



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

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

Department Name: Social Services
Department No.: 044
For Agenda Of: 4/6/10
Placement: Set Hearing
Estimated Tme: 30 minutes on 4/13/10
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Kathy Gallagher, Director
Director(s) Department of Social Services
Contact Info: Katharina Zulliger, Child Abuse Prevention Council
(805) 346-8222

SUBJECT: **Santa Barbara County Child Abuse Prevention Council – Annual Update**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors set a hearing on **4/13/10** to receive and accept the Santa Barbara County Child Abuse Prevention Council's annual progress report and presentation.

Summary Text:

The Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) is a mandated membership council with the primary purpose of coordinating Santa Barbara County's efforts to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect.

The Child Abuse Prevention Council engages in strategic, coordinated and county-wide prevention through the following activities designed to raise awareness, educate, engage the community and strengthen coordination between prevention, intervention and treatment services. **All work contributed by CAPC members is provided in-kind to support the prevention of child abuse and neglect in Santa Barbara County.**

1. **Public Awareness Activities and Education.** Public awareness about child abuse and neglect prevention serves to garner support for prevention programs and services and helps the public to understand that child abuse and neglect can be prevented through coordinated community efforts. Education of professionals in contact with children and families allows them to be aware of indicators of child abuse and neglect, follow correct reporting procedures and refer families at-risk or connect them with resources.

CAPC Members:

- a. **Educated over 100 students and community members in a Child Abuse Prevention Academy** at Allan Hancock College. The 3-hour long training was geared to students in the early care and education field, medical sciences and other professional careers requiring mandated reporting.
 - b. **Reached over 400,000 unduplicated persons with its April Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities.** Activities include a county-wide television media campaign, featuring three different prevention messages and window-decals for county and law enforcement cars promoting the prevention message during the month of April.
 - c. **Trained 750+ Mandated Reporters.** The Child Abuse Prevention Council has provided its members with a standard mandated reporting presentation created in collaboration with Child Welfare Services. **Collectively CAPC members and Child Welfare Services reach over 1,500 mandated reporters every year.**
 - d. **E-mailed over 2,000 copies of the CAPC Connection to the community.** A bi-monthly newsletter targeted towards the Mandated Reporter in the education field, addressing such topics as how to report correctly, information on types of abuse and related indicators and where to go for help.
 - e. **Launched a CAPC Website.** The Child Abuse Prevention Council has launched a website containing prevention-related information and resources for the public.
- 2. Community Engagement Activities.** Child Welfare Services is an intervention agency with the responsibility to investigate and respond to allegations of child abuse and neglect. Effective child abuse and neglect prevention requires the engagement of the community at all levels.

CAPC Members:

- a. **Prepared and supported eleven parents in attending a Leadership Conference.** The inclusion of parents in the prevention effort is essential. Parents know their families, interact in their communities and provide an informal support system to each other. Prepared and supported by CAPC members, a team of eleven parents from Santa Barbara County attended a Parent Leadership Conference in Ontario, where they met with their counterparts from San Luis Obispo and Ventura. These parents are now locally engaged in child abuse prevention efforts.
 - b. **Gathered over 100 North County community members and public agencies to work together for prevention.** The summit held in collaboration with Child Welfare Services and the District Attorney's Office engaged the community in finding solutions to an increased occurrence of child abuse and neglect in North County. **A North County Workgroup continues to meet to implement the suggested solutions.**
- 3. Strengthen Coordination between Prevention and Intervention and Treatment.** To be effective the entire continuum of child welfare services, from prevention through after care services must be coordinated and integrated. Having a county-wide prevention strategy that responds to priority needs identified in the County Self Assessment and that is shared by the community is key in reducing rates of child abuse and neglect.

To streamline the continuum of services and to integrate prevention, intervention and treatment planning at the local level, **CAPC Members:**

- a. **Participated in the County Self Assessment** and the Child Welfare System Improvement Plan.
- b. **Coordinated with CWS** to create the Three-Year Plan for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, which guides the county's child abuse and neglect prevention services.

Background:

Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18980 et seq. mandates that each county support a local Child Abuse Prevention Council. The State Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) requires counties to demonstrate the existence of a functioning CAPC to access federal and state child abuse prevention funds.

In 2006 the Santa Barbara County Child Abuse Prevention Council was restructured to better meet the mandate of serving as a community-wide council with a dedicated focus to:

- Coordinating the prevention of child abuse and neglect;
- Raising community awareness about child abuse and neglect; and
- Educating service providers, community groups and the public about the issue and their specific role in prevention.

Locally, the creation of the dedicated Child Abuse Prevention Council for Santa Barbara County has led to:

- An increased awareness of the importance of prevention and the role the community plays in effective prevention;
- A shared understanding of effective prevention programs, as well as the principles and values that guide their implementation;
- Increased coordination with intervention and treatment efforts; and
- A commitment by service providers and community agencies to collaborate effectively on behalf of preventing child abuse and neglect by participating actively in planning, implementing and executing strategies following a shared vision.

The Santa Barbara County CAPC currently has 23 active members representing public and private organizations with expertise in child abuse and neglect prevention, as well as community members and parents committed to supporting child abuse and neglect prevention efforts. Staffing is provided in-kind by the Department of Social Services (KIDS Network).

The Santa Barbara County Child Abuse Prevention Council is a member of the **Coastal Tri-Counties Child Abuse Prevention Coalition**, a regional collaboration with San Luis Obispo and Ventura Counties.

Performance Measure:

See above.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

| <u>Funding Sources</u> | <u>Current FY Cost:</u> | <u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u> | <u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| General Fund | | | |
| State | | | |
| Federal | | | |
| Fees | | | |
| Other: Children's Trust Fund | \$ 20,000.00 | | |
| Total | \$ 20,000.00 | \$ - | \$ - |

Narrative:

Child Abuse Prevention Council activities are funded through the Children’s Trust Fund. The April Media campaign was supported with funds from the Department of Social Services.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

In-kind only

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

Please forward one copy of the minute order to KIDS Network, Attn: Katharina Zulliger, Department of Social Services, 2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway, Santa Maria

Attachments:

1. Power Point Presentation
2. Child Abuse Prevention Council Roster
3. CAPC Fact Sheet produced by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention
4. CAPC Connection (Latest Issue)
5. Child Abuse Prevention Council outreach materials

Authored by:

Katharina Zulliger

CC:

Barbara Finch, Santa Barbara County Child Abuse Prevention Council
Child Abuse Prevention Council