



San Mateo County Child Abuse Prevention Council

May 1, 2025

1:30 - 2:30 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order: 1:30 p.m.

Present:

Name	Agency	Role
John Fong	HSA - Children & Family Services	Director
Morgan Peterson	San Mateo County Children & Family Services	Program Analyst
Donovan Fones	Human Services Agency	Supervising Mental Health Clinician
Alley	StarVista Differential Response	Program Coordinator
Mayra Cruz	First 5	Operation Coordinator
Melissa Egge	Standford; Keller Center	Child Abuse Pediatrician
Melissa Guariglia	Family Connections	Director of Infrastructure & Clinical Services
Dr. Beth Grady	San Mateo County So. S. F. Clinic	(Retired) Pediatrician
Melissa Guariglia	Family Connections	Director of Infrastructure & Clinical Services
Michelle Blakely	First 5	Deputy Director
Sean Hughes	Social Change Partners	
Eric Valladares	Family Connections	Sr. Executive Director
Katie Hubner	Social Change Partners	

I. Welcome and Public Comment:

The San Mateo County Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) was welcomed by San Mateo County Children & Family Services John Fong. A brief overview of the objectives for today's committee meeting was provided.

Public Comment/Brown Act:

No members of the public requested to comment.

II.. Child Abuse Prevention Month Debrief

A Deputy District Attorney presented on behalf of the DA
Cassandra represented the Keller Center and spoke about the work done as a multi-disciplinary team in San Mateo County.

A supply of protective factors pocket-size handbooks was received and are available for distribution to committee members. Interested committee members can send a request via email to CFS analyst Morgan Peterson. An abridged version is available if the number of surveys requested reaches the maximum limit.

Report Out – Other CAPC Committee Member CAPC Month Activities

First 5 did a deeper dive into the protective factors throughout the month.

The past year's theme was Strengthening Families which was presented to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors (BOS). BOS Proclamation was received.

Next Year Planning

- Theme
- BOS Presentation
 - Report out on work done in 2025

III. Comprehensive Prevention Plan (CPP) Status Update

San Mateo County CPP, (developed over 1.5 years ago and approved by the State), is in the implementation phase. The CCP, a State developed process for the County to opt into the Family Federal Services Act to pursue new federal funding for programs and services designed to prevent the need for foster care.

CCP Priorities for the 2024-25 year were shared.

Work on phase 1 of implementation scheduled for last year and into the current year; much progress has been made.

- CAPC Committee was relaunched during the past year, meeting monthly
- Workgroups were formed
- CYSOC (System of Care) reengaged.
John Fong Chair of CYSOC
- Parent and Youth Partner Program
 - Request for Proposals (RFP) released
 - Vendor selected
- Current focus is on the development of the Community Pathways to Services and evidenced based programs, funded by the Federal Govt.

IV. Develop A Community Pathway to Services

A Goal outlined in the CPP: Create Pathways to services for families outside of child welfare system involvement, utilizing community-based partners to do:

- Intake
- Assessments
- Referrals to services

Design to be accessible and fiscally sustainable.

Areas of focus: Intake and Assessment.

The Feds will only provide financial support for imminent risk of foster care

Under review:

- parameters for imminent risk
- intake processes currently used by community based organizations
- risk assessments used in intake of families
- different access points (i.e. cobs and contractors) for services
- future expansion to other systems (i.e. education, public health)

Goal: families can access services without becoming involved in child welfare while utilizing federal funding.

Additional work on aligning Community Pathways program with the County's Differential Response Program.

Building on what is currently in place and enhance the availability of services to families.

Leverage Federal funds to create additional pathways to services and enhance availability of services available to families and children.

The workgroup will meet through the Summer.

United for Youth Initiative run by the County Office of Education focus on the mental health and wellbeing of children and families. Services are delivered in school settings.

For further analysis, at the local level, services currently being offered in schools.

Aligning existing services with other local initiatives to avoid duplication of services.

A. Evidence Based Programming

Only 10 programs available in the State that are federally reimbursable.

Surveys done to determine current delivery in the County.

Focus on 2 areas, Home Visiting and Motivational Interviewing

Home Visiting

The County has several providers in place.

Healthy Families of America

- Flexible
- Serves a large range of families
- protocols can be added to expand the type of families HFA serves including child welfare involved

Solana County has expanded and embedded protocols into their HFA program. They will be looked to for guidance. Services are delivered by the Public Health Department. There is an MOU between the Public Health Department and Child Welfare. They are cross training staff and submitting referrals.

Motivational Interviewing (MI)

Targeted Trainees:

- County staff engaged in prevention work
- Contracted agencies engaged in Community Pathways
- Contracted providers operating Differential response

Train all staff in MI, an evidence-based program.

Look at available MI trainers.

Develop a workplan to determine who will be trained and when over the next 12 months.

CAPC Committee members who are interested in developing capacity using MI, are to contact John Fong.

The Workgroup will provide updates on the work being done at monthly committee meetings.

VII. Vision for 2025 – 2026

Committee members were asked to share their vision for the group for the upcoming year.

San Mateo County Children & Family Services currently developing a local mandated reporter training, The training will be presented at a committee meeting when completed.

Workgroup Report Out

a. Professional Work Education Group

A year from now will have better understanding of the education component as learn more about the mandatory reporting and available resources. This will equip the workgroup to have better discussions.

b. Eric V.

Gain knowledge from current providers on how to engage participation from community when a (child abuse) report must be made, or risk factors are present. How do they keep families engaged and continue to build and maintain trust. Looking to them as a guide.

Action Steps:

- list of providers currently engaged with
- Create focus groups or similar
- Facilitate discussions (i.e. maintain trust of families who are at risk)

Develop language and strategies with providers to shift the narrative and dialogue about child welfare and protective factors.

Dr. Grady presented two resources.

Live Beyond Campaign

I.E. ACES Aware (medical providers encouraged to screen for aces and conversations with families)

Website: livebeyondca.org

Resources:

- videos about ACES
- Stress busters
- Palm Cards available (similar to Protective Factors)
- Testimonials of users

STOP IT NOW (Natl. organization on sexual abuse)

Website: [StopItNow.org](https://stopitnow.org)

Resources: handouts, posters

Important resources for families who are not ready to engage in programs.

VIII. Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, June 5, 2025

Location: HSA Office, Rosa Parks Conference Room

500 County Center, Redwood City, Ca.

Time: 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Agenda Topics:

1. Protective Factors Discussion
2. Overview of Mandated Reporter Training @ local discussion
3. Statewide effort to move from mandated reporting to community reporting.

IX. Meeting Adjourned