



The San Mateo County Child Abuse Prevention Council

Minutes: October 5, 2020

Call to Order: 10.51 a.m.

Present: Maria Del Rio (Star Vista), Stephanie Loera (Family Connections), Yadira Mederos de Cardenas (Family Connections), Aracely Vasquez (Star Vista), Chris Perry (SVC).

Item: Public Comment/Brown Act – No members of the public requested to comment.

Introductions – Members introduced themselves.

Member Check-In:

This was a check-in meeting to see how everyone is doing and to discuss the challenges people are facing. The four members who were in attendance gave brief updates on the work going on in their agencies.

Jane reported on an ACES AWARE webinar that she had attended. Maria gave an update on her program which is very busy. The schools need help engaging the students participating in online learning and the parents need support in dealing with the online format with their children. Aracely said that her work is going well, and she is busy having just completed an RFP process. Yadira continues to get used to her new position as coordinator, working hand in hand with the program director. Family Connections will be starting online family assessments by October 15th. Stephanie continues to provide therapy for her clients.

Besides the updates on their work everyone felt stressed and uneasy about life in general. People agreed that last week's presidential debate and the election season were adding to the anxiety of dealing with life in the pandemic.

Members discussed their own challenges with distance learning for their children. Their children range in age from college to toddler and ages in between. Each age group faces its own difficulties. Having to be the teacher's aide, the P.E. teacher, the Cafeteria Lady and take on many other supportive roles is huge. In general, there was gratitude that they were able to work from home so they can be there for their own children. And their personal experiences give them insight and compassion as they support their clients.

Some members are dealing with family or friends who have been sick with COVID and some have had relatives die from the disease, and because of the restrictions placed on all of us there has not been an opportunity to grieve or say good-bye to those they have lost.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45

NEXT MEETING – October 19, 2020, 10:45-12:00

Jane Smithson, CAPC Coordinator

Phone: (650)743-4934 | E-Mail: jane@sharedvisionconsultants.com