



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee

Minutes: December 5, 2007

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

Location: Bellflower County Library
9945 East Flower Street
Bellflower, CA 90706

Members in Attendance: (29) Bobbie Edwards, Angelica Solis, Dianne Philiposian, Randi Wolfe for Carolina Alvarez, Patrice Wong, Nellie Rios Parra, Holly Reynolds, Lorraine Schrag, Karen Kaye, Kathleen Pompey, Pamela Schmidt, Celeste Salinas for Pat Mendoza, Patti Oblath, Rocio Bach, Jan Isenberg, Alejandra Guillen for Sandra Menendez, Beverley Morgan Sandoz, Sylvia Parra, Julie Taren, Jenny Trickey, Rosa Arevalo, Joy Cyprian, Alan Guttman, Flor Medrano for Pamela Kwok, Chantal Lamourelle Sims, Linda Cooper for Sheri Lewis, Mary Helen Vasquez, Alicen Vera, and Sue Elliot for Robert Wiltse.

Guests and Alternates: Fran Chasen, Lorraine Gutierrez, Lucy Fitzpatrick, Ana Gallegos, Norma Barragan, Socorro Autitia, Bunthy Prum, Susana Hernandez, and Katie Alidadi.

Staff: Laura Escobedo

I. Welcome and Introductions

Holly Reynolds, Vice Chair opened the meeting in place of Craig Lancaster at 12:40 p.m. She introduced herself and read the opening statement.

II. Update from Office of Child Care

Laura Escobedo, staff to the Planning Committee, described the new Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) component of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). She stated that development of Los Angeles County's plan would begin very soon. The Department of Mental Health (DMH) is requesting input from communities and stakeholders. One method is a one page survey asking questions about which populations should be the highest priority for the new funds through PEI. Since the needs of very young children will be competing with the needs of every other age group for funding, she strongly urged all in attendance to complete the survey and make their priority selections according to what is most related to young children at risk. Submission of a substantial number of surveys indicating the need to focus on young children will help in creating a priority for services for this population in subsequent planning phases. A PEI brochure was distributed and attendees were encouraged to complete the tear-off portion if they wanted to be informed of the scheduled events related to gathering input for the PEI plan.

III. Approval of Minutes for November 7, 2007

The Vice Chair asked that the minutes from November 7, 2007 be reviewed. She called for changes or corrections to the minutes. There being no changes, she called for a motion. Nellie Rios Parra moved to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Jan Isenberg. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with two abstentions.

IV. Approval of Revised Strategic Plan

Prior to the official opening of the meeting, Lloyd Kajikawa led a presentation and discussion of the proposed revisions to the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan review began last month at the November meeting and in the following weeks a number of members had submitted changes or additions for the revised Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan Work Group reviewed all suggestions and integrated some into the revisions.

The Vice Chair called for a motion to approve the revised Strategic Plan as amended. Beverly Morgan Sandoz made the motion; it was seconded by Bobbie Edwards. The Vice Chair called for a vote. The motion passed with one abstention.

The approved revision of the Strategic Plan will be sent to all members and will be submitted for approval to the Board of Supervisors and the Superintendent of Schools before being posted on the Web site.

V. Work Group Reports

Capacity Development has been integrated into Constructing Connections, Los Angeles. Pam Schmidt of Public Counsel provided an overview of Constructing Connections and the role of Public Counsel as lead agency. The purpose of the project is to create a continuum of technical assistance and support for the development of more child care facilities and to reduce barriers to facility development. Two major activities planned for the coming year are the development of a sustainability plan and a planner's summit. The next meeting of the collaborative is January 15, 2008 at Public Counsel's office located at 610 South Ardmere Street, Los Angeles.

Julie Taren, reporting on behalf of the Inclusion Work Group, announced that the new co-chair for the Work Group, Eva Hurtado, would no longer be available since she has taken a new position that will not allow her the time to participate. Eva Hurtado had been the lead staff for the Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies' Special Needs Advisory Project (SNAP).

The Policies and Membership Work Group was not represented at the meeting, but will convene after the New Year to begin planning the recruitment of members for 2008-09.

The Qualifications and Compensation Work Group will meet immediately following the Planning Committee meeting. The Work Group will be reviewing the career packet and have several reports from members related to objectives in the Strategic Plan.

The Joint Committee on Legislation will meet in January to begin reviewing new legislation and the Governor's Proposed Budget for 2008-09. The group meets on the fourth Monday of the month.

The Access to Quality Child Care Work Group will meet on December 17, 2007 at the Office of Child Care. The group is currently reviewing information related to the needs of low income families and the current systems of support.

The School-Age Work Group will meet December 18, 2007 at the Office of Child Care. A California School-Age Consortium (CalSAC) representative from Alameda County will be joining us to talk about their initiatives.

The Strategic Planning Work Group, lead by Lloyd Kajikawa and Alan Guttman, will continue meeting in the new year and begin work on determining high need areas for California Department of Education funding priorities.

VI. Announcements or Comments

Nellie Rios Parra announced that the City of Los Angeles has declared 2008 to be the year of Pre-K literacy through its library system. City librarians will be encouraged to visit early education settings to meet with parents, teachers, and children. Many events are planned throughout the coming year. The City library system also offers extensive school-age programming. Check their Web site at www.lapl.org for specific information.

Mother's Club of Pasadena is seeking a new director for its children's programs. Dianne Philibosian is the contact.

Southern California Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC) is recruiting Board members for 2008. SCAEYC is in their 50th year of providing support to early educators. Contact Holly Reynolds for more information.

VII. Adjournment

It was moved by Alan Guttman and seconded by Rocio Bach to adjourn the meeting. Approved by acclamation, the meeting was adjourned at 1:44 p.m.