Minutes: September 20, 2021

Call to Order: 10.50 a.m.

Present: Donovan Fones (CFS), Susan Swope (JJDPC), Peter Ehrhorn (Family Connections), Stephanie Loera (Family Connections), Betsy A’Neals (LPCH Stanford), Jazz Lamadoro (CFS) John Fong (CFS) Araceli Garcia (Star Vista), Nikolas Stelmaschenko (Star Vista), Alyssa Canfield (Star Vista), Gina Alvarez (Family Connections), Kyoko Robinson (CASA), Karla Santiago-Reyes (Family Connections), Elsa Aispuro (Redwood City School District), Ana Gomez (Family Connections), Anna Fairbank (CASA), LaRay Hilt (CASA), Michelle Griffith (Redwood City School District), Louise Robaina (BHRS), Michael Lim (Mental Health Substance Abuse Recovery Commission), Chris Perry (SVC).

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

Introductions – Members introduced themselves.

Presentation – Community Prevention – John Fong and Jazz Lamadoro presented on Agency Priorities and Future Prevention Initiatives. John gave a picture of hotline calls during the Pandemic year. As of March 2020 calls were down 70%. By May 2020 due to a Public Service Announcement and the work of Community Partners calls were up 40% from the March level. As of today things are getting closer to normal – hotline calls are down just 10%.

The County is expanding toward a vision of a child well-being system rather than child protection. The goals are to insure the safety of children, improve lifelong stability, and improve the health and strength of families.

Federal and State governments are highly committed to shifting the focus to Prevention. Prevention-based initiatives used in San Mateo County are FRC’s, Safe Care Parent Education, Triple P Parent Education, Adoptions Parent Education (during the pandemic year 34 adoptions were finalized in the county), Transportation Services, Integrated Core Practice Model and the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA).

FFPSA promotes a vision for comprehensive prevention-based services; Title IVE funds are now available for these services. This is a big change for the county and will be a focus for funding opportunities.

Meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – October 18, 2021

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