



## PRINCE GEORGE'S CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, INC

Adelphi/Langley Park Family Support Center and Healthy Families Prince George's Advisory Group  
8908 Riggs Road, MD 20783

Date: July 11, 2019

**Present at meeting:** Ruben Cuevas (co-chair), Felipe Urquilla (guest speaker), Katherine Chicas, Lynn Mejia, Andrea Hall, Nora Eidemann, Norberto Martinez, Andrea Hall, Derek Flake, Kathia James, Jennifer Iverson, Andrea Hall, Sonia, Leila, Ivania Morales, Nora Eidelman, Norberto Martinez, Yolanda Nelson Swain, Rasheeda McGuire, Alyson Jacobson

**Welcome:** Ruben Cuevas welcomed the attendees

**Guest Speaker:** Felipe Urquilla, Prince George's County Department of Social Services; Child Protective Services Trainer, Child Protective Services Education Unit

The goal of the Department's educational campaign is to train everyone in the county with the abuse prevention training, free of charge. They have also completed a Father's against abuse campaign. If anyone is interested in setting up a training for staff, office, community group or parent group, send him an email to arrange details. You can also ask to be added to his list serve for information about other community events. The Department wants everyone to know their status as a mandated reporter if you work under DHHS, and how to respond to children disclosing abuse.

Felipe reviewed the two brochures provided at the meeting. Questions that arose from his presentation:

1. How long is the training? 3 hours. CEUs are available for certain professionals
2. How many people do you need? Need at least 5 people to hold a training. If your organization or group doesn't have the minimum number of participants, the Department may be able to combine your group with another.
3. Can you offer general overviews to staff that work with the public? Yes, call them and let them know your needs.
4. Can it be offered in Spanish? Yes

**FSC Update:** Kathia James, FSC Service Coordinator

- Danitza Simpson is on vacation
- Since April we have had spring celebration: Easter egg hunt, library and parent-child activities, lunch was served.

- Graduation/end of year celebration: Participants received a certificate and children had a graduation ceremony. Families participated by providing a cultural dance with traditional music and costumes and sharing food from their countries of origin.
- FSC celebrated a participant that received External Diploma Program and attended her graduation. Participant has the option to receive a scholarship because she completed
- Wolf Trap field trips—the participants from the FSC have attending one event at Theater in the Woods and held a picnic for the families attending the event.

**Healthy Families Update:** Alyson Jacobson, Program Director, Healthy Families Prince George’s

Report of highlights from the last quarter is attached. Alyson informed Advisory Board that HFPG is planning a focus group to discuss participants’ views and experiences of prenatal care and why/why not they utilize prenatal care providers. Alyson asked the board members to suggest questions for the focus group. Board members wrote questions on index cards, Alyson read them aloud and other questions were suggested.

**Member Updates:**

**Andrea Hall,** Judy Hoyer Center

The summer program is going on and she must leave early for a puppet show today. Andrea reported that the Judy Hoyer Advisory and Early Childhood Steering Committees will be joined again this year and she will be sending out a calendar of meetings soon. The Judy Hoyer Center is starting a new grant year.

**Participants of Family Support Center**

**Sonia**—I didn’t know about this place, but when my friend told me about the Family Support Center, this was the first place I was excited to come with my child. I came here because of a friend’s recommendation. I am thankful for the support she receives from the Family Support Center and HFPG. She is also coming to therapy with McGuire Therapeutic Services and is grateful for all the opportunities she has access to because of PGCRC.

**Leila**—I found out about the Family Support Center from Mary’s Center, where I am receiving prenatal care. I was looking for English classes, but it was too expensive to go to school. I feel like I have a lot of support from the Family Support Center. Kathia added that she was the first participant to get a donation from The Nursery Project through the Family Support Center. She was really surprised to get the baby supplies (stroller, diapers, pack and play, etc.)

**Jennifer Iverson, Executive Director of Prince George’s Child Resource Center**

We had a great all staff day in June. Training was provided on Communication in the Workplace, then all PGCRC staff went to Watkins Park for a barbeque lunch, “Forest Bathing” (Alyson’s idea) and team building activities.

- Struggle with facilities continues—no flooding from the torrential rains on Monday. Maybe the infrastructure work that has been done in the parking lot has something to do with flood mitigation.

- Mr. Milspaugh has agreed to see if PGCPs can help remove the wooden area and we can place playground equipment in its place.
- The Graham Fund has verbally agreed to buy us a new vehicle for the Family Support Center.
- In May, the Judy Hoyer Learning Center had an amazing visit from Congressman Hoyer. He brought colleagues (Barbara Lee from CA and Ms. Garcia from Texas) to tour the building and see how the partnerships work together. Dr. Goldson, CEO of PGCPs was also at the visit. Congressman Hoyer visited with all participants in the ESOL class individually and gave an impromptu speech about the value of immigrants. After the tour, a round table was held about how the wrap-around services working together in this complex make a big impact on the families.

**Ivania Morales—NAMI**—Ivania mentioned that July is Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. NAMI has an open presentation scheduled at Laurel Regional Hospital this Thursday, July 18 from 6-7:30pm. Family and Friends—have a support group and once a year they open the group to their families. Ivania also mentioned that County Executive Angela Alsobrooks gave NAMI a proclamation.

**Nora Eidelman, Community Legal Services**—see brochure. Nora mentioned that one of the services they offer is free assistance with the “Stand by” guardianship: when a parent appoints or designates a person to care for their child in the case of illness, death and/or deportation. FREE SERVICES. State of MD already provides the form. What about adults that need guardianship? The office number is 240-391-6370. Nora’s cell phone is 301-335-5521 and partners can send text messages to her on this number.

**Norberto Martinez, Circuit Court Family Division**—The Circuit Court Family Division has recently hired two new bilingual paralegals. Litigant orientations are still taking place.

Langley Park TNI has been changed to “Langley Park Service Providers Network”. The Network meets every other month. Next meeting is in August. Norberto will send out reminders.

Norberto is at the multi-service center on Tuesdays. 301-952-4840 is the public line; it has translation services.

**Yolanda Nelson Swain—Family Grief Center**—The Family Grief Center has recently partnered with PG Hospital Center at the Gladys Spellman building; survivors of homicide and other grief are holding groups there. They are currently looking for a bilingual group facilitator and looking to add additional schools for their school-based program. Gladys Spellman groups are starting in August. The groups are considered “Open” for first three weeks and then the group is closed to new members. Anyone wanting to join after the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting will have to wait for the next cohort to start. The Grief Center would like more referrals. They are looking to move to a location where they can house their offices and space for groups. They also provide transportation to the meetings for those families that do not have transportation.

**Kathryn Chicas—St. Jude’s Sanctuary for Life/Catholic Charities**—Their mission is to connect pregnant women with a medical provider and they are currently working with Holy Cross Hospital. Offering a dental class to pregnant moms and their babies. They will get a discount of \$30.00 for any dental clinic under Catholic Charities.

**Lynn Mejia—United Health Care.** Adult benefits are increasing to \$750 per year for dental care. If interested, call 240-354-6161 for a print ready flyer in Spanish. Lynn brought flyers with information about the dental benefits increase under United Health Care. Another update is that members of United Health Care can now get a prescription for 90 days. UHC is partnering with communities against poverty and holding intergenerational classes on nutrition, cooking, etc. Greater Baden medical services will have a baby shower in the upcoming months.

**Rasheeda McGuire, McGuire Therapeutic Services**—shared a brochure explaining their services. MTS has started providing an 8-hour course (two 4-hour sessions) in Mental Health First Aid Certification. \$100.00 and there could possibly be a discount if class size is big enough.

**Ruben Cuevas—Health Department** assisting community members with MD Health Connection and Medicaid. His office offers 1:1 assistance with navigating applications and issues with MCO enrollment.

**Derek Flake-DSS**—DSS Child and Family Services was recently awarded a seal of certification from the Human Rights Campaign for LGBTQ Community. Congratulations! The Department received positive press coverage for receiving this seal. The Department is working to build engagement with fathers and is currently piloting a project for biological and resource fathers which includes support for fathers, training staff in identifying ways to be more inclusive of fathers, etc.

Thank you to everyone that attended the meeting today. Our next Advisory Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 9:00am.

#### **Healthy Families Prince George's Update Staffing**

--hired 3 new FSSs in June and now we are fully staffed

#### **HFA Standards**

--currently completing the Parent Satisfaction Survey

--will undertake the Staff Satisfaction Survey

--accreditation package for Review after site visit will be submitted August 5, 2019 and the Panel meets in October.

#### **Trainings completed**

--Power Brain Wellness training and preparing for reflective supervision

--Communication in the Workplace Training

--2 new FSSs took mental health first aid

--HFGP hosted Life Skills Progression training

--several staff members attended the WETA training hosted by Judy Hoyer center.

#### **Tech Updates**

--Maxwell Data Base is still being upgraded-participating in work group

#### **Work in the Community/Special Projects**

--Community Work Group--prenatal tool kit pilot study to be started in conjunction with the Community Action Committee of the FIMR

#### **Action for Today**

--HFPG is planning on a focus group with the purpose of understanding why women with insurance do not attend prenatal care and would like your help to formulate questions

### **Successes**

Jun-19 Coordinating recommendations from Infants and Toddlers and HFPG convinced MOB to offer Tummy Time to infant triplets. MOB says now she knows that Tummy Time is important so she doesn't pick them up immediately when they cry anymore, but encourages them to build gross motor skills. HFPG helped MOB understand gross motor needs of developing infants.

Jun-19 FSS completed ASQ-3 and noticed delay in speech. MOB previously thought TC would talk when he was ready and declined referral for early intervention. Pediatrician also noticed speech delay and encouraged MOB to get early intervention services. TC is now receiving services and MOB is happy that TC is getting the help he needed. HFPG supported MOB with reflective strategies, offered resources, activities and encouraged.

Jun-19 MOB achieved her first family goal. MOB wanted to prepare for baby's birth by setting up a nursery, but she didn't think she had enough money or a stable home because of her foster placement. MOB was placed in a new foster home, HFPG support worker provided home visit activities focused on budgeting, a budget worksheet and a family goal with steps she needed to take to get nursery ready. MOB achieved goal in time for TC's birth. HFPG supported family with goal setting success and financial literacy education.