



**December 8, 2003 Meeting
Minutes**

Commission Members Present in Willits:

Jeremy Mann	Alison Glassey	David Colfax	Diane Pauli
Carol Mordhorst	Paul Tichinin	Betty Smith	

Others Present in Willits:

Guadalupe Chavez	Rubén Guerrero	Rachael Baguley	Derek Scott
Tammy Scott	Sue Benoit	Karin Wandrei	Jim Levine
Pat Thygesen	Jim Marill	Janis Schwartz	Joanna Olson
Carol Park	Michele Schott	Vicki Patterson	Catherine Rada

Staff Present:

Laura Franklin, Administrative Assistant

I. Welcome by Board Chairman, Jeremy Mann

II. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items

A FIRST 5 Mendocino shirt was presented to Rachael Baguley for her work through AmeriCorps for the School Readiness Program. Rachael is leaving the program to pursue her education.

III. Consent Calendar

Motion made to accept the Consent Calendar (Colfax, Glassey): Mordhorst, yes; Smith, yes; Tichinin, yes; Mann, yes; Pauli, yes; Glassey, yes; Colfax, yes. Passed.

IV. Business Items

A. Commissioner Appointment Status

A licensed family child care provider has submitted a letter of interest for consideration to the Commission.

B. Director's Report

Items specifically discussed from the Director's Report were as follows:

Young Children's System of Care Pilot

Commissioner Mordhorst reported their first meeting was held in November. The group found that many agencies are already in place and the pilot will likely start in Willits under the newly funded Family Track grant submitted as a collaborative with the Department of Social Services.

First 5 Association of Counties

Commissioner Pauli would like to see Mendocino Commission do whatever it can to protest State Commission's resistance to rural augmentation funding. A motion was made to have Staff prepare a letter to the State Commission and signed by Chairperson

Mann stating the Commissioner's objections (Pauli, Tichinin): Mordhorst, yes; Smith, yes; Colfax, yes; Tichinin, yes; Mann, yes; Pauli, yes; Glassey, yes. Passed.

C. Fiscal Report

Motion made to approve monthly fiscal report for October, 2003 (Tichinin, Colfax): Mordhorst, yes; Smith, yes; Tichinin, yes; Mann, yes; Pauli, yes; Glassey, yes; Colfax, yes. Passed.

D. Special Funding Requests Draft Policy

The Commission occasionally receives requests for funding that do not fall within a regular funding cycle. The Executive Committee directed Staff to prepare a draft policy to address this type of request in a fair and consistent manner.

A motion was made to adopt the draft Special Funding Requests Policy with modifications (Tichinin, Pauli): Mordhorst, yes; Smith, yes; Tichinin, yes; Mann, yes; Pauli, yes; Glassey, yes; Colfax, yes. Passed.

E. 1. Review of Approved Application

The Commission approved the Mendocino County Youth Projects' grant application at its November 3, 2003 meeting. The North County Family Enhancement Services grant scope was to provide: (1) Parenting Apart Workshops in English and Spanish; (2) Parenting Apart Spanish Language Curriculum; and (3) supervised visitation.

The grantee did not consult with Nuestra Casa before putting them forth as a partner and subcontractor to the project.

Victoria Patterson, Nuestra Casa Executive Director, Karin Wandrei, Executive Director and Joanna Olson, Program Director of the Mendocino County Youth Project, and Carol Park, Family Court Mediator with the Mendocino County Superior Court were present. Changes in personnel at the Youth Project caused several communication errors resulting in the failure of coordination with Nuestra Casa.

A motion was made to reconsider the grant (Tichinin, Colfax): Mordhorst, yes; Smith, yes; Tichinin, yes; Mann, yes; Pauli, yes; Glassey, yes; Colfax, yes. Passed.

Discussion followed: Commissioner Tichinin asked the Youth Project to research the curriculum part of the grant thoroughly in addition to researching other counties who might be doing this same project. He also encouraged more discussion with Nuestra Casa with Karin Wandrei and contacting Director Molgaard with a new proposal or modification to the old. Commissioner Glassey did not want the application modified to any great extent; either drop page 64 (Nuestra Casa budget) or find someone else to do the Spanish portion.

Wandrei reported that she had just hired a three quarter time person to begin administering the program in January, 2004 to which Commissioner Tichinin thought maybe an emergency session of the Commission could be held since next Commission meeting is not until February, 2004. Commissioner

Mordhorst was comfortable starting the English part of the grant as scheduled and work out the Spanish portion since that part is not scheduled to begin until September, 2004.

A motion was made to delegate any actions with the Mendocino Youth Project to the Executive Committee with the advise of Director Molgaard (Pauli, Mordhorst): Mordhorst, yes; Smith, yes; Tichinin, no; Mann, yes; Pauli, yes; Glassey, yes; Colfax, yes. Passed. Director Molgaard and Karin Wandrei to meet as soon as Director Molgaard is back in office from personal leave.

E. 2. Request for Contract Amendment from Expanding Comprehensive Health Services for 0-5 in Willits (Mendocino Community Health Clinics, Inc.)

The contract provided for \$10,000 for outreach to families so that all 0-5 in the greater Willits area who did not have a medical home were encouraged to come to the new Little Lake Clinic as their medical home and also \$30,000 to pay for uncompensated medical and dental care for 0-5. The uncompensated portion was not spent as the grantee received federal grants and designations to the degree that they did not have to provide any uncompensated care.

The grantee requested to use the remaining funds in the grant (\$30,000) for video-conferencing equipment that would allow them to attend Pediatric Grand Rounds from Stanford University.

Catherine Rada was present from the Mendocino Community Health Clinic to address the Commission. Commissioner Tichinin questioned the technical cost factors with the program which he found expensive. Commissioner Colfax wanted to know how many children 0-5 this program would be helping; too few children in this age range would be cost prohibitive. Commissioners Glassey and Colfax felt that the proposed use of the remaining funds was too much of a change to their original proposal. Commissioner Glassey wondered if the new proposal were up against other proposals, would it measure up to FIRST 5 funding criteria.

Commissioner Mordhorst asked Rada if they would be working with Howard Hospital and their new tele-medicine system. Rada thought that the clinic could do so.

Commissioner Mann was concerned about in-kind funding to which Rada replied that this type of funding was already in place between Ukiah and Willits.

The Commission instructed Rada to contact Stanford to see what numbers of children 0-5 would be serviced on this project. They would also like Staff to investigate use of county's IT system costs vs. the Clinic's.

A motion was made to table the request for further discussion (Mordhorst, Pauli): Mordhorst, yes; Smith, yes; Tichinin, yes; Mann, yes; Pauli, yes; Glassey, yes; Colfax, yes. Passed.

E. 3. Request for Renewal from Kids Ready for Kindergarten (Mendocino County Youth Project)

Jim Levine from the Mendocino County Youth Project gave an overview of their project for the past year. Currently, most services involve home visitation and coordination with the schools. Commissioner Smith wanted to know who the primary caregivers were for these children. Levine reported that there is no licensed care for children under two and one-half in their area and parents and other relatives are currently caring for the children. Commissioner Mordhorst was concerned that the agency had only seen five newborns in the last year. Levine indicated that they had not been getting the referrals. Commissioner Mordhorst would like to see a nurse visiting homes also to see if vaccines have been updated and if children in the home are developmentally current.

Discussion: Commissioner Colfax felt project was costly counseling guidance in lieu of other medical services that are available such as Redwood Services. Compared to the ratio of people served, this proves expensive. Levine said families being served are high risk. Commissioner Mordhorst said program is good and feels it is a good investment and would like to see Levine locate more families.

A motion was made to renew the grant for Year 3 with additional nurse visits (Mordhorst, Smith): Mordhorst, yes; Smith, yes; Tichinin, yes; Mann, yes; Pauli, yes; Glassey, yes; Colfax, yes. Passed.

F. Commissioner Reports

Commissioners Pauli and Mordhorst would like to see more education topics on the Commission Agenda as was implemented previously.

V. Next Meetings

Notice that typographical error made for March 4, 2004 meeting; it should be March 1st.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.