



NORTH STATE TOGETHER Advisory Board Meeting

June 8, 2020
10:00 am
Zoom Conference Call

MINUTES

Advisory Board Members Present					
X	Kevin O'Rorke/NST	X	Hope Seth/RHS		Marian Hall/AMY
X	James Crandall/NST	X	Rob Adams/RHS	X	Tanja Ramming/AMY
X	Jamie Spielmann/NST		Kate Grissom/EMT	X	Kelly Salter/TMF
X	Susan Schroth/NST	X	Kathy Garcia/EMT		Lianne Richelieu-Boren/CO
	Anna Carson/TTCCP	X	Marian Murphy-Shaw/C2C4S		Jason Schwenkler/CSU Chico
X	Teckla Johnson/TTCCP	X	Christina Van Alfen/C2C4S	X	Kate Mahar/North/Far North Regional Coordinator for Guided Pathways at CCC

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Kevin O'Rorke at 10:00 am.

- 2) **WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS** – Kevin welcomed everyone to our “shelter in place” Zoom meeting. We planned to be in Siskiyou for this meeting and like many things, it was cancelled due to the shelter in place orders.

- 3) **REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES** – Christina made a motion and Hope seconded to approve the minutes from April 20, 2020 meeting. Approved.

- 4) **REPORTS**
 - A) **County Collaborative Updates:**
 - i) **Advancing Modoc Youth** – At this time, Tanja is focusing on student’s who are graduating. They had to cancel work internships due to COVID. In Modoc they haven’t been hit by unemployment too hard. Once pandemic hit, the students started to work fulltime on ranches and completing schoolwork online. Three students have been hired FT with BLM. A few

students have not been reached, which is concerning. In Adult Ed, they are seeing similar trends where if there is not a physical space to meet, the most at risk people are dropping off and not sure where they are. AMY Executive meeting was two weeks ago. In work groups they discussed how COVID impacted work and what plans can still go forward. Don't know if schools will return in person this fall. Most agencies are on hold with hiring freezes in place. First 5 and Teach were present at Executive meeting. Teach received a large order of masks for hard of hearing and a sharing of resources took place to give masks to other counties. Daycare providers are receiving additional funding for home daycares. K-12 is talking about cuts in funding so trying to anticipate issues when students return. CPS has been busy and Tanja is anticipating the need for behavioral help that is on-site. Tanja used the poll feature in Zoom and found that people are more optimistic and hopeful, despite the stress. Graduation was last week and at Tule Lake and Surprise Valley the community came out to support the students. With all the rioting they are so removed living in Modoc County and yet it still impacts their students of color. Tanja brought up the riots and mostly the discussion was how to rebuild focusing on students with disabilities and Native students. Tanja has heard some very concerning stories of racism in her county and they are forming an Equity group to address the concerns.

- ii) **Reach Higher Shasta** – Hope announced it is her last meeting, she has resigned from RHS and therefore NST. Rob Adams said Hope will be greatly missed and difficult shoes to fill. Rob introduced himself as the Chair for RHS as of January. He is the Superintendent of Redding Elementary, Shasta Union Elementary and Igo-Ono elementary. Kevin is aware of the Road to Recovery task force meetings that Rob is involved with and asked Rob for a summary of the activities as it relates to schools. Rob shared that they were waiting for the State guidance that arrived last Friday so in the coming weeks the Road to Recovery meetings will be focused on digesting and implementing the State guidelines. Most of the Superintendents are leaning toward reopening. At Redding Elementary School District the parents were surveyed and 82% of parents would like schools to reopen as close to normal. 18% of parents are looking for an alternative. In Shasta County, transportation is a big issue with getting students to school. Rob has noticed that the County Health Department has been sticking closely to State Guidelines. The Redding School District is already putting physical distancing in place in all public areas. Hope shared that there is such a heavy educational presence on the RHS Executive Committee, so they have mostly been providing time for adjustments to be made at schools. Hope thinks that her replacement will be hired by the end of the month. Looking to the future, there is a school attendance model to be implemented and will have someone hired to manage. RHS will provide some financial support for the attendance model. Rob shared that they have piloted the program already

and, of course, it may look different now with distance learning. Shasta County just hired a K-12 workforce coordinator using workforce grant monies. The plan is for the workforce hire to work closely with the RHS coordinator to better align the workplace learning opportunities in the County.

- iii) **Cradle to Careers for Siskiyou** – Marian shared that Siskiyou County also has a strong workforce grant hire. That coordinator will work closely with Christina at the college and Siskiyou Works and will be housed at County Office of Education. Last C2C4S meeting was on May 28th and their guest speaker was Karen Ponder from the Build Initiative that works on strong foundations for early childhood. Karen will be the guest speaker at the C2CS4 Launch on September 29th. It was really nice to have Karen join in the C2C4S meeting to get to know them as a community board and to reflect back to them how her message will support where C2CS4 will go from here. Waiting to see what will happen with the launch, and hoping to have it at the Elks Lodge in Yreka as a lunch event so community members can participate. In the process of hiring a coordinator. Job descriptions that were shared from the other counties have been very helpful and by June meeting we are hoping to be closer making a hire. Christina welcomed the two members from C2C4S who joined this meeting and asked that they please introduce themselves. George Jennings is with NorCal Resource Conservation Development Council and is the sponsor/contractor for Siskiyou Works. George is helping with Adult Ed projects and keeping things going with natural resource conservation tied to Economic Development. Shannon Eller is the Director of Adult Education Pathways in Siskiyou County and Tule Lake. She feels they are doing well as they were not as impacted as K-12. Adult Ed was already doing a lot of distance learning or independent study. She is excited to be working with Siskiyou Works. Shannon also re-connected with Tanja and they will connect later about a Tule Lake workgroup. Marian shared a google form to track efforts and will be a linked on their agenda. This will be very helpful with their narrative report for NST. It will be available every time they meet together as a group so it will grow and nothing will be forgotten. Marian is happy to share this tool with the other counties. Coming soon is a logo for C2C4S and will send to NST soon. Really appreciated the Cash Match workshop, as it was very helpful. Christina feels that having a coordinator hired will be very helpful to get to the next level. George gave an update about an intern from Oregon Tech that was used to research pathways from HS to agencies. Intern is creating visual pathways for each agency pathway. Additionally, Christina shared that in April the community of Hornbrook lost water and First 5 had pallets of bottle water to take them. Really nice connection made through C2C4S.
- iv) **Expect More Tehama** – Kathy reports that summer planning is a big focus for EMT and now with COVID they are adjusting to what is possible. She is excited that Heidi Mendenhall

(formerly with WestEd) is new First 5 Director and will be very helpful as a partner with EMT. Kicked off three webinars to help while sheltering in place, like how to handle stress, trauma and self-care. Two of the trainings were webinars and one was a live Facebook for families to participate in. Excited that they trained about 80 people in the county, which is a big number for that format. Summer program mapping had to take place mostly on Zoom. It is interesting because things like art classes for teenagers and library activities for afterschool programs are not happening, so shifted to using two vans decorated with themes that is delivering information about opportunities for kids. Partnering with Farm Bureau, library and First 5 to help get information via the vans. These vans are showing up where kids are being fed and distributing packets with STEAM projects and helping to spread the word where kids can be fed. Also working on SEL by contracting with Aaron from Chico State. Training on mindfulness is focusing on three groups: Junior High, High School and Adults. With adults they are hoping that they like this information for their own life, or for their organization or want to have a train the trainer model. Anticipate there will be a great need for mindfulness. Helping with graduation efforts for junior high, high school and college students via social media. Glad EMT has a strong social media team in place. New efforts are in place, like Geo-caching. There are new efforts in Tehama County to bring Geo-caching which has been non-existent. Also, helping families know week to week what is happening in the region. Just received approval from NorTec to look at 11 county region to determine experts and share resources. Utilizing surveys and social media campaign to advertise expertise. Tehama County does not have a huge employment closure list. They are paying attention to Main Street by continuing to promote Shop Local and looking at what it would mean to lose your downtown.

- v) **Trinity Together Cradle to Career Partnership** – Teckla asked Kathy Garcia more about the employment survey sent by NorTec and mentioned that it arrived super late to Trinity County and likely received no responses from Trinity County to the survey. Kathy has the final analysis and will send to Teckla. Teckla provided an update on Alumni to Career pilot. They had more than 20 alumni give presentations from all over, including a Conservationist in Ecuador and Art Instructor in Qatar. This project wrapped up last week and they are now determining how to roll this out next year. As a result of the pilot, it was determined there are different ways alumni want to help and contribute to the community. Trinity Together is currently working on a publication that will be an outreach to families (in place of summer camps that will not be happening). Publication will target families and with students who are K-6. Teckla envisions the publication to be like a Highlights magazine with themes focused around Conservation and Natural Resources. Partners include Watershed Center and Resource Conservation District. Eventually would like to include the business community,

highlighting places to go and things to do in Trinity County. Also in the publication are activities, like plant Identification. Exciting on many levels with lots of possibilities, possibly bi-annual or annual publication. Bring in recognizable community members who are doing amazing things, like a Botanist in Weaverville and man who works in Water Treatment Plant. Goes to print next week and will be in the hands of kids in June. Working with Kern Beare who delivers Having Difficult Conversations workshops. They were hoping to have the workshop in Trinity County in May or June, but shifted to zoom workshops instead. Benefit of Zoom format is the ability to invite many more community members, including Board of Supervisor and different agencies. Teckla is hoping it will be a good catalyst for our community. Excited to facilitate this workshop and thanked The McConnell Foundation for connecting them with Kern. Kevin added that he participated in Kern's workshop and found it very beneficial. It gives a lot of tools and strategies that are very helpful.

- B) Other Updates – Kelly shared that at The McConnell Foundation the accounting group is spending a lot of time with recession scenario planning. TMF endowments are primarily in investments and it took a huge hit; not all investments are riding the current upswing. As a foundation they are required to give away 5% of assets. Now that assets are being greatly affected, TMF will wait to see what it means. Tomorrow is the first ever virtual TMF Board meeting. Kelly will know more after tomorrow's Board meeting. All TMF employees are currently working remotely. If they need to go in, it is easy to social distance given the space/facilities at TMF.
- C) Essential Skills Program (ESP) Pilot – Kevin shared that a flyer was sent out and one of the things that NST does is provide opportunities for counties to take advantage of programs. Rajinder Gill was with New World to Work and developed the entire ESP program. The Essential Skills Program is the second phase where it moves soft skills training from the Educational system into the Workforce area. If there are any counties, businesses or networks who want to take advantage of this free training module let us know. It will eventually lead to digital badging. Tanja said that the stars are aligning and that she was recently meeting with her Adult Ed team and would be very interested in this program. Especially in a rural community with recognizable digital badging. Tanja has met Rajinder and is very interested. Kathy reported that they have Prop 47 funds in Tehama County for youth who have been in the Justice System. This type of program would be very helpful to get youth engaged with marketable skills. Kelly asked about student who do not have summer employment or summer school/programs, how do you get these modules to them? Kevin suggested that we email Rajinder and setup a Q&A

meeting with her. Teckla thinks it would be a great fit in Trinity County and is something being asked by her employers. Kevin said the modules are very current, which is very beneficial. NST will schedule a meeting with Rajinder and the counties.

- D) Budget Update – Susan reported that the Cash Match Workshop went very well and if there other topics coordinators would like covered, please let us know. Susan reminded everyone that the narrative report and cash match requests are due by June 30th.
 - E) Research Update – James shared via screen share the items added to the NST Regional Data Site. The first is by the Center for Economic Development, who sent an Agriculture survey. The dashboard displays available educational programs and where they are available. It also gives career pathways and projected demand. Also, recently added to the dashboard is HS graduation and College Readiness data. Feel free to explore these dashboards and reach out if you have any questions. James also reviewed Early Grade Reading Dashboard and Middle School Math. Jamie is very excited about the dashboards and that they are interactive. Jamie shared that NST is an alliance member of Complete College America. CCA recently picked 20 students to showcase in class of 2020 from across the nation and we are excited to announce that CCA picked Dori Mondon-Freeman from College of Siskiyou. Dori is showcased in their publication and we couldn't be more proud! Also, we are the first Alliance Member in the State of California to sign up for the Postsecondary Data Partnership agreement. It contains extra data files provided to Clearinghouse resulting in more data to share in the near future. Jamie shared the NST Cradle to Careers Regional Roadmap. Many of you have been coming to the Data Drop-in meetings and they will continue as long as there is interest. Monthly NST newsletters are going out with coordinator highlights and featuring county initiatives. If you have something to feature in the newsletter, please send o Jamie. Tell your story through the newsletter, as this is a regional newsletter and there are potential funders looking at this newsletter.
6. UPCOMING EVENTS – Next meeting will be the Coordinator Meeting on August 10th at 10am via Zoom. Send Susan your agenda items.
7. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned by Kevin O'Rorke at 11:22 AM.