



## Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee

Minutes: November 7, 2007

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: ELA County Library  
4837 E. Third Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90022

**Members in Attendance:** (33) Bobbie Edwards, Angelica Solis, Dianne Philibosian, Anita Tetrault, Atalaya Sergi, Randi Wolfe for Carolina Alvarez, Roseanne Ghiazza for Corinne Sanchez, Patrice Wong, Noreen Clarke, Nellie Rios Parra, Craig Lancaster, Lorraine Schrag, Ancelma Sanchez, Karen Kaye, Kathleen Pompey, Pamela Schmidt, Pat Mendoza, Patti Oblath, Marcella McKnight, Liz Diaz for Rafael Lopez, Rocio Bach, Norayma Cabot, Grace Castro, Sarah Soriano for Tracy Colunga Hollingsworth, Wendy Tseng for Ngoc P. Dang, Holly Daasnes, Jan Isenberg, Wilma Kiel, Alejandra Guillen for Sandra Menendez, Beverley Morgan Sandoz, Joanne Shalhoub Mejia for Sylvia Parra, Fran Chasen for Julie Taren, and Laura Manson for Jenny Trickey.

**Guests and Alternates:** Celeste Salinas, Sam Kirk, Lorraine Gutierrez, Lisa Wilkin, Lucy Fitzpatrick, Carol Hiestand, Susan Savage, Jane Lee Choe, and Diana Careaga.

**Staff:** Laura Escobedo

### I. Welcome and Introductions

Craig Lancaster, Chair of the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee), opened the meeting at 12:10 p.m. He introduced himself and read the opening statement. He then asked those present to introduce themselves.

### II. Update from Office of Child Care

Laura Escobedo, staff to the Planning Committee, stated that the Office of Child Care Secretary, Aracely Kubota, would be leaving. Plans are underway to select a replacement by December. In addition, two new staff for the Los Angeles Centralized Eligibility List (LACEL) and the Investing in Early Educators Stipend Program (AB 212) have been hired. Each will be starting sometime in November.

**The Economic Impact Report and Career Lattice Report** are in the final stages. The reports will be presented to the Planning Committee in December. An official public roll-out is scheduled for January 2008.

Kathy Malaske-Samu and Helen Chavez are presenting on the Steps to Excellence Project (STEP) quality rating and support system at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Conference.

NEW California Department of Education (CDE) funding is being allocated; \$43,981,000 is available statewide for General Child Care and Development. The Los Angeles County apportionment is about 30% or \$12,673,121. A letter of intent is required by November 21, 2007. Handouts with all information was made available on the materials table. State preschool funds will also be available.

There is a movement to include child care as part of disaster funding. A handout related to the effort was also made available. Discussion revolves around making child care programs eligible for FEMA relief and possibly having child care declared an essential service so that funding could continue during a prolonged budget approval process.

Last January staff submitted a report to the Board of Supervisors on the use of CDE funds in Los Angeles County. As part of the recommendations from this report, the Office of Child Care initiated a meeting with colleagues from San Francisco and San Mateo who obtained a temporary legislative waiver to work with CDE contractors around reimbursement rates, priorities, income ceilings, etc. While the intention of the legislation was broad, CDE limited what the counties could actually do. They succeeded in raising Standard Reimbursement Rates (SRRs) and the income eligibility ceiling,

but could not reallocate funds from one program type to another or grant contractors the flexibility to do so. This information will be integrated into the next report to the Board of Supervisors due in January 2008.

### III. Approval of Minutes for October 3, 2007

**The Chair asked that the minutes from October 3, 2007 be reviewed. He called for changes or corrections to the minutes. There being no changes, he called for a motion. Jan Isenberg moved to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Patti Oblath. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with no abstentions.**

### IV. Presentation: Update on Community Care Licensing

The Chair introduced Holly Daasnes, Planning Committee member and the Southern California Community Care Licensing (CCL) Advocate. Ms. Daasnes reported on the effects of the fires. There were 18 fires located from Santa Barbara through San Diego County. There has not been any data on displaced children; however, during the height of the fire danger, 1,300 centers and homes were closed. There has been only one facility loss in Los Angeles County, occurring in the Malibu area. There were several losses in San Diego. CCL will be waiving application fees for those who will have to relocate and become licensed again. There is now a new focus on disaster preparedness.

CCL goals for 2006-07 include ensuring timely inspections, increasing the unannounced inspections to 30%, and ensuring that complaints and citations are resolved within 90 days. Since 2005 there has been 180 new staff, 114 in direct enforcement. There is still a 7% vacancy rate. There is greater automation, which has improved public access to information. There is greater use of the Internet for communication both internally and externally. Now all forms, etc. are only available via the Internet. CCL is currently redesigning its Web site, [www.ccl.ca.gov](http://www.ccl.ca.gov); from there, visitors can be connected to a Web site that is entirely devoted to child care licensing. CCL now issues quarterly updates containing any regulation changes, legislative changes, etc., located under "CCL updates". Field staff have all been issued cell phones, making them more available to the public.

Ms. Daasnes stated there is a new procedure which automatically requires a mandatory non-compliance office visit by a licensed provider for any of the following: water safety, weapons, fire clearance issue, lack of supervision (wandering children or children left in a vehicle), and fingerprinting issues.

A new "quiz" is being used as a tool for potential family child care providers during orientation; and the Licensing Program Analyst (LPA) training has been expanded and updated. The training now includes three weeks of classroom instruction and two weeks of structured field work. She encouraged any program operators or providers in the room to let CCL supervisors know if new staff are not functioning effectively.

### V. Review and Approval of Strategic Plan Revisions

The Strategic Plan Work Group, led by Lloyd Kajikawa, conducted a presentation which included an update on the progress made in the five major outcome areas of the current plan and then facilitated a review of the recommended changes to the short and long term objectives for the remainder of the Strategic Plan period (2007-2013). The update is contained in the document "Moving Forward Together" which was sent to all members and will be available through the Office of Child Care.

#### Revisions to Outcome Area I: Quality

- Maintain alignment of standards between Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) and STEP
- Create a quality statement for school-age care
- Ensure access to supports for quality improvements
- Recommendations for quality in license-exempt care
- Move forward with STEP
- Increase the percentage of high quality providers

- Ensure the availability of sufficient qualified program/provider raters/evaluators

Long term Objectives were altered:

- Expanding the use of STEP
- Increasing the number of highly rated programs and providers
- Moving toward a State supported quality rating system
- Ensuring public awareness of quality ratings

#### Revisions to Outcome Area II: Qualifications and Compensation

- Update Compensation Scale
- Complete the quality budget package
- Support alignment of coursework and articulation between colleges
- 25% increase in the desired transfer rate between community colleges and four year colleges
- Areas of teacher competency stated
- Explore enhancing Title 22 and Title 5 teacher requirements
- Completion and promulgation of the workforce analysis report
- Support county workforce initiatives (LAUP, First 5 LA)
- Assist with efforts to recruitment of school-age personnel
- Expanded objectives for health care coverage

Long term Objectives were altered:

- Conduct an updated compensation survey to evaluate overall effects
- Percentage changes in desired certifications/Bachelor of Arts (BAs)
- Focus on specific areas of competency
- Clear pathways for professional development
- Health care coverage for all

There was much discussion and a few members offered suggested changes or additions to the revisions, which were noted. The presentation and discussion required more time than the meeting schedule allowed. **The Chair asked the membership to consider carrying over the discussion until December's meeting. He called for a motion to postpone the vote on the Strategic Plan revisions and carry over the review until the December 5, 2007 meeting. Randi Wolfe made the motion and it was seconded by Dianne Philiposian. The motion passed without abstentions.**

#### VI. Approval of Letter to the Chair of the California First 5 Commission

The Chair asked the group to review the drafted letter which was sent to all members prior to the meeting. The letter urges the First 5 Commission to include specific recommendations related to improving the early childhood workforce in its new Strategic Plan. The recommendations are aligned with our County's Strategic Plan. **The Chair called for a motion. Bobbie Edwards moved to approve the letter as written. It was seconded by Fran Chasen. The chair called for a vote. The motion passed with no abstentions.**

#### VII. Announcements or Comments

Jane Lee Choe from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals shared that the Governor had vetoed a bill requiring more immunizations for young children starting school. It will be re-introduced in another session.

#### VIII. Adjournment

**The Chair called for a motion to adjourn. It was moved by Beverly Morgan Sandoz and seconded by Wilma Kiel. The motion passed without abstentions. The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.**