



Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee Early Years Sub-Committee



When: October 4, 2012 - 1:00 to 3:00

Where: Central Elementary - 9435 Young Rd., Rm # 119

Recorder: Annette Williams

Co-Chairs: Trish Ackland and Kiran Sidhu

ATTENDANCE:

Barb Presseau	CCS – Childcare Resource and Referral	presseau@comserv.bc.ca
Dan Bibby	MCFD	daniel.bibby@gov.bc.ca
Debbie Denault	Chilliwack Learning Community Society	debbied@chilliwacklearning.com
Karen Steegstra	Child and Youth Coordinator	chwkchildandyouthcoord@gmail.com
Karin Rempel	Sardis Doorway	rempefamily@shaw.ca
Kiran Sidhu	FV Child Development Centre	ksidhu@fvcdc.org
Shannon Carmichael	Central Gateway for Families/Community School Coordinator	ccecss@gmail.com
Trish Ackland	Child and Youth Mental Health	trish.ackland@gov.bc.ca

REGRETS:

Darby Wilkinson	CCS	wilkinson@comserv.bc.ca
Margaret Castle	Chilliwack Society for Community Living	margaret.castle@cscl.org
Sara Van Basten	MCFD Guardianship Worker	Sara.vanbasten@gov.bc.ca
Sheri Josephson	Chilliwack YMCA	sheri.josephson@vanymca.org
Windy Solla	Stó:lō Nation Health Services	windy.solla@stolonation.bc.ca

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Agenda

Annette will email draft September minutes to Kiran, Trish and Karen for forwarding to the committee members. Current meeting minutes will be emailed out to the email list of those present at the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes of last meeting, September 6 2012 – not reviewed, as minutes weren't distributed. Move to next meeting.

4. Business Arising from the minutes – not reviewed, as per #3 above.

5. New Business/other Business

Children/Family Christmas Parties

FVDCDC decided not to have a Christmas party for their families, due to cost and time. Kiran asked at this meeting if there is another Christmas party that FVDCDC families can

come to. Central Elementary School is having a Santa's breakfast, but it is just for Central families.

CCS Early Years programs are doing something, and Santa is invited. Barb will find out what CCS is doing and let Kiran know.

Carmen United Church does a Santa's breakfast.

November Cake with the Mayor

Traditionally on the Monday falling around Nov 20th (National Child Day), the Early Years committee hosts an event where children and families come to City Hall and attend the council meeting as the first delegation. At 2pm they arrive, mayor and council come out to greet the kids, there are activities including colouring and games, and the older kids and mayor serve cake. The kids go through city hall, serving people cake. Council meeting starts at 3pm, at which the Early Years Coordinator and/or child(ren) speak for a total time of 15 minutes. It's a reminder of who the City is working for.

Expenses for the day are about \$120. In the past MCFD or Chilliwack School District has paid for the cake. City Hall has often provided the plates, napkins, forks and coffee. Activity props are brought for the kids.

Attendance numbers are unknown.

Children and families from the YMCA after school program would likely attend. Karen has contacted a preschool that can bring kids to City Hall. Debbie Denault is willing to attend.

ACTION: Karen will contact Zoya at the mayor's office to ask about the protocol concerning a delegation request for Monday Nov 19th. Newspapers need to be invited. Karen will do an event plan, then email it to those present at this October 4th Early Years meeting for their comments/approval. Karen's event plan will identify opportunities for people to participate. It will be reviewed at the November 1st Early Years meeting. At the council meeting, Karen Steegstra will represent as the Child & Youth Committee Coordinator, plus have a child speak.

6. SMART Goals

Dan initiated conversations with Tracy and Tammy of Raise a Village. Karen, Kiran and Dan contacted them about the stalled process and are arranging a phone call with them. Raise a Village agreed that they will assemble all SMART Goals into a final report, and recommended the Early Years table assign more specific timelines to the SMART Goals.

2.1 Joint community knowledge exchange session on parenting programs

This was covered in a previous meeting, and as a result Trish compiled a list of parenting programs in Chilliwack. Left to do is to call a meeting. Karen can do this, as long as she is provided with contact information for service provider invitations. The purpose and intent need to be clarified by the Early Years table. The Parent Resource Quarterly covers ages 0-18 years. The intention of www.childandyouth.com is to be used as a community resource in the way that the Parenting Resource Quarterly was.

IDEA from Debbie: email out a summary of listings on occasion, pointing people back to the CYC website.

ACTION: Trish will send Debbie the most recent Parent Resource Quarterly, so Debbie can compare that to the CYC website listings.

DISCUSSION: CCS Lunch & Learn for service providers is quite successful. Also, the School District is providing Lunch & Learns for professionals and looking for content ideas. Maybe the CYC can take over one of the sessions to introduce attendees to the website.

GOAL: 3 hour parenting resources information exchange meeting, at which www.childandyouth.com will be promoted. One meeting goal is for attendees to agree to specified parenting principles. Karen and Trish will spearhead.

Completion Date: March 2013.

2.2 Support parent to parent initiatives/mentoring

DISCUSSION

Young Parents Services Task Group is talking to City Life Church, hoping to get the faith community involved. MCFD has involved with mentoring with youth, with City Life's involvement. There was previously a group called Mentoring of Mothers, and Big Brothers had a Grandparenting group. There was also Raising Relative's Children (Wanda Smith). MCFD has foster grandparents project for families with children ages 3-18. John Stellingwerff (CCS) has had their mentoring project for more than more than 3 years. Lana has Better Beginnings mentors.

There are lots of families where there are mental health issues. There is a need for parent mentoring, especially (but not exclusively) for young parents.

An organization or community member will commit leadership for 2 years to ensure a parent mentoring group proceeds.

3-4 agencies will have mentorship opportunities for their clients. An agency would need to train the mentors, including boundaries to help the mentors not be over-utilized or taken advantage of.

No lead agency, but instead focus on each agency that needs mentors.

GOAL: Support/recognize agencies which are doing mentoring. Show appreciation to those agencies. Don't get involved in training etc. Introduce the agencies to each other, which might help them come up with a model that fits them all.

MEASUREMENT: Find 5 organizations which are doing mentoring. Hold a recognition event. Write a press release to bring people 'out of the woodwork'.

TIMELINE: June 2013.

2.3 Production & Development of an annual Child Development Guide

*This activity is complete for 2012.

WHO: Early Years Sub-Committee

MEASUREMENT: Completed annually. Dollars need to be allocated for the Guide printing (was about \$2000). Budget for it or seek alternate funder(s). Print annually, and update as needed, no more than annually.

DISCUSSION: If the Guide includes Health & Wellness, Donna Dixson from Chilliwack Hospital and Healthcare Foundation said they can likely contribute some money. Chilliwack Hospital and Healthcare Foundation is currently marketing to the schools a 5-2-1-0 principle: 5 servings of fruits and vegetables, 2 hours of screen time, 1 hour of exercise, and 0 sugar drinks. Karen will email the committee Donna's contact information so they can get brochures.

FVRL has a copy of the Development Guide, will be bringing it to their board for approval.

Welcome Wagon contact can distribute www.childandyouth.com magnets and the Child Development Guide.

TIMELINE: Production/printing in March 2013, in time for June Healthy Kids Day.

2.4 Parents are aware/utilizing the CYC website for information, support, and knowledge of upcoming events

DISCUSSION

- Have a School District Lunch & Learn
- Promotional bookmarks to Welcome Wagon
- Annual Early Years committee sponsorship of community orientation
- Promotion in school newsletters
- Send home a pen or magnet with every Kindergarten child
- Social marketing, eg: \$1000 to help promote the website
- Website steering group is responsible to find ongoing administration funding, which is at least \$3000 annually
- Chilliwack Learning Community Society website will link to the CYC website. Debbie will add the CYC website to her email signature line for a while to promote it.
- Do we want to put private counselors on the CYC website?
- CCRR puts the CYC website on their parent page and newsletter. Promote newsletter within agencies.
- Add Google analytics.
- CLCS will Facebook about it.
- Mention the website at Kids and Cake. City Hall records all council sessions; get the clip and put on the CYC site.
- Have a banner, using the artwork from the Child Development Guide, to be used at Chilliwack Connect Day, This banner would also rotate through the CYC agencies.

DECISION: Annette to bring Google analytics stats to the monthly Early Years.

TIMELINE: November 2012 – June 2013; re-evaluate after that.

2.5 Ongoing evaluation of parenting programs and their outcomes (Measure confidence at beginning/end of program)

DISCUSSION

Possibly defer this SMART Goal until after the parents meeting in goal 2.1.

Establish a common program with user data, for consistency. Data would include “How effective is the program?” Dan will get sample of evaluations from contact in Coquitlam, and bring back to the committee. Possibly develop and implement a common tool, or collect/share what each agency is doing.

Will agencies feel like they’re being “graded”.

Have a forum with different program providers and include what they’re hearing from their clients. Don’t focus on individual parenting groups, but ask for their progress. Examples of current parenting programs are: Triple P, Right From the Start, Nobody’s Perfect.

Dan invited Kim Pilling to the November Early Years meeting.

Train the Trainer opportunity – ad in the paper.

DECISION: Incorporate it into activity 2.1. Work on 2.1 and develop 2.5 after that point.

SMART Goals section 1 Timelines:

1.1 Change to March 2013

1.2 Accomplished June 2012. Will need a task group to be formed.

Need to develop the task groups which are to be assigned to each activity, after The final report is received from Raise a Village.

1.3 Debbie will report a training opportunity at the November meeting. Training opportunities are to be added as standing agenda items at the Early Years Sub-Committee meetings.

1.4 Done. Healthy Kids Day, Chilliwack Connect.

ACTION: Link Successby6 website to CYC website.

1.5 Report to each other what new relationships or collaboration has happened over a specific time period. Collaboration often happens naturally as part of what we do.

ACTION: Add collaboration opportunities as standing item on Early Years Sub-Committee agenda. Agency updates to be specific to the Strategic Plan. Also add Coordinator's Report as standing item on agenda.

ACTION: Kiran, Karin and Trish will collaborate on recapping and emailing the Goals to Raise a Village.

7. Other Business

Tara McLaughlin from Sto:lo gave Dan their Early Education brochures which were handed out at this meeting.

Debbie talked about the recent United Way Grants, which are to be used for expansion or new programs/activities. One of the ways grants can be used is in helping children 0-6 to succeed. It's a good opportunity for the Early Years committee to partner with a not-for-profit in applying for a grant.

DISCUSSION

On Chilliwack Learning Community Society's (CLCS) work plan, they include promotion and awareness of early years children's services so more people find out about them, and to increase investment in them. CLCS could apply in conjunction with the Early Years Sub-Committee. Another option is something around optimal child development, using funds to launch the messages in the community.

CLCS videos on YouTube – last year Darby mentioned wanting attention-getting short videos which promote a program or teach something about child development.

ACTION: Karin will write the proposal. Perhaps Chilliwack Community Services will be a host agency – Barb will ask Darby about it. The following is a list of grant requests at their full cost. Amount requested will be 50% of cost, as the grant criteria stipulates 50% funding must be secured. Reprint Child Development Guide (\$2000 cost); CYC website (\$2000 cost); 2 ad banners (\$500 cost); Healthy Kids Day (\$1000 cost) bouncy castle (\$3000 cost). Deadline is Nov 15th. Dan will do budget and year-end report, adding Social Marketing as a budget line item, for use in the proposal. Phrasing to use in the proposal: "The following proposal is submitted with the support of the Early Years Committee." Grant money has to be spent by March 2014.

ACTION: Agency updates will be attached to these emailed minutes. Karen will email those present to ask them to submit their updates.

8. Next Meeting Date – November 1, 2012

9. Adjournment