



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee & PUBLIC HEARING ON PRIORITIES

Minutes: May 1, 2013

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

Location:

PACE Training Center

1254 Goodrich Boulevard

Commerce, CA

Members in Attendance: (23) Lisa Wilkin, Sandra Parvis, Kathy Schreiner, Patricia Moreno, Gregory Uba, Norma Garcia Rosales for Nurhan Pirim, Kathleen Pompey, Joann Mejia Shalhoub, Darlene Cabrera, Jennifer Kuida, Andrea Giese for Rachelle Pastor, Edilma Cavazos, Richard Cohen, Karla Howell, Flor Perez for Deborah Colman, Pat Mendoza, Norma Amezcua, Mariana Renteria for Jennifer Barraza, Dianne Hackett, Ofelia Medina, Ellen Cervantes for Dianne Philibosian, Fiona Stewart, Nikki Zomorodi, and Leora Riley

Guests and Alternates: Robert Beck, Monique Cantu, Cyndi McCauley, Steve Erwin, Angeliq D'Silva, Connie White, Ancelma Sanchez, and Janet Scully

Staff: Laura Escobedo and Jocelyn Tucker

I. Welcome and Introductions

Karla Howell, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:11 p.m. She read the opening statement and then asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes from March 6, 2013. Fiona Stewart moved and the motion was seconded by Darlene Cabrera. The Chair called for the vote; the motion passed with no abstentions. The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes from April 3, 2013. Darlene Cabrera moved to approve and the motion was seconded by Kathy Schreiner; motion passed with no abstentions.

III. Report from the Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable)

Karla Howell reported that the ECE WORKS! staff presented to the Roundtable at its April meeting. The Planning Committee had heard the presentation at its February meeting.

IV. Report from the Joint Committee on Legislation

Kathleen Pompey stated that the Joint Committee is revisiting a few bills, but has not decided on recommended positions of support or opposition. Among the bills are SB 192 (Liu), which would recast the Child Care and Development Services Act as the Early Learning and Educational Support Act setting the stage for a comprehensive early learning and educational support system. The bill contains improvements, but has language requiring that API scores be used to determine allocation of new child development funds. AB 273 (Rendon) would increase funding for infant and toddler care, but would require many new services. SB 528 (Yee) would add parenting foster youth as an eligibility category for subsidized child development services as well as other requirements affecting County services.

V. Presentation: CalFresh

Yolanda Anguiano from the California Food Policy Advocates spoke about the new CalFresh (formerly the Food Stamp program). Due to the high level of food insecurity in Los Angeles County, connecting more eligible families to food resources is critical. The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), which administers CalFresh, is interested in reaching families with children ages 0 to 5 who may be eligible for benefits. Receiving CalFresh benefits allows families to redistribute income that would otherwise be used to purchase food. After explaining the rules of eligibility and the various ways that families can enroll, the CalFresh team asked for input as to how to best reach

the families served in child development programs. Several ideas were provided that may be helpful in expanding the outreach efforts undertaken to date. For more information about the program contact Yolanda@cfpa.net.

VI. Public Hearing: Zip Code Priorities for 2013-14

Laura Escobedo provided materials that displayed the zip code priorities from 2011 for both half-day preschool and full-day child development and the recommended priorities for 2013-14 based on new needs assessment data. She pointed out that this year's assessment used new population numbers from the 2010 census, which resulted in a large decrease in the numbers of children. The previous priorities were based on the 2011 Needs Assessment, which used data that was projected from the 2000 census. The decrease in numbers is due to a re-calibration of actual population necessary because the projections from the 2000 data over-estimated the population numbers. California also has a declining birthrate. For example: 437,874 0-3 reported in 2011 (based on 2000 census and projections) to 381,380 in 2012 based on 2010 census data.

There has been an increase (+5 percent) in the numbers of children in low-income working families. For example, in 2011, there were 75,955 preschool-age children in low-income working families; in 2013 we report 79,819. It is likely that the recession resulted in more low-income households and that more families had adults who had to enter the workforce as personal finances waned.

The overall capacity to serve low-income children has declined. In 2011 we reported 16,583 infant/toddlers served; in 2013 there were only 14,363 (-13 percent). In 2011, there were 73,948 half-day spaces for preschool-age children; in 2013, we reported 66,771 (-9.7 percent). However, due to the smaller population size, the ratio of spaces to eligible children remains at approximately three spaces for every four children, which was reflected in the 2011 Needs Assessment.

Full-time subsidized preschool-age care has increased slightly (+4.7 percent), although the reasons are not obvious. It could be that more preschool children have enrolled in the voucher programs and those service numbers are counted as well as the directly funded spaces for low-income children.

The same guidelines used in 2011 were used to determine the zip code priorities for 2013-14. For full-time, full-year care, 1,500 un-served children (priority 1), 750 un-served children (priority 2), or 500 un-served children (priority 3) and where the un-served populations (ages 0-12) are no less than 25 percent of all eligible children in the area. For half-day preschool, 750 un-served, 500 un-served, or 300 un-served and the un-served populations are no less than 25 percent of all eligible children in the area determined Priorities 1,2 and 3 respectively. Using this guideline, five zip codes with priorities in 2011 for children in low-income working families now do not have any priority. This change was due to either a drop in population or an increase in services, or both. There are 31 new zip codes that now have priorities because of population shifts or decreases in service or both. There are now 21 fewer zip codes with any priority for expansion of part-day preschool services. However, five new zip code areas are now designated as priorities based on population and service changes.

Comments on the priorities were taken. A vote to approve the priorities will occur at the June meeting.

VII. Strategic Planning Work Groups

Meeting participants broke up into three work groups to continue planning for implementation of the Strategic Plan: Quality, Workforce, and LPC Role.

VIII. Announcements and Public Comment

- Public Counsel will host a webinar on custody and release issues for child care providers on June 6th.
- All members are reminded to return your applications for 2013-14 and to recruit new members.
- The Friends of the Angeles Mesa Library will host an orientation for providers about the Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge quality rating and improvement system pilot.
- Southern California Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC) will host a “hot topics” forum for child care and development staff on May 4th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; flyer was sent out.

IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Lisa Wilkin, seconded by Ofelia Medina. The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.