



Children's Advocates' Roundtable

March 11, 2010
12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
Westminster Presbyterian Church
1300 N Street, 2nd Floor

Agenda:

- **Introductions**
- **Announcements of Roundtable Members' Legislation**
- **Saving the Healthy Families Program —How Did They Do It?**

Last year Governor Schwarzenegger proposed eliminating the Healthy Families, leaving over 900,000 children without health care. Yet, an unusual coalition of providers, insurers, and health and child advocates rescued the program by working with the State Legislature to pass new revenue measures, including a tax on health care providers. How were they able to secure new revenues when so many other efforts have failed?

James Gross, Nielsen, Merksamer, Parrinello, Mueller & Naylor LLP

James Gross is a partner of Nielsen, Merksamer, Parrinello, Mueller & Naylor LLP specializing in government law and the legislative process. He specializes in health issues, state and local fiscal and tax policy, and local government issues. Over the last 19 years, he has participated in the development and passage of major legislation affecting the delivery of health and human services in California.

Tim Morrison, 100% Campaign

As a health policy associate for Children Now, Tim is deeply involved with the 100% Campaign – a joint effort of The Children's Partnership, Children Now, and Children's Defense Fund California – which was created to secure access to health insurance for every child in California. Previously, he advocated for Health Access' campaign on hospital overcharging of the uninsured.

Suzie Shupe, California Children's Health Initiatives

A former attorney and First 5 commissioner in Sonoma, Suzie Shupe has been active in children's coverage efforts in California for many years. She played an integral role in the formation of Healthy Kids Sonoma County, the Pediatric Dental Initiative of the North Coast and served as Executive Director of Family Action of Sonoma County, a community-based child advocacy coalition.

- **Presentation of the Children's Advocacy Institute report: *Is the Mental Health Services Act Reaching California's Transition Age Foster Youth?***

While children in foster care are three to six times more likely to have mental illness than other children in the community, CAI has found that they have received either none or inadequate services from the Mental Health Services Act.

Melanie Delgado, Children's Advocacy Institute

Melanie Delgado serves as Staff Attorney for the Children's Advocacy Institute. Her primary responsibilities are to work on various CAI grant projects and to assist with litigation projects. Delgado is a graduate of the USD School of Law and was a co-recipient of the James A. D'Angelo Outstanding Child Advocate Award in 2006.

- **Announcements**

Next Meeting – April 8

NOTE: The parking lot next to the Church is NOT available for parking.

Parking in the Church Parking Lot is \$7.00 per day or \$5.00 per half day. Payment for parking is received by entering the back of the church (where the parking lot is) and turning right at the first hallway. There is a window there and Melanie is usually there or you can ring the bell for service. Payments are cash only.