

Children’s Leadership Council of Contra Costa County: Stakeholder Meeting #3

October 1, 2019 | 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Dr, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Meeting Summary

Desired Results: Build on input and ideas from previous meetings to create agreement on:

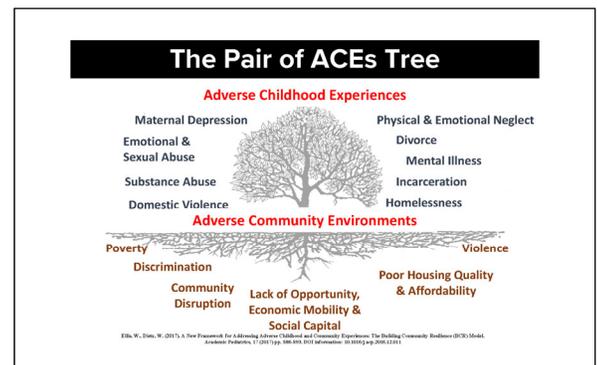
- Broad goals for the CLC
- Roles, strategies, and actions the CLC can implement to achieve its goals
- Ways the CLC can add value to existing efforts, with and without additional resources

Participants: 66 individuals (see *Attachment 1* for roster)

1. Welcome, Meeting Overview & Icebreaker/Introductions

2. The Children’s Leadership Council’s (CLC) “Story”

- Stories are at the heart of effective advocacy and movements. Every good story has a beginning (situation), middle (solution), and end (resolution).
- Beginning of CLC’s story: Kick-off meeting in March; identified and discussed differences in opportunities and outcomes among children and families (via Children Now’s Opportunity Gap infographic and other public health data) and systemic and structural inequities. Reason for convening the CLC was to close the gaps, cracks, and silos in the systems that produce inequities.
- Middle of CLC’s story: Introduced a Framework for Collective Action (CLC’s purpose, vision, values, examples of what we do) based on discussions in March meeting; Specific areas of agreement and shared interest:
 - **CLC’s Purpose:** To intentionally develop and strengthen the ecosystem that recognizes and supports child, youth, family, and community resilience and well-being.
 - **Pair of ACEs Tree:** Acknowledgement that Adverse Community Environments (inequitable, unjust systems and practices) produce and contribute to Adverse Childhood Experiences and disparities in outcomes, like the ones the Opportunity Gap infographic highlighted.
 - **5 Protective Factors:** Parental Resilience, Social Connections, Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development, Concrete Support in Times of Need, and Social & Emotional Competence are important ingredients in resilience and well-being
 - **“Healthy Trees & Soil”:** Consistent with the Pair of ACEs analogy, the CLC must be working to foster Healthy Trees and Soil, meaning supporting the health and well-being of children and families and strengthening the connections among systems and supports.
 - **Big, Bold Goals:** Brainstormed ideas about what the CLC could achieve, ranging from Quick Wins (low-hanging fruit), Modest yet Meaningful Gains (improvements to existing system that will take time), or Transformational Changes (significantly new and/or different results that will take many people and sometimes many years to accomplish).
- Today: we’re still in the middle of co-creating the CLC’s story together; everyone has a role to play, whether you’re new or have attended past CLC meetings, or you represent an agency or community group



- Desired ending/resolution to CLC’s story: A safe, healthy, vibrant, and just community where all children and families have equitable opportunities to thrive. This is a condensed version of the CLC’s vision statement.

3. Roadmap for Collective Action

- Draft Roadmap (*Attachment 2*) was the first pass at clarifying the CLC’s role and overarching strategies, and potential actions for each of the three goals, which are based on discussions and feedback from first two CLC meetings:
 1. Center the CLC’s collective action around **community voices and partnerships**.
 2. Contra Costa has a holistic, thriving **ecosystem of prevention** for children, youth, and families.
 3. Policymakers and systems leaders champion a data-driven, outcome-oriented **“Child & Youth Well-being Agenda.”**
- Activities in blue font were ideas from the Big, Bold Goals brainstorm exercise at the July meeting
- Small group discussions: CLC members picked a goal to discuss, then moved to assigned tables to discuss the following questions with others.
 1. What are the **essential actions** the CLC should take together to achieve this goal?
 2. How can the CLC **add value**?
 - Identify **top 3 actions** that are most important AND likely to create an impact in this goal
 - Should the CLC **Lead or Lend Support**?
 3. What would **success** look like?
 - What **data and stories** would tell you whether there’s progress or this goal has been achieved?



4. Highlights from report-outs (see *Attachment 3* for transcription of notes from each group)

- **Goal 1: Community voices and partnerships**
 - Identify and connect with existing community leaders (youth and parents/caregivers);
 - Learn about, support, and participate in their existing advocacy work;
 - Gather data; community and CLC analyze the data together and determine the priorities;
 - Develop communication methods, feedback loops, and other ways for community leaders to be involved in the CLC (i.e. doesn’t always require everyone to attend every meeting);
 - Rotate location of CLC meeting locations, identify other ways to make CLC meetings accessible and welcoming to community leaders;
 - Look for/learn from other successful models of centering community voice in collaborative work



- **Goal 2: Holistic, thriving ecosystem of prevention**

- Support countywide trainings to promote common frameworks and practices around prevention, Protective Factors, etc.; Maintain focus on root causes of inequities
- Map assets and intersections of CLC priorities with other existing initiatives (e.g. Child Abuse Prevention Plan, Interpersonal Violence Prevention Plan, Maternal Child Adolescent Health 5-year Plan, Juvenile Justice Consolidated Annual Plan, Oral Health Plan, etc.)
- Work toward a “whole family system of care” (like whole person care for adults, but for children/youth/families)
- Look at/learn from existing models (e.g. First 5 Centers, CA Maternal Quality Care Collaborative)
- Strengthen and maximize use of existing funding streams while also exploring new and alternative funding streams and models
- Build/strengthen relationships with policymakers, serve as think tank and advisors



- **Goal 3: Data-driven, outcome-oriented “Child & Youth Well-being Agenda”**

- Leverage collective efforts to explore/set up data sharing systems
- Develop ability to evaluate success across systems and programs, assess “what works”
- Develop a Child & Youth Well-being Index or data dashboard (hire someone to do)
- Use data to inform advocacy efforts, develop a policy agenda that addresses root causes (i.e. not just services), and eventually establish a dedicated child/youth funding stream



- **Additional insights and a “call to action”**

- Community leaders spoke about needing to take action now; many children and families in the community are dealing with urgent issues and challenges that impact them every day; change needs to happen now

5. Next Steps & Closing Comments

- Everyone’s participation and voices were appreciated, especially the community leaders who talked about their own experiences and urged the CLC to move into action
- Turning ideas into action will take commitment and participation from everyone; the CLC meetings are helping strengthen the foundation for working together over the long-term
- Next steps: Leadership Team will work on completing the CLC Action Plan between Nov 2019 – January 2020; will reach out to CLC participants who have expressed interest in contributing ideas and resources via Interest Wall (see *Attachment 4*) or other direct communication
- View CLC information and resources on EHSD’s web site:
<https://ehsd.org/overview/clc/?highlight=children%26%23039%3Bs%20leadership%20council>