



Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee Early Years Sub-Committee



When: Thursday April 5, 2012 at 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Where: Central Gateway for Families, Room 119, 9435 Young Rd

Recorder: Annette Williams

Co-Chairs: Kiran Sidhu and Cynthia Parasiliti

ATTENDANCE:

Barb Presseau	CCS – Childcare Resource and Referral	presseaub@comserv.bc.ca
Cindy Parasiliti	Child and Youth Coordinator	chwkchildand youthcoord@gmail.com
Dan Bibby	MCFD	daniel.bibby@gov.bc.ca
Debbie Denault	Chilliwack Learning Community Society	debbied@chilliwacklearning.com
Karin Rempel	Sardis Doorway	rempefamily@shaw.ca
Kiran Sidhu	FV Child Development Centre	ksidhu@fvcdc.org
Nadine Clattenburg	SD33	nadine_clattenburg@sd33.bc.ca
Sara Van Basten	MCFD Guardianship Worker	Sara.vanbasten@gov.bc.ca
Trish Ackland	Child and Youth Mental Health	trish.ackland@gov.bc.ca

REGRETS:

Margaret Castle	Chilliwack Society for Community Living	margaret.castle@cscl.org
Sheri Josephson	Chilliwack YMCA	sherjosephson@vanymca.org
Windy Solla	Stó:lō Nation Health Services	windy.solla@stolonation.bc.ca

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Agenda – Approved, with the changes noted below.

Move section 8, Agency Reports, to follow section 3, Approval of Minutes.

3. Approval of Minutes of March 1, 2012 – Approved, with change noted below.

In section 4 change Sardis Open Door to be Sardis Doorway.

4. Agency Reports

Sara (MCFD)

She is learning the new Integrated Case Management (ICM) computer system. Her work is focused mostly on children/youth 12 and under who have adoption plans.

Karin (Sardis Doorway)

- Sardis Doorway's 25th anniversary Benefit Event is on April 21st at 6:30pm. Tickets are available at Sardis Community Church or Denise (& Karin). Sardis Doorway originated as Open Door, which was part of a larger Society that had no government funding and didn't take practicum students. Sardis Open Door felt it was important to have both, so they formed their own Society after that point.
- Sardis Doorway is currently full with 11 families on the wait list for next year.
- Sardis Kiwanis supports Sardis Doorway. There used to be conversation about Sardis Kiwanis money going into the Early Years. They've come to Karin with questions to take to committee for discussion. 1) Do programs that serve young families have access to Sardis Kiwanis funding and know how to access? 2) How do Early Years programs raise their funds? They don't want to fund an 'agency' they want to fund the families. 3) How many programs are working together with the same families? They want to make sure if they put something in place the funds are well used without duplication of service/recipients.

Karin discussed with the Sardis Kiwanis representative that some agencies can't receive Bingo funds as part of their fund raising protocol, so he replied that perhaps Bingo funds can be separated from the general funds donated.

An example of funding need would be when running a family program, not having enough money for childcare or to feed the children.

An agency can donate to the Early Years Subcommittee, who would then distribute the monies. This could be an option for Sardis Kiwanis.

There are a few kinds of donations from them, primarily Protected funds and Unprotected funds. Sardis Doorway funds are now Protected. The donations purchase 4 litres of milk for 36 families for 33 weeks. Unprotected funds would be for programs on a non-repeating basis. There might be \$20,000 available in that kind of fund.

It's Cindy and Dan's recent experience that Kiwanis wants to see more outcomes for their investment in the community and wants to explore a more visible and tangible benefit.

DISCUSSION: What about Kiwanis coming to an Early Years Subcommittee meeting after feedback from committee agency participants has been given to them?

ACTION: The Sardis Kiwanis questionnaire will be emailed to Early Years Subcommittee members for people to respond on the behalf of their agencies. Cindy will complete it on behalf of the Early Years table.

Cindy (Child and Youth Coordinator)

Her Early Years Activity Chart is posted on www.childand youth.com. The following are some highlights.

- YMCA Healthy Kids Day is bringing the FUN into Health Fair. We're hoping that every agency will be able to contribute in some way. There are a lot of families that appreciate additional support who attend. There will be no electricity unless specifically requested, as most of the booths are outside. If your agency owns a tent, please bring it. There won't be any unmanned (static) booths. There is an agency sign up form, which is on the CYC website and is being circulated by email. Screening will be provided by Fraser Valley Child Development Centre and Sto:lo, in an inside room for increased privacy. The poster will contain logos of the School District, Early Years, and other participating agencies. Food arrangements haven't been solidified. Last year Chilliwack Secondary School donated the food. Cindy is networking to see if someone can help with that (for instance Todd Lueck).

DISCUSSION: What about UFV Culinary Arts program or Bowls of Hope? Besides providing food for Central Elementary, Bowls of Hope provides food for Chilliwack Connect.

ACTION: Debbie will contact Bowls of Hope regarding food provision.

- Child Development Guide is at the printers. Over the past 2 years the price has increased from \$1.05/issue to \$3.50/issue. The \$1350 budget might be short about \$100 for the current costs, so are considering printing only 500.

DISCUSSION: If agencies would like more copies, perhaps they would be interested in donating to pay for additional printing costs.

Dan would prefer additional copies printed at MCFD expense, depending on cost.

ACTION: Cindy will ask how much 1000 copies will cost in comparison to 500 and email Dan for his direction.

Kiran (FVCDC)

- Kindergarten Readiness plans for this year include two groups. One group will be a therapy group and Kindergarten readiness skills. The other group will be for children with regulation issues, and will have an Occupational Therapist on site. There are possible partnerships with Child and Youth Mental Health for those with mental health needs. FVCDC would like it at Central if possible, every Tues/Wed for 6 weeks. A parent component would be added, so the parent(s) can learn what is happening in the group/session and support it at home. All the clients for these groups need to have been referred.
- Running Positive Parenting Program this May, which is mainly for children with special needs. They're talking about running Right From the Start (parents with children 0-2) at Better Beginnings in Sept/Oct with Crystal and someone from the Child Development Centre. Also working with Sardis Doorway on a Right From the Start project.
- They have identified the need for better transition meetings as part of Kindergarten readiness, and are considering doing transition meetings in October when IEP meetings occur, then staying around until December.

Nadine (SD33)

- StrongStart was moved to Bernard Elementary School as Central's registrations had indicated a need for more classroom space. Enrolments turned out to be less than registrations had indicated, so the YMCA now uses a spare classroom for before and after school child care. StrongStarts are very full and popular.
 - Today they had a Ready Set Learn fair upstairs. Six new families were pleasantly surprised with the variety of services on site.
 - Nadine is inviting families to come and meet her and show them what Central has to offer.
- IDEA:** Information sign outside the school to update the community on what they're doing and raise interest.

Debbie (Chilliwack Learning Community Society - CLCS)

- City Wide Literacy Challenge was huge success, with 1598 participants compared to 422 in the previous Challenge, an increase of 279%. They filmed a promotional video with Shaw and went on StarFM to thank the radio station for its sponsorship.
 - Have over 600 new books to give away, which were donated by First Books. Their proposal stated they would distribute the books in the community. Please see list of books at the end of these minutes. If you would like books for your programs or have families you would like to give books to, contact Debbie directly.
- ACTION:** Give away some books at the Health Fair.
- In the past the Post Media Group has been raising funds for communities and funds called Raise-a-Reader. CCS has been the most recent group to receive those funds. This year, at the provincial level there is a relatively new literacy program called Decoda Solutions, which was formed from Literacy BC and 2010 Legacies Now joining together. Post Media Group approached Decoda and asked for their help distributing the funds rather than Post dealing with the application process. Decoda asked that this be a

collaborative rather than competitive community process. Jackie Ayer from CCS is part of EFL task group, and Debbie has conversations with Darby Wilkinson about the funding. CLCS created a list of community programs from a variety of agencies, with a distinction between Family Literacy *Programs* and Family Literacy *Initiatives*. 75% of the funds will be allocated to the designated programs/initiatives on the list, with 25% held back for those who hear about the funds after initial disbursement and ask for money. The funds will come to CLCS, then the programs/agencies will be contacted to ask if they would like to receive a portion of the funds, upon which CLCS will outline the Raise-a-Reader funding reporting requirements. Neither Post Media nor Decoda have said what the money can't be spent on (ie: staffing).

Barb (CCS Childcare Resource and Referral)

- Programs are busy. A big CCS focus at the moment is their Gala Dinner and Dance with Auction on May 5th. \$125/ticket with \$80 tax receipt; all profits will go to CCS Early Years programs. This year's theme is Scottish. CCS used to have a staff member do the event planning, but this year they've contracted to Theresa Marshall.
- Barb would like a summer camp list, inclusive of church camps, for families to access.
IDEA: Possible contacts are the Ministerial Association. City of Chilliwack, Sto:lo, YMCA.

Trish (Child and Youth Mental Health)

Young Parent Group had a meeting last month to talk about teen pregnancy rates, prevention, how to deal with it. There is nothing else to report at the moment.

ABC Conference May 17th at City Life Church. Please spread the word and register via www.childandyouth.com.

5. Business Arising – February 2nd 2012 Strat Plan Update

The Early Years Subcommittee asked the facilitators for a two year plan. It's smaller than the previous one, with a little piece from every agency; it has the same vision and mission as the previous plan. The next step is to look at the activities, prioritize them, chart according to the SMART model ("what, who where" lines). Take the piece that your agency might best be able to achieve. The following are changes discussed in the brainstorming session. Cindy will email the revised Next Steps Draft Plan document to everyone.

#1 Priority section:

- Change point 3 to read **"Partners review and support a central screening process."**
- Change *Activity Brainstorm* first bullet to say **"Review and support central screening process."**

The current central screening process has been in place for the past couple of years. In the past there was an initiative to find a way to engage more of the community, especially physicians and Health, to refer to one common place with key partners who look at the referrals. The goal was for physicians, Health Unit etc to refer without having to decide where they need to refer to. It allowed for information sharing regarding families that were getting services from everywhere and families that weren't getting any services. The administrative component was too great. It was changed to looking at complex cases only, involving children with multiple issues. Referrals then went from being too many to being too few.

Need to have leaders involved to see what they can do in terms of technology, especially a tracking program (perhaps ICM)

- Change *Activity Brainstorm* second bullet to read **"Partnering with the community to provide an annual health fair to the community."**
- Amalgamate *Activity Brainstorm* third and fourth bullets to read **"Joint training, education & promotion of child development."** All are in agreement of this priority

- Amalgamate *Activity Brainstorm* fifth bullets to read “**Encouraging increased inter-agency collaboration of services.**”

#2 *Priority* section:

- *Activity Brainstorm* first bullet – Skip for now and discuss at next meeting
- *Activity Brainstorm* fourth bullet – insert “**CYC**” directly in front of existing word “website”
- *Activity Brainstorm* fifth bullet – add “**Measuring parental confidence at the beginning/end of the program**”

ACTION: Cindy will email the SMART goals document to Early Years Subcommittee members, who will each respond with what their program can contribute.

6. New Business/other Business

Partnership with YMCA Healthy Kids Day: update on progress, next steps, commitments from each agency/troubleshooting options for staffing a Sunday date – covered in section 4, Cindy’s report

CYC Website Update – not covered

Child Development Guide – covered in section 4, Cindy’s report

Windy update on direction of Community Celebration – not covered (Windy not present)

DECISION: Today’s agenda which has agency updates at the beginning rather than at the end is preferable. In the future agencies are welcome to bring brochures, posters etc for distribution.

7. Task Group Reports – None. Meeting concluded prior to this section

8. Community Coordinator Report – Covered in section 4

9. Adjournment – 3:00 pm

Meetings: next meeting on May 3rd 2012



Addendum: Free Books (re Debbie's report, section 4)

Title	ISBN #	Age Suitability
The Popsicle Journal	1-55143-185-8	11-14
Naming the Baby	978-1-55143-772-9	13-19
Boredom blasters	1-897066-03-01	7-12
Funny Business	1-897066-40-6	8-12
Peek-a-Little Boo	1-55143-342-7	1-5
Cartooning for Kids	1-897066-38-4	7-12
Nature Shockers	1-897066-30-9	8-12
How Soccer Works	1-897349-01-7	8-12
Canadian Dinosaurs	978-1-897066-85-0	8-12
How Monkeys Make Chocolate	978-1-897066-78-2	8-12
That's Very Canadian!	1-897066-05-8	8-12
It's All in Your Head	1-897066-44-9	8-12
The Quilt of Belonging	1-897066-50-3	9-12