

MINUTES OF MEETING OF FOSTER DAY CARE COMMITTEE
HELD AT 10 A.M., SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1942, AT
THE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE.

PRESENT: Mr. D. H. Ferguson, Chairman Miss Nora Lange
Miss Leola Ames Dr. Ferris Laune
Mr. Paul Anderson Miss Mary Musgrove
Miss Adeline Babbitt Mr. O. W. Robinson
Miss Eleanor Gochansuer Mr. Tate Robinson
Mr. Melville Hosch Mrs. Louise Root

Mr. Ferguson stated that at the last meeting authorization was given for the appointment of a subcommittee to complete the survey of the needs and resources for day care. The membership of the committee was as follows:

Miss Lange, chairman
Miss Babbitt
Mr. Hosch
Dr. Roberts
Mr. Tate Robinson

Miss Lange, chairman, before presenting the report of the sub-committee, asked the committee to look at a circular which the Child Care Committee of Hartford, Conn., recently published and circulated in the state of Connecticut concerning foster day care. Miss Lange stated that Miss Babbitt had been working on the school reports and would give the figures which she had at this point.

Miss Babbitt stated that the survey of 27 schools including the five already reported on showed a total of 3658 working mothers. She presented tables showing types of employment and employers of working mothers. The types of employment were broken down into (a) Jobs engaging more than 2 mothers and (b) Jobs engaging not more than 2 mothers. The list of employers showed that many of the mothers were defense workers.

Miss Babbitt reported on the study of working hours for working mothers. The peak hours for leaving home were 6, 6:30, 7 and 8 AM with the largest number leaving at 7. She found that the mothers left anywhere from 12 AM to 9 PM and the hours they were away ranged from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $15\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Miss Babbitt said that she would have a summary of her report typed. Dr. Laune suggested that the schedule be set up by schools to show the time that service is needed in various areas.

Miss Lange reported on the completed study of the situation at Kaiulani and Robello schools. In the discussion regarding the comparison between results of schools and the closer analysis of care for the children in those schools it was noted that only five of those considered adequately cared

for in the school analysis were considered satisfactory in the closer analysis, while in the group considered questionable by the schools, 35 were considered satisfactory in the closer analysis. Miss Lange pointed out that care by a neighbor or an older child would be considered questionable and the situations needed watching.

Miss Lange said that the committee was also asked to make a study of existing facilities now available in the community for the care of children. Miss Babbitt had taken a list of the day care nurseries which had advertised in the papers and had started an investigation of each of them. She reported on the seven day care nurseries which she had visited giving in some detail her observations on the physical set-up, the atmosphere, her judgment of the limitations and capabilities of the personnel and the suitability of the nurseries as possible participants in an educational project for training personnel.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the Committee give Miss Babbitt a vote of thanks for all that she had accomplished. Unanimously carried.

Dr. Laune stated that the newspapers had been anxious to obtain a story concerning the work of this committee and he thought it would be desirable to give them statistics and the publicity, if handled right, could be turned into any kind of information about needs and resources. He thought that Mr. Ferguson could see the newspaper people and release anything possible.

Miss Lange reported that since April 9th there have been seven advertisements offering day care for children while mothers worked. Of the group there was only one known to the Public Welfare and Child and Family Service Home Finding Departments. This was a home which had become overcrowded and as a result a complaint was registered with the Board of Health. Dr. Wilbur organized a committee to draw up standards and to study the function of the Board of Health and Department of Public Welfare as to their right to license or not to license homes. At present the Public Welfare Department has the right to investigate only the homes for dependent children. The work of the committee stopped when Dr. Wilbur was drafted but the Board of Health is thinking of reviving this committee to work on the formulation of standards.

Miss Babbitt said that Mr. Hosch had visited the pineapple canneries and the USED and they were anxious to have some kind of day care for their children. Mr. Hosch has the material regarding the employers and this with the material which Miss Babbitt has compiled will be assembled into a written report.

Miss Lange suggested that after the material is put in written form which would give ample proof of need, the committee be broken down into three sub-committees to work out what could be offered in the three fields. After that she thought the committee should consider expansion of the total committee with some lay representation.

Mr. Ferguson said that the committee had two things to consider, the question as to whether we are going to attempt to organize something to meet immediate needs and to assist nurseries already started and the question of longer time program starting next fall for various age groups.

Mr. Anderson said that Palama Settlement day care center in another week would be ready to start, but they would have to have some means of establishing eligibility of children attending. He asked how the case working agencies would work in connection with the problem of who will attend the day school. He said that they did not have to be children of working mothers, that their intent was to work it out with this committee, and that ultimately it would be a private pre-school unit. They would not have jumped into it nearly so soon if it had not been for this committee.

Attention was called to the work which Miss Bateman is doing in coordinating leisure time activity programs this summer. Dr. Laune said that Miss Bateman would very soon be in a position to advise whether there would be a possibility of extending any of those programs to meet day care needs or establishing units in those programs to meet day care situations.

Dr. Laune was of the opinion that the committee had almost enough information to say that the situation was so and so and encourage the establishment of this type and this type of care. The sub-committees could each one set up a program and we could say that we favor certain standards that should be adhered to. There ought to be some provision for case work service for determining eligibility of mothers asking for day care. He thought that if the program could be lined up it would be possible to get funds to start certain units immediately and build up an application for Federal funds.

Mr. Ferguson said that that meant setting up a comprehensive plan covering pre-school and school age care and the counseling service. Mr. Ferguson said that the need was fairly well established with the additional material from the point of view of the employers. He stated that Miss Lange had suggested three sub-committees to work on programs for pre-school age, school age and counseling service for foster day care and licensing and investigation. In each of the three areas there would be the question of meeting immediate needs and question of longer time program.

Motion: It was moved by Miss Musgrove that the committee establish three sub-committees to work on plans and present programs to the entire group. Motion died for want of a second.

Mr. Hosch felt that information should be obtained from a different angle and suggested running a feature story in the paper with a coupon to be filled out and returned to a central office by persons desiring day care for their children. This would give the location of the greatest numbers wanting this service as well as some indication of how great was the need. It was suggested that notices with simple questionnaire might go out with electricity bills.

Dr. Laune said that on the basis of home visits or study of case records we know that 381 children in one area need day care. Miss Lange thought the committee had enough material to prove a great need and that the committee had to gear itself to meet it before saying to the public, "Do you want it."

Mr. Robinson thought there should be a careful and meticulous survey of the facilities and study of how to handle it. He asked Miss Babbitt if her personal contact with the situation had brought her to the point of seeing what it should be.

Miss Babbitt said no that she was in favor of having a breakdown. Miss Lange thought the survey should be put into written form.

Mr. O. W. Robinson wondered about proportion of self-support which this project would develop.

Miss Musgrove thought there should be some more adequate publicity in the community regarding what is adequate care in homes and in groups.

Mr. Ferguson said that it was suggested that three sub-committees be appointed to consider immediate needs as well as long time needs and that Mr. Hosch had raised the question as to whether that was the best way to proceed as we would need a pretty well-integrated program. The question was also raised as to extent of the need, as to how far we have covered that at the present time and whether we should approach employers directly or use publicity through the newspaper to get fuller confirmation of need.

Mr. Anderson said that the immediate need was terrific, that children of 8, 9, 10 and 12 are burdened with younger children.

Mr. Hosch thought that the Council should appoint a committee to study long time needs, that this committee should concentrate on immediate needs. Mr. Hosch suggested that the Council be asked to sponsor the questionnaire to the extent of allowing its name to be used for a return address.

Mr. O. W. Robinson said he thought that that was the area of greatest lack and that the committee wanted to get information from people as to their desire to use such services.

Mr. Anderson suggested that feature stories be run in the language papers.

The meeting adjourned to discuss the matter further at a meeting to be held on Tuesday.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary