

Monterey County Children’s Council Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
MCOE
November 10, 2025

Executive Members Present: Jose Ramirez, Katy Castagna, Roderick Franks, Deneen Guss and Elsa Jimenez.

Others Present: Sonja Koehler, Relindis Diaz, and Josh Madfis

Item	Summary of discussion/review	Action/deliverable
1. Welcome and Introductions	Meeting called to order at 1:45 pm by Chair Jose Ramirez	
Public Comment		None
2. Action Items a. Approve the minutes of the October 13, 2025, Executive Committee meeting minutes		The Executive Committee meeting minutes of October 13, 2025, were approved. Motion by Roderick Franks, seconded by Deneen Guss.
3. Discussions a. Debrief of the November meeting and plan for the December meeting	<p>Council members enjoyed the demonstration of the Smart Referral Network(SRN) Software presented by Josh Madfis, VP of Community Investments at United Way Monterey County. Challenges that were discussed included the politics of integrating systems, protecting data privacy while data sharing, extent of information shared, and legal review. Have County Counsel involved early. Agencies will continue to discuss using the SRN software and Josh Madfis offered to follow up as requested.</p> <p>Members discussed the current urgency around food access and decided to devote the December General Assembly meeting topic to Food Insecurity. Rodrick Franks will develop some data and context to share from the DSS perspective and will invite Melissa Kendrick of the Food Bank to present.</p>	<p>.</p> <p>Schedule Food Insecurity on December Agenda. Confirm Speakers.</p>

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b. Bright Beginnings Strategic Plan	Consider having a report on the Community Health Needs Assessment on the January Agenda.	Schedule CHNA Data Presentation
	Sonja Koehler asked about the format of the monthly Bright Beginnings Report, which has changed.	Continue providing Bright Beginnings Monthly Update link to written report as well as make space for 5-10 minutes oral report on monthly agendas.
	She also explained that they have begun the process for the new Bright Beginnings Strategic Plan and hope to leverage existing data.	Schedule a deep dive on the BB Strategic Plan for the December Executive Committee Agenda.
c. Reflective Practice	Relindis Diaz asked how the group would like to incorporate reflective practice going forward, as it has fallen off the agenda. After discussion it was recommended she review presentations in advance and provide a context setting reflection prior to the scheduled presentations on the agenda, and follow with a close out reflection as well.	Add Reflective Practice back to the agenda prior to the presentation.
4. Announcements		None
5. Meeting Adjourned	Chair Jose Ramriez adjourned the meeting.	2:40pm