



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee
Minutes: April 6, 2011
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: LACOE Head Start
10100 Pioneer Boulevard
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Members in Attendance: (32) Lisa Wilkin, Susan McCombs, Ofelia Medina, Fiona Stewart, Bobbie Edwards, Elvie Matias for Leticia Colchado, Jeanette Magee, Amy Bigelow for Patrice Wong, Kathleen Pompey, Deborah Gatti, Judy Sanchez, Joann Shalhoub Mejia, Emilio Sosa, Peggy Sisson, Jenny Trickey, Tara Henriquez for Randi Wolfe, Rocio Bach, Deborah Colman, Joy Cyprian, Diana Pinto for Adriana De La Rosa, Sam Kirk, Gay Macdonald, John Berndt, Rachelle Pastor Arizmendi, Pat Mendoza, Patti Oblath, Ann Oshiro, Dianne Philibosian, Adrienne Schoen Gunn, Atalaya Sergi, Roselle Schafer for Sarah Soriano, and Mary Helen Vasquez

Guests and Alternates: Ancelma Sanchez, Ritu Mahajan, Brittany Estrada, Nancy Ma, Holly Daasnes, Olivia Pillado, Patricia Salgado, Sally Valenzuela, Kathy Schreiner, Maria Garay, Angie Stokes and Lou Orr

Staff: Laura Escobedo

I. Welcome and Introductions

Bobbie Edwards, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:16 p.m. She welcomed the group and asked everyone to introduce themselves. The Chair read the opening statement.

II. Approval of Minutes from the March 2, 2011 Meeting

The Chair called for a motion to approve the March 2, 2011 minutes. Peggy Sisson made the motion; it was seconded by Susan McCombs. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with no abstentions.

III. Report from the Office of Child Care

Laura Escobedo explained that she had arranged to use the meeting rooms at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works for the May and June meeting. However, the reservations were changed to 1:00-4:00 p.m. instead of the usual 12 p.m. start time. She asked if the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) would approve the change for these dates. A show of hands indicated that nearly all approved the change in start time.

Having given a final report on the Los Angeles Centralized Eligibility List (LACEL) at the previous meeting, Laura Escobedo explained that she had been charged with looking at the feasibility of creating a system of connections between child development contractors and children from County client families served by Probation, Department of Children and Family Services, etc. She stated that she needed to speak with the California Department of Education/Child Development Division (CDE/CDD) contractors to ascertain the potential and to obtain ideas of how it might work from the contractors' perspective. She will be sending out an invitation to respond within the next few months.

IV. Approval of Priority Change Requests

Sam Kirk of the Funding and Priorities Work Group presented the request from the Glendale Unified School District to reallocate a few subsidized school-age spaces from current sites (zip codes) to other sites within district boundaries and to reallocate subsidies originally allocated for school-age programs to preschool spaces where it is needed. Sam Kirk indicated that after reviewing the requests, the Funding and Priorities Work Group recommends approval of this request.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the requests to change priorities as recommended. The motion was made by Sam Kirk and seconded by Patti Oblath. The vote was called. The motion passed with no abstentions.

V. Presentation: Los Angeles County Workforce Initiatives

Patti Oblath of Connections for Children explained the Gateways for Early Educators, an initiative of the Child Care Resource and Referral (R&R) Agencies in Los Angeles County. The purpose is to engage child care providers and staff at whatever level they are in their professional development and move them forward on a career pathway that may lead them into formal college level education. The Gateways Passport Training Program includes 40 hours of training in ten subject areas. The training is offered at all the R&Rs and is presented by trainers that have met standards established by the Gateways initiative. Currently, the initiative is in Phase 4, where they are expanding and refining the coaching/mentoring aspects.

Olivia Pillado from the Child Care Resource Center presented on the evaluation of the first year of the passport training. Six focus groups involving a total of 66 participants were held. Those in the focus groups were asked why they engaged in the passport training, of what value is a physical passport, how they benefitted from the training, and how the initiative could be improved. Responses indicated that they wanted to improve their teaching and their programs. Participants like the tangible passport as a proof of their work and as something to share with parents. They value being able to network with other providers, and visiting non-local R&R offices to see how they differ. Participants stated that they gained a sense of competence and confidence. They are more likely to share their expertise with the families they serve. Many said they are planning to go on to college. Over 3,000 individuals participated in training, including center teachers, family child care providers, and license-exempt providers.

Terri Hess and Tara Henriquez from Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) presented an overview of the Los Angeles County Workforce Consortium Project, which has been approved by the First 5 LA Commission. The project, managed by LAUP, will establish a consortium that can collectively work toward creating a more integrated, systemic, professional development pathway for people in early childhood. The Workforce Consortium Project has been approved for five years and includes the following groups and activities:

- CARES (Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Education Standards) stipend program that will provide training in CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) and incentives to pursue college coursework administered by LAUP.
- The R&R Gateways Project, especially the coaching and mentoring components.
- Steps to Excellence Project (STEP) expansion to new communities with a tie to the coaching for quality through the R&Rs.
- Los Angeles County Office of Education's support for early childhood educators in school-based settings, providing teacher and principal institutes and mentoring.
- Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP), bringing together community colleges and four year institutions to address common workforce challenges and needs and develop a coordinated early childhood education Bachelor degree program and related early childhood education credential.
- East Los Angeles College Family Child Care Academy, which targets Spanish and Chinese speakers wanting to increase their formal education in early childhood education through courses, coaching, and other support services.

- Workforce Initiative Projects, which have been implemented at seven college/high school collaborations throughout Los Angeles County. These are pipeline projects that include recruitment, coursework, and supports to increase the opportunities for completion of degrees in early childhood education.

VI. Presentation: The Need for Fiscal Planning for Early Care and Education Providers
 Marisela Carlos of the Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF) explained that her organization works with many different groups who are starting or expanding child care services. LIIF provides technical assistance, financial information and loans, and connections to other resources. Through LIIF's work with the Constructing Connection Project, she has become aware of the potential need for additional financial planning assistance. She asked the group to provide some ideas of the types training or technical assistance that might be most beneficial and how to reach those needing the training. Members provided ideas for connecting with current organizations with ties to providers and CDE/CDD contractors to determine specific needs and to review the possibilities for joint approaches to training and technical assistance.

VII. Presentation: John Tracy Clinic
 Maria Garay, Chief Executive Officer, and Angie Stokes, Child Development Program Director, provided information on the John Tracy Clinic's activities and potential links to other early childhood education programs. The Clinic serves children who are deaf or hard of hearing and their parents. Among the variety of programs administered are: screenings and assessments for Early Head Start; information and training for professionals and parents on-line available worldwide; a master degree program that turns out most of the professionals who work with young children with hearing impairments; and an onsite child development program for preschool-age children in three classrooms. The clinic staff work intensively with the children ages birth to three and their parents in small groups and one-on-one. After this, children are ready for the group program. The preschool environment is very typical, but the teachers are especially trained to work on language development with children who have hearing impairments.

The John Tracy Clinic is looking to expand their program to include a reverse mainstreaming component. Staff are interested in working with other agencies to achieve this. Clinic staff are also available to come to early care and education sites to conduct hearing screenings by appointment.

VIII. Announcements and Comments.

- Holly Daasnes, Ombudsperson from the California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing (CCL) Division provided an update. There is a new interim manager for CCL Child Care, Paula Dale Bennis. CCL is launching its New Directions Initiative, which by using fewer, key indicators will allow for more inspections. The key indicator list is available on line at the CCL Web site. Assembly Bill (AB) 419 (Mitchell) will require increased monitoring efforts and will increase application and renewal fees by 10 percent to help cover the costs. Civil penalties for serious regulation infractions will be applied now. The penalty equals \$150 per day until the correction is made. Orientations have resumed in a limited way. CCL is actually piloting an online orientation for Family Child Care Home providers. Billing for license renewal fees will only be done once, 60 days before the expiration date. There will be a fee charged for late payments. The best way to connect with Holly Daasnes is through her e-mail at holly.daasnes@dss.ca.gov.
- The Workforce Committee will meet immediately following the adjournment of this meeting.
- Members and interested others were reminded to submit their application for membership for 2011-12 by May 9, 2011.

- The governor has not yet signed the budget bill (SB 69) containing the 10 percent reduction to the Standard Reimbursement Rate. Programs that will be affected should write up what will happen to your program and pass this to your local state legislator.

IX. Adjournment

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn. Sam Kirk made the motion; Adrienne Gunn seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.