

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



POLICY • PLANNING • PRACTICE

**December 3, 2014 • 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) – Head Start  
10100 Pioneer Boulevard, Conference Rooms 110/111  
Santa Fe Springs, California

## **PROPOSED AGENDA**

- |       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| 1.    | Welcome and Introductions   | Richard Cohen, Chair  |
| noon  | ▪ Opening Statement and Comments by the Chair   |   |
| 2.    | Approval of Minutes   | <b>Action Item</b> Andrea Joseph                            |
| 12:10 | ▪ November 5, 2014  |   |
| 3.    | Gaining Input to the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Block Grant Application | Alex Himmel, LAUP   Los Angeles Universal Preschool         |
| 12:15 | A. Presentation   | Kathy Malaske-Samu, Los Angeles County Office of Child Care |
|       | B. Small Group Discussions  |   |
|       | C. Collecting the Input   |   |
| 4.    | Quality Work Group: Virtual Communications System Proposal                                | Andrea Joseph, Co-chair and Work Group Members              |
| 1:15  |   |   |
| 5.    | Integrated Systems of Care Forum: Invitation to Interdisciplinary Teams                   | Richard Cohen   |
| 1:40  |   |   |
| 6.    | Announcements and Public Comment  | Andrea Joseph   |
| 1:50  |   |   |
| 7.    | Call to Adjourn   | Richard Cohen   |

### **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, January 7, 2015  
Center for Healthy Communities at The California Endowment  
1000 North Alameda Street, Catalina Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*The mission of the Child Care Planning Committee is to engage parents, child care providers, allied organizations, community, and public agencies in collaborative planning efforts to improve the overall child care infrastructure of Los Angeles County, including the quality and continuity, affordability, and accessibility of child care and development services for all families.*



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## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



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### **Meeting Minutes – November 5, 2014**

**Members in Attendance:** (32) Norma Amezcua, Darlene Cabrera, Ana Campos, Edilma Cavazos, Richard Cohen, Debra Colman, Christine Tortorici for Teresa Figueras, Dania Molina for Mona Franco, Edith Garcia, La Tanga Hardy, Terri Johnson, Andrea Joseph, Jennifer Kuida, Ritu Mahajan, Cyndi McCauley, Pat Mendoza, Melissa Noriega, Dianne Philibosian, Joyce Robinson, Ancelma Sanchez, Judy Sanchez, Kathy Schreiner, Janet Scully, Fiona Stewart, Dean Tagawa, Holli Tonyan, Truyen Tran, Jenny Trickey, JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia for Wendy Tseng, Kai-Ti Wang, Lisa Wilkin, and Carolyn Wong

**Guests and Alternates:** Demitra Adams, Carlos Agreda, Kate Anderson, Kevin Dieterle, Janice French, Gabriel Muñoz, Joyce Palacio, and Connie White

**Staff:** Michele Sartell

#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Richard Cohen, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:04 p.m. He welcomed members and guests and requested self-introductions.

Richard briefly commented on the focus of the meeting, noting the rapidly growing world of home visitation and potential opportunities to build partnerships with early care and education. He then referred meeting participants to two letters included in their packets, the first from the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) to Ms. Kim Belshé, Executive Director of First 5 LA containing comments to First 5 LA's 2015-20 Strategic Plan followed by a letter from Ms. Belshé responding to the Planning Committee's recommendations. Richard noted Ms. Belshé's thoughtful response to each of the Planning Committee's recommendations, interpreting a tremendous openness to collaboration. As such, Richard suggested that it is incumbent upon the Planning Committee to keep the dialogue alive. In the immediate future, First 5 LA has scheduled a special meeting of its Board of Commissioners for Thursday, November 6, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. during which time the Strategic Plan will be presented in full for final comment. The Board of Commissioners will then take action on the Strategic Plan at their regular monthly meeting scheduled for November 13, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes**

*The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes from October 1, 2014. Jenny Trickey made the motion to approve; the motion was seconded by Lisa Wilkin. The motion passed by the members present with two abstentions from Darlene Cabrera and Carolyn Wong.*

#### **III. Public Policy Update**

Lisa Wilkin referred members, alternates and guests to their meeting packets for a copy of the National Women's Law Center's analysis of S. 1086, which would reauthorize of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). The CCDBG is the federal program that allocates funds to states to ensure that low- to moderate-income families are able to access subsidized child care and development services. The CCDBG was last reauthorized in 1996. The bill, if passed, would improve the health and safety of child care and development settings serving children subsidized



with CCDBG funds, increase the amount of CCDBG funds that states must use to strengthen the quality of programs, improve access and increase stability for children in child care and development settings, and improve coordination among programs.

The Senate is expected to approve the House's amended version of the bill when it reconvenes on November 13<sup>th</sup> and the President is expected to sign the bill. Lisa added that the California Department of Education/Early Education and Support Division (CDE/EESD) is considering the financial impact of the changes.

#### **IV. Proposed Changes to Policies and Procedures**

Ancelma Sanchez and JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia presented the Governance Work Group's proposed amendments to the Planning Committee's Policies and Procedures, which are reviewed every two years to determine if clarifications or changes are required. The document was previously updated in May of 2012. The proposed amendments are as follows: allow the Vice Chair to service a one year renewable term upon election; delete the section that provides stipends to parents and family child care providers to attend the meetings; and delete the section regarding sending Planning Committee representatives to statewide meetings. The latter two items are eliminated as a result of the 2010-11 state budget that slashed budgets for local planning councils in half.

*The Chair called for a motion to approve the amendments to the Policies and Procedures. Dianne Philibosian made the motion to approve; the motion was seconded by Judy Sanchez. The motion passed unanimously by the members present.*

#### **V. Home Visitation: Contributing to the Well-being of Children and Their Families**

##### **A. Practice and Policy Perspectives**

Richard Cohen reiterated his comments from earlier in the meeting regarding the unique opportunities to think about the nexus between early care and education and home visitation. He noted the recent significant investments in home visitation programs that concentrate on promotion and prevention. With that, he introduced Janice French ("Jan"), Director of Programs for LA Best Babies Network and the LA Perinatal and Early Childhood Visitation Consortium ("Consortium") and Kate Anderson, a child advocate and consultant to the Consortium on behalf of The Pew Charitable Trusts ("Pew").

Jan referred meeting participants to the handout that details the largest home visitation programs in the County and the policy brief on home visiting in Los Angeles County. She relayed her presentation as a way to frame the home visitation programs that reach families. Referring to her PowerPoint, Jan noted that given all of the programs, the first item of business is wrestling with a definition for home visitation. Summarizing her comments, home visitation is a program strategy with services delivered primarily in the home that: is voluntary and targeted to pregnant women and/or families with children up to five years old; provides a comprehensive array of services; and is designed to promote specific outcomes that impact child and family well-being. Jan then discussed the attributes of a successful program and home visitor activities. *(Jan's PowerPoint presentation is available for download from the Office of Child Care website at [www.childcare.lacounty.gov](http://www.childcare.lacounty.gov); navigate to the meeting materials for November 5<sup>th</sup> from the Planning Committee pages or simply copy and paste the following into your web browser: [http://ceo.lacounty.gov/ccp/pdf/CCPC/CCPC\\_MeetingMaterials\\_5Nov14.pdf](http://ceo.lacounty.gov/ccp/pdf/CCPC/CCPC_MeetingMaterials_5Nov14.pdf).)*

Four of Jan's slides illustrated the framework for home visitation, articulating the difference from a universal home visitation program that reaches more families at less cost to select home visitation,

which is much more intense, is offered over a longer period of time to families with significant needs, and has higher costs associated with it. She then touched upon the home visitation programs by funding source and the numbers of families they are reaching.

Kate Anderson began by reflecting on her work in the field of early care and education and her excitement for introducing home visitation as a complement to the field. Two important aspects of home visitation are 1) its relationship with the family; and 2) connecting the family to services in the community. Kate sees much of the work of home visitation consistent with the work of early care and education and asks that efforts be made for connecting families in both directions to these services.

Moving on to the Consortium, representatives from philanthropy, public health, early care and education, academia/research, and others are coming together to build a cohesive system of home visitation. Pew, a philanthropy that is focusing on states efforts around home visitation by providing technical assistance, after much convincing adopted Los Angeles County to facilitate peer to peer learning that began with creating a vision. The goal is to provide better outcomes for all children and reach sustainable funding. Currently, home visitation reaches only one tenth of the eligible families.

The Consortium has spent nearly eight months developing policy recommendations and is now developing a set of common indicators to measure impact that will help tell the story of the value of home visitation. Next steps include convening a community advisory group and engaging in strategic planning.

*Questions/comments:*

- What training/education is required of home visitors? Jan reported on variations of training and education requirements across home visitation programs. Most require their home visitors to complete a series of trainings within a particular timeframe, typically within six months or one year. Training may include (often a combination of) attendance at group trainings, on-line modules, and one-on-one reflective supervision with a clinician. Trainings cover topics such as mental health, pregnancy, prenatal and postpartum health, developmental testing of children, children's developmental milestones, non-violent parenting, and more. A Bachelor degree is typically required and, in some cases, a professional credential. Supervisors are required to hold a Master degree and complete training in reflective supervision. It was noted that there are common requirements as well as differences between the requirements for home visitors and early educators.
- It was suggested that the competencies required of home visitors be shared with higher education in an effort to align course curriculum that extends across disciplines. California State University Northridge (CSUN) is working on alignment efforts to support building the competencies needed once graduates enter the workforce.

## **B. Small Work Group Discussions**

Members, alternates and guests joined one of the three Planning Committee Work Groups – Access/Inclusion, Quality and Workforce – and had approximately 20 minutes to review and develop recommendations

## **C. Work Group Reports**

The following is a brief summary of the work group reports as presented at the meeting.

**Quality** – This Work Group noted that part-day State Preschool programs were originally modeled after Head Start and included home visitation as a program component in the 1970s. The Work Group considers partnering with other programs working with children and families as important to enhancing parenting skills and, ultimately, benefiting children. Given the research on the impacts of children and their families participating in early care and education and the research on home visitation outcomes, the Work Group can only imagine the power of joining efforts.

**Access/Inclusion** – This Work Group is interested in learning more about home visitation and building upon the matrix included in the document summarizing each of the large home visitation programs operating across the county. Additions could include, for example, scope of services, areas of alignment, staff qualifications, and more. In addition, they are interested in how families might transition from a home visitation program into an early care and education program or into kindergarten. A Planning Committee member added that in Australia, parents are provided a booklet upon leaving the hospital with information on a variety of things, including a place to track immunizations, information on locating and selecting an early care and education program, and how to guides for funding and accessing resources.

**Workforce** – Workforce started with what it is like to be a new parent, noting that it is exhausting and overwhelming. Peer support is critical to parents as they are the primary go to place for helping each other connect with resources. They noted the competencies needed by both early educators and home visitors that include knowledge in the following areas: how to connect parents to resources, cultural competencies, social work and early education, strength-based orientation, and importance of building relationships with families. They noted that partnerships currently exist among some programs, but wondered about the strength of partnerships with the Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, the Department of Children and Family Services and where home visitation fits with the quality rating and improvement systems. Lastly, this Work Group expressed an interest in further exploring common training and competencies across the fields, noting that children do not arrive at early care and education on their own. Together, how can we support parents to become more effective?

Others echoed the idea of conjoint trainings to build competencies and relationships between the disciplines. Funding is an issue, yet there may be untapped as well as existing resources to explore. For example, organizations may have training funds, but have not considered opening the trainings to those outside of their specific organizations or disciplines.

## **VI. Announcements and Public Comment**

- Andrea Joseph announced that California has submitted an application for the U.S. Department of Education Preschool Expansion Grant. If awarded, California may receive \$140 million over four years to increase access and improve preschool spaces for children. Awards for this grant as well as the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership grants will be announced at the White House Summit on Early Education scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup>.

Lisa Wilkin commented that two opportunities for partial restoration of child care and development services were sent to existing contractors with the California Department of Education/Early Education and Support Division (CDE/EESD). She added that in the next month or so, CDE/EESD will release a Request for Application (RFA to expand the number of preschool slots. This opportunity will be open to any organization interested in applying, regardless of whether they have ever held ever held a contract with the CDE/EESD for child care and development services. She recommended that anyone interested, submit a request to join CDE/EESD's listserv (go to <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/cd/listservs.asp> to receive the alert for the opportunity as soon as the RFA becomes available.

- Holli Tonyan announced that CSUN is hosting “Inside the Industry: Early Childhood Education”, an opportunity to hear what alumni have to share about career paths in the field on November 6, 2014 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Holli will send Michele the formal announcement by e-mail to forward to the membership and others.

**VII. Adjournment**

*The Chair called for a motion to adjourn. JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia made the motion; Holli Tonyan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.*



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# Quality Rating and Improvement Block Grant

Presentation to the  
Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee  
December 3, 2014

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## OVERVIEW OF THE QRIS BLOCK GRANT

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- **Authority:** SB-858 Education Finance: Education Omnibus Trailer Bill 2014-15
- **Action:** Award funds to local consortia for support of local “early learning quality rating and improvement system” (QRIS) to increase number of low-income children in high-quality preschool programs
- **Intent:** *Increase the reimbursement rates of high quality California State Preschool Programs (CSPPs)*

Quality Rating and Improvement (QRIS) Block Grant

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- QRIS will be used to determine “high quality” CSPPs
- High quality = a QRIS score of 4 or 5
- The number of currently rated CSPPs, at 4 or higher, is limited

**QRIS Block Grant**

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- **How does the QRIS Block Grant differ from RTT QRIS?**
- Funds are targeted to CSPPs and FCCHEs
- 80% of funds are to be used to “support CSPPs rated at 4 or above”
- Local Consortia must have a Local Education Agency or CSPP to accept the funds

**QRIS Block Grant vs. RTT-ELC QRIS**

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- Funds Available = \$50 M per year statewide
- Funds awarded per CSPP spaces per County
- CSPP spaces in CA = 186,709
- CSPP spaces in LAC = 51,172 or 28% of total

**QRIS Block Grant: County Allocations**

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- CSPP spaces in LAC = 51,172
  - 28% of all CSPP spaces in California
- Potential allocation to LAC = \$13.8 M
  - Assessment & Access \$ 2.7 M
  - Quality Rewards \$11 M

**QRIS Block Grant – LA Co.**

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- Priority I:**
- Counties and Regions with QRIS Action Plans on file with the CDE, and
  - Who are implementing the Quality Continuum Framework (QCF) and Tiered Rating Matrix (TRM)

- Priority II:**
- Counties and Regions with a QRIS that incorporated the QCF and implements the TRM using the Implementation Guide

**Applying for QRIS Block Grant**

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Applications are expected to address:

- How the Quality Continuum Framework will be implemented
- Setting ambitious yet achievable targets for CSPPs to reach tier 4
- The development of an action plan
- A description of how funds will be used to:
  - Increase CSPPs in tiers 4 and 5
  - Support CSPPs at tier 4 or higher

**Applying for QRIS Block Grant Funds**

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Task	Timeframe
Release the RFA	Fall 2014
Letter of Intent	Two weeks later
Funding Amounts	One week later
Priority I Applications Due	Two weeks later
Priority II Applications Due	Four weeks later
Reading, scoring, interviewing	Dec/Jan/Feb
Appeals	Dec/Jan/Feb
Awards	Jan/Feb/March

**QRIS Block Grant Timeline**

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**LOCAL ISSUES**

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- The Office of Child Care and LAUP are engaged in planning to submit a single application
  - LA County Office of Education will be approached to serve as fiscal agent to accept the funds
  - There are a limited number of CSPPs for Family Child Care Home Education Network participants in LA County that have been rated at 4 or higher
- LA County Application for QRIS Block Grant**

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- Application will include activities that:
  - Support and improve quality: 80% of funds
  - Assess quality and access: 20% of funds
- Priority: to support CSPPs at tier 4 or higher
- Include FCCHENs that provide CSPP services

**QRIS Block Grant: Use of Funds**

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QRIS Block Grant application will require sign-offs from:

- Local Education Agency(ies)
- First 5 county commission
- Postsecondary education institution
- Local Planning Council
- Child Care Resource and Referral agencies
- Other agencies serving children birth to 5 years

**QRIS Block Grant: Local Sign-offs**

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**SAVE THE DATE**  
**April 27, 2015**

**RELATIONSHIPS MATTER:**  
**About Building Connections**

*A forum on building communities to care for at-risk children*

THE CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT | 1000 North Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Join other professionals serving children  
(0-5) to discuss how to align systems of care  
with community strengths and priorities.

*For more information and to register for this  
important forum, visit **projectabc-la.org**.*



2121 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90026

# PROJECT ABC

SAVE THE DATE  
April 27, 2015

## LEARN

- The role that relationships play in mediating toxic stress in families with young children
- To recognize a child's behavior as the language between parents and providers
- The roles your community can play in supporting families in enhancing relationships
- Steps you can take in joining a transformational initiative to create communities that care

# RELATIONSHIPS MATTER: About Building Connections

A forum on building communities to care for at-risk children

THE CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT | 1000 NORTH ALAMEDA STREET | LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012



## ATTEND

For individuals and teams from public and private agencies working with young children (0-5) and their families.

## EXPERIENCE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

JOSHUA SPARROW, MD

*Brazelton's  
Touchpoints Approach:  
Strong Families,  
Strong Communities*



For more information and to register,  
visit [projectabc-la.org](http://projectabc-la.org).

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Department of Children  
and Family Services