

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



POLICY • PLANNING • PRACTICE

February 4, 2015 • 12:00 – 12:45 p.m.

Center for Healthy Communities at The California Endowment
1000 North Alameda Street, Big Sur Room
Los Angeles, CA 90012

PROPOSED AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 1. | Welcome and Introductions | Richard Cohen, Chair |
| noon | ▪ Opening Statement and Comments by the Chair | |
| 2. | Approval of Minutes | Action Item Andrea Joseph, Vice Chair |
| 12:10 | ▪ January 7, 2015 | |
| 3. | Public Policy Report | Lisa Wilkin, Co-Chair |
| 12:15 | | Joint Committee on Legislation |
| | A. Governor's Proposed State Budget for 2015-16 – Child Care and Development Items | |
| | B. Priority State Legislation | |
| 4. | Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office Structural Changes | Michele Sartell, Staff
Karla Howell, Representative to Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development |
| 12:25 | | |
| 4. | Announcements and Public Comment | Andrea Joseph |
| 12:35 | | |
| 5. | Call to Adjourn | Richard Cohen |
| 12:45 | | |

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 4, 2015
12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Center for Healthy Communities at The California Endowment
1000 North Alameda Street, Cabrillo 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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Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2014

Members in Attendance: (35) Rocio Bach, Darlene Cabrera, Ana Campos, Edilma Cavazos, Richard Cohen, Debra Colman, Teresa Figueras, Edith Garcia, La Tanga Gail Hardy, Terri Johnson, Jennifer Kuida, Terri Lamb, Ritu Mahajan, Liliana Martinez, Cyndi McCauley, Pat Mendoza, Melissa Noriega, Dianne Philiposian, Joyce Robinson, Ancelma Sanchez, Judy Sanchez, Araceli Sandoval-Gonzalez, Kathy Schreiner, Janet Scully, Sarah Soriano, Fiona Stewart, Alexandra Izaguirre for Andrea Sulsona, Dean Tagawa, Holli Tonyan, Truyen Tran, Jenny Trickey, Wendy Tseng, Kai-Ti Wang, Lisa Wilkin, and Carolyn Wong

Guests and Alternates: Demitra Adams, Carlos Agreda, Joshua Alvarez, Ellen Cervantes, Tessa Charnofsky, Fran Chasen, Maureen Diekmann, Kevin Dieterle, Alicia Fernandez, Meredyth Gonzalez, Yount-Ji Lei, Roy Morris, Christina Nigrelli, Moises Roman, Dave Scahill, and JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia

Staff: Michele Sartell

I. Welcome and Introductions

Richard Cohen, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:05 p.m. He welcomed members and guests and requested self-introductions after reading the opening statement.

Richard expressed his appreciation for the range of organizations, members, alternates and guests who come together on a monthly basis to talk about and share strategies for impacting child and family well-being. He prepared meeting participants for the panel discussion by reflecting on policy activities around early childhood occurring at the state and federal level, predicting that everyone would walk away with a wealth of information.

II. Approval of Minutes

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes from December 3, 2014. Jenny Trickey made the motion to approve; the motion was seconded by Pat Mendoza. The motion passed by the members present with three abstentions from Darlene Cabrera, Holli Tonyan and Truyen Tran.

III. Public Policy: Reflecting on Gains in Early Care and Education and Next Steps to [Re-] Building the System

Richard extended his gratitude to the panelists for their willingness to launch into a discussion on public policy issues and being prepared to discuss the issues from both a practical and big picture perspective. He commented on the model that the panelists set by working in an interdisciplinary way and therefore anticipated that the dialogue among the panelists as well as members, alternates and guests would be robust. He referred participants to their meeting packets for bios on each of the panel members. Before handing the meeting off to Ellen Cervantes of the Child Care Resource Center and the moderator for the panel, he invoked a Vivian Weinstein quote, "Let's see what we can get done this time."

Ellen set the stage for the panel discussion by presenting a brief PowerPoint that summarized policy decisions and ongoing policy agenda items at the federal and state levels. She organized her



presentation around five issue areas: quality, access, workforce, parent engagement/education, and health and safety and introduced expected impacts that will arise from the reauthorization of the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). She talked about the false dichotomy between the purpose of child care and development, suggesting that it serves both to support working parents and promote healthy child development. She noted the complicated array of funding streams that subsidize services for low-income families, noting that 80 percent of the cost of child care and development is paid by parents. She referred to Marcy Whitebook's recent study that examined wages of the workforce and then touched upon efforts undertaken to meet increased requirements for meaningful parent engagement. Ellen also mentioned work around implementing the quality rating and improvement system and raised the important question, "how will it be sustained over time?" Her presentation ended with brief comments pertaining to licensing, stressing the importance of regular and frequent inspections of licensed programs as the base for quality and ensuring the health and safety of children.

Using a set of prepared questions, Ellen opened the conversation to the panelists, including Tessa Charnofsky of First 5 LA, Maureen Diekmann of Los Angeles Unified School District's Early Childhood Education Division, Fran Chasen representing the Infant Development Association of California – South Chapter, Christine Nigrelli of ZERO TO THREE, and Michele Sartell of Los Angeles County's Office of Child Care. The following is a summary of the panelists' comments and discussion.

Panelists agreed that the conversations relating to early childhood and early care and education have intensified at the federal, state and local levels in a way that has not occurred in the past. Still, the voice of the larger community of stakeholders representing early childhood is not always unified. Nevertheless, important achievements were made in the last legislative session. Increased attention has been paid to infants and toddlers such as federal funding for the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships as a result of a Presidential initiative. In addition, Early Start that serves children determined at risk for developmental disabilities was reinstated. As a result of these and other efforts, opportunities exist for improving collaboration amongst program types to ensure that children and their families are considered as a whole as opposed to segmented into service areas.

The conversation turned to the complexity of the existing system for subsidized child care and development services, which contributes to challenges of access. Discussions have occurred in the past on efforts needed to streamline the system and processes within each of the funding streams. This past year, the introduction of Pre-K for All and California Strong Start for Birth through Three Year Olds galvanized lots of conversations and activities, however the result was weighted benefits for preschool age children as a means for closing the achievement gap once they enter kindergarten. The conversations suggested that both a wider focus is needed that looks at the whole child and the continuum of services that begin with children from birth to three years old.

Continuing the focus on the need to streamline and the year ahead, it was noted that six members of the State legislature have been identified as "baby champions" and could be targeted with information on the importance of supporting the early years as part of the birth to five or birth to eight continuum. Additional priorities for the new legislative system should include exploring streamlining and raising the reimbursement rate and in relationship to raises in the minimum wage. Licensing oversight to ensure the health and safety of children is another item that requires attention. The new standards in the federal CCDBG will require States to conduct unannounced annual inspections of child development centers, family child care homes and license-exempt providers serving families subsidized with CCDBG dollars. CCDBG will also require a year of continuous eligibility, a positive change; however the eligibility cap still leaves out low- to moderate income families who cannot afford to pay market rates. As such, it highlights a root notion that suggests public education

beginning in kindergarten is an entitlement, while subsidized child care is considered more as a “public benefit”.

According to the panelists, parent engagement is another key factor that is often mentioned, however does not receive the attention it deserves. Consumer education is critical to informing parents to their choices, though can also be used to spur civic engagement around issues relating to early care and education. Even staff working in early childhood programs who are also parents need to know that they can have an impact on policies.

Ellen asked each of the panelists for their final comments, including their strategy/policy suggestions.

Fran – Each of us has our area of expertise, yet families have different needs. In addition to talking about low-income families, there are children with high risk or more global needs. Easy access does not happen. Currently, families are treated differently based on where they work and where they live. We need to find ways to better integrate and build meaningful partnerships on behalf of families.

Tessa – First 5 LA is working on providing comprehensive services at centers by funding mobile units and telephone screening. She cautioned wariness of movement at the federal level towards block grant funding, which could be challenging among service programs. Tessa added engaging allies in school districts, higher education, and law enforcement as advocacy partners.

Christina – More work is needed around workforce preparation to reinforce multi-disciplinary partnerships across sectors.

Michele – Families may engage with a program for a particular service, yet may confront an array of issues at any given time. Early care and education programs have regular, daily contact with children and families, engaging in intimate relationships in ways that staff with other social or health programs do not. This speaks to how are early care and education programs connected and understand their role in the bigger framework of the community and contributing to a children and families’ well-being.

Maureen – Data systems need improvement to demonstrate the benefits of quality early care and education. Short term proof is of importance.

Ellen opened the discussion to the meeting participants, who raised similar and additional concerns as follows:

- Middle income families are challenged when it comes to accessing affordable, high quality early care and education programs.
- How will increased licensing inspections be funded? CCDBG only received a modest funding increase that does not align with the bolstered requirements.
- What can be done to bring the three State organizations – Department of Education, Department of Social Services and Department of Developmental Services – to more comprehensively address early childhood? Do they have a leadership role?
- The challenge is achieving a unified voice. This is critical as we approach legislators with information and request their advocacy around our issues.
- There is a mental health piece that needs consideration as well. How do we build resiliency in teachers?
- Referring to the National Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) conference, there was mention of a cost of quality calculator available online. In addition, the federal Office of Child

Care panel suggested that if the budget cannot increase, work is needed to figure out the costs of not providing quality. The cost of quality needs to be part of the conversation. Advocates at the federal level are working on a document that illustrates cost avoidance against sacrificing quality.

Richard thanked the panel for the provocative discussions and providing lots of food for thought.

IV. Announcements and Public Comment

- The 7th Annual Water Cooler Conference is scheduled for March 23-24, 2015 in Sacramento. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/7th-annual-water-cooler-conference-registration-14456151739>.
- Octavio Pescado, Ph.D. and Elizabeth Pérez-LoPresti, Research Associates with Juárez and Associates, Inc., announced a study of workforce and impact on opportunities for services provided underway. Juárez and Associates are currently recruiting early educators for a comparison group. Participants will receive \$10 for completing the survey. The study is funded by First 5 LA. For more information, call 1.844.703.8672 or send an e-mail to help@laadvance.com. To complete the survey, go to www.LAAdvance.com.
- A public hearing on the Local Planning Council (LPC) Funding Priorities is scheduled for Wednesday, February 4, 2015 from 12:50 – 2:00 p.m., immediately following the early adjournment of the Child Care Planning Committee meeting.
- WestEd is offering the PITC (Program for Infant Toddlers Care) Online Group Care Course scheduled to begin March 2, 2015. For more information, contact Erin Freschi by telephone at 925.405.7324 or email at efresch@WestEd.org or visit their website at www.pitc.org.
- The Infant Development Association of California – South Chapter is hosting a workshop on Early Start: Eligibility for Early Intervention Services on January 14, 2015 at the Braille Institute. Flyers for the event were distributed
- Project ABC is hosting an event, “Walking the Walk: Creative Tools for Transforming Compassion Fatigue” presented by Francoise Matheiu on January 23, 2015. For more information, contact CIITrainingCenter@ChildrensInstitute.org or call 213.260.7628.
- Project ABC is holding a conference, “Relationships Matter: About Building Connections” on April 27, 2015. Keynote speaker is Joshua Sparrow, M.D. of Brazelton’s Touchpoints. For more information and to register, visit www.projectabc-la.org.

V. 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 2:05 p.m.



GOVERNOR INTRODUCES PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015-16 CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Overview

On January 9, 2015, Governor Jerry Brown released his proposed budget for 2015-16. The budget reflects the Governor's priorities to maintain a balanced budget, repay money borrowed from schools, community colleges and local governments and ensuring implementation of changes to education, health care, public safety, public pension systems and the environment. The Governor makes note of federal government policies that are likely to impose cost pressures on the state such as those relating to immigration policies and the rising cost of health care. In addition, he comments on the pending expiration of Proposition 30, which established short term tax increases intended to provide the State with revenue to support economic recovery.¹

Unfortunately, the Governor's budget falls short with investments in programs such as child care and development services that are designed to help all of our State's residents experience the benefits of an economic recovery.² While efforts were made in the 2014-15 budget to begin restoring significant losses in funding for programs that promote early learning in children and support working families, this budget does little to build upon the hope of that modest recovery.

The remainder of this paper summarizes the Governor's budget proposal for child care and development items. Table 1 on page 3 lists the line items for child care and development services contained in proposed budget for 2015-16 compared to the Budget Act of 2014.

Child Care and Development Budget Items

The Governor's proposed budget for 2015-16 suggests modest changes for child care and development services, mostly focused on full implementation of increases in funding for expansion and increased reimbursement rates that were introduced in the budget for 2014-15. Whereas the Governor's Budget Summary acknowledges anticipated changes based on the reauthorization of the federal Child Care and Development Grant (CCDBG) signed by President Obama on November 19, 2014, nothing in the budget reflects efforts towards meeting the new standards that states will be required to meet over the next three years. Among the changes noted to block grant funded child care programs are requirements for annual licensing inspections, annual health and safety inspections of non-related license-exempt providers, continuous eligibility, increased set-aside for quality activities, improved professional development activities, and enhanced consumer education for families.

Specifically, the Governor proposes the following adjustments to child care and development services:

- Increase the budget for the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) by \$14.8 million Proposition 98 General Fund and \$18.8 million non-Proposition 98 General Fund to support 4,000 slots with full-day wrap-around care as originally established in the Budget Act of 2014.

- Make cost of living adjustments (COLA) of 1.58 percent to the CSPP and the capped child care programs for an increase of \$9.2 million Proposition 98 General Fund and \$12.3 million non-Proposition 98 General Fund. The COLA was suspended for child care and development programs from 2008-09 through 2014-15.
- Increase funding by \$33.5 million for reimbursements based on the Regional Market Rate (RMR) to reflect a full-year update of the RMR that was implemented by the Budget Act of 2014. The Budget Act of 2014 updated the RMR from the 85th percentile of the 2005 RMR survey to the 85th percentile of the 2009 survey, reduced by 10.11 percent, effective January 1, 2015.
- Reduce CalWORKs Stage 2 Child Care by \$11.6 million to reflect a decrease in the number of cases and an increase in cost per case. Total base cost for Stage 2 is \$348.6 million.
- Increase the budget for CalWORKs Stage 3 Child Care by \$34.6 million to reflect an increase in the number of cases and an increase in the cost per case. Total base cost for Stage 3 is \$263.5 million.
- Indicate a decrease of \$14.9 million in federal funds to account for a reduction of available carryover funding. Total federal funding is \$565.2 million.

Table 1. Comparison between the Budget Act of 2014 and the Proposed Budget Act of 2015

Programs	Budget Act of 2014 ³	Proposed Budget Act of 2015 ⁴		Total
		State	Federal	
Proposition 98 General Fund				
State Preschool ⁵	\$579,450,000	\$606,781,000		\$606,781,000
Quality Rating and Improvement Grants	50,000,000	50,000,000		50,000,000
Child Development, Preschool Quality	25,000,000			
Proposition 98 Sub-total	\$654,450,000	\$656,781,000		\$656,781,000
Non-Proposition 98 General Fund				
General Child Development ⁶	\$543,867,000	\$339,327,000	\$235,067,000	\$574,394,000
Migrant Child Care	27,513,000	22,696,000	5,411,000	28,107,000
Alternative Payment (AP) Program	182,296,000	44,808,000	144,779,000	189,587,000
CalWORKs Stage 2 (AP)	354,548,000	338,645,000	10,000,000	348,645,000
CalWORKs Stage 3 (AP)	219,825,000	141,964,000	121,563,000	263,527,000
Resource and Referral Programs	18,687,000	18,982,000		18,982,000
Handicap Allowance	1,535,000	1,568,000		1,568,000
CA Child Care Initiative	225,000	225,000		225,000
Quality Improvement	46,476,000	1,461,000	45,015,000	46,476,000
Local Planning Councils	3,319,000	52,000	3,319,000	3,371,000
Accounts Payable	4,000,000	4,000,000		4,000,000
Non-Proposition 98 Sub-total	\$1,402,291,000	\$913,728,000	\$565,154,000	\$1,478,882,000
Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund	\$15,000,000			
Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)		<i>COLA of 1.58 percent and Growth of .57 percent calculated into above totals for CSPP, General Child Development, Migrant Child Care, Alternative Payment Program, and Handicap Allowance</i>		
Growth				
Proposition 98 and non-Proposition 98 Sub-total	\$2,061,741,000			
Department of Social Services				
CalWORKs Stage 1	\$332,800,000			
Learning Supports				
After School and Education Safety Program	\$546,902,000	\$546,902,000		\$546,902,000
21 st Century Community Learning Centers	\$158,324,000 ⁷		\$121,695,000	\$121,695,000
Cal-SAFE Child Care		<i>Among categorical programs eliminated due to education finance reform.</i>		
Pregnant Minor Program				
Learning Supports Totals	\$673,180,000	\$546,902,000	\$121,695,000	\$668,494,000
California Community Colleges				
CalWORKs Child Care – Community Colleges	\$9,188,000		\$9,188,000	
Campus Child Care Tax Bailout ⁸	\$3,350,000	\$3,350,000		\$3,350,000
State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Development				
Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Fund ⁹	\$22,799,000		\$12,140,000	

For More Information

Organizations that have developed overviews and analyses of the proposed 2015-6 State Budget as it impacts education and safety net services for children and families, including child care and development are as follows:

California Budget Project	www.cbp.org
Child Development Policy Institute	www.cdpi.net
Early Edge California	http://www.earlyedgecalifornia.org/
Legislative Analyst's Office	www.lao.ca.gov
Western Center on Law and Poverty	www.wclp.org

A number of national organizations that monitor and advocate on behalf of early care and education at the federal level include:

Center for Law and Social and Social Policy (CLASP)	www.clasp.org
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)	www.naeyc.org
National Women's Law Center	www.nwlc.org
ZERO TO THREE	www.zerotothree.org

For questions or comments regarding this budget analysis, contact Michele Sartell at the Los Angeles County Office of Child Care by e-mail at msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov or by telephone at (213) 974-5187.

¹ Brown, Jr., Edmund G. *2015-16 Governor's Budget Summary*. January 9, 2015. Retrieved on January 12, 2015 from <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/2015-16/pdf/BudgetSummary/FullBudgetSummary.pdf>.

² See California Budget Project's report, *Budget Proposal Prioritizes Austerity, Lacks Plan for Helping Ensure Broadly Shared Economic Recovery* for an analysis of the Governor's proposed 2015-16 Budget.

³ SB 852, Chapter 25: Budget Act of 2014, Approved: June 20, 2014: see items 6110-194; 6110-196; and 6870-101-000(23) and Provisions 12(g) and 25.

⁴ AB 103 (Weber) and SB 69 (Leno), Introduced January 9, 2015. Retrieved on January 12, 2015 from http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/15-16/bill/asm/ab_0101-0150/ab_103_bill_20150109_introduced.pdf and www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/15-16/bill/sen/sb_0051-0100/sb_69_bill_20150109_introduced.pdf respectively. See items [6100-194-0001](#), 6100-194-0890, 6100-196-0001, 6100-197-0890, 6100-200-0890, and 687-101-0001.

⁵ As in previous years, \$5 million of the allocation is available for the family literacy supplemental grant provided to the CSPPs.

⁶ Supports general child care slots as well as wraparound care for children participating in full-day State Preschool.

⁷ Of the funding allocation to the 21st Community Learning Centers in the 2014-15 budget, \$36,629,000 was provided in one-time carryover funds to support the existing program.

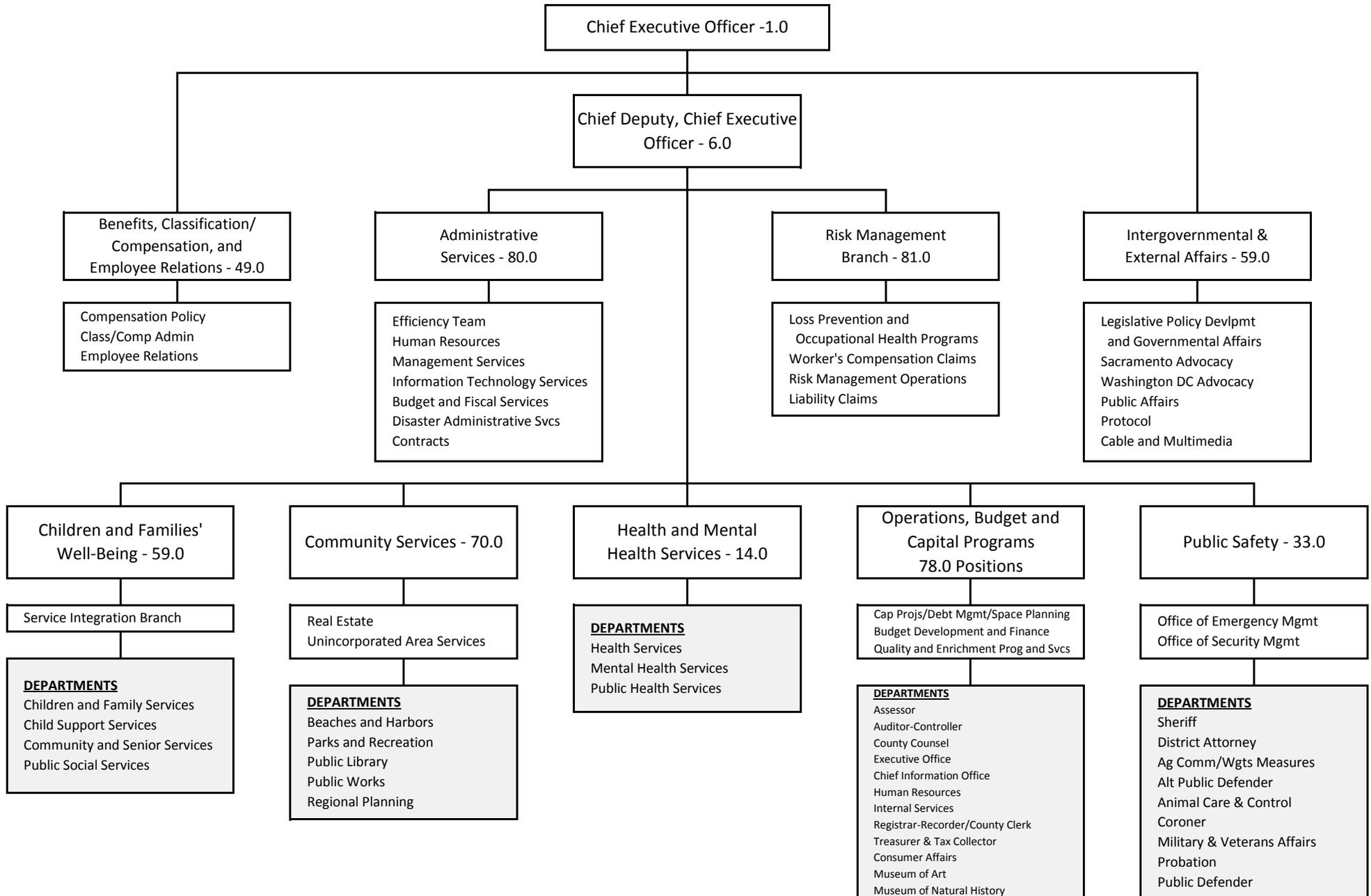
⁸ Funds are restricted to community college child care and development programs.

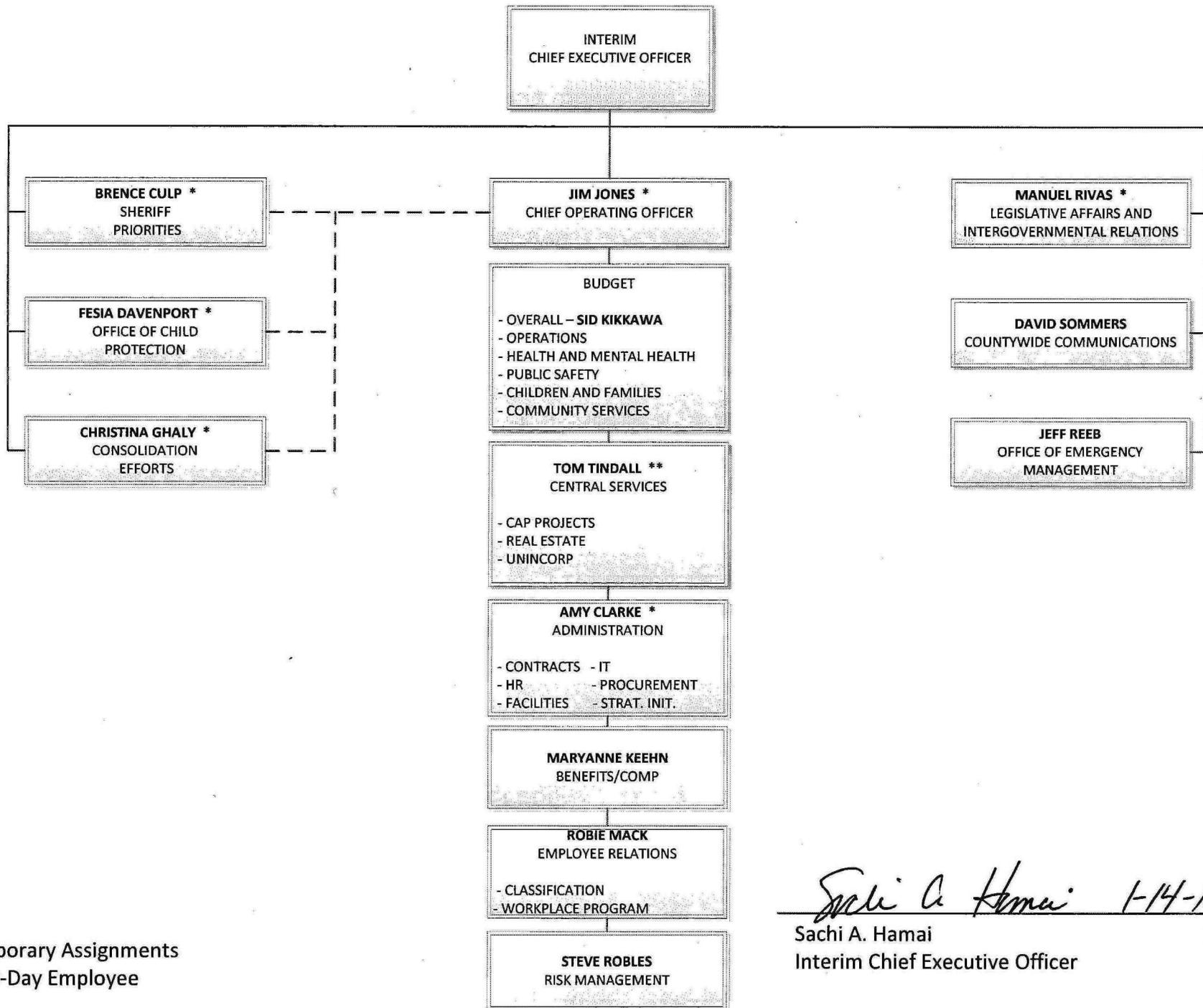
⁹ This item is supported with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.

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Chief Executive Office Organizational Chart

FY 2013-14 Final Budget
530.0 Budgeted Positions





* Temporary Assignments

** 120-Day Employee

Sachi A. Hamai 1-14-15

Sachi A. Hamai

Date

Interim Chief Executive Officer