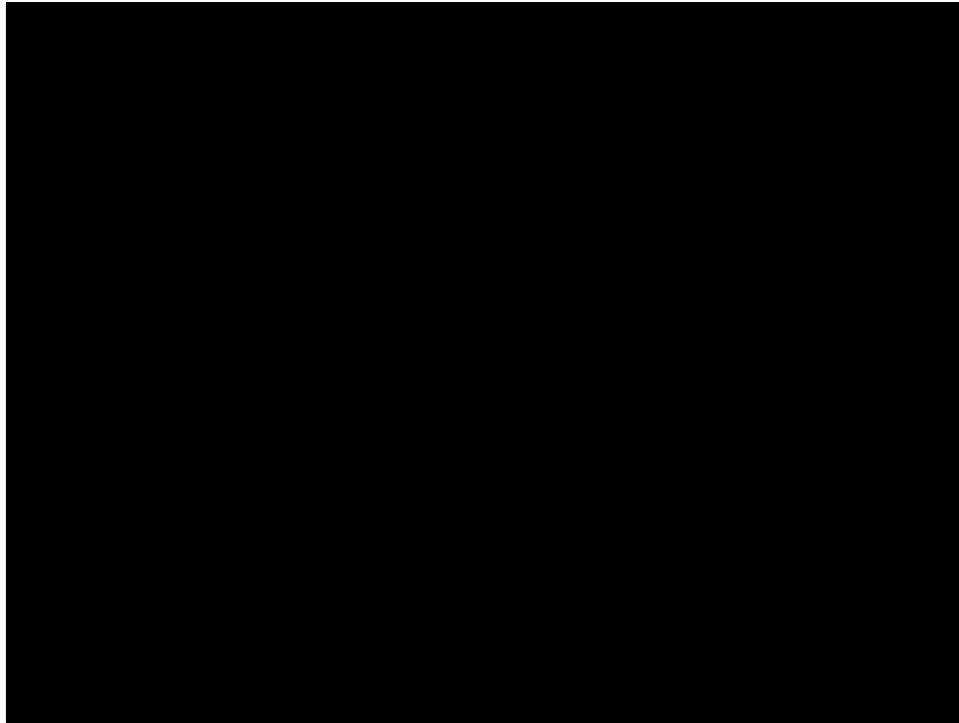


THE BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON CHILD PROTECTION (BRCCP)

Greg Lecklitner, Ph.D.
Child Welfare Division
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

Gabriel Fernandez





***“We cannot stand idly by and wait
for another child to meet the fate
of Gabriel Fernandez”***

**From the Final Report of
the Blue Ribbon Commission for Child Protection**

April 2014

Charge of the BRCCP

- **Review Child Protection Failures**
- **Highlight Organizations Barriers to Child Safety**
- **Create a Plan of Action to Expediently Implement Needed Reforms**

Commission Activities

- **Eighteen Public Hearings**
- **Over 300 Stakeholder Interviews**
- **Examination of Twenty Eight Child Fatality Cases**
- **Review of Promising Practices from Across the Country**

Unanimous Conclusion

- ***A State of Emergency Exists Which Requires a Fundamental Transformation of the Child Protection System***
- ***The safety of children is not solely the responsibility of DCFS***
- ***A reform of the work of multiple agencies is needed***

Call for Board of Supervisors Action

- **Articulate a Countywide Mission to Prioritize and Improve Child Safety**
- **Establish an Entity to Oversee One Unified Child Protection System**
 - Los Angeles County Office of Child Protection
 - Authority to Recommend to the Board the Movement of Resources and Staff Across Relevant County Departments
- **Define Measures of Success and Oversee the Reform Process**
- **Adopt the Commission's Interim Report Recommendations**
- **Establish an Oversight Team to Ensure Implementation of Recommendations**

Additional Key Recommendations

- **Focus on Prevention**
- **Expand Interdisciplinary Training**
- **Improve Data Sharing**
- **Improve Transparency**
- **Improve Educational Stability**
- **Include the Voice of Stakeholders in Decision Making**

Expand Mental Health Services

- **A Clear Mandate that Non-Pharmacological Interventions are Best Practice with Children Whenever Possible**
- **Mental Health Treatment for Teens and Transition Age Youth Must**
 - Incorporate Trauma Focused Assessments and Treatments
 - Developmental Status
 - Ethnicity
 - Sexual Identity
 - Risk of Self-Harm
- **Children Age Five and Under Must Have Access to Age Appropriate Mental Health Services**

Evidenced-based Mental Health Practices Specifically For Children Ages Birth to Five

- **Nearly 200 legal entity provider sites are currently delivering Evidenced Based Practices to the children ages birth to five**
- **Examples of EBPs provided to birth to five children are:**
 - Child-Parent Psychotherapy
 - Incredible Years
 - Nurse-Family Partnership
 - Parent-Child Interaction Therapy
 - Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
 - Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)

Evidenced-based Mental Health Practices Specifically For Children Ages Birth to Five

- **Over 5,000 DCFS-involved children ages birth to five received an Evidenced Based Practice during FY2011-2012 and FY2012-2013**
- **The portion of Katie A. Class members who are children ages birth to five and have received mental health services has continued to increase each fiscal year**
 - Approximately 7,100 were served in FY2011-2012 and 7,860 were served in FY2012-2013
 - This includes an increasingly large number of infants and toddlers under age 3

BRCCP Transition Team

- **Nine member team formed on June 9th**
- **Mission: to assist in implementation of BRCCP recommendations**
- **Priority Items**
 - Expansion of Medical Hubs as Comprehensive Health/MH Centers for Children in Care
 - Cross Reporting by Law Enforcement
 - Prevention

Beyond the Blue Ribbon Commission: The Road to Safety and Well-being for our Youngest Children

Sam Chan, Ph.D.
Family and Community Partnerships
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

First 5 LA PCIT Project Goals

- **Expand number of agencies that provide PCIT services throughout Los Angeles County**
- **Develop a self-sustaining network of PCIT training and services**
- **Increase number of PCIT certified clinicians throughout Los Angeles County**
- **Establish referral streams for Los Angeles County service agencies and increase availability of PCIT to young children & families**

Birth to Five Core Competencies

- **Typical/Atypical Development**
- **Brain Development**
- **Assessment of Young Children (ICARE)**
- **Mental Health Dx of Infants and Toddlers (DC: 0-3R)**
- **Trauma Response in Infants**
- **Sensory Integration**
- **Best Practices in Mental Health Intervention**

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES and the PROTECTIVE FACTORS

- **Parent/Caregiver Resilience**
- **Social Connections**
- **Concrete Support in Times of Need**
- **Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development**
- **Children's Social and Emotional Competence**

LA County Transdisciplinary Leadership Consortium (TLC)

Promotes capacity building in support of comprehensive systems of care within Best Start LA communities and Health Neighborhoods through cross-sector training for representatives from the early care and education, mental health, health care, developmental disability, and child welfare systems.

First 5 LA Priority Outcomes

- **Families**
increased family protective factors
- **Communities**
increased community capacity to support and promote the safety, healthy development, and well-being of children 0-5 and their families
- **ECE Systems**
increased access to quality early care and education
- **Health, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Systems**
improved capacity to meet the needs of children 0-5 and their families

Best Start Funding Categories

- **Civic Engagement**
- **Organizational Capacity Building**
- **Social Capital**
- **Community Resource Mobilization**

Pilot Health Neighborhoods

- **Lancaster**
- **Pacoima**
- **Boyle Heights**
- **MLK/Watts/Willowbrook**
- **Central Long Beach**

***While we struggle to give our
children a better future,
we must work now on giving
them a better present!***

