



SETA Head Start  
Health Services Advisory Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, April 29, 2009  
Sequoia Room  
5:30 p.m.

Attendees: Ann Wallace, SETA; Bonnie Eastman, Breathe California; Brenda Campos, SETA; Carol Schaefer, Sac Co. DHHS, CHDP; Doris Earsery, SETA; Edenausageboye Davis, Head Start Delegate, WCIC/Playmate; Elaine Yoshikawa, RN, PHN, Sac City USD; Garnett Volkens, SETA; Lauren Tracko, San Juan USD; Letty Woo-Ming, RN, PHN, Lead Poisoning Prevention; Lori Hansen, RN, PHN, San Juan USD; Marianne Grisez, RN, PHN, Sac City Unified; Mark Bainer, SETA; Meghan Marshall, SETA; Melanie Nicolas, SETA; Paula Galvez-Fox, SETA; Paula Perez, SETA; Ruth Martinez, Elk Grove USD; Sandy Martinez, SETA; Dr. Sean Cooke, MD, Kaiser Pediatrics; Sudhira Mahajan, SETA; and, Tracy Engebretsen, SETA PAC Parent Representative

The next HSAC Meeting will be held on –  
Wednesday, October 21, 2009, at 5:30-7:30 pm, in the Sequoia Room  
SETA Head Start  
925 Del Paso Blvd., Ste. 200  
Sacramento, CA 95815

I. Welcome and Introductions

A. Introductions around the table.

B. Brenda Campos shared that this meeting's goal was to hear from the community how programs that they administer are being affected by adverse economic and/or budget conditions, and to share any successful steps each organization is taking to bring needed services to their clients.

II. Presentation - Partnership Opportunities in Adverse Economic Conditions

A. Brenda and Melanie Nicolas spoke on SETA's willingness to partner and/or collaborate with other city, county and state programs to provide services to the community. An example of this desired collaboration was voiced by Meghan Marshall where a UC Davis Dept. of Nutrition Science research study, funded by a USDA grant, has SETA Head Start families as participants.

Brenda stated that at least four (4) Head Start centers are closing (CSUS, Twin Rivers, Whispering Pines, and Florin Meadows) as their leases end. Use of the stimulus monies at these locations will give the parents at lease one year to find other accommodations for their children.



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- B. Edenausageboye Davis shares that reductions in staff at her organization began last year but WCIC/Playmate still serves 100 children mainly in the Oak Park area. However, another cutback this year has been to close their county-run health services clinic.
- C. Elaine Yoshikawa shared that Sacramento City USD continues to push for increases to their Early Head Start allocations; however, pink slips have been received by most managers, nurses, social workers and over 240 classroom teachers.
- D. San Juan USD has lost funding for its city positions and their children's centers are undergoing evaluation due to the potential lost of state funding.

### III. Health/Nutrition Grant Writing Projects Update

- A. Melanie updated the committee that a SETA funding request to test parents for tuberculosis had been denied. But, current plans are to resubmit the funding request with enhancements. Also, Melanie shared that an application for a sunshade structure at the Freedom Park Head Start center has recently been submitted. The American Academy of Dermatology is the sponsor and the grant will be awarded in June 2009.
- B. SETA is applying for stimulus funding. Many grants are due the second week of May 2009, however, a main grant application will be filed on May 1, 2009 after PC, PAC and Governing Board approvals.
- C. Brenda told the group that some stimulus money can be used for personnel development, and will be allocated to meet the 2013 mandate that classroom educators possess a Bachelors Degree.
- D. Another request for maintenance and repair stimulus funds is being submitted for SETA Head Start/Early Head Start playground compliance and upgrade.

### IV. SETA Operated Program Overview

- A. Brenda shared with the Committee that recent challenges for SETA's 2009-2010 budget shortfall have resulted in layoffs for some Head Start Monitors, Educators and Coordinators, as well as a reduction in hours for Head Start Consultants.
- B. Also, when submitting grant requests from California, a concern exists that less prosperous states might receive a larger share of the available stimulus funds.



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- C. Brenda stated that although there are unique challenges in planning on funds with a limited horizon (one-year or 18-months), a prime focus at Head Start continues to be applying these monies directly to children's programs. When stimulus funds are received, SETA will increase allocations for childhood dental and parent education services.

V. Lead Requirements and Strategies for Head Start

- A. Brenda stated that the new mandated Head Start attendance requirement of lead blood testing for two-year olds is proving problematic. While this state mandate for parents to show proof that the blood draw has been done is tied to the 24-months old age, SETA is federally mandated to verify that a child's lead blood test has been done between 36- and 72-months of age. This difference between these age limits for the Head Start child to take a lead blood test creates a conflict that is being addressed in several ways but has yet to be reconciled.
- B. Letty Woo-Ming and Dr. Sean Cooke both reiterated that the WIC Program also required a lead test by two-years of age for its participation. Dr. Sean added that Kaiser Permanente does 24-months of age lead levels blood tests for free.
- C. Letty added that every provider who performs a lead blood test is required to report the results into a state database where all physicians can view the outcome. This assists parents who may not have hard-copy proof of the child's test or cannot recall the doctor's name.

Also, the state database exists so that lead blood levels above 5 can be found and referred to a public health nurse for treatment. And, Letty added that the finger-stick test for lead levels is not reliable. Dr. Sean agreed.

- D. Dr. Sean stated that the lead levels blood test is among the procedures for an infant's 9-months examination. These results should be in the state's database or can be obtained from the health provider.
- E. Elaine shared that some health providers charge \$5.00 to complete the form that verifies that a lead levels blood test has been given to a child. This often creates a financial obstacle for some parents.

## VI. Update of Newly Created Child Safety Committee

- A. The Child Safety Committee recently met at SETA on March 20, 2009. The committee shared the progress made with the Head Start children's safety program, PAWS. A mascot has been chosen (an adorable raccoon). Teaching aids, such as distinctive signs and engaging songs, have been created by the teaching staff and the parents to reinforce the safety rules. A component of the program is that one safety rule is taught at all Head Start centers, at the same, time each month.
- B. The PAWS was previewed in March, and rolled-out to the sites in April 2009. Additionally, the safety program is being shown to and, where requested, taught to the SETA delegate agencies. Parents and guardians are being included in the safety program lessons so that rules and safeguards and be reinforced at home.
- C. Brenda said that stimulus funds have been requested for renovations at sites where safety concerns now exist.
- D. SETA has formed a review team of Facilities staff and workers' union reps. This team visits Head Start sites to identify hazards and to explain how safety issues can affect personnel morale.

## VII. Head Start Monitoring Tool for Health, Nutrition, and Food Service Preparation

- A. The focus area of the Monitoring Tool (safety for children and staff) intuitively translates to funding requests for the stimulus funds available for health and safety. An example would be SETA's current costs of purchasing paper products for the centers rather than using plastic tableware and dishwashers. Huge dollar savings would be realized along with lowered health concerns.

## VIII. Community Updates

- A. Dr. Sean commented on the H1N1 (Swine) Flu becoming a pandemic and the results that may be seen in Sacramento County. He mentioned school closing and people being encouraged to stay indoors may occur if the numbers of verified cases rise at a fast and consistent rate over the next few months.

Dr. Sean stated that although there is a test for Flu A (which is the strain being vaccinated against during the current flu season), there is a two-day wait for results to verify H1N1. There is no vaccine for the Swine Flu (H1N1).



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Most people will feel the same as with the Flu A, however, a high, persistent fever (over 102 degrees) and a cough may indicate H1N1.

Doctors at Kaiser are being told to wear a mask whenever they see patients with a cough or when they enter an examination room where they are uncertain if there are flu-like symptoms.

The San Juan USD sent out guidelines to the school population but have no known cases. The same is true for Sacramento City USD. WCIC has no cases of the Swine Flu to report at their schools. Letty shared that public health nurses are swabbing their contacts as they visit as a precaution.

- B. CHDP and Head Start have facilitated an Audiometric certification class and the first public health nurse has been certified, Sally Shaw. She will now visit doctors' offices and perform audiometric testing.
- C. Marianne Grisez was pleased to share a publication on asthma, written by a senior high student and staff members. The student was interested in getting information to help a family member and found that no one source held all the most important data in one place. The booklet is filled with contacts and resources, and is an educational reference, too. Marianne had copies for the committee to take to their work sites.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.