



EVALUATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, April 27, 2009 at 10:30 a.m.

First 5 Monterey County ♦ 1125 Baldwin Street ♦ Salinas, CA

Call to Order: Len Foster, Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 10:39 a.m.

Roll Call: A legal quorum was present.

Commissioners in attendance: Len Foster and Robert L. Black

Committee Members, Funded Partner Representatives, Consultants and Staff in Attendance:

David Dobrowski, Evaluation Officer; Francine Rodd, Executive Director; Beth Reeves-Fortney, Sr. Program Officer; Raul Martinez and Michelle Magee, Harder + Company; Gay Spitz, Salinas Adult School; and Lisa Luis, Program Support (recorder).

Approve Agenda:

The agenda was approved as presented.

Public Comment Period: *Members of the audience desiring to address the Commission may do so during this time. Public comments on items not already on the agenda will be accepted.*

No public comment.

Action/Information Items:

1. Approval of February 12, 2009 Evaluation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

ACTION: Upon consensus, the Evaluation Advisory Committee Meeting minutes from February 12, 2009 were approved as presented.

2. Evaluator Announcements – David Dobrowski, Evaluation Officer

INFORMATION only, no handouts

- David thanked the Committee members their cooperation the rescheduling of today's meeting.
- First 5 California hired WestEd to conduct additional in-depth studies. Committee members should notify David if there are specific topics they want WestEd to focus on.
- The Bay Area First 5's agreed to hire Applied Survey Research (ASR) to prepare communication briefs.
- Funded Partner Period 2 reports have been turned in. After a brief initial review, David shared that they look better than last period's reports.

3. Potential Impact of Prop 1D on Evaluation – Francine Rodd, Executive Director

INFORMATION only, no handouts in packet

Francine told the Committee that they would have an opportunity at the June 11th EAC meeting to review the details and impact on F5MC Evaluation spending. The potential limitations tie into our strategic plan. The percentage that we can spend on Evaluation is 11%. F5MC will look at the totality and examine if we are maximizing our Evaluation spending.

4. Economic Survey Results – David Dobrowski, Evaluation Officer

INFORMATION, formatting suggestions will be taken

A meeting will be held next week to determine if this report should be presented at a large public forum. Francine said that such a forum would allow organizations to meet and discuss the economic situation and to find ways to coordinate and collaborate.

Gay suggested that fall would be a good time for a meeting to talk about the results. Len agreed with the fall as significant initiative items will most likely not pass and will force the legislature back to another session. It will be until fall when everything gets solidified.

The Economic Survey – Executive Summary document highlights the results of the voluntary survey of agencies and organizations conducted in order to have a better understanding of how the current economic situation is effecting organizations locally.

The Committee reviewed the report, made comments and asked questions for clarification.

- The “spider” graphs in the report take some getting used to but are a more compact way of showing the data.
- The quotes in the report are just samples and there are many more quotes available to choose from.
- Michelle said that some of the taskforces in San Francisco are coming out with recommendations and she will share those.

5. ELO Evaluation Menu Update - David Dobrowski, Evaluation Officer

INFORMATION, questions will be taken

This document was shared at the Regular Commission Meeting in March of 2009. It provides a current update on how things are going with Early Learning Opportunities stages and dimensions. Everything is moving forward as expected.

The Committee suggested that on the second page, under the dimension “Children are Mentally and Physically Healthy”, the item “Daily fruit and vegetable consumption” should be removed because this is not a focus of our funded partners.

6. Special Needs Demonstration Project Evaluation Tools Update – Raul Martinez, Harder + Co.

ACTION: Review and provide input

Raul presented the different tools/surveys that are going to be used this year for the SNP Evaluation. Each tool is designed for the different categories of the SNP Program: State Preschool Teachers, SNP Providers, Summer Bridge Teachers, Summer Bridge Parents, Head Start Teachers, FCC Providers, Hartnell CDC Teachers and a web-based survey for SNP agencies and collaborative partners.

This is the second year that Harder + Co. has done a comprehensive evaluation of the program. They will focus on inclusion and systems change this time around. The inclusion focus is to ensure that teachers/providers are equipped for special needs children. Systems change will look at how the parts are working, and what the interaction is like between the Child Study Team (CST), referrals and inclusion programs.

Raul added they want to know how comfortable the providers are with special needs children and their ability to care for them. Are there developmental concerns that affect the providers’ confidence in being able to care for the children? Harder wants to get a sense of the range of the providers training and if there may be cases where the developmental delay is too much for the provider. At what point do they refer out?

The Committee provided feedback on the different surveys.

- Dr. Black with the structure of all the different forms of special needs and the overlap between them
- Add medically fragile children to the list (prompt – g tube, asthma)
- Remove the counting of how many children with each of the specific special needs to avoid duplication issues
- Change classroom to home
- Beth and David will meet with Raul for further feedback on the SNP protocols.

7. Kindergarten Readiness Assessment – Raul Martinez, Harder + Co.

a. MDRDP Permission – INFORMATION only, no handouts

Raul has been working on obtaining permission to use the MDRDP for the 2009 F5MC Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. Letters were sent to both First 5 California and SRI. SRI had no objection but couldn’t sign off and give us the permission. Stacie Sormano at F5CA said they

have an MOU and it must be signed by the school principals and school district officials in order for the MDRDP to be used again.

The MOU outlines that the data is not used to assess individual children and includes language about data collection storage and security. About 50 signatures are needed. Harder will start the process now, starting with the district officials and working down from there.

Len pointed out that the MDRDP should be a public document and therefore we wouldn't technically have to ask for permission to use it.

Committee asked if the District Superintendent could sign on behalf of the principals, saving some time and effort?

b. Sampling Plan – INFORMATION, question will be taken

Schools that participated in the 2004 and 2006 KRA are being invited to participate again. There are 10 schools repeating this year, and all have low API rankings and encompass School Readiness (SR) areas.

An interesting note is that from 2006 to 2009 the AP scores have decreased. A couple of the medium API schools have now fallen into the low category.

Thirty five schools will be asked to participate, and participation is voluntary. Harder has established a good relationship with the schools and many still have the same principal as in previous years which will increase participation in the study.

c. Tools Final Versions – ACTION: For review prior to meeting. Suggestions on possible modifications will be accepted at the meeting.

The three tools/surveys were presented for feedback to the Committee – Early Educator Survey, Kindergarten Teacher Survey and a Welcome to Kindergarten Parent Survey.

Under the curriculum sections:

- o Francine commented on the term “homegrown curriculum”.
- o The State does not develop a curriculum, so that choice should be removed from the survey.

d. Subsample Memo - ACTION: Review and assess plan of action.

Harder suggests that this is the last year the MDRDP will be used, and they suggested a Sub-Study in order to norm a new tool. This would be useful for comparison purposes. The tools currently available are prohibitive and Harder decided it would be a better use of everyone's time to wait until the DRDP II is ready or there is movement at a state level to select a tool. There are some other tools that are very promising, but they don't cover all the developmental domains.

8. Parent Interview Update – Raul Martinez, Harder + Co.

INFORMATION only, no handouts

The interview goal of 200 has almost been reached, with 175 interviews completed to date. Harder is almost complete with the data collection and the data entry is up to date as well. Receiving a good representation across the county and across programs.

9. Participatory Case Study– Raul Martinez, Harder + Co.

ACTION: For review prior to meeting. Suggestions on possible modifications will be accepted at the meeting.

Harder asked for feedback on the document “Case Study: Parent's Experiences Navigation F5MC Service System”. They will engage a subset of parents that receive services from more than one F5MC Funded Program. These parents have been identified in Persimmony, and also seem to be receiving some of the most intense services. Interview will be conducted to engage parents in more in-depth conversations.

10. Program Coordinator and Line Staff Survey– Raul Martinez, Harder + Co.

ACTION: For review prior to meeting. Suggestions on possible modifications will be accepted at the meeting.

This annual survey will start up again and has been shortened for this year. It addresses interagency collaboration, essential characteristics and interactions with First 5. The biggest addition is the non-

F5MC-funded community partners will be included for the network mapping. The goal is to fill in some of the gaps and to see the levels of collaboration.

11. Institutional Review Board Update – *Raul Martinez, Harder + Co.*

INFORMATION only, no handouts

Raul shared that Harder + Co. has submitted the IRB for the three new activities being conducted this year: SNP, KRA and the case study. Western IRB is currently reviewing the application for IRB exemption and it's still under review. If Harder does make any changes to the data collection instruments, they will just have to provide updated copies to Western IRB.

12. Calendar of Events – *Raul Martinez, Harder + Co.*

INFORMATION, question will be taken

Krista had requested a F5MC Evaluation Calendar. It provides an at-a-glance view of all activities currently taking place and what is planned for the rest of calendar year 2009.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Upcoming Commission Meetings: *Unless otherwise noted, Meetings take place at: **First 5 Monterey County;** 1125 Baldwin Street; Salinas*

- Evaluation Advisory Committee Meeting: May 14, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.
- Regular Commission Meeting: May 18, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
- Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting: May 1, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.
- Executive Committee Meeting: May 13, 2009 at 12:30 p.m.
- Regular Commission Meeting & Retreat, pt 2: June 22, 2009 from 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.