

Tri-County CPYP Meeting February 6, 2006

Attendance: Kern County (one representative), San Luis Obispo County (four representatives), Fresno County (six representatives)

County Reports

Fresno:

New Program Manager for the project is taking an active role. Also, the new group home supervisor is involved.

Currently they are focusing on their handbook.

The CPYP plan was distributed to all units.

The ILP workshops now have one permanency break out session. Three of eight sessions have been conducted. Many group home staff are showing up to the workshops. A youth panel is included that features youth talking about how difficult it is to emancipate without connections. Also, how permanency is everyone's job and how all can participate.

Permanency Task Force members are attending the three F2F collaborative monthly meetings and permanency and CPYP is on the monthly standing agenda.

Dalvin Baker is writing a regular ILP newsletter and it will include articles about permanency. Staff, youth, and foster parents receive the newsletter.

They have completed a poster that lists Top Ten Reasons to Adopt an Adolescent and a calendar with monthly training dates for foster/adoptive parents.

They have begun a Wednesday's Child on television which will target teens wanting adoptive homes. They has budgeted \$20,000 from Connected by 25 to be used by CPYP, because permanency is one of the legs of the Connected by 25 Project.

Pat O'Brian has completed one training with great response by group home staff and all. They plan to bring him back to speak to Judges and lawyers.

Kern:

Kern's target is youth 14 and above in group homes and their siblings. They will have one placement worker and one permanency specialist who will find the connections. Interviews are happening next week. They have hired a former foster youth to work 25 hours per week as the Foster Youth Permanency Assistant. One of his responsibilities will be to set up a youth

committee of youth in the project. They hope they will be available to speak to the licensing and recruitment groups.

As part of their permanency survey, they asked if the person wants to attend the Kick-off. That will be used to generate the invitation list. They hope to be moving along again late Feb.

San Luis Obispo County:

Every other Monday they a staffing is held involving the permanency case manager. She sets the cases to be reviewed but the hope is to review all cases. They now have Entersect up and working which they did by purchase order. It costs them \$75.00 per user.

At the last all county staff meeting they held a connections celebration for the three different connections that they have found. They decorated, passed out colored pencils and blowers, told the stories and mentioned the workers involved.

The Youth Training Group will be there on Feb 27th and Pat O'Brian on March 9 and 10. They are now compiling their questioner and looking at changing the language used in the independent living program. They are beginning their Heart Gallery.

San Luis Obispo has completed a video of youth speaking about some of their experiences in care. Some of the stories do touch on permanency issues. They were able to show their video to the group. Fresno also showed a recording of several of their Wednesday's Child broadcasts.

Talking With Youth about Permanency:

A discussion was held about how to talk with youth about permanency. A workbook and other materials were passed out by Cheryl. The Bob Lewis training, which has now been consolidated to one day training by the Bay Area Academy was discussed.

Other areas of discussion were TA by Kevin Campbell, the evaluation process, the 2006 conference, and CPYP Task Force and Declaration.

The next meeting will be April 25th.

