



AGENDA
Leadership Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 12, 2007, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
 Working Lunch (Box Lunches from Too Fats)

LOCATION
 Kern County Superintendent of Schools – 7th Floor Board Room
 1300 17th Street at L. Free Parking on 3rd Floor – Enter structure at 18th & K

11 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions	South Valley Solutions
11:10	Status of AB 172 preschool funding for Kern County	Steve Sanders
11:15	Progress on getting child care policies into General Plans	Tammy Burns
11:25	Progress on identifying and dismantling barriers to financing child care facilities. Step 1 – Rule out Deal Breakers	Amy Zachery
11:45	Explore ways to program more parks for child care	Colin Bywater Terri Elison
12:05	BTW evaluation report & new survey for Year 2 of ABCD Constructing Connections project	Manuel Fierro
12:25	Kern LINCC workplan for Years 4 & 5. Brainstorm long term Sustainability Plan.	Dana Adams Jack Hardisty
12:45	Next steps (Summer 2007) Set next meeting date	South Valley Solutions
1 p.m.	Adjourn	

Kern LINCC Constructing Connections Project
Leadership Committee Meeting Notes
June 12, 2007

Attendance: Linda Coulter, Tammy Burns, Manuel Fierro, Amy Zachery, Ted James, Colon Bywater, Steve Sanders, Terri Ellison, Dana Adams, Barry Jung, Jessica Danel, Courage Winter, Mike McCabe, Lisa Duncan, Jack Hardisty.

Status of AB172

Steve Sanders reported Kern County was allotted \$1.8 million to create preschool classrooms. The following school districts have received approval of their applications for funding: Delano, Panama-Buena Vista, Lamont, Bakersfield City Schools, and the California Migrant Leadership Council Programs will probably start up in the Fall. The proposed budget for next year only includes \$20 million (down from \$50 million this year) so some uncertainty exists as to the ongoing funding of programs.

Progress of General Plan Policy Adoption: Tammy Burns referred to the Action Plan Chart (6/11/07) and highlighted some current events. Delano has adopted the proposed policies, Taft Planning Commission is scheduled to hear the proposal on July 10, 2007. Policies were tailored to fit the Taft general plan format. The McFarland planner has changed and Steve Perez is the contract planner. She is working with him on the inclusion of plan policies for child care. Shafter's Planning Commission has had a workshop on child care needs and general plan policies. Shafter's City Council will have one soon. Dana is working on the template for use by Kern County and City of Bakersfield for the Metro Bakersfield General Plan update.

Barriers to Financing Child Care Facilities #1 Rule Out Deal Breakers

Amy Zachery presented her list of deal breakers and some solutions. These would present major problems in obtaining financing and should be addressed right off the bat.

- No recent experience.
- No capital injection for a start-up.
- Arrest record.
- Bankruptcies and derogatory credit history.
- Tax Liens.
- Too much, too soon.

Banks each have their specific rules and policies but the above are generally common considerations. This summer Amy and Dana will work on identifying other financial barriers at different phases of child care facilities development.

Programming More Child Care in Parks

Colon Bywater observed that lack of funding was his greatest obstacle. NOR Recreation and Park District has partnered with schools and has just expanded the Willow Day Care center with CDBG funding. Fees collected for park development can only be spent on park improvements. Not all parks are suitable for child care, especially those located within neighborhoods because of traffic generation.

Terri Ellison pointed out that operating within the city budget puts her in competition with other organizational priorities such as police and fire protection. Programming as much as possible in parks does give youngsters an alternative to wandering the streets. Some discussions with major developers have raised their sensitivity to the need for child care and the potential for co-locating with parks.

BTW Report & Survey

Manuel Fierro summarized the findings from last year's survey. Newly developed relationships have streamlined the processes for making child care available, the large number of early successes has been very impressive, and the broad based linkages have been established. He asked that we take a few minutes to complete a survey for this year.

Kern LINCC Workplan for Years 4 & 5

Dana Adams announced that funding has been approved for years 4 & 5 for Kern LINCC Constructing Connections project. She reviewed 2005-2007 goals and how they would be followed up in 2008- 2009.

2005 -2007

1. Streamline System

Develop child care centers

- ID Barriers (Brion Study)
- Dismantle Barriers Get supportive child care policies into general plans of Kern County and its 11 cities.
- Catalog resources

Finance Child Care Centers

- ID Barriers (in process thru summer 2007)
- Dismantle them (to come by year end 2007)

2. Fill Pipeline

Technical Assistance (LINCC, CCCC, SBDC)

Training (LINCC, Child Care Council, SBDC, CCCC)

2008 – 2009

Land Use Analysis in 4 -5 months. Streamline land use policies thru 2009.

Pipeline : Demonstration Project – Jessica/Courage project @ 8800 Harris Road,

Break ground in July 2007

Complete Nov./Dec.

Open for business, Jan.08.

Capacity, 160 – 200

Building, 10,000 sq. ft.

Play Yard, 15,000 sq. ft.

2010 -2015

Develop and Implement Long Term Sustainability Plan

LINCC work is likely to be continued by Kern County Child Care Council.

This Leadership Committee will become a sub-committee of Child Care Council.

Plan to develop funding plan to support a child care coordinator.

Technical Assistance will continue through SBDC, CCCC (Lisa - site evaluation & licensing)

OTHER DISCUSSION

Jessica Danel suggested adding emphasis on linking up providers with developers and other potential landlords and promoting child care to churches.

Barry Jung suggested that after policies are adopted we should follow-up on implementation like ordinance amendments and funding. He thought we might look to redevelopment agencies for some support. Use the downtown school as an example.

Ted James said that filling the pipeline should include a marketing program directed to private parties. We should not rely solely on regulatory processes.

Tammy pointed out that there are examples of “family friendly” policies for companies.

Next Steps:

- Continue calling on cities
- Finish work on financial barriers
- Follow-up with churches
- Work with Child Care Council to develop child care center directors
- Workshop for preschool teachers to become directors

Next Meeting: September 2007.