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EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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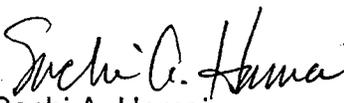
December 13, 2006

Mr. Majid Matt Seyedi-Rezvani, Chairman
Policy Roundtable for Child Care
222 South Hill Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Seyedi-Rezvani:

At its meeting held December 12, 2006, on motion of Supervisor Don Knabe, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors took actions as indicated in the enclosed Minute Order relating to implementation of the Steps to Excellence Program.

Very truly yours,


Sachi A. Hamai
Executive Officer

SH:sv

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Enclosure

c: Kathleen Malaske-Samu, Contact
Policy Roundtable for Child Care



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held December 12, 2006, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

"On June 7, 2006, on my motion, the Board directed the Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable), the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), and County Counsel to report back with a detailed implementation plan to launch a Child Care Program Quality Rating System in Los Angeles County.

"In response, the Roundtable, with concurrence of the CAO and County Counsel, developed the Steps to Excellence Program (STEP). STEP is intended to:

- Provide parents with clear information on the quality of individual child care centers and family child care homes;
- Distinguish programs that are meeting higher program standards;
- Create an incentive for programs to achieve and maintain high standards, with particular focus on the programs only meeting basic licensing standards;
- Build a case for linking reimbursement rates to program quality;
- Mobilize new and existing training resources so that centers and family child care providers are prepared to meet STEP standards;
- Provide benchmarks to determine if the quality of care in individual program or communities is improving over time; and
- Ensure that parents in the most underserved areas of the County have access to information as to the quality of the child care programs they rely on.

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"The Roundtable's October 12, 2006, report on the STEP proposal recommends a three year pilot program to be implemented in at least nine communities, including Florence/Firestone, as well as selected areas of Wilmington, Pacoima/Arleta, Inglewood, Long Beach, Palmdale, Pasadena, Pomona and Santa Monica. These communities were identified for the prevalence of low-income, underserved families, as well as the opportunity to partner with local cities on this effort.

"The pilot is expected to begin July 1, 2007, at a cost not to exceed \$782,000 per year. The Roundtable and the Office of Child Care have identified \$213,000 in annual funding from the State Child Care Planning Grant that can be expended to fund staff coordination of the STEP Program. The County of Los Angeles should also fund a portion of the STEP pilot project, at \$200,000 per year for three years. The balance should be sought from other funding sources that recognize and value the importance of good quality early childhood development, such as First 5 LA."

Majid Matt Seyedi-Rezvani, Chairman of the Policy Roundtable for Child Care addressed the Board. Marvin Bryer also addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried (Supervisor Yaroslavsky being absent), the Board took the following actions:

1. Approved the three-year Steps to Excellence Program (STEP) pilot, as a means of ensuring that parents who purchase child care services have access to reliable information on the quality of child care settings;
2. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to:
 - Report back to the Board within 30 days with a plan to fund in part the first year of the STEP program pilot, at an amount no less than \$200,000;
 - Send a five-signature letter to the First 5 LA Commission informing them of the Board's investment in the Child Care Quality Rating System pilot, and to request their participation in funding; and

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3. Requested the Policy Roundtable for Child Care to provide monthly status reports on implementation of the STEP pilot program, starting in February 2007, then report on a quarterly basis beginning July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel

Letter sent to:

Chairman, Policy Roundtable for Child Care