

Tri-County Meeting April 25, 2006

Attendance: Fresno County-10 representatives; San Luis Obispo-4 representatives; Kern County-3 representatives. Copies were made of the sign in sheet and distributed so all would have addresses and phone numbers of those in attendance.

Access Data Base-Cheryl passed out a handout of the screens in the data base developed by Stanislaus Co. Questions can be directed to Karla Self.

TA-It is suggested that Kevin actually demonstrate more of the work that he is teaching, such as actually completing phone calling so people can observe. Also, they would like him to go over the handouts that they were sent.

People discussed their efforts in searching. San Luis reported that they are not entirely satisfied with Entersect and believe it would be helpful to have access to USSearch as well.

Cheryl provided information regarding the CPYP redesign of the website and the need for all counties to submit stories for their spaces. She indicated that Bob Lewis will be conducting a four hour workshop in Talking to Youth about Permanency during the November conference. Next meeting dates were set.

Tracking Work Progress- Cheryl indicated that counties that are the most successful in accomplishing good outcomes are those that track the work efforts in between TA sessions. Two forms that might be helpful were distributed. One was utilized by Fresno in a workday that they had in which files were reviewed and information about relatives was noted on the form. Following the work day, USSearches were run on the cases and this information was very helpful in Kevin's second TA when the Discovery Stage was worked on for all the cases.

County Reports:

San Luis Obispo:

Patrick Considine reported for San Luis Obispo.

San Luis Obispo County Permanency Committee meets once a month with many community members involved. The Permanency Committee mainly focuses on the task from the SIP and CPYP.

Currently San Luis Obispo has two Permanency Case Managers assigned to finding forever families for Youth prior to leaving the system (they speak to the Social Worker, mine the service case, and talk with the youth and others involved in the youth's life). Also, they hold two Permanency Case Staffings monthly to review the progress of permanency. Those that attend the Permanency Case Staffings are: Permanency Case Managers, Community Partners, Social Workers, Supervisors and the Regional Manager. The case staffings are to review what has been done and what is left to do to make the permanent connections for the youth.

Pat O'Brien presented to over 200 people in the county about permanency.

A PDSA to review Permanency TDMs has just been completed.

ILP is incorporating permanency into their workshops as they are more aware of the value of being connected in life to successful outcomes for youth. San Luis Obispo has a Retention/Recruitment Committee which is developing strategies to recruit with the philosophy of permanency.

CYC is involved in training new foster parents around youth needs, including permanency. On Sept 1, 2006 their Heart Gallery will open.

San Luis Obispo had two Social Workers with all cases in PP, within the next couple of months the PP cases will be assigned to more Social Workers. They plan to have a Social Worker for the family and one for the youth. San Luis Obispo is currently in the process of hiring more Social Workers.

Fresno-Fresno's task force meets two times per month but they are also meeting outside of those meeting to do work. \$20,000 was budgeted from Connected by 25 to be utilized for CPYP. \$30,000 from SIP is budgeted to complete searches using USSearch. USSearch will also be used for ER cases.

The task force is doing lots of education. They have been doing ILP workshops with one of the three sessions pertaining to permanency. They are utilizing the process of identifying how many people are in the youth's life. They will present at the foster parent conference on May 10th. CYC has conducted two trainings with foster parents with another one planned for

May 20th. Fresno is revising the Alameda handbook. It is 32 pages long. It will be distributed to all staff and the task force will attend staff division Meetings to explain. The ILP Newsletter contained permanency stories. All E Conferences include permanency issues.

A contest was held to see who could get the most signatures on the Declaration of Permanency form. They obtained 241 signed forms. They are creating a Forever Family Tree that will be in the ER Department. The task force will hang the leaves.

Fresno is taking part in the Model standards Project for GLBTQ youth. Fresno will provide all the counties with e-mail copies of the handbook and of the Power Point Presentation that they use in ILP workshops.

Kern-Tom Baca passed out the Kern County Key Point brochure. They are working with 16 group home youth and their siblings. They have two new positions that are now filled. They are a Youth Permanency Specialist and a Placement social worker. Darren Green is employed 25 hours per week. He will set up a youth advisory committee including some members of the 16 youth they are working with in the project. He is developing a curriculum that will educate youth about permanency. Each will create a family tree. They will lead focus groups about the role of the social worker, family foster parent etc in permanency planning.

Kern will host a Kick Off luncheon on June 19th. It is costing the county about \$3,500. They hope to show the Dave Thomas video. They are completing a survey that is tabulated by the internet. They have also highlighted CPYP in their newsletter.

NEXT MEETING: July 25th in Kern county at the Kinship Center.