South Valley Early Childhood Group A Brief History and Highlights

October 21, 2013:	Staff from the South Valley Early Childhood Alliance and CYFD's South Valley Investment Zone meet with Commissioner Art de la Cruz who expresses interest in supporting collaboration around early childhood efforts in the South Valley and offers to host a luncheon.
November 12, 2013:	Representatives of a dozen organizations serving young children and families meets for a luncheon with the Commissioner and other County officials
December 18, 2013:	Two dozen interested persons, including State Senators Michael Padilla and Linda Lopez, meet to explore possibilities for collaboration around early childhood efforts in the South Valley, and agree to meet again.
February 11, 2014	Participants work on developing our collective vision for the South Valley, identify principles for collective action, and begin to identify potential working groups.
March 25, 2014	We continue to learn more about each other; took a "data tour" of the South Valley; and commit to four action teams with identified leaders, members, and next steps.
April 24, 2014	We continue to sharpen our vision, learn more about each other, hear back from our Action Teams, and look ahead to accomplishing our goals.
May 22, 2014	Four Action Teams report back on their purpose and plans: Data, Resource Mapping and Gap Analysis; Family Education and Professional Development; Community Family Hub; Public Awareness and Advocacy
TODAY	WE ARE STILL HERE – ACTIVE AND ENGAGED!

South Valley Early Childhood Group

Emerging Vision for the South Valley

All children are born healthy, are safe and nurtured in their families, and have all the opportunities and support they need to learn and thrive.

Goals

For Families

- Families are supported (includes economically)
- intergenerational groups of families supported in raising children
- People/caregivers have access to education & understand early childhood development.
- Parents are mobilized & effectively advocating for their children
- Strong families
- Parents feel supported. Empower parents in the home & school

For Programs

- More staff with "credentials"
- High quality childcare choices
- More high quality centers
- Schools are welcoming, prepared for families
- Universal Parent Education within public schools
- Parents are confident that someone will help me
- Multiple services in an area
- Family engagement policies: Family friendly, welcoming, offering common ground.

For Community

- Safe, affordable clean housing, running water the "basics"
- Cultural competency for all
- Lifelong learning
- Health Disparities are addressed
- Economic Stability
- Equity
- Well informed community

South Valley Early Childhood Group Highlights to Date

Where are we now?

- The South Valley currently has many assets, organizations, and strengths to help young children and families thrive.
- Many of us are working together, but we face complex issues, which require a concerted and coordinated effort to successful address
- We are learning how to work better together AND we can continue to improve in our work together.

We'd Like to See...

- A "voice" for South Valley children and families
- A South Valley Early Childhood Council or Gathering, to share information, identify our shared vision, align our efforts, track our progress
- A clearing house of information to help us map our assets, identify our needs, track investments and outcomes
- An SV Early Childhood "Hub," an actual space/place to go for information and face-to-face connections; perhaps a coordinated network of "mini-hubs"
- Continued outreach to the community: Who is the "community?" Are "the people" at the table?

What Can We Commit to Do? "Priming the Pump for Action"

Support existing initiatives in the South Valley, e.g.:

- ABC Community Schools
- Agri-Cultura Network
- Albuquerque Interfaith
- Abriendo Puertas
- Bernalillo County Early Childhood Accountability Project
- Bernalillo County Home Visiting Workgroup

Create/Support an Emerging Action Agenda, e.g.,:

- Support community/cultural events
- Share information
- Share resources
- Identify/map resources
- Align efforts (e.g., common referral system)

- CYFD South Valley Investment Zone
- EleValle
- NM Kids are Counting on Us
- NM/South Valley Early Childhood Alliance
- Rio Grande Community Development Corporation
- South Valley Health Partnership
- Contribute to Resource Fairs
- Share educational and professional development opportunities, with staff, families, community members
- Advocate for children

Principles for Working Together, e.g.:

- Respect all around
- Continuous and effective communication
- Connect goals, align efforts between and among organizations
- Keep working at collaboration, e.g., one step at a time, set small goals toward a larger vision, celebrate successes
- Focus on child and families, not on individual organizations
- Be "a voice" not "the voice"

Action Groups

Data, Asset Mapping and Gap Analysis

Team Leader(s)

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Community Family Hub

Team Leader(s)

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Family Education and Professional Development

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Public Awareness and Advocacy

Team Leader(s)

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South Valley Early Childhood Group Membership List June 2014

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Albino Garcia, La Plazita Institute

Anabel Cadena, Bernalillo County, Family &

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Baji Rankin, NMAEYC/ South Valley Early Childhood

Alliance

Bernadette Miero, Bernalillo County Commission

Bill Wagner, Centro Sávila

Cathy Sanchez-Preissler, UNM-CDD/BernCo Home

Visiting Work Group Catron Allred, CNM

Chris Hollis, Voices for NM Children

Damaris Donado, UNM-CDD/Parents as Teachers

Dan Ritchie, NMAEYC/T.E.A.C.H. NM Debbie Trujillo, Community Member

Debra Baca, YDI, Inc.

Dorothy Kerwin, UNM-Family Development

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Edith Garcia, Centro Sávila

Elma Garcia, CNM

Erin Hagenow, Christina Kent ECE

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Gloria Schneller, Bernalillo County

Heidi Roibal, UNM CDD -Early Childhood Learning

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Ida Bender, NM Community Health Worker Assn Ilene Marchant, TLC Child Development, Inc. Jessa Bunker, Partnership for Community Action

Jessie Leinfelder, CYFD

Joel Casas, Cariño TTAP

Jose Muñoz, ABC Community Schools

Judy Baca, NM Dept. of Health

Julie Stephens, Community Advocate
Julio Dominguez, Bernalillo County Place

Matters/RGCDC

Kathy Perry, All Faiths Kim Zamarin, EleValle

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Sylvia Velasco, UNM-Family Development Program

Teena Deane, TLC Child Development, Inc.

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