

Executive Director's Report ■ September 2005

CPC Completes SPA 6 Council Reconstitution Process; Council Working Toward Certification

A new SPA 6 Council emerged this summer, after a six-month community engagement process that led to the election of 32 new Council members. The composition of the new Council includes parents, youth, and community members who reflect the richness and diversity of the region – and all of whom care deeply about community building efforts, inclusion, and accountability on behalf of children and families. Members participated in a comprehensive orientation in August and are now working toward certification. Other progress includes moving into their new office and the hiring of new staff (Coordinator, Jaqueline Orozco and Youth Organizer, Greg Bell). The SPA 6 office has been provided in-kind by Chris Floyd, a member of the SPA 6 Transition Team and business leader in the community. Many thanks to Chris for his generous support – and Congratulations to the SPA 6 Council!! Thanks also to the full SPA 6 Transition Team for their leadership and support throughout the process. It's been a long journey – but worth every moment we invested in this effort. We look forward to working with the SPA 6 Council in improving conditions for the kids and families in this important region.

CPC Makes Significant Progress in Strategic Planning Process

After many months of planning and meeting, the Strategic Planning Workgroup will issue recommendations for the CPC Strategic Direction, to be presented for approval at the September and November CPC meeting. The recommendations are based on the findings of the CPC evaluation, the two-day retreat, and thoughtful planning over the summer. The Strategic Direction builds on our community building efforts, ensuring a strong connection to data and policy. This direction will ensure that our work to help improve the systems that serve kids and families and our efforts to build a countywide commitment to outcomes for children are driven by our community-building efforts. It also promotes a stronger and more intentional integration of our data and policy efforts. The two-step approval process will begin in September, with CPC providing initial approval and directing the development of a Strategic Workplan. Final approval of the recommendations and the workplan will be scheduled for the November CPC meeting. In between these two meetings, CPC will seek input and feedback from various stakeholder groups, including the SPA/AIC Councils, the Data Partnership, and our County partners. In addition, during this period, CPC will seek endorsement of the new Strategic Direction and the Strategic Plan from the Board of Supervisors.

CPC to be Recognized by L.A. County Human Relations Commission

The Children's Planning Council will receive the Ford Anson Human Relations "Fifth District Award" at a luncheon on October 6, 2005. CPC was nominated for this award for its work in reconstituting the SPA 6 Council and its commitment to community building, racial equity, and promoting positive human relations across diverse groups. Congratulations again to CPC!

Work in Progress

CPC continues its work on the juvenile justice report (due out later this year); the City Leaders Summit (November 17, 2005); and the succession planning process (to be completed this fall). The annual CPC financial audit will be completed this month.

Board of Supervisors allocate Second Year Funding for EITC Campaign

The Board of Supervisors approved a second year of funding to continue coordinating the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Campaign Partnership; our goal is to continue to increase the number of families that claim the EITC. The Partnership is comprised of over 70 public and private sector entities throughout the County, collectively working to ensure that all eligible families claim the EITC. In addition, these funds will help CPC leverage other resources to broaden our efforts toward a Family Economic Success (FES) initiative that will focus on other asset building efforts for families, including other tax credits, financial literacy, Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), increased access to public benefits, awareness of predatory lending, debt counseling, and employment & training. The FES initiative is an emerging partnership of the CPC, the County's Chief Administrative Office, and the many Campaign partners throughout the County of Los Angeles.

CPC Welcomes New Staff & Social Work Intern

CPC is delighted to welcome four new, talented individuals:

- ▶ Jaqueline Orozco, SPA 6 Coordinator: Jaqueline is a graduate of Yale University. Most recently, Jaqueline worked for LAUSD Board President Jose Huizar. Jaqueline was born and raised in SPA 6, is a respected leader in her community, and comes with impeccable credentials, passion, and a commitment to improving the lives of children and families in the SPA 6 community.
- ▶ Cesar Sifuentes, Data Specialist. Cesar is a recent graduate of I-Poly, a specialty high school of the Los Angeles County Office of Education, on the campus of Cal Poly Pomona. His talent with data and interest in GIS, coupled with his commitment and strong work ethic, is helping to enhance the work of the Data Partnership. His goal is to continue his education while gaining technical skills at CPC.
- ▶ Ben Rodriguez, Director of Communications and Development. Ben is the former president of Creative Development, the design firm that has worked with CPC over the last 5 years. His talent brought to us our logo, website, design of our publications, and many other products. Last year Creative Development received two awards for the CPC ScoreCard and Youth Engagement Report. Ben will direct our internal and external communications work and development efforts, including exploring revenue-generating opportunities for CPC.
- ▶ Janet Sparks, Social Work Intern. Janet is a second year UCLA graduate student, whose interest is in macro social work issues, including children and family policy and advocacy. She will be spending her internship with the Community Planning and Engagement team at CPC.

Respectfully,



Yolie Flores Aguilar
Executive Director