



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY
ADMINISTRATION

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

0479

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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December 4, 2000

AGENDA: December 12, 2000

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: DRAFT PLAN FROM CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION

Dear Board Members:

On November 21st, your Board received the draft strategic plan from the Children & Families Commission. This plan was in response to the new funding and mandates of Proposition 10 which added 50 cents to each pack of cigarettes and directed those funds to be spent on children and their families, ages 0-5. The law requires the funds be spent on 3 general areas: health care, supporting strong families, and preparing children to be ready to learn when they enter kindergarten. The Commission has had extensive public input in the planning process and worked to develop goals and strategies which met the criteria of the law and the concerns of local citizens.

The summary of this critical work is attached and is an extract from the body of the full report and all its attachments.

Analysis:

The Health Services Agency and the Human Resource Agency have reviewed the draft strategic plan. In the health section, HSA staff found that the needs assessment, outcome indicators, and the proposed strategies were clinically sound and reflected their understanding of critical community needs. No changes to the plan are recommended in this area.

The Human Resource Agency staff have also reviewed the plan and found that the strong families section had a identified good range of strategies for addressing the needs of local families and support systems. The strategies for supporting families would make significant contributions to high risk families and provide more customer friendly support systems.

The third goal of Proposition 10 is to have children prepared and ready to learn when they begin kindergarten. In this section of the plan, the indicators and needs assessment were excellent and reflected problems, particularly in child care, which confront the whole nation. Access to affordable, quality childcare is a problem for a large number of families in the County.

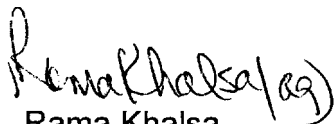
It is also clear that the education and training of the childcare workers makes a big difference in the quality of the child care experience as educational preparation for the child. Activities focusing on literacy are also critical for school preparation. Wages, benefits, and education were critical factors to be addressed to insure that the outcomes of this plan can be achieved. However, the issue of wages and benefits for childcare staff is a complex one to address and reaches far beyond the resources of the Children and Families Commission.

Many different sources of funds are need to address the issue of low wages and it's impact on the workforce. Consultation and guidance on how to begin to address this are recommended because of the complexity and magnitude of the problem. It is also recommended that the special challenges of low income families and their ability to pay for child care be a top priority within this goal area.

It is, therefore, RECOMMENDED that your Board:

Accept and file this report and support recommended changes to the Strategic Plan to emphasize the need for technical assistance in the area of child care wages and benefits as well as prioritizing the needs of low income families with children 0-5 who cannot currently access child care, and direct staff to share these additions to the plan with the Children and Families Commission ,

Sincerely,



Rama Khalsa
Health Services Administrator



Cecilia Espinola
Human Resource Agency Administrator

COMMUNITY GOAL AND COMMUNITY LEVEL INDICATORS	DESIRED CHILD (CLIENT) OUTCOME	PROMISING STRATEGIES, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
<p>HEALTHY CHILDREN</p> <p><i>Children Are Born Healthy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Percent of women receiving early and adequate prenatal care ✓ Rate of alcohol and drug exposed infants at birth ✓ Teen birth rate <p><i>Children Remain Healthy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Percent of children who have healthcare coverage ✓ Percent of children who have ongoing source of comprehensive care/a medical home and utilize this care ✓ Percent of two year old children who are fully immunized ✓ Percent of children who have dental care coverage ✓ Percent of children who have an ongoing source of comprehensive dental care and utilize this care ✓ Percent of children with anemia (nutritious diet) ✓ Rate of children hospitalized for asthma ✓ Rate of emergency and urgent care utilization for children for non-injury related illnesses ✓ Rate of obese children ✓ Percent of children exposed to second hand smoke ✓ Percent of women who initiated breast feeding at birth and continued at 6 and 12 months 	Increased numbers of children will have a medical home and early detection screening	<p style="text-align: right;">0482</p> <p><i>Integrated Systems and Comprehensive Care</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A health and social services care management system for children and a clearinghouse for their families and health care provider
	Increased access to primary health care (prenatal, natal, post natal care) for children	<p><i>Benefits Outreach and Advocacy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Benefits advocacy in every community clinic and access to benefits advocacy for private care providers ✓ Outreach and streamlined enrollment in Healthy Families Insurance program, Medical and CCS enrollment and re-enrollment
	Increased number of children under age 2 who are fully immunized on time	<p><i>Immunization Registry</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Immunization registry with capacity for referrals to multiple providers ✓ Free or low cost immunizations, with information link back to primary care/multiple providers
	Improved parents access to health information	<p><i>Home Visitation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Para-professional home visiting program ✓ In-home Nursing Support Program for high risk infants ✓ Early detection screening programs
	Improved health status For high-risk infants	
	Improved dental status for children	<p><i>Comprehensive Dental Care</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Comprehensive dental treatment services ✓ Funded premiums for dental insurance ✓ Parent education ✓ Water fluoridation
	Increased number of children born drug and alcohol free	<p><i>Drug and Alcohol Screening</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Expanded prenatal drug and alcohol treatment ✓ Universal screening at birth
	Improved physical fitness for children	<p><i>Physical Fitness</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Physical fitness activities
	Increased number of well nourished infants and children	<p><i>Nutrition</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Nursing friendly policies, nursing spaces in the workplace and partner education
	Increased number of children living in smoke free homes	<p><i>Smoking Cessation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support and promotion of smoking cessation programs

COMMUNITY GOAL AND COMMUNITY LEVEL INDICATORS	DESIRED CHILD (CLIENT) OUTCOME	PROMISING STRATEGIES, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
<p>STRONG FAMILIES</p> <p><i>Children Live in Safe and Supportive Environments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Percent of children living at 250% of poverty level by age six ✓ Percent of child support paid ✓ Rate of children with petitions filed by court for child abuse and neglect ✓ Rate of hospitalizations due to unintentional and intentional injuries ✓ Percent of parents of children enrolled in parenting programs/classes ✓ Rate of exposure to alcohol and drug abuse ✓ Rate of exposure to domestic violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 } Increased number of parents will have information about programs and services for their children and families 	<p style="text-align: right;">0483</p> <p><i>Family Resource Centers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Family resource centers with mobile services ✓ Countywide, coordinated information and referral services ✓ Parenting support and education programs ✓ Web based access to information related to family needs ✓ ‘Welcome Baby Kits’ for all newborns and their families
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Increased number of parents with English language literacy 	<p><i>Literacy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ English literacy programs linked to child care settings and family resource centers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 } Increased number of families with higher income 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 } Increased number of parents with better parenting skills 	<p><i>Home Visitation and Parent Education</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pam-professional home visiting program ✓ Parenting support groups and education programs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 } Increased number of children with special needs will have access to the services they are entitled to by law 	<p><i>Parent Support Groups</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Parent information, advocacy and support groups for special needs children
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 } Increased number of children in out-of-home placement will live in high quality foster care homes 	<p><i>Foster Parent Training</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Foster parent training and supportive services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Increased number of children living in homes free from family violence 	<p><i>Domestic Violence Parenting Education</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Parenting education for all family members
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 } Increased number of children receiving their court ordered child support 	<p><i>Child Support Programs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Programs to receive court ordered child support

COMMUNITY GOAL AND COMMUNITY LEVEL INDICATORS	DESIRED CHILD (CLIENT) OUTCOME	PROMISING STRATEGIES, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
<p align="center">SCHOOL READY CHILDREN</p> <p><i>Children Have Accessible and High Quality Child Care</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Percent of child care providers who receive adequate training and technical support to provide high quality care for children ✓ Percent of preschool and child care slots available ✓ Percent of children 0-2 years of age enrolled in high quality preschool and child care programs ✓ Percent of children 2-5 years of age enrolled in high quality preschool and child care programs ✓ Percent of children who are adequately screened on a periodic basis for developmental delays or behavioral/emotional disorders ✓ Percent of parents/families reading to their children on a regular basis ✓ Percent of children demonstrating early literacy skills ✓ Kindergarten attendance rate ✓ Percent of children who are not promoted to the first grade ✓ Average number of hours per week of television watched by children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Increased number of children experience high quality child care 	<p align="center">0484</p> <p><i>Highly Qualified Child Development Workforce</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Menu of financial incentives such as health insurance or retirement benefits for child care providers who enhance their training and education ✓ On-site training, mentoring and technical assistance to child care providers ✓ Professional substitute pool available to child care providers ✓ Menu of financial incentives to child care providers for accepting more infants and toddlers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Increased number of children arriving at Kindergarten having developed a broad range of literacy skills 	<p><i>Literacy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Comprehensive literacy development programs in association with libraries ✓ Language arts training program offered to all child care providers ✓ Teacher training and appropriate materials to teach literacy skills to preschool children ✓ Book distribution system and parent education program in locations where parents take their children, such as clinics ✓ Revolving book and educational toy delivery system ✓ Activities/programs to transition preschoolers to kindergarden
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Increased number of parents who are seeking child care, and those who are eligible for subsidies, will be aware of the full range of options available to them and will understand how to successfully access the subsidies 	<p><i>Parent Outreach</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Marketing and outreach strategies to inform parents of program/service availability ✓ Streamline the application process for services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Improved functioning of children with behavioral problems 	<p><i>Mobile Development Screening/Mental Health Teams</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mobile mental health teams that can conduct on-site assessments and screenings

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Allocation of Resources

0486

Estimated Total Revenue through March 31, 2001 \$8,228,000

Estimated Total Expenses through March 31, 2001 \$ 317,000

Annual Allocation of Resources Twelve Month Period Beginning April 1, 2001

Grants	Healthy Children	
	Grants over \$10,000	\$ 970,000
	Mini-Grants (\$100-\$10,000)	\$ 30,000
		<u>\$1,000,000</u>
	Strong Families	
	Grants over \$10,000	\$ 970,000
	Mini-Grants (\$100-\$10,000)	\$ 30,000
		<u>\$1,000,000</u>
	Children Learning and Ready For School	
	Grants over \$10,000	\$ 970,000
	Mini-Grants (\$100-\$10,000)	\$ 30,000
		<u>\$1,000,000</u>
Training and Outcome Measurement Assistance to Grantees		\$ 100,000
Integrated Systems for Families		\$ 281,000
Community Participation (Civic Engagement)		\$ 28,000
<u>Commission Operations</u>		<u>\$ 302,000</u>
		\$3,711,000
Special Project and Capital Improvements Funding		\$1,500,000
Available for Future Grant Making and Commission Operations from Revenues Accumulated through March 31, 2001		\$2,700,000