

Children & Families Community Vision Forum

Girls, Inc. of Carpinteria

Wednesday, May 14, 2008, 6pm-8pm

Facilitator: Barbara Marquez

Notes

I. Introduction

II. Visioning Exercise

- Imagine that it is several years in the future in our community.
 - What does it look like?
 - What is it that makes the children happy?
 - Why are the families thriving?
 - What are their personal qualities and characteristics?
 - What community characteristics contribute to their well-being?

- Responses – Future Qualities/Characteristics
 - Educated (III) – Vote: 13
 - Healthy (III) – Vote: 12
 - Safe (III) – Vote: 1
 - Connected (II) – Vote: 6
 - Creative – Vote: 3
 - Valuing Spiritual & Personal Growth
 - Feeling Loved & Wanted – Vote: 4
 - Unlimited Opportunity
 - Empowered
 - Confident

III. Next steps

- What will our community focus on to create this quality for a better future?
- What are the conditions that give rise to or create the qualities/characteristics you've just described?

1. Educated

- Early childhood education
- Community values a continuum of education, pre-natal forward
- Lifetime learning
- Parents are actively involved in the child's education
- Positive role-models
- Both academic and experiential learning
- Critical thinking and problem solving

2. Healthy

- Meet basic needs
- Community values health
- Equal access to quality healthcare
- Focus on prevention
- Systemic support for prevention
- Nutrition
- Emotional Health, Individual & Family well-being
- Mental Health & well-being
- Access to affordable, healthy food
- Reduce stress for children & families
- Continuum of healthcare
- Case-management

3. Connected

- Basic needs, access
- Strength-based, empowerment
- Feeling safe & secure
- Reducing fragmentation of services
- Eliminate violence inside & outside of the home
- Inclusive
- Move from clients to co-creators and partners
- Feel loved, wanted, cherished, and valued
- Forming healthy, positive relationships
- Interfaith, intergenerational, celebrating cultural diversity