



KIDS NETWORK EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

August 7, 2024

Los Olivos Grange

MINUTES

Attendance: Bridget Baublits, Lisa Brabo, Maria Chesley, Katie Cohen, Erin Cross, Peggy Dodds, Lori Goodman, Susan Liles, Ann McCarty

Staff: Barbara Finch and Elizabeth Drake

1. **Welcome & Introductions**

Barbara Finch welcomed everyone and had members introduce themselves.

2. **Approve Minutes May 1, 2024**

It was moved and seconded by Peggy Dodds and Laurie Goodman respectively, to approve the minutes from the meeting on May 1, 2024. Katie Cohen, Bridge Baublits and Ann McCarty abstained. All voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

3. **Public Comment – Items not on the agenda**

- The Breaking Barriers, Power of One 2024 Integrated Care Symposium will be held on November 17-19 in Sacramento. Fliers were passed out at the meeting, and Bridget will send the electronic version to Barbara for distribution.

4. **Evolution of the Network**

Barbara led a discussion on the evolution of networks, particularly in relation to children's services in Santa Barbara County (see attached). The main focus is on improving connections between organizations within the county to enhance collaboration. Barbara showed the **Mapping Our Connections** diagram which was created using a program called Kumu and shared in the May meeting and (see attached). The application is used for social network mapping, which helps visualize relationships, referral pathways, and connections among organizations. Maria stated that Kumu has good customer support and will help with adapting the use of the program to fit the networks' needs. Since the May meeting many have expressed interest in using it to help with mapping referrals and resources for children's services within the county.

After demonstrating the mapping tool in May, Barbara was asked to put together a description of the networks serving youth in our county (see attached). Barbara will send the Google link for members to check/edit and make sure their organizations are represented and add any they think are pertinent. The group discussed how to categorize networks, differentiate between open and closed meetings, include contact information, keep the document up-to-date, and how best to present the information for public access. The goal is to create better inter-organizational and public awareness and collaboration, specifically around services for children, community schools, and other support networks.

5. **Children's Scorecard: Looking at Systems of Support**

Barbara led a brief discussion about systems, particularly around the idea of a coherent county-wide prevention system for children and families in need of support. The group was tasked with thinking through how to define the prevention system, specifically secondary prevention which targets families at risk, how to measure its success and what data should be collected to track progress. Maria handed out a questionnaire and asked everyone to work with a partner to

explore the above questions and take notes on what they discussed. The focus was on current system improvement measures and reflection in regards to how this exercise contributes to broader efforts like the Children's Scorecard. The group gave the following feedback:

- **How do we describe/define the system?**
 - It looks different for different ages (e.g. juvenile justice doesn't apply to five-year-olds)
 - It includes referrals
 - Ideally there are common frameworks that guide the system (e.g. protective factors, ACES, etc.).
 - Ideally the system includes shared learning opportunities. This includes learning from those who are, and who are not, accessing the system.
 - There should be feedback loops that contribute to continuous quality improvement within the system.
 - **How well is the system working?**
 - Any system that's working well has redundancy so that it can function if one part fails.
 - A successful system includes efficiency where you can move between components and there are clear roles.
 - One way to measure how well a system is working is by people continually using it. Referrals might lessen, but issues like poverty and racism are not going to resolve. There are certain services that are successful if people stay engaged with them. Staying engaged is important for some of our clients.
 - Creating independence is good, but a client knowing that they can re-engage when they need it is important.
 - A system that's working well helps to create natural supports.
 - The number of referrals is not a good measure of success. Training (including post-tests) on how to make a referral correctly and creating appropriate policies is important.
 - The system needs to have evidence-based models along with using best practices and assessment tools (for the system as whole).
 - Different components of the system are assessed for success differently (e.g. engaging in CalFresh vs. Probation).
 - Measuring success/data at different levels should be considered. For example, how many people are enrolled in a system versus how many are actually using it, and how they are using it, are their needs being met, etc. is important to consider in some programs.
 - Carefully considering what data we actually collect, analyze and measure to include in the Scorecard is essential.
 - Taking a look at how well the components in the system communicate with one another to serve the client should be measured.
 - Using satisfaction surveys in a system periodically over time can be a good way to measure its efficacy.
 - **What system improvement efforts are underway?**
 - This item was skipped due to lack of time. will be a topic that's discussed at the next meeting. Ann will send her contact information about the pilot program in Lompoc.
6. **Closing** - *General Membership is open to all – Membership Agreement required to become a voting member*
- Next General Meeting– December 4, 2024 - Los Olivos Grange
 - Next Executive Meeting – November 6, 2024 - Los Olivos Grange

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Drake, Children & Adult Network Director