

**Commission on Children and Families
Regular Commission Meeting**

**April 21, 2009
5:30 p.m.—Douglas ESD**

Minutes

Present: Lois Allen, Les Esparza, Suzie McAmis, Steve Schenewerk, Bruce Justis, Shirley Petterson and Gillian Wesenberg.

Absent: Dan Forbess, Jeremy Gegenhuber, Bonnie Ford, Barbara Matthews and Dave Lee.

Others: McKenzie Klug-Family Connections, Meg Story-Adapt, Judge Bill Marshall-Courts, Dawnelle Marshall- Public Health/Douglas County Health and Social Services, Jerry Waybrant-DHS, Gaylene Nixon-UT&E, Anna Brown-Family Development Center, Debby Burkholder-Child Care Division.

Lois Allen called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. and introductions were made.

Minutes: Les Esparza made a motion to approve the March 17, 2009 minutes. Suzy McAmis seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Chair Report: Lois and Gillian attended two community programs this past month. The first was The Child Abuse Prevention Partnership (CAPP) "Together We Will Make a Difference!" held on April 1, 2009 at the Roseburg High School Cafeteria. The second program was the partnership of Roseburg Chamber of Commerce and CAPP for Chamber After Hours "Together We Can Be 1 Community 4 Kids" at the Family Development Center on April 14, 2009. The Douglas County Commission on Children & Families provided printed material at both events about the "Build Our Kids 40 Assets" and the "Commission on Children & Families."

Director's Report: Gillian stated that today was Commission Day at the Legislature. Representatives from CASA, Relief Nursery, Healthy Start and the Commissions were in attendance. Gillian and the Lane County Commission Director spoke with Bruce Hanna about the need to maintain the basic infrastructure of the Commissions' systems to allow future expansion and growth. Bruce is hopeful that the budget deficit will be lower than predicted. Gillian will return to Salem on April 22, 2009 for Juvenile Crime Prevention Training for the Juvenile Directors and Commissions.

Update on Dr. Chasnoff and the Douglas County Response to Perinatal Substance Use presented by Dawnelle Marshall: Dr. Chasnoff facilitated a group meeting on February 16 and 17, 2009 to discuss establishing a Screening, Assessment, Referral and Treatment (SART) system in Douglas County. The purpose of SART is to formulate a plan to address the problems of perinatal substance abuse. This systematic approach identifies women using alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs during pregnancy and then provides appropriate assistance and referrals to those who need it.

The screening and assessment takes place in the prenatal setting using a research-based screening tool – “*The 4P’s Plus.*” Women are identified who could benefit from a brief intervention – “*I am Concerned.*” Gender specific treatment services and community education are components of the plan.

All public health nurses completed training in March 2009 for “*The 4P’s Plus*”; private Obstetricians will receive training in June 2009. This universal training will include the protocols for “*I am Concerned.*”

All pregnant women and women seeking pregnancy tests will be screened for substance use (alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs) as part of women’s health care throughout the community. Women who screen positive for substance use will have the field assessment “*The 4P’s Plus.*” Pregnant women who need treatment will be referred to an appropriate program.

The goal of this program is to reduce the number of children exposed to alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs prior to birth.

Dawnelle showed videos of the case studies. These case studies showed children with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

Both of these disorders could have been prevented if “*The 4P’s Plus*” had been in use before these children were born.

Youth Advisory Board Update-Jeremy Gegenhuber: No Report.

Other: Meg Story with Adapt reminded everyone about “Celebrate Children Day” at Wildlife Safari this Saturday, April 25, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Lois thanked everyone for coming.

Adjournment: Lois adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Smith