

**Children & Families Steering Committee Meeting #2 Notes**  
**Thursday, June 5, 2008**  
**United Way of Santa Barbara County**  
**9:00am-11:00am**

Members Present:

Emiliano Botello, Deborah Hartman, Penny Jenkins, Georgene Lowe, LuAnn Miller, Pedro Paz, Nancy Rapp, Amrita Salm, Rick Scott, Sylvia Talaugon, Mark Tollefson, Theresa Weissglass

Members Absent:

Bill Batty, Ginny Brush, Tere Jurado, Margie Trejo, Katharina Zulliger

Staff Present:

Jen Bowman, Paul Didier, Charles Caldwell, Terry Miller, Jessica Stampe

Facilitator:

Dirk Van Den Bosch

Goal of this meeting: to make progress towards the development of a Vision Statement for Children & Families.

- I. Welcome – Paul Didier
  - a. Didier called the meeting to order at 9:05am
- II. Check In & Recap – Dirk Van Den Bosch & Group
  - a. Outcome: Review individual and group status
    - i. Review from last meeting
      - Aspirational model, not needs-based
      - Example from Dane County
        - a. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading levels and closing the achievement gap as a result
      - Through the community engagement process, our community will gain a sense of clarity of what it wants for Children & Families.
    - ii. Roles of different members & committees
      - Vision Council: organizational decision makers
      - Steering Committee: respected leaders in the field of Children & Families;
      - Community: The primary asset of the whole system
    - iii. Continue to move forward in this process, engaging as many people as possible.

III. Summary of Progress –Caldwell & Group

- a. Outcome: Understanding of progress made since meeting #1
  - i. Since the last Steering Committee meeting on April 17, 2008 the Power of Partnership Initiative has implemented the following activities:
    - a. Second Vision Council meeting was held June 4, 2008
- b. Children & Families Steering Committee meeting held on April 17, 2008
- c. Community Outreach
  - i. Four different Community Forums held at the following locations:
    - a. Girls, Inc. of Carpinteria
    - b. Goleta Valley Community Center
    - c. Braille Institute of Santa Barbara
    - d. Faulkner Gallery, Santa Barbara Public Library
  - ii. Distributed and collected more than 250 community surveys
  - iii. Started setting up targeted outreach community meetings.
- d. Media Outreach
  - i. Held a press conference.
  - ii. Caldwell recognized those Vision Council members who participated in the press conference.
  - iii. Resulted in more than forty media placements to date.
- e. Website Development
  - i. Built initiative website [www.partnershipsb.org](http://www.partnershipsb.org) with easier navigation, and ability to focus on dialogue for Community members, Vision Council, and Steering Committee in web-based bulletin boards.

IV. Next steps

- a. Expert Forum June 26 , 8:30am-10:30am at the Faulkner Gallery for individuals who work with Children & Families to share their thoughts and vision for the future.
- b. Additional outreach meetings are currently being set up to gather additional input for a more representative perspective. See below for details.

V. “Future Qualities” Community Forum Agenda – Van Den Bosch & Group

- a. Outcome: Understanding of the Community Forum Sessions
- b. Van Den Bosch reviewed the Community Forum Agenda (see attached handout).

VI. Community Outreach Summary

- a. Demographics of participants at Community Forums - Caldwell
  - i. 50 participants total
  - ii. Primarily white, middle-class, well-educated, professional

VII. Community Outreach & Inclusion Activities: Strategies, Instruments, Schedule – Caldwell & Group

- a. Outcome: Develop strategies, instruments, and schedule to increase representative and inclusive feedback; Understanding next steps; Discussion
  - i. Caldwell began the discussion by asking the Steering Committee members if they felt that the results obtained from the Community Vision Forums were representational enough to move forward in crafting a Vision Statement for Children & Families.
  - ii. There was consensus from the Committee around the need for more outreach and rich discussion around the idea of achieving appropriate levels of outreach across different ethnic groups, age, gender, geographic locations, socioeconomic levels and education levels.
  - iii. Upon reaching consensus that there was need for more outreach to be done, Caldwell introduced the idea of smaller Outreach Meetings and encouraged Steering Committee members to think of the Power of Partnership Initiative as “your” process. Caldwell enlisted members to help take ownership in setting up outreach meetings through the relationships that they have with various groups in the community (see attached Community Vision Forum Focus Group Sheet ).
  - iv. Outreach strategies and target populations – comments and suggestions by members
    - a. “Go to them” – Family Resource Centers, Churches, Parenting Meetings, etc.
    - b. Mothers with young children
    - c. Student families
    - d. Youth on different levels - public schools, private schools, juvenile hall
    - e. Elementary, junior high, high-school, college aged students; young adults
    - f. Youth groups
    - g. After school programs
    - h. Staff of healthy start

- i. Special Ed
  - j. Use existing data as a resource from county-wide survey
- VIII. Vision Statement Discussion –Group
  - a. Outcome: Discussion regarding Vision Statement
- IX. Initial Steps towards Goals –Group
  - a. Outcome: Understanding early community feedback around broad-based goals, survey results
- X. Initiative Website – Jen Bowman
  - a. Outcome: Understanding how to use the website
    - i. Bowman demonstrated how to use the website for the purpose of staying connected through the Vision Council interactive bulletin board. Bowman provided instructions on how to log-in and with username and password information (see website handout).
- XI. Questions & Answers – Group
  - a. Outcome: Answers regarding next steps
    - i. Didier reiterated that the desire for more feedback would require everyone to identify existing opportunities for outreach and asked Members to submit their suggestions to Charles or Jessica via email.
    - ii. A Vision Statement draft will be sent out prior to the next meeting.
    - iii. Didier also encouraged members to visit the website and to use it as a tool to brainstorm.
- XII. Meeting Adjourned – Paul Didier
  - a. Didier adjourned the meeting at 11:05am

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 9, 2008, 9am-11am**