

Community Support Network of Nevada County

www.csnn.org

MINUTES – CSN Partners Meeting

April 1, 2015 – 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Gene Albaugh Community Room at the Madelyn Helling Library

- 3:20 – 3:30 **Greet Incoming Partners** – 23 attended (spring break) including: Laura Harter, Child Advocates of Nevada County; Allison Bischofberger, DVSAC; Joyce Ash, Child Advocates of Nevada County; Jessica Lime, SNCS; Una Kobrin, School of Care; Ardie Andrews, CASA; Marc Nocerino, One Stop Job Training Center; Kristen McGrew, PARTNERS FRC; Jodi Benson, Hospitality House; Marcia Westbrook, Child Care Coordinating Council; Cindy Santa Cruz-Reed, Sierra College and Helping Hands Nurturing Center; Erin Noel, Community Legal; Serge Aronow, Community Legal; Christine Norwood, FREED; Jerry Jacoby, community member; Marley Mueller, CoRR; Sabrina Terrell, CoRR; Loydyne Lane, Parents' Resource Guide; Sylvia Pichitino, Sierra Forever Families; Ned Russell, Got 40?, Drug Free Coalition, CSN; Mike Pugh, Above All Adventures; Donna Fry, Nevada County Public Health; Cindy Peternell, NCPHD student; Susan Sanford, CSN Coordinator.
- 3:30 – 3:40 **Welcome & Introductions** – Cindy Santa Cruz-Reed, Sierra College and Helping Hands Nurturing Center
- 3:40 – 3:45 **Meeting Minutes** – Accepted minutes from March meeting.
- 3:45 – 3:50 **40 Developmental Assets** – Ned Russell of Got 40? Developmental Asset – In person gatherings ~ essential for building assets in youth
- 3:50 – 4:40 **Meeting Focus** – The meeting focus was to ratify and endorse the Children's Bill of Rights for Nevada County then engage in consideration of how to implement our aspirations.

ratify | 'ratə,fi|verb – sign or give formal consent to (a treaty, contract, or agreement), making it officially valid

endorse |en'dôrs|verb – declare one's public approval or support of: *the Children's Bill of Rights for Nevada County was endorsed by the individuals and partner organizations of CSNNC*

Cindy Santa Cruz-Reed presented the completed CBOR to the meeting attendees. Someone asked if there is going to be a Bill of Rights for Parents. The document was unanimously ratified and endorsed by CSN Partners present.

People at tables then engaged in consideration of how to implement our aspirations. Each table had one or two of the items in the Children's Bill of Rights for which to consider these questions (people wrote on easel paper for each item):

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CSN Vision Statement

All families in Nevada County have ready access to a well-integrated and coordinated support network that is easily available and well funded.

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- What can you do at a personal level?
- What can you do at your agency or organization?
- What are the challenges?
- What are the opportunities?

Tables then reported their discoveries to the whole group.

Here's the text of the Children's Bill of Rights for Nevada County followed by the first pass on the conversation from those easel pages of how to implement our aspirations.

Children's Bill of Rights for Nevada County

Proclaiming our aspirations for all young people in our community regardless of language, culture, race, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, economic circumstance, religion, or abilities

All children have the right to...

- feel safe in homes, schools, neighborhoods, and communities
- basic essentials including nutritious food, housing, clothing, and transportation
- accessible, coordinated, and timely physical, dental, and mental health care
- supportive, nurturing relationships with adults in their lives
- a healthy environment, including clean air and water
- be respected and valued as individuals
- high quality child care and educational settings from birth through independence
- a voice in matters that may affect them
- DREAM BIG, to be challenged, and to live their lives with hope and inspiration

HERE'S THE CONTENT FROM THE EASEL PAGES

1. feel safe in homes, schools, neighborhoods, and communities

Personal: mandated reporter; take to organizations I encounter; get to know all the children in my neighborhood BY NAME; not make judgments about kids based on appearance; support Neighborhood Watch.

Agency or Organization: provide individual and family therapy; Triple P positive parenting program; Second Step parenting program in preschools; safe afterschool place; summer camps; referrals to Children's Behavioral Health; helping families find/meet basic needs.

Challenges: funding; sustainability; local economy; lack of jobs.

Opportunities: agency collaboration; working with law enforcement.

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2. basic essentials including nutritious food, housing, clothing, and transportation

Personal: donate to local agencies (e.g. food bank, church); volunteer/mentor; helping others make the community connection/resource.

Agency or Organization: clothes closet; food pantry; limited funding for gas cards, grocery gift cards; diapers (collaboration); childcare/respite care.

Challenges: funding; transportation; housing availability.

Opportunities: collaboration to eliminate gaps; work more with local media.

3. accessible, coordinated, and timely physical, dental, and mental health care

Personal: share provider information; be a good role model for other parents; share information on healthcare options; share copies of the Children's Bill of Rights at different events we attend; graphically enhance the Children's Bill of Rights to make it "eye catching."

Agency or Organization: keep a list of available resources and distribute to clientele; post on company website/social media; post the Children's Bill of Rights at our work sites and ask to post with partner agencies; conduct workshops for providers and parents.

Challenges: shortage of providers in our area, especially for Medi-Cal/low income; reaching the low income populations; cycle of multigenerational poor parental modeling.

Opportunities: marketing: tchotchkes.

4. supportive, nurturing relationships with adults in their lives

Personal: show/model love and kindness; implement 40 developmental assets; volunteer/donate; educate parents on local resources; be a positive role model.

Agency or Organization: parent support groups/education classes; referral to positive children's agencies; website/social media; help/assist/partner with local agencies.

Challenges: poverty; lack of awareness of positive parenting techniques.

Opportunities: public meetings; disseminate info to children AND parents; social media – post content that is educational/links to resources; put together a task force with other outside agencies (service groups, media, etc.).

5. a healthy environment, including clean air and water

Personal: simple living and high thinking; walk and ride more, drive less (carpool too); notice potential threats to water quality and quantity and address them; don't pollute; no littering; develop an awareness of your carbon/impact footprint; use right speech; be vegetarian (or eat lower on food chain).

Agency or Organization:

Challenges: we as individuals have little control on societal behaviors; resisting pressures to consume.

Opportunities: think and act collectively.

6. be respected and valued as individuals

Personal: the best thing we can do for our children is to work on ourselves; be thoughtful, considerate, kind, and helpful; opportunities to make decisions and have

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accountability; listen; encourage; be understanding of children's development; communicate feelings and validate kids' communicated feelings and ideas; FUN!; set clear boundaries as expressions of values; touch and affection; give them opportunities to do projects that actualize their dreams with accountability; positive feedback.

Agency or Organization: supporting parents to provide best care possible; creating ways to outreach to kids to include them as community service providers.

Challenges:

Opportunities:

7. high quality child care and educational settings from birth through independence

Personal: clarify to parents and children what "rights of children" are; elders/children; help in self-work/reflection through life, i.e., ACE study; volunteering in a classroom keeping an eye open to the more vulnerable.

Agency or Organization: post on website; post within agency.

Challenges:

Opportunities:

8. a voice in matters that may affect them

Personal: ABSOLUTELY!; support individuals being heard; being listened to allows one to learn how to listen; supplying a CASA volunteer.

Agency or Organization:

Challenges: providing parents education/background to listen and redirect as needed.

Opportunities: to prevent children in trouble; if children have a voice, they can provide direction in policy and program.

9. DREAM BIG, to be challenged, and to live their lives with hope and inspiration

Personal: support Children's Bill of Rights – ratify by...share the goal with those personally and professionally (post it (on) Facebook, other social media, bulletin board at work); inspire children in your own world; educate/discuss Bill of Rights info with children; respect kids – they have rights too!; listen to them – their hopes, dreams, their stories (personal story).

Agency or Organization: bring awareness to parents; share Bill of Rights; encourage parents to listen, respect and inspire their children.

Challenges: parents in crisis (housing, food, violence-free home); attitudes; modeling; acknowledging hardships of parenting; societal cycle.

Opportunities: unify agencies; unify funding sources; increase number of caring adults; increase size of child's support community; everyone speak same "language"; Bill of Rights for parents.

The text of the Children's Bill of Rights for Nevada County is included above. The document and endorsement instructions for organizations are on the home page of the CSN website at www.csnn.org. Individuals may endorse in person at any CSN

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meeting or at events in the community where CSN is participating. Organizations may endorse and submit electronically or deliver in person at a CSN Partners meeting.

4:40 – 4:50

Building the Network

Attorney Erin Noel of Community Legal – Community Legal is an organization formed by a group of attorneys and mediators in Nevada County to provide basic legal aid with a cooperative perspective to very low income people in our community. They are in the process of incorporating at this time, and are focused on providing legal service in a manner that is empowering to clients and that builds their capacity to resolve their own issues when possible. Erin Noel is conducting a monthly legal clinic in North San Juan, presently, in preparation for Community Legal's opening sometime this summer.

Their starting model is to be small and use lots of volunteers. Want to start with paid attorney, paralegal, and a staff person. Then request pro bono legal assistance – to do info workshops, etc. Will not be able to represent people in court initially because of capacity. Will do their best to provide Spanish translation when needed. Currently have a board and an advisory board. Community Legal is offering a legal clinic at the FRC on San Juan Ridge on – Erin Noel on 4/17 from 2-5 pm. Contact: enoel@nccn.net

4:50 – 5:00

Network Announcements and Meeting Evaluation

- Cindy Santa Cruz-Reed: KKSF – Keeping Kids Safe Festival is May 9. Organized by Gold Country Kiwanis. Cindy is serving as volunteer coordinator for CSN Partners who would like to help. Slots are: 9am-12:30pm and 12pm-3:30pm.
- Cindy Santa Cruz-Reed: April 11 Celebrating Families cancelled due to lack of participation.
- Kristen McGrew: PARTNERS FRC is April's featured nonprofit at Center for the Arts.
- Mike Pugh: Above All Adventures is doing an Indiegogo campaign to raise funds for opening their office.
- Laura Harter: Child Advocates is selling See's candy until Easter as a fundraiser.
- Loydyne Lane announced the Camp Fair on May 2 at the NC Vet's Hall. Still accepting vendors.
- Marc Nocerino: One Stop is doing a free monthly workshop at the tech center at the Madelyn Helling library – first is 4/17 at 11am – open to the public
- Sabrina Terrell: PLEAG program info and Medi-Cal enrollment help from CoRR.

celebrate /'seləbrāt|verb – publicly acknowledge (a significant or happy day or event) with a social gathering or enjoyable activity: *they had gathered to celebrate the creation of the Children's Bill of Rights for Nevada County*

5:00

Adjournment – Next Meeting: May 6, 2015, Gene Albaugh Community Room, at the Madelyn Helling Library.

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Community Support Network of Nevada County Meeting Agreements

- Make decisions by consensus.
- Create an atmosphere of mutual respect that includes active listening and listening without judging.
- Start and end on time.
- Maintain a sense of humor and a positive attitude.
- Bring concerns to the whole group. Don't take them to the parking lot after the meeting.
- Set up the room in an inclusive way.
- Take responsibility for a task only if you have the time to accomplish it.
- Everyone is empowered to be a process observer and take ownership for the health of the meeting and is responsible for the health of the whole meeting.
- Be sensitive to others' need for more information. Make sure everyone understands.
- Be careful of injecting your self-interest and label it as such. Be able to layout your agency's interest and be open to other's interests.
- Meetings are meaningful and have a shared purpose.
- This is a living document and can be changed as needed.

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### ***Developmental Asset – In person gatherings ~ essential for building assets in youth – April 1, 2015***

Our changing world, busier and with individual electronic connections to each other, can make us forget the importance of time spent conversing and otherwise interacting with people in the same place without electronics and other distractions. The heart of 40 Developmental Assets is building relationships, both within the family and outside of it - at least 20 of the assets are dependent on or strengthened by in person gatherings. Related tips follow:

#### Within families:

- Family meals as often as possible with time for positive conversation.
- One or more evenings without any electronics for family projects, book reading and discussion, or even (respectfully) discussing a movie, a special television program, or social or world problems highlighted on the internet (electronics are very good for learning more about other cultures - but not to replace face to face time).
- Family traditions, e.g. annual outings, delivering Thanksgiving dinners, visiting nursing homes during holidays.

#### In the neighborhood:

- Neighborhood yard sales, potlucks, clean-up days so entire family gets to know neighbors and vice versa.
- Family (children and adults) help neighbors with mobility issues with errands and home chores.
- (In person interactions with neighbors also helps to build a support network for parents).

#### In the schools and community:

- Spend time, you and your children, with teachers and others in the community. That's the only way trusting relationships are built.

#### Agencies:

- Some companies have started to ban emails or severely limit their use.
- Helps workers maintain work-life balance.
- One company estimates eliminating emails saved 20% of work day and issues get solved right away.

You and other adult and peer role models are found only through in person gatherings. Their positive influence, with only a few rare exceptions, can be exercised only in person.

To learn more about the 40 Developmental Assets (Got40?), call: 530-271-5617 or email: [info@Got40.org](mailto:info@Got40.org) or [NedRussell@pacbell.net](mailto:NedRussell@pacbell.net).

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