

FINDINGS FROM CHILDCARE COMMITTEE-
SUNDAY 11 AM GOLETA VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER (GVCC)

Childcare Committee (Allison, Debra, Jill and Christy) met 3 times from October through December 2015 to determine the feasibility of establishing childcare for this meeting. The group discussed the likelihood of an unknown, unmet need for parents in our community who struggle to go to Al Anon meetings and provide adequate supervision for their children.

The following factors were assessed:

1. **Additional Room rental** for a childcare space at GVCC is \$12.00 per week. (\$52.00 per month and \$624.00 annually). On-site HeadStart room is not available to use, so toys and furnishings would need to be provided by Al Anon group.
2. **Paid Childcare worker** hired at an average rate (@ \$20.00 per hour) for 1.5 hours per week (to allow adequate time for set up and pick up). The total cost would be \$30.00 per session (\$130.00 per month, \$1560.00 annually).

Source for a paid childcare worker might come from a committed UCSB student or agency ie. "University Sitters". It was suggested by Jill that we institute a "suggested donation" for parents who use sitter, as this tends to insure more accountability than a totally "free" service.

Notes from Christy's conversation with Hailey on her experience as paid childcare worker for an AA Saturday speaker meeting that serves approx. 50 members: Initially parents were asked to pay \$3.00/per child per meeting. It was a group of mixed ages ranging from infants to 11 year olds, with 0-6 children in attendance. The childcare worker found it difficult to serve the needs of this entire age range. Older kids found it boring, as room was furnished with games/materials for preschool ages. Parental payment for childcare was sporadic and the group decided to guarantee childcare worker a min. of \$20.00 per session from 7th tradition donations. Then attendance dropped in the larger group and they reverted to parental payments, which made income for the

childcare worker sporadic. Hailey stopped her involvement at this point.

3. **Volunteer Childcare worker** options:

- 1) UCSB sorority/Fraternity volunteers receive "service credit". Upon inquiry (@ucsbaposervice@gmail.com) by committee member Jill, it was determined that this type of ongoing commitment would probably not be suitable for this group. They prefer single event commitments.
- 2) National Charity League- Mother/daughter volunteer teams
Response to Christy's email: "Thanks for your inquiry but you would have to be an approved philanthropy for our members to regularly commit to working for your group. Our deadline to explore new philanthropies just passed but you could consider applying by November 1, 2016. Perhaps you should explore various high schools where they require their students to earn community service hours.

4. **Liability:**

In response to call by Allison, World service office suggests that liability for childcare offered at a meeting is a good idea.

Christy consulted with Joanne Gonzalez at Brown and Brown, who writes a policy for AA and was familiar with what we might need to cover liability for offering childcare. The "Master policy" covers only one meeting at a specified location. She estimated a cost of approx. \$500.00 minimum annually.

Childcare Committee Group Conscience

At this point, our Sunday 11 AM meeting does not bring in the required income to support offering childcare at this meeting. We do however see this as a potential unmet need in our larger community, and an issue of public outreach to parents (and grandparents) dealing with the problems of alcoholism and struggling to find childcare. We hope that this can be discussed and remedied at a higher level within Al Anon, where more resources may be available.

In grateful service, Christy (3/1/2016)