



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee  
Minutes: December 5, 2012  
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Location: Department of Public Works  
900 South Fremont Avenue  
Alhambra, CA 91803

**Members in Attendance:** (28) Lisa Wilkin, Andrea Joseph, Sandra Parvis, Beth Hodges, Judy Sanchez, Flor Perez for Deborah Colman, Fiona Stewart, Kathy Schreiner, Rosemary Melendez, Darlene Cabrera, Edilma Cavazos, Jennifer Kuida, Patricia Moreno, Gregory Uba, Nurhan Pirim, Ofelia Aguilar, Kathleen Pompey, Peggy Sisson, Mariana Renteria for Jennifer Barraza, Ana Campos, Terri Hess, Veronica Sanchez for Judy Laureano, Pat Mendoza, Rocio Bach for Leora Riley, Atalaya Sergi, JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia, Nikki Zomorodi, and Ofelia Medina

**Guests and Alternates:** Ancelma Sanchez, Steve Erwin, Nora Garcia-Rosales, Pat Salgado, and Sonia Campos Rivera

**Staff:** Laura Escobedo

I. Welcome and Introductions

Karla Howell opened the meeting at 12:40 p.m. She read the opening statement and then asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

II. Review of Letter Sent to Our Children Our Future Campaign

At November's meeting it was suggested that the Planning Committee send a letter to the Our Children, Our Future campaign to thank Molly Munger, et. al. for raising the issue of early care and education in the ballot measure. Office of Child Care staff obtained approval and composed the letter. The Chair read the letter that was to be sent.

III. Approval of Minutes from November 7, 2012

**The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes for November 7, 2012. The motion was made by Peggy Sisson and seconded by Lisa Wilkin. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with no abstentions.**

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

Karla Howell reported that the Roundtable discussed election results. There was a presentation by Sonia Campos Rivera from the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce on Educare in Los Angeles in which the Chamber is a partner. The City of Los Angeles is updating its Consolidated Plan related to community services and is seeking input.

V. Report from the Joint Committee on Legislation

Kathleen Pompey reported that the State Legislature convened and new members were sworn in. The Democrats now have a super majority in both houses, although this may not hold since there will be special elections to fill vacancies created by some members moving to Congressional seats. Mike Gatto is now Chair of the Appropriations Committee; and Bob Blumenfield, Holly Mitchell, and Susan Bonilla will continue with their current posts. A supermajority allows the Democrats to push for budget solutions that include proposed revenue streams such as increased taxes rather than agreeing to a cuts-only budget and possible overrides to vetoes by the Governor. She read a letter to the editor that was published, written by member Lisa Wilkin that advocated for a robust two party system to create balance between the left and the right.

VI. Update from Office of Child Care: Report on Cycle 13 of AB 212

Meeting attendees reviewed a two page report that provided statistics on the AB 212 Investing in Early Educators Stipend Program. Out of 1,986 applicants, 1,452 followed through and were eligible to receive a stipend. About 93 percent of applicants/stipend recipients were from centers and seven percent were from family child care homes. The numbers of applicants have been decreasing over the last three years from a high of nearly 3,000 to the current 1,900. This is of concern to staff and will be discussed with an advisory group of the Planning Committee. The percent of those receiving a stipend has remained steady at about 73 percent of all applicants. The number of those receiving Associate of Arts (AA), Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Master of Arts (MA) degrees has also remained steady at 59, 69, and 13 respectively.

Of those receiving stipends, 44.3 percent had some college course credits (no degrees), 29.4 percent had AA degrees, 23 percent had BA degrees, and 3.3 percent had MA degrees. She talked about the average number of years in the field by educational levels and hours worked per week. There were several charts looking at compensation by educational level and by years in the field. In all cases there is a definite trend toward rewarding more education with higher compensation. This is a great improvement over conditions existing when the Stipend Program was first initiated.

Family child care provider data was analyzed separately. Although most participating providers fall into the category of having some college credits, 23 percent had achieved AA, BA, and MA degrees. The average age of family child care providers was 45 years old, somewhat older than center-based staff. Most family child care providers held Assistant or Associate Child Development Permits; 20 percent held permits at the teacher level or higher even though not required for their businesses. Educational level did not correlate with income; however, the years in business did seem to have an effect as the average annual income increased with the number of years in the field. Overall average annual incomes were in the \$20,000's.

Laura Escobedo called for the Workforce Work Group and any other interested persons to meet in January to discuss possible changes to the Stipend Program based on declining participation and increasing difficulty for participants to access college classes.

VII. Presentation: Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and Early Care and Education

Sonia Rivera Campos, staff to the Education Policy Committee of the Chamber, explained how and why the Chamber became involved in early care and education issues. The Chamber has 1,600 large and small business members. It has committees on Water Policy, Transportation, Health, and Education. The Education Policy team consists of approximately 20 staff and calls their work "Cradle to Careers". The Chamber's interest in education had always embraced K-12 with the understanding that to have good employees, an educated workforce is needed. In 2005-06, the Chair led the charge for the Chamber to support Proposition 82 that would have created Universal Preschool. While the proposition failed, it allowed the Chamber to take a deeper look at early care and education and its connection to K-12, putting the Chamber on the map as a voice for early care and education. In 2008, the Chamber began taking small steps to educate its members about early care and education and to support it generally.

The Education Policy staff works with a committee of the Chamber to advocate for support of early care and education and to increase business engagement in this topic. It is a long term effort since many are still focused on short term results. By looking at how the availability of early care and education effects member's day to day business, it is hoped that more Chamber members will understand.

Current efforts of the Chamber include:

- Advocacy trips to Washington, D.C. and Sacramento to promote the Chamber's policy agenda, which now includes early care and education
- Transitional Kindergarten implementation
- Involvement in the Race to the Top initiative
- LA Compact, which is a coalition focused on aligning business, labor and education; the Chamber invited First 5 LA to join to represent the 0-5 focus
- Third grade reading because it is an issue that links early care and education with K-12 success

The Chamber is now looking at early care and education and health care and recently supported a bill on children's oral health. The Chamber is also looking at the early care and education workforce and ways to support the Community College population. The Chamber is a new and important voice for quality early care and education.

#### VIII. Review of Current Strategic Plan Concepts: Local Planning Council Role and Workforce

The group reviewed language and concepts developed from the small work groups for each goal area of the new plan. Some suggestions were made to add language for clarification to the strategies and questions were asked and answered about why certain language was used.

The Vice Chair asked the group to approve moving forward with the draft. Those in attendance agreed. An ad hoc Strategic Planning work group will be formed to begin meeting for the next few months to finalize the Strategic Plan. Laura Escobedo asked for volunteers.

#### IX. January Meeting

The usual meeting date would be January 2, 2013. Members agreed to meet the following Wednesday, January 9, 2013.

#### X. Announcements and Public Comment

- Pat Salgado informed the group of the California Inclusion and Behavior Consultation Network funded by the California Department of Education (CDE) to allow professional counselors to work with staff in centers where there are children with challenging behaviors. Centers may request this assistance. There is also special a program for divorcing and separating families.
- Nurhan Pirim of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) stated that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has contacted DPSS to do some outreach to child care centers regarding free and voluntary income tax assistance. It is the intent to utilize child care programs as a conduit to parents.
- Alliance for Better Communities has just released a report on teacher competencies for working with dual language learners. A link will be sent.
- The December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the California Child Development Administrators Association will be held at the historic Mission Inn in Riverside. The January 18 meeting at The California Endowment is focused on early care and education public policy and will feature CDE and the Legislative Analyst's Office staff via video conference. All are invited, regardless of membership. The cost is \$45.
- Fiona Stewart referred to the brochures she brought on using the Child Care Resource and Referral (R&R) Agencies to find child care.

XI. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made. A motion was made by Peggy Sisson and seconded by Kathleen Pompey. The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:14 p.m.