



Washoe County School District Council on Family Resource Centers Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2019

OPENING ITEMS

1.01 Call to Order

The meeting of the Council on Family Resource Centers was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Sun Valley Family Resource Center, 115 West 6th Ave., Sun Valley, NV 89433.

1.02 Roll Call

Chairperson Vanessa Vancour and Members Brenda Costello, Crystel Avalos, Scott Benton, and Susan Severt were present at roll call. Sherilyn Elcano, and Nita Losoponkul were not present at roll call.

Sherilyn Elcano arrived during presentation item 2.05.

1.03 Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

2. DISCUSSION, PRESENTATION AND ACTION ITEMS

2.01 Action to Adopt the Agenda

On motion by Susan Severt, second by Brenda Costello, the Council on Family Resource Centers approved the agenda as presented (Yea: Susan Severt, Vanessa Vancour, Scott Benton, Crystel Avalos, and Brenda Costello). Final Resolution: Motion Carries 5-0

2.02 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council on Family Resource Centers Dated November 28, 2018.

On motion by Scott Benton, second by Crystel Avalos, the Council on Family Resource Centers approved the minutes of the meeting of the Council on Family Resource Centers dated November 28, 2018. (Yea: Susan Severt, Vanessa Vancour, Crystel Avalos, Scott Benton, and Brenda Costello). Final Resolution: Motion Carries 5-0

2.05 Discussion of Clients Needs identified at the Family Resource Centers, such as rental assistance, utility assistance, food, etc.

Lisa Guzman, WCSD Family Resource Center (FRC) staff, presented on the needs of clients at the FRC's. Lisa explained the biggest needs are rental assistance (affordable housing), utility assistance, access to public assistance programs (SNAP, Medicaid, etc.), and basic needs. Also discussed were clients' needs for transportation (bus passes, gas vouchers), household items, and legal assistance. Wylie Evanson, FRC staff, stated staff provided over 250 coats to clients in need.

Member Benton inquired to who was the biggest referral source of clients to the FRC's. Mrs. Costello stated WCSD schools and staff provide referrals, as well as Washoe County Human Services Agency. Mr. Evanson stated he works in coordination with Washoe County Juvenile Services which provides referrals, as well as Children's Cabinet.

Chair Vanessa Vancour inquired about the Utility assistance. Mrs. Guzman explained the SAFE program which is emergency assistance and the Energy Assistance Program.

2.03 Recognition of Carpenters Union Local 971 for volunteering to replace roof for FRC Client

Lisa Guzman, WCSD Family Resource Center (FRC) staff, shared a story of a FRC client whose roof was falling apart and in need of repair. FRC staff reached out to the Local Carpenters Union 971 for assistance who came out to assess the damage.

Ryan Hale from the Carpenters Union assessed the damage and took on the project as a volunteer project. Over two full days, the roof was repaired by union volunteers.

A thank you plaque was presented to Mr. Hale, on behalf of the Local Carpenters Union 971. Mr. Hale stated the project was part of their Carpenters Union Participation (CUP) program. He added that all of the materials for the roof were donated by local contractors and the work was done by local union carpenters volunteering their time.

2.04 Review of the Family Resource Center action plan, to include discussion of the services housed and provided in the FRC's such as crisis intervention, emergency basic needs assistance, and referrals for child care, adult education, and legal assistance, and possible action to provide input to the WCSD Family Resource Center staff related to the future potential revision for the 19-20 school year, as required under NRS 430A.140

Lisa Guzman, WCSO Family Resource Center (FRC) staff, explained in order for the FRC to receive grant funding every year there needs to be an Action Plan which needs to have council input, then be reviewed, and approved by the council. The Action Plan is then submitted to the state. Mrs. Guzman reviewed the FRC Action Plan and noted it has been reviewed at previous council meetings. Mrs. Guzman stated the council could review the Action Plan and provide feed-back to FRC staff for a possible future agenda item. Chair Vancour and council members Benton, Elcano, and Severt, agreed they wanted the opportunity to review the Action Plan and provide their feed-back for FRC Staff. Mrs. Guzman stated the Action Plan for FY 19-20 has not been sent out and will be sent sometime the end of April or May. Mrs. Guzman stated depending when that is sent out, the FRC Council date could be changed to accommodate their input. Mrs. Guzman stated she would send out the FY19-20 action plan when she received it.

Mrs. Guzman discussed the other state services housed in the Family Resource Centers as well as the services, resources, and referrals provided through the resource centers. Chair Vancour noted that housing was not the list of resources provided in the action plan and suggested staff add it to the list, as it was noted to be the biggest client need. Committee Member, Benton, asked about clients need for housing and funds utilized to help clients. Mrs. Guzman stated FRC staff look to community resources for housing, but stated there is minimal funding for the FRC's to help clients with housing. Mrs. Guzman shared how services are tailored to meet the needs of the community, outreach events attended by staff, and collaborating with community partners. Mrs. Guzman discussed a possible new program database as it was targeted for improvement. Mrs. Guzman discussed technical assistance and training needs as she stated FRC staff are always looking for training to attend. Mrs. Guzman discussed the possibility of Medicaid billable services, but stated there were none provided at this time; however, it may be considered in the future. Board member, Costello, shared that the school district is working on tele-health, but stated she did not have an update at this time. Mrs. Guzman discussed action item regarding a community needs assessment, but stated the FRC's do not conduct their own, but utilize other outside community assessments. Committee member, Elcano, asked about grant funding. Mrs. Guzman provided information regarding action item #15 and stated the funds listed are the only funds the FRC's receive.

2.06 Presentation and Discussion of Publicity opportunities for the WCSO FRC's, which may include the use of social media and recruitment of an intern for that purpose.

Chair Vancour shared information about an event at the Sun Valley FRC that received media coverage. Mrs. Costello stated she attended the event and shared that the event

focused on Attendance in the Washoe County School District. Superintendent Davis presented and also highlighted the work FRCs are doing to help students attend school.

Chair Vancour presented on the new FRC Facebook page. She asked for input on adding to the Facebook page with a logo, pictures, and possible posts. Chair Vancour also asked for FRC staff to promote the page with additional pictures and posts about community events. Chair Vancour stated she would work to hire a social media intern to help with maintaining the page.

2.07 Presentation and Discussion of FRC year-to-date data and outreach events, including future community events that FRC staff plan to attend.

Council member and FRC staff member Costello presented on the FRC year to date data and outreach events. Mrs. Costello shared from July through January 2019 the FRC's served 1,015 families, 1865 children, and 3569 individuals. Mrs. Costello stated FRC's submitted a total of 272 applications and 152 energy assistance applications with over 3,000 referrals. Mrs. Costello shared FRC staff have attended multiple events and activities. Mrs. Costello highlighted the events attended with Food Bank of Northern Nevada with Mobile Harvest, SNAP outreach, Family Health Festival and Family Stability Pilot. Mrs. Costello also highlighted Operation Warm Coat which donated 205 coats, discussed staff meeting with Community Services agency as well as Health Plan of Nevada. FRC staff toured Reno Behavioral Health and Kids Kottage Independent Living. Mrs. Costello also stated staff attended the Human Services Awards Banquet. Mrs. Costello shared the upcoming events that council members could attend with Family Health Festival, Frameworks in Financial Health, WCSD Summer Camp Expo, and FBNN Mobile Harvest.

CLOSING ITEMS

3.01 Announcement of Next Meeting – May 22, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the WCSD Administrative Building Board Room, 425 East 9th St. Reno, NV 89512

3.02 Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

3.03 Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.