santa Maria and Santa Barbara. They are whole for now but they are worried for next year. She appreciates the partnership and collaboration amongst agencies.

Bridget Baublits mentioned that it has been a busy time for SBCEO. Most of them have moved to remote work but they still have some folks going in. They started with a daily district superintendent and charter school call twice a week and now they are down to once a week. All of their departments are working remotely through distance learning plans for students with the school districts, on essential childcare offerings within the county and food distribution for students. Some of the successes have been the leadership of the organization and each of the individual departments. The larger organizations have been focused on what school will look like now moving forward. In regards to the county reopening plan, they have representatives on the education portion of that. Taundra Pitchford, who is part of the local planning council, will be helping to facilitate some of the 0-5 conversation as well as Susan and the district representatives. They were surprised by the governor's announcement on reopening in July and they are wondering what that will look like in terms of working with public health and how they will maintain social distancing on buses and classrooms. There will also be concerns regarding the lack of funding, reduced budgets and sanitation. Meanwhile, they are also trying to keep up with all the legislative changes that are impacting schools around LCAPs and budgets and the requirements they have to meet. She added that this week is National Teacher Appreciation Week. She encouraged everyone to thank any teachers they know for all the work that they are doing.

Florene Bednersh stated that Welcome Every Baby (WEB) had to do a major shift. They are doing telehealth Zoom and FaceTime visits with the new mothers and have started a couple discussion groups via Zoom. One is specifically for lactation and the other one is for new moms to talk since there is need for social connection. They are also doing deliveries of the First 5 newborn kits and dropping them off on people's porches. The kit includes a great video for new mothers and a medical book. They are also loaning baby scales so mothers can weigh their babies. The Promotoras have also have reinvented themselves completely. They were about to start a big campaign on Census and that has changed. Now they are doing dental kit distributions through Boys and Girls Clubs when they are doing their food banks. They are also helping Public Health with taking food to the homeless who are in quarantine and will be part of the contact tracing. She added that there

was concern that they might have to do major layoffs because Paul Orfalea pulled all of their funds to concentrate on childcare for first responders. Thankfully, Florene applied for the PPP federal funding and they were awarded.

Ann McCarty shared that they have not laid anyone off. They have maintained full services and still respond to call outs from law enforcement partners. Three of them respond to SART calls (Sexual Assault Response Team), whether it is a forensic interview or actual forensic evidence collection. We are one of the few counties in the state that are still operating this way and she is proud that we have maintained that and the law enforcement partners and sexual assault nurse examiners are all on board. All of their staff is working on curriculum updates and they are trying to stay as active on social media as possible to keep the word out and stay connected to folks as best they can.

Eulalia Apolinar shared that everything is going exceedingly well at Tri-Counties Regional Centers. They have kept everybody employed and are open for business. They closed their offices very early on and, through some nice decisions by their executive director and IS team, were able to mobilize 100% of their service coordination staff. The people they serve have remained healthy. There have been a few diagnosis of COVID-19 and a few that they are still waiting on results but overall their group home has done well with their shelter at home. Folks living independently and their support staff have also been amazing. Their department DBS has issued a number of directives that allowed them more flexibility in providing services which included remote services that they were not able to do before. They began with 0-3 right away then expanded to their over age three group. They have a surge capacity of about 60 beds throughout the three counties and these are beds that are often times set up in hotels or Airbnb for isolation and to keep people safe. Their resource development team reduced restrictions from the department around what they can and cannot fund and they contracted with hotels throughout the three counties that are empty right now. These are now reserved for them and they have a number of vendors who have earmarked staff who are waiting to support people if they need to be isolated.

Barbara Finch stated that she began working at the EOC with the Community Services Division to find shelter for folks without homes. She is familiar with the process of looking for hotels that are willing to contract with them to provide shelter. They set up a congregate shelter in Santa Maria to bring people in off the streets and in South County they were able to open a non congregate site for folks who are over 65 or medically fragile. Both of those shelters are going well and Good Samaritan has taken over the management of the Santa Maria shelter. She is also managing the volunteer program and the staffing for all of these shelter operations. They are providing food to people without homes when the Showers of Blessings are happening in five locations in South County. She now has a greater awareness about folks without homes and how difficult this situation is for them. A lot of people who were living in their vehicles were using gyms for showers and charging their devices in coffee shops. The total absence of services was really difficult for them so it has been a challenge to try and get those things out to people. The folks on the ground who are doing the work are heroes, the outreach workers from BeWell are fantastic, and the Salvation Army has come together to support folks without homes. She also was involved in the FEMA feeding program. She will reach out to Dean on this topic because the county decided that it wasn't feasible for us to do it as a county. Most recently, she has working with the Community Environmental Council who does the Food Rescue Program. They got a grant from Santa Barbara Foundation to coordinate all the different feeding programs that are happening. Community Environmental Council would love for anybody who is in either food preparation distribution or delivery to get their information up on

their website so that they can have a better view of everybody that is helping with feeding our community during these times. She is also participating on the Homeless Task Force.

- **What is the role of KIDS Network and how do we need to shift to support our partners and the community as a whole?**

Members shared the following:

Lori Goodman - Relationships build resilience. It is what we have been working on as a community and in this effort. Places that have strong relationships and who are convening are doing a better job serving and coordinating the community. It is important to continue to weave those connections more and more. KIDS network is the hub for a different set of relationships than some of her other collaborations that are sector specific. She stressed the importance of continuing to get this group together.

Barbara Finch – Agreed with Lori that weaving connections has been a big focus for the Executive Committee and the General Membership. Lori stated that there is capacity to assign people to triads through Zoom. Barbara added that a few people highlighted the expectation that all of the trauma that is coming with this event is going to play out when we begin to see more people and the impact of domestic violence and child abuse. The focus on resilience and trauma informed care is going to be important going forward. She has not heard back from ACES Aware about any of the grants that they applied for and it doesn't look like there will be a Bridges to Resilience Conference this year unless it is scaled down or perhaps have a virtual conference instead. She hopes to hear back from ACES Aware when things start to settle down. There will be an ACEs Steering Committee meeting on Friday and they will talk about how to keep moving forward with this.

Maria Chesley – Agreed with Lori's suggestion around keeping each other informed of what they are doing and looking for connections and efficiencies. There is value in staying connected and maybe there is a more efficient way to do it. Perhaps it is by having a conversation by category rather than agency so it can be topics like food, child abuse, etc. Barbara is aware that for the first time in her tenure at the county seniors and kids are coming together. Maybe they can blend it all together. It takes a strong community to raise children well. Amy agreed with Maria's suggestion on keeping the conversations going and keeping more frequent communication.

Barbara Finch - They will be trying to get a strong cross sector prevention team together to dive into the impact of COVID on our communities as far as kids and families are concerned. Teachers in schools are also an important part of this and another place that they want to put their energy on. The current prevention plan doesn't include anything specific to schools and they would like to revisit the action plan and talk about what needs to shift. The intention with this group is to focus in on the impacts of child abuse and neglect in our community and how we can move into primary prevention and give folks the tools they need to assist us with that goal. If you are not part of the prevention team and would like to be part of the prevention team, please reach out to Barbara. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

Dean Palius – Hopefully this is a temporary but intermediate term crisis. As a multi-programmatic agency, they have shifted priority to emergency food and basic means, but it does not mean that they are ignoring the rest of the services that need to be provided. They have people who had employer paid insurance who do not have it anymore and medical treatment for the adults and

children is in jeopardy. Currently, there are problems with vaccinations because of social distancing but there are also problems with prescriptions and medical treatment for children because there is no insurance. There is still concern with drug abuse prevention, domestic violence and child abuse but they have a slightly lower priority than perhaps before. He stressed the importance of not giving up what is at the core of KIDS Network. Barbara stated that we want to make sure that we are being responsive and supportive of the needs of the community and all of the membership. They worked hard to get the principles for Resilient Santa Barbara County to be articulated and solidly in place and it will be a good anchor for the work going forward.

Barbara Finch shared that she is currently working at the EOC three days a week and two days a week at DSS. The EOC often has emergencies that need her attention and it has made it hard for her to manage her DSS job in two days or less. Hopefully as things progress the emergencies will be less and things will run smoothly. Dean suggested having a joint meeting between KIDS Network and the Adult & Aging Network as this is a time where there is tremendous crossover. Barbara agreed that now there are multiple organizations that are touching both networks. She has led the Senior Task Force at the EOC where there are different people coming to the table and recognizing the value of relationship building and the collaboration and the communication among people. It is a weekly meeting and it is a good way for folks to understand how the work is being done in the community.

John Winckler mentioned that a lot of people are talking about getting back to normal when all of this ends but this may be the new normal and we might not get back to the way things were in a lot of situations. We are now using telehealth and there is talk about continuing telehealth long after COVID ends. Perhaps KIDS Network can shift some focus to telehealth and teleschool work. How do you be resilient when you are not physically connected as much as you used to be? Barbara asked folks to forward any tele resilience information to the group if they come across it.

Barbara Finch added that Hannah has been trying to reach out to organizations and get updates. She will be looking at the ACES Connection community site to make sure it has easy access to COVID resources.

5. Review of By-Laws

- **Follow-up on items discussed on 3.4.2020**
- **Continue with VII.**
 - **Section 2. Executive Membership**
 - **Section 3. Terms of Membership**
- **Review VIII – XII as time permits**

VII. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. KIDS Network General Membership:

Amy will get guidance from County Counsel regarding the wording on the following sentence: In addition, General Membership shall include but not be limited to, the following members.

Section 2. Executive Committee Membership: The Executive Committee shall be comprised of members of the KIDS Network General Membership. Membership is limited to no more than 156 members. Member composition is determined as follows:

(3) **Up to two** KIDS Network Community Vice-Chair, defined as any KIDS Network member not representing a public agency;

Section 3. Terms of Membership:

a) KIDS Network General Membership – There is no term limit for KIDS Network general members. ~~Members/Organizations will sign an agreement to become a voting member. There will be a reconciling process that we will do from time to time.~~ Membership may be terminated by a member at any time by notifying KIDS Network staff in writing. ~~If a member misses more than two consecutive meetings, KIDS Network staff shall re-evaluate the member's ability to serve.~~

b) Executive Committee – The term of each member is three years. Members may serve unlimited consecutive terms. ~~If a member misses more than two consecutive meetings without notifying staff or appointing an alternate, the~~ **KIDS Network General Membership** ~~will make a recommendation regarding the member's continued ability to serve as a representative on the Executive Committee.~~ Executive Committee members may select one alternate who may vote on his or her behalf when the Executive Committee member is unable to attend a meeting.

1. **Non-profit representatives** – No changes
2. **County representatives** – No changes

6. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 7/24/06
Department Name: Social Services
Department No.: 044
Agenda Date: 8/8/06
Placement: Departmental
Estimate Time: 30 min.
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Kathy Gallagher, Director
Department of Social Services

STAFF Katharina Zulliger, Coordinator
CONTACT: KIDS Network, 346-8222

SUBJECT: KIDS Network FY 05/06 Annual Presentation and Revised By-laws

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and accept the KIDS Network 2006 Annual Presentation; and
- b) Approve the attached Resolution amending the by-laws for the KIDS Network of Santa Barbara County.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 7, Strengthen the Safety and Well-Being of Children and Their Families to Ensure a Strong Future for our Community.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

a) KIDS Network 2006 Annual Presentation

The KIDS Network was established by the Board of Supervisors in 1991 to serve as Santa Barbara County's interagency coordinating council for children, youth and family services, and to be the Board's community advisory body on children, youth and family issues. The attached presentation includes a summary of the 2005-2008 adopted Strategic Plan for the KIDS Network, as well as a progress report for the 05/06 fiscal year.

b) Revision to By-laws

The KIDS Network's original by-laws were incorporated in Board Resolution 91-421 approved on July 16, 1991 and were last amended on June 18, 2002. During 2005-2006, the KIDS Network carried out a strategic planning process. During this process, members expressed a desire to revise the organizational structure of the KIDS Network with the goals to a) increase oversight and accountability regarding the Strategic Plan

objectives; and b) increase efficiency and clarify member roles, while maintaining diverse and meaningful participation. An ad-hoc committee comprised of policy council and advisory committee members met over several months and developed a recommendation for a revised structure, which was approved by the membership on June 29, 2006. All revisions to the by-laws are organizational in nature and will not affect the mission, purpose or function of the KIDS Network.

Under the revised by-laws the KIDS Network will be comprised of the following organizational components:

1. KIDS General Membership:

- Open to anyone with an interest in contributing positively to issues affecting the lives of children, youth and families in Santa Barbara County
- Serves as the Board-appointed advisory body responsible for needs assessments, planning and priority setting, such as accomplished in the Strategic Plan.

2. KIDS Executive Committee:

- 15-member appointed and elected executive committee representing the General Membership at large
- Responsible for providing overall accountability regarding all KIDS Network activities to the Board and the public, including determining outcome measures and ensuring that desired objectives from the strategic plan are achieved.

The proposed revisions to the by-laws have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel.

Mandates and Service Levels:

No change.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

None.

Special Instructions:

After approval by the Chair of the Board, please forward certified copies of the Minute Order to:

- (1) KIDS Network, 2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway, Santa Maria, CA 93455, Attn: Katharina Zulliger.
- (2) Dept. of Social Services, 234 Camino del Remedio, Santa Barbara, CA 93110, Attn: Paula Haines

Concurrence:

County Counsel

County Administrator

Attachments:

- I. Presentation
- II. Resolution
- III. By-Laws

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED) RESOLUTION NO 2006-_____
RESOLUTION REGARDING THE)
AMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS OF) BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
THE KIDS NETWORK OF SANTA) OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
BARBARA COUNTY)

WHEREAS, the establishment of the KIDS Network of Santa Barbara County was unanimously approved on July 16, 1991 by the Board of Supervisors' Resolution No. 91-421 and its by-laws were last revised by Board of Supervisor's Resolution 02-223 on June 18, 2002, and

WHEREAS, the Resolution included a section setting forth the by-laws or rules for membership, duties and powers of the KIDS Network in accordance with SB 997 (Welfare and Institutions Code, Chapter 12.8, Section 18986 et seq.), and

WHEREAS, certain changes in the organizational structure (Exhibit A: Bylaws) of the KIDS Network are now recommended which will strengthen the KIDS Network's ability to carry out its mission, and

WHEREAS, none of the recommended changes affects the KIDS Network's legal status as a SB 997 body, according to Statute.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 8th day of August, 2006 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

By _____
Joni Gray
Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
MICHAEL BROWN
Clerk of the Board

By _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
STEPHEN SHANE STARK
County Counsel

By _____

By-laws of the KIDS Network of Santa Barbara County

I. NAME

The council established by these by-laws shall be known as the Santa Barbara County KIDS Network (the “KIDS Network”).

II. PURPOSE (MISSION STATEMENT)

The mission of the KIDS Network is to provide comprehensive, collaborative community services to children, youth and families by:

- improving coordination, planning, communications and cooperation among service agencies;
- identifying gaps and overlaps in services;
- providing a forum for clarifying perceptions and expectations among and between county agencies and the community;
- setting priorities for interagency projects;
- implementing collaborative programs, public and private, to better serve children, youth and families;
- attracting resources from both the public and private sectors to meet children, youth and families' needs; and
- actively striving for geographic, linguistic, ethnic and economic diversity in membership and in respect to all services provided by its members.

III. AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the Welfare and Institutions Code Sections §18986-18986.30 and the authorization of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors, the KIDS Network is established as an independent organization under County government.

IV. GEOGRAPHIC AREA

The KIDS Network shall serve the entire Santa Barbara County.

V. ORGANIZATION

The KIDS Network shall be comprised of the following organizational components:

- a) KIDS Network General Membership – all members at large
- b) KIDS Network Executive Committee – elected or appointed members from the General Membership responsible for providing oversight and accountability to members at large, the Board of Supervisors and the public.

VI. Functions and Operations

Section 1. General: The KIDS Network shall act in an advisory capacity to the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors and the community with respect to issues relevant to children, youth and families.

Section 2. Specific Functions

a) KIDS Network – The specific functions of the KIDS Network General Membership shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Serve as a forum for public and private agencies to collaboratively discuss issues relevant to children, youth and families and develop recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Issues may be identified by the KIDS Network or may be referred to the KIDS Network by the Board of Supervisors or the Executive Committee, and may include developing priorities for resource allocation.
2. Participate in a planning process, which identifies issues relevant to children, youth and families in Santa Barbara County requiring the County's and community's attention. Such a planning process shall be designed to review needs, priorities, services, gaps in services and special programs and shall identify strategic focus areas which could benefit from collaborative action. Any strategies developed based on this process shall include goals and objectives in accordance with the County of Santa Barbara's Policy on Children, Youth and Families, as adopted by the Board of Supervisors. Proposed actions deemed appropriate activities for the KIDS Network may include, but are not limited to, coordination, advocacy, public education, facilitation of services or resource development.

3. Serve as the Board-appointed advisory body responsible for needs assessments, planning and priority setting, such as for the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program (PSSF).
4. Designate members to serve on task-forces and committees as appropriate.

b) The Executive Committee - The specific functions of the Executive Committee shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Provide overall accountability regarding all KIDS Network activities to the Board of Supervisors and the public.
2. Provide Strategic Plan oversight.
3. Plan activities and set agendas for general meetings of the KIDS Network as advised by the full membership. Communicate plans, activities and outcomes to the KIDS Network, the Board of Supervisors and the general public when deemed appropriate.
4. Where appropriate and available, commit and direct resources and discretionary funding for services or activities identified by the KIDS Network as priorities.
5. Appoint task forces or committees, incorporating existing planning groups as appropriate, to study and recommend solutions on issues raised by the KIDS Network, the Board of Supervisors or the Executive Committee.

VII. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. KIDS Network General Membership: The KIDS Network shall encourage a geographically, linguistically, ethnically and socio-economically diverse membership including, but not limited to, community-based organizations, parents, community members, faith based groups, educators, County and other public agencies. Members shall live, work, volunteer or be otherwise engaged in supporting children, youth and families in Santa Barbara County and shall support the vision and mission of the KIDS Network. In addition, General Membership shall include but not be limited to, the following members:

(a) Persons responsible for management of the following county functions:

- (1) Alcohol and drug programs.

- (2) Children's services.
- (3) Housing and redevelopment.
- (4) Mental health services.
- (5) Probation.
- (6) Public health services.
- (7) Welfare or public social services.
- (b) The presiding judge of the county's juvenile court, or representative.
- (c) The superintendent of the county office of education and at least one superintendent of a unified school district within the county.
- (d) A prosecuting attorney of the county or city and county, or representative.
- (e) A representative of a private nonprofit corporation which has a goal of entering into a public private partnership with the county to meet the needs of children that are not adequately met by existing public or private funds.
- (f) One member of the County Board of Supervisors.
- (g) A representative of law enforcement.
- (h) A representative of the local child abuse council.
- (i) A representative of a local planning agency participating in the California Early Intervention Program pursuant to Subchapter VIII (commencing with Section 1471) of Chapter 33 of Title 20 of the United States Code.
- (j) A representative of the local child care resource and referral agency or other local child care coordinating group.
- (k) A representative, or representatives, of one or more community-based organizations with ties to the ethnic communities served in the area.

Section 2. Executive Committee Membership: The Executive Committee shall be comprised of members of the KIDS Network General Membership. Membership is limited to no more than 15 members. Member composition is determined as follows:

- (1) One member of the Board of Supervisors;
- (2) Director of the Department of Social Services (County Department appointing and supervising the KIDS Network staff) or designee;

- (3) KIDS Network Community Vice-Chair, defined as any KIDS Network member not representing a public agency;
- (4-5) Two Community Representatives, defined as any KIDS Network member representing the community at large, including but not limited to a parent, a volunteer, a faith-based representative or any other group or collaborative;
- (6) A School Representative;
- (7) A Representative of the First 5 Children and Families Commission serving the 0-5 Population;
- (8) A Representative of Special Needs Children;
- (9-12) Four Representatives from non-profit corporations whose primary focus of service is to children, youth and families, and whose programs and services reflect the strategic focus areas and geographic regions of this county;
- (13-15) Three additional Representatives from County Departments as recommended by the KIDS Network and appointed by the Chair whose services reflect the Network's current strategic focus areas.

Section 3. Terms of Membership:

- a) **KIDS Network General Membership** – There is no term limit for KIDS Network general members. Membership may be terminated by a member at any time by notifying KIDS Network staff in writing. If a member misses more than two consecutive meetings, KIDS Network staff shall re-evaluate the member's ability to serve.
- b) **Executive Committee** – The term of each member is three years. Members may serve unlimited consecutive terms. If a member misses more than two consecutive meetings, KIDS Network staff shall alert the KIDS Network General Membership, which will make a recommendation regarding the member's continued ability to serve as a representative on the Executive Committee. Executive Committee members may select one alternate who may vote on his or her behalf when the Executive Committee member is unable to attend a meeting.

- 1. Non-profit representatives** – Should more than four non-profit representatives meeting the above stated criteria step forward to serve on the Executive Committee, the KIDS Network General Membership will elect the representatives by vote. Elections shall be held at the June KIDS Network Meetings, unless deemed necessary by staff to conduct a vote during another regularly scheduled meeting. Only members present at the meeting may vote and no member of the KIDS Network may vote by proxy. In the event of elections not scheduled for the June meeting, members must receive at least fifteen (15) days prior written notice of the intent to elect a new non-profit representative at another regularly scheduled meeting.
- 2. County representatives** – County representatives will be recommended by the KIDS Network General Membership and appointed by the Chair.

VIII. Meetings

Section 1. General. The KIDS Network shall meet monthly or as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee. The KIDS Network General Membership will hold at least three regular open meetings per year on a posted schedule. In addition, the Executive Committee shall hold at least three additional regular open meetings per year on a posted schedule. Members of the public may attend the open KIDS Network General Membership and Executive Committee meetings, but only members of the KIDS Network General Membership or Executive Committee, respectively, may vote.

Section 2. Special Meetings. In addition to the regular meetings, any three members may call special meetings in accordance with Brown Act noticing requirements.

Section 3. Quorum. Executive Committee meetings shall require a quorum to conduct business. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be defined as the presence of a simple majority of the filled seats. No member of the KIDS Executive Committee may vote by proxy with the exception of a designated alternate determined at the beginning of the term.

IX. OFFICERS

Section 1. Chair and Vice Chair. The Board of Supervisors appoints the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Section 2. Community Vice-Chair.

a) The Community Vice-Chair will be elected by the KIDS Network membership. All members not representing a public agency are eligible to serve as a Vice-Chair. Elections shall be held at the June KIDS Network Meetings, unless deemed necessary by staff to conduct a vote during another regularly scheduled meeting. Only members present at the meeting may vote and no member of the KIDS Network may vote by proxy. In the event of elections not scheduled for the June meeting, members must receive at least fifteen (15) days prior written notice of the intent to elect a new Community Vice-Chair at another regularly scheduled meeting.

b) The Community Vice-Chair term shall be for three years and he/she may serve unlimited consecutive terms. In the event that prior to the expiration of his or her term, the Community Vice-Chair resigns or becomes ineligible for service, a new Vice-Chair will be elected at the General Membership meeting immediately following the date of the resignation, provided at least fifteen (15) days prior written notice of the intent to elect a new Community Vice-Chair was given to each KIDS Network member. In the event a resignation occurs less than 15 days before a scheduled meeting, the election shall be held at the subsequent regularly scheduled meeting after notice has been provided.

X. KIDS NETWORK STAFFING

The activities of the KIDS Network will be administered by the Network Coordinator with clerical support. The Coordinator shall be based in the Department of Social Services and the Department of Social Services Director shall be deemed the appointing authority for the position, as well as provide general supervision. The KIDS Network Coordinator will receive general direction from the KIDS Network, the Chair and the Executive Committee.

XI. COMMITTEES

The KIDS Network may form standing committees or ad-hoc committees to work on specific issues and propose a recommended course of action for the General Membership. Committees shall be composed of no less than three members and shall include members of the General Membership and the Executive Committee.

XII. AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the General Membership by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that each member of the membership received at least fifteen (15) days prior written notice of the intent to amend the Bylaws.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

* * * * *

M I N U T E O R D E R

May 28, 1996, in the a.m.

Present: Supervisors Naomi Schwartz,
 Jeanne Graffy, William B. Wallace,
 Timothy J. Staffel and Thomas Urbanske
 and Kent M. Taylor, Clerk (Cohen)

Supervisor Graffy in the Chair

RE: Supervisors Schwartz and Urbanske (Social Services) -
Consider adoption of a resolution approving the KIDS Network's
proposed revisions to the Santa Barbara County Policy on Children,
Youth and Families. (96-19,967) (FROM APR. 9, MAY 7 1996) (EST.
TIME: 15 mins.)

Schwartz/Urbanske Adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 96-213

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED)	
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A REVISED)	RESOLUTION NO. 96-213
COUNTY POLICY ON CHILDREN,)	
YOUTH AND FAMILIES.)	BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS the County of Santa Barbara's existing Policy on Children, Youth and Families was first adopted by the Board of Supervisors on July 16, 1991 by unanimous approval of all members, and the Board's first action in implementing this Policy was the creation of the County's KIDS Network as it's primary advisory body on children, youth and family issues, and

WHEREAS the Board of Supervisors recognizes that existing policy statements need to be reviewed periodically and brought up-to-date, and that the KIDS Network membership agreed to complete this task for the Board, and

WHEREAS the Board accepts the revisions proposed by the KIDS Network in the attached updated County Policy on Children, Youth and Families and commits this Board to the guiding principles therein, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors adopts the attached revised County of Santa Barbara Policy on Children, Youth and Families.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 28th day of May, 1996, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Schwartz, Graffy, Wallace, Staffel, Urbanske

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

By Jeanne Graffy
Jeanne Graffy
Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Kent M. Taylor
Clerk of the Board

By Robert Cohen
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
SHANE STARK
County Counsel

By [Signature]
Deputy

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Agenda Item #

3

Date:

REQUEST TO SPEAK

IN FAVOR

(Please print)

Mr.

Mrs.

Miss/Ms.

DAVID EDELMAN

Address (optional):

401 N Milpitas

SB

(City)

Cal

(State)

93105

(Zip)

Representing (optional):

Klein Bottle York Pagers

(Organization, etc.)

ALL INDIVIDUAL SPEAKERS AND ORGANIZED PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ARE SUBJECT TO TIME LIMITS IMPOSED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR.

Persons desiring to address the Board of Supervisors must complete and deliver to the Clerk a speaker slip **prior** to the commencement of the item.

WHEN SPEAKING, BE BRIEF, STAY ON SUBJECT, PRESENT ONLY NEW INFORMATION.

(Chair will call you to the microphone at the appropriate time.)

MAY 7 1905


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Urbanske/Schwartz Continued to May 28, 1996.

K.I.D.S. MEMO

DATE: May 2, 1996

TO: Clerk of the Board, Attn: Deanna Cox

FROM: Hedy Damery, KIDS Network Coordinator 

RE: Request to Reschedule Item

This will confirm our conversation today regarding the need to reschedule the hearing of the revised "**County Policy on Children, Youth and Families**" from May 7th to the new date of May 28th. The item should require no more than 15 mins.

Thank you.

cc: Charlene Chase, DSS
Freya Schultz, CA

96 MAY -6 AM 9:59
COUNTY OF SAN JOSE
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
AGENDA BOARD
LETTER**

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Room 407 105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240



Agenda Number:

Prepared: 4/10/96

Department: **SOCIAL SERVICES**

Budget Unit: **5810**

Agenda Date: **May 7, 1996**

Placement: **Departmental Admin.**

Estimated Time: **20 mins.**

Continued Item: Yes, from 4/9/96
(to calendar item)

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Naomi Schwartz**, Supervisor, 1st District
and Chair, KIDS Network
and
Tom Urbanske, Supervisor, 5th District
and Vice-Chair, KIDS Network

STAFF

CONTACT: **Hedy Damery**, KIDS Network
x4452

SUBJECT: Revised County "Policy on Children, Youth and Families"

RECOMMENDATIONS:

C.A. Recommendation: _____

That the Board of Supervisors:

Adopt the KIDS Network's proposed revisions to the existing Santa Barbara County Policy on Children, Youth and Families as shown in the attached draft.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On July 16, 1991 the Board of Supervisors adopted the first County of Santa Barbara Policy on Children, Youth and Families. The Board's first action in implementing the new policy was the creation of the KIDS Network. During the ensuing years, the Policy has served our community well as a set of guiding principles. The members of the KIDS Network feel it is also important to periodically review the Policy to bring it up-to-date. We hope that the revised Policy more accurately reflects Santa Barbara County's progress in developing and supporting a more coordinated, community-based, family-focused and strength-based approach to children, youth and family services.

DISCUSSION:

All proposed changes to the existing Policy are clearly shown on the attached draft, with additions in italics and deletion in strike-out script. A Preamble was added to speak to the document's purpose and a list of sections was included to assist readers. The number of children in the County referenced in the beginning of the Philosophical Statement on page 1 is an estimate based on increases in school enrollments, which we feel is more accurate than using the six-year-old 1990 Census numbers.

19967

Subject: Revisions to County's "Policy on Children, Youth and Families"

Agenda Date: May 7, 1996

Page: 2

Changes in the body of the policy document reflect our attempt to include language that takes a more holistic approach to children, youth and families' well-being.

In Sections 1 and 3 language about environmental hazards of particular concern to families has been added.

In Sections 2, 4, and 14 language was added that better reflects the need for greater inclusiveness of community, business and educational organizations in planning and delivery of services, as well as a better understanding of cultural diversity at all levels. Also in Section 14 we have added a bullet on the need to align priorities for funding and develop a sound reinvestment policy; items already a part of the Board's own Strategic Plan.

Other changes are minor; to correct wording no longer relevant, such as the reference in Section 13 to the county's "legislative advocate", or substitute the correct title for the annual report card on children.

Overall, we feel the document is now easier to read and makes a clearer statement about county policy in this important area of service. We would further suggest that the revised Policy, after approval, be widely distributed throughout the county's service provider network, a task that would be carried out by the KIDS Network.

MANDATES AND SERVICE LEVELS:

No change.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

After approval by the Board of Supervisors, please forward one (1) copy of the Minute Order to KIDS Network, c/o Dept. of Social Services, Attn: Hedy Damery.

Concurrences:

County Administrator

County Counsel

THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA POLICY ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

PREAMBLE

This document is intended to serve as a guide to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara in setting policy and making decisions on issues affecting the welfare of children, youth and families in our county. The statements in this Policy represent the ideal and a goal for conducting the county's business.

PHILOSOPHICAL BACKGROUND

Santa Barbara County is home to an *estimated 95,000* ~~over 86,000~~ children under the age of eighteen, representing nearly one-fourth of the county's total population. These children are cared for in a diversity of family structures, reflecting the vast changes families have undergone in the last 35 years.

Families play an essential and unique role in society. They care for dependents economically and emotionally, offer a foundation for the values and ethics of each new generation, motivate children to achieve educationally, and provide a sense of belonging that is essential to human growth and dignity. Children, because of their physical and mental immaturity, are especially vulnerable and require special rights to protect them and to meet their unique needs.

In November 1989, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a legal document which sets out universally acceptable standards. Since its adoption, scores of countries around the world have ratified the Convention, thereby making it law. The U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child states that:

"Children have the right to survival: through the provision of adequate food, shelter, clean water and primary health care; the right to protection: from abuse, neglect and exploitation, including the right to special protection in times of war; and the right to develop: in a safe environment through the provision of formal education, constructive play, advanced health care and the opportunity to participate in the social, economic, religious and political life of the culture - free from discrimination."

In recognition of these rights, the County of Santa Barbara is committed to supporting and strengthening programs, services and facilities which serve and address the needs of children, youth and families, and to establishing such new services as may be necessary to meet future needs.

-SECTIONS OF POLICY STATEMENT-

- 1. PROMOTING SAFE, HEALTHY AND PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENTS**
- 2. ASSURING ACCESS TO PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALL CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**
- 3. PLANNING COUNTY GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN MIND**
- 4. ~~4.~~ TRUANCY, DROP-OUT AND EDUCATIONAL FAILURE PREVENTION**
- 5. FACILITATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND ADEQUATE SHELTERS**
- 6. EXPANDING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN MIND**
- 7. PROMOTING AND EXPANDING QUALITY CHILD CARE**
- 8. SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN THE WORKPLACE**
- 9. SUPPORTING OUR EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING SYSTEMS**
- 10. PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**
- 11. CREATING ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMS**
- 12. RECOGNIZING AND APPRECIATING SANTA BARBARA COUNTY'S RICH CULTURAL DIVERSITY**
- 13. ADVOCATING ON THE LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY CONCERNS**
- 14. EXPANDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

POLICY STATEMENT

1. PROMOTING SAFE, *HEALTHY* AND PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

The County of Santa Barbara is committed to promoting safe and secure environments wherever children, youth and families *live or gather*.

The County of Santa Barbara, recognizing that its responsibility for protecting children, youth and families can best be met by preventing the potential causes of harm, commits itself to aggressive prevention and early intervention efforts to reduce the likelihood of prenatal exposure to drugs, alcohol *and other teratogens (toxic substances injurious to health)*; childhood injury or illness *caused by environmental hazards*; abuse, neglect and exploitation of children; and youth drug and alcohol abuse, unsafe sexual practices, suicide and homicide.

2. ASSURING ACCESS TO PHYSICAL, MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES FOR ALL CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

The County of Santa Barbara *seeks to will* provide appropriate physical, mental health *and substance abuse* services and use of facilities to all families regardless of their ability to pay.

The County of Santa Barbara will assume a leadership role, *in partnership with community-based organizations*, in promoting community awareness of children's and youth's physical, mental health, *and substance abuse* issues and *the development of* appropriate resources for families.

3. PLANNING COUNTY GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN MIND

The County of Santa Barbara is committed to providing and promoting a safe, secure, protective, healthy and stimulating community environment for its children, youth and families.

With regard to both existing and future conditions, the County of Santa Barbara will bear this commitment in mind as it considers the direct and indirect impact of its actions on children, youth and families as it makes decisions and during the planning processes in all areas of land use, development, zoning, *environmental regulations*, transportation, *and* human services. ~~social services, health services and mental health services.~~

4. TRUANCY, DROP-OUT AND EDUCATIONAL FAILURE PREVENTION

The County of Santa Barbara will work with ~~school districts~~, local educational agencies, juvenile justice agencies, recreation departments, law enforcement and community-based ~~non-profit~~ agencies to provide intervention and guidance to children, youth and families in an effort to reduce truancy, drop-out rates, teen pregnancies, alcohol & drug abuse, preventable injuries *and illness* in children, abuse, neglect, violence in the home, homelessness and other factors that contribute to educational failure.

The County of Santa Barbara will encourage and support school districts and their collaborative partners to establish and sustain Healthy Start and other school-based or school-linked programs that work with families to support children's academic and social success.

5. FACILITATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND ADEQUATE SHELTERS

The County of Santa Barbara is committed to the recommendations put forth in the 1990 Comprehensive Homeless Assistance Plan (CHAP) report, resulting in the development of a community/school liaison project, the needs assessment of youth living on their own, and as it relates to promoting affordable housing for *families*. ~~households with children and youth.~~

The County of Santa Barbara will be an active participant in community efforts to facilitate transitional and affordable housing resources and services. Additionally, the County will support and expand existing services such as temporary shelters and shelters for runaways. The goal is to assure each ~~child, youth and~~ family a permanent home, reducing and preventing the trauma of chronic homelessness.

6. EXPANDING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN MIND

The County of Santa Barbara will coordinate transportation access, education and safety of current *public* transportation systems and will create guidelines for future development of public transportation for children, youth and families.

The County of Santa Barbara will work cooperatively with cities, school districts, the County Office of Education and other organizations and agencies that serve children, youth and families. This will include working cooperatively with the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) system's goals. ~~currently under development.~~

7. PROMOTING AND EXPANDING QUALITY CHILD CARE

The County of Santa Barbara is committed to expediting and facilitating the development of accessible, affordable and quality child care spaces to meet the demand for services. *The County will support the efforts of the Child Care Planning Council to expand and improve the availability and quality of child care resources for families.*

The County of Santa Barbara will encourage the development of private and non-profit *community-based* child care spaces through the development of partnerships and shared resources. The County of Santa Barbara will continue to serve as a model of how employers can address their employee's child care needs and as an example of quality child care/development programs.

8. SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN THE WORKPLACE

The County of Santa Barbara will assume leadership in providing a workplace supportive of families by *implementing family-oriented employment policies that enable all families to meet their responsibilities at home and at work.* These may include health insurance, child care, elder care, employee assistance, family leave, flexible work hours and prorated benefits for less than full time work.

The County of Santa Barbara will encourage the private sector to implement similar family-oriented personnel policies.

9. SUPPORTING OUR EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING SYSTEMS

The County of Santa Barbara will collaborate with all its school districts, community college districts, private schools, colleges and universities and the University of California in order to

maximize educational, developmental and learning opportunities for all children, youth and parents.

Through joint use of facilities, cooperative agreements for staffing, sharing of expertise and provision of programs and services, Santa Barbara County will *promote, develop and support* innovative methods by which developmentally appropriate activities, educational opportunities and *job* training can be provided.

The County of Santa Barbara is committed to working with educational, health care, social service and recreational organizations to provide training opportunities for those professionals who work with children, youth and families.

**10. PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PARTICIPATION
AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SKILLS BUILDING**

The County of Santa Barbara will take a proactive role in the development of youth issues and programs by supporting existing programs and services as well as promoting expansion of such services as the need demands. The County will promote youth leadership programs through youth-serving agencies. The County will concentrate on the development of youth empowerment and on developing self-esteem building programs for children and youth.

The County will encourage and promote programs that teach youth skills in conflict resolution, independent living and problem solving, so that youth will be prepared to take their place in our community as contributing adults.

**11. CREATING ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH
RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMS**

The County of Santa Barbara will *take a proactive role in the development of* ~~provide~~ a full range of recreation and cultural arts programs and activities for all children, youth and families in Santa Barbara County. The County will cooperate with cities, agencies and other organizations to promote and encourage such programs and activities.

**12. ~~RECOGNIZING AND APPRECIATING~~ RAISING AWARENESS OF
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY'S RICH CULTURAL DIVERSITY**

The County of Santa Barbara will provide an atmosphere for children, youth and families that encourages understanding, awareness and respect of our community's cultural diversity.

The County of Santa Barbara will *seek to be serve* as a model, as well as encourage *other* public, private and *community-based organizations non-profit-sectors* in the development of programs for children, youth and families that promote understanding, appreciation and respect for cultural diversity *and in the education and training of staff in cultural competency*.

**13. ADVOCATING ON THE LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS
FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY CONCERNS**

The County of Santa Barbara recognizes the need for *adequate increased* resources and services for children, youth and families. The County also recognizes that legislative action may be necessary to establish funding priorities and enact health and safety measures for children and youth.

The County of Santa Barbara will, ~~with assistance from its Legislative Advocate~~, advocate for legislation supporting better child, youth and family-centered policies and *adequate, stable sources of increased* funding for programs and services at the local, state and national level.

The County of Santa Barbara recognizes its responsibility to raise the awareness of the general population regarding the *condition and needs* ~~plight~~ of children, youth and families in Santa Barbara County. The Board of Supervisors will therefore cause an annual "*Children's Scorecard for Santa Barbara County*." ~~"State of Children, Youth and Families in Santa Barbara County"~~ report to be prepared and made public.

14. EXPANDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The County of Santa Barbara recognizes its responsibility in identifying and establishing broad-based funding sources, *budget priorities, and reinvestment strategies* in order to meet the goals of this policy. The County will:

- establish children, youth and families as a priority throughout the annual budget process;

- annually review the County budget to determine where funds can be directed to children, youth and families;
- enlist *community and business organizations* ~~the business community~~ to support the policy goals in tangible ways;
- identify and pursue additional public and private sources of funding to meet children, youth and families' needs; and
- promote alignment of priorities for funding across all public and private funding agencies and foundations.

SUMMARY

The County of Santa Barbara Policy on Children, Youth and Families is adopted by the County Board of Supervisors as a pronouncement of its commitment to all children, youth and families in Santa Barbara County.

The purpose is to assure that as Santa Barbara County grows and develops, the safety, health, education and care of children, youth and families is considered in every phase of that growth.

The County of Santa Barbara will continually seek to maximize existing resources and services as well as seek new broad-based resources to support services for children, youth and families. **Coordination of the delivery system for services to children, youth and families is a top priority.**

It is hoped that federal, state and local governments, as well as community-based organizations, will join the County of Santa Barbara in its commitment to plan for our collective future by caring for our children, youth and families.

The County of Santa Barbara Policy on Children, Youth and Families was first adopted by the County Board of Supervisors in 1991. The first step in implementing the Policy was the creation of the County of Santa Barbara's KIDS Network. Since then, much has been accomplished in support of the goals of the policy, and much remains to be done. The County of Santa Barbara will continue to assume a leadership role in promoting and implementing this policy.

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THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA POLICY ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

PREAMBLE

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The County of Santa Barbara will encourage and support school districts and their collaborative partners to establish and sustain Healthy Start and other school-based or school-linked programs that work with families to support children's academic and social success.

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The County of Santa Barbara will be an active participant in community efforts to facilitate transitional and affordable housing resources and services. Additionally, the County will support and expand existing services such as temporary shelters and shelters for runaways. The goal is to assure each ~~child, youth and~~ family a permanent home, reducing and preventing the trauma of chronic homelessness.

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The County of Santa Barbara is committed to expediting and facilitating the development of accessible, affordable and quality child care spaces to meet the demand for services. *The County will support the efforts of the Child Care Planning Council to expand and improve the availability and quality of child care resources for families.*

The County of Santa Barbara will encourage the development of private and non-profit *community-based* child care spaces through the development of partnerships and shared resources. The County of Santa Barbara will continue to serve as a model of how employers can address their employee's child care needs and as an example of quality child care/development programs.

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The County of Santa Barbara will assume leadership in providing a workplace supportive of families by implementing family-oriented employment policies that enable all families to meet their responsibilities at home and at work. These may include health insurance, child care, elder care, employee assistance, family leave, flexible work hours and prorated benefits for less than full time work.

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Through joint use of facilities, cooperative agreements for staffing, sharing of expertise and provision of programs and services, Santa Barbara County will *promote, develop and support* innovative methods by which developmentally appropriate activities, educational opportunities and job training can be provided.

The County of Santa Barbara is committed to working with educational, health care, social service and recreational organizations to provide training opportunities for those professionals who work with children, youth and families.

**10. PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PARTICIPATION
AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SKILLS BUILDING**

The County of Santa Barbara will take a proactive role in the development of youth issues and programs by supporting existing programs and services as well as promoting expansion of such services as the need demands. The County will promote youth leadership programs through youth-serving agencies. The County will concentrate on the development of youth empowerment and on developing self-esteem building programs for children and youth.

The County will encourage and promote programs that teach youth skills in conflict resolution, independent living and problem solving, so that youth will be prepared to take their place in our community as contributing adults.

**11. CREATING ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH
RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMS**

The County of Santa Barbara will *take a proactive role in the development of* provide a full range of recreation and cultural arts programs and activities for all children, youth and families in Santa Barbara County. The County will cooperate with cities, agencies and other organizations to promote and encourage such programs and activities.

**12. ~~RECOGNIZING AND APPRECIATING~~ RAISING AWARENESS OF
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY'S RICH CULTURAL DIVERSITY**

The County of Santa Barbara will provide an atmosphere for children, youth and families that encourages understanding, awareness and respect of our community's cultural diversity.

The County of Santa Barbara will *seek to be serve* as a model, as well as encourage *other* public, private and *community-based organizations non-profit-secters* in the development of programs for children, youth and families that promote understanding, appreciation and respect for cultural diversity *and in the education and training of staff in cultural competency*.

**13. ADVOCATING ON THE LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS
FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY CONCERNS**

The County of Santa Barbara recognizes the need for *adequate* ~~increased~~ resources and services for children, youth and families. The County also recognizes that legislative action may be necessary to establish funding priorities and enact health and safety measures for children and youth.

The County of Santa Barbara will, ~~with assistance from its Legislative Advocate~~, advocate for legislation supporting better child, youth and family-centered policies and *adequate, stable sources of increased* funding for programs and services at the local, state and national level.

The County of Santa Barbara recognizes its responsibility to raise the awareness of the general population regarding the *condition and needs* ~~plight~~ of children, youth and families in Santa Barbara County. The Board of Supervisors will therefore cause an annual *"Children's Scorecard for Santa Barbara County"* ~~"State of Children, Youth and Families in Santa Barbara County"~~ report to be prepared and made public.

14. EXPANDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The County of Santa Barbara recognizes its responsibility in identifying and establishing broad-based funding sources, *budget priorities, and reinvestment strategies* in order to meet the goals of this policy. The County will:

- establish children, youth and families as a priority throughout the annual budget process;

- annually review the County budget to determine where funds can be directed to children, youth and families;
- enlist *community and business organizations* ~~the business community~~ to support the policy goals in tangible ways;
- identify *and pursue additional* public and private sources of funding *to meet* children, youth and families' needs; and
- *promote alignment of priorities for funding across all public and private funding agencies and foundations.*

SUMMARY

The County of Santa Barbara Policy on Children, Youth and Families is adopted by the County Board of Supervisors as a pronouncement of its commitment to all children, youth and families in Santa Barbara County.

The purpose is to assure that as Santa Barbara County grows and develops, the safety, health, education and care of children, youth and families is considered in every phase of that growth.

The County of Santa Barbara will continually seek to maximize existing resources and services as well as seek new broad-based resources to support services for children, youth and families. Coordination of the delivery system for services to children, youth and families is a top priority.

It is hoped that federal, state *and local* governments, *as well as community-based organizations*, will join the County of Santa Barbara in its commitment to plan for our collective future by caring for our children, youth and families.

The County of Santa Barbara Policy on Children, Youth and Families was first adopted by the County Board of Supervisors in 1991. The first step in implementing the Policy was the creation of the County of Santa Barbara's KIDS Network. Since then, much has been accomplished in support of the goals of the policy, and much remains to be done. The County of Santa Barbara will continue to assume a leadership role in promoting and implementing this policy.

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THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA POLICY ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

PREAMBLE

This document is intended to serve as a guide to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara in setting policy and making decisions on issues affecting the welfare of children, youth and families in our county. The statements in this Policy represent the ideal and a goal for conducting the county's business.

PHILOSOPHICAL BACKGROUND

Santa Barbara County is home to an *estimated 95,000* ~~over 86,000~~ children under the age of eighteen, representing nearly one-fourth of the county's total population. These children are cared for in a diversity of family structures, reflecting the vast changes families have undergone in the last 35 years.

Families play an essential and unique role in society. They care for dependents economically and emotionally, offer a foundation for the values and ethics of each new generation, motivate children to achieve educationally, and provide a sense of belonging that is essential to human growth and dignity. Children, because of their physical and mental immaturity, are especially vulnerable and require special rights to protect them and to meet their unique needs.

In November 1989, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a legal document which sets out universally acceptable standards. Since its adoption, scores of countries around the world have ratified the Convention, thereby making it law. The U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child states that:

"Children have the right to survival: through the provision of adequate food, shelter, clean water and primary health care; the right to protection: from abuse, neglect and exploitation, including the right to special protection in times of war; and the right to develop: in a safe environment through the provision of formal education, constructive play, advanced health care and the opportunity to participate in the social, economic, religious and political life of the culture - free from discrimination."

In recognition of these rights, the County of Santa Barbara is committed to supporting and strengthening programs, services and facilities which serve and address the needs of children, youth and families, and to establishing such new services as may be necessary to meet future needs.

-SECTIONS OF POLICY STATEMENT-

1. **PROMOTING SAFE, HEALTHY AND PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENTS**
2. **ASSURING ACCESS TO PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALL CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**
3. **PLANNING COUNTY GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN MIND**
4. ~~9.~~ **TRUANCY, DROP-OUT AND EDUCATIONAL FAILURE PREVENTION**
5. **FACILITATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND ADEQUATE SHELTERS**
6. **EXPANDING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN MIND**
7. **PROMOTING AND EXPANDING QUALITY CHILD CARE**
8. **SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN THE WORKPLACE**
9. **SUPPORTING OUR EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING SYSTEMS**
10. **PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**
11. **CREATING ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMS**
12. **RECOGNIZING AND APPRECIATING SANTA BARBARA COUNTY'S RICH CULTURAL DIVERSITY**
13. **ADVOCATING ON THE LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY CONCERNS**
14. **EXPANDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

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