



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee  
Minutes: January 5, 2012  
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: The California Endowment  
1000 North Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Members in Attendance:** (29) Lisa Wilkin, Carol Hiestand for Kathleen Pompey, Peggy Sisson, Dianne Philibosian, Karla Pleitez Howell, Judy Sanchez, Tara Henriquez, Rachelle Pastor Arizmendi, Patrice Wong, Peter Huffaker, Sarah Soriano, Andrea Joseph, Sandra Parvis, Kathy Schreiner, Jenny Trickey, Deborah Colman, Ofelia Medina, Atalaya Sergi, Patti Oblath, Philip Chiao, Deborah Gatti, Pat Mendoza, Adrienne Schoen Gunn, Julie Taren, Mary Helen Vasquez, Rocio Bach, Michelle Morse, Ricardo Rivera, and Maria Salinas

**Guests and Alternates:** Ruth Tiscareno, Edilma Serna, Vanessa Mendez, Aileen Valino-Camcam, Lloyd Kajikawa, Ancelma Sanchez, Melinda Felice, Anchanel Harrison Wilkes, Patricia Salgado, Elizabeth Santillan, Jeni Yarbush, Patricia Herrera, Elesha Kingshott, and Gwen Slattery

**Staff:** Laura Escobedo

I. Welcome and Introductions

Karla Howell, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:15 p.m. She read the opening statement and then asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes from December 7, 2011

**The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes for December 7, 2011. The motion was made by Lisa Wilkin and seconded by Jenny Trickey. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with no abstentions.**

III. Update from the Office of Child Care: Overview of Ballot Initiatives for 2012.

Laura Escobedo presented a matrix describing the eight ballot initiatives registered by the Attorney General's Office that may have an impact on the funding for child care and development, either positively or negatively. She stated that it is important to understand what people will be asked to sign even before a proposition qualifies for the ballot. One highly publicized potential initiative involving decreases in corporate taxes is not listed since it has not yet been filed. She pointed out a few of the initiatives including the "Our Children, Our Future", which is the only one that specifically details revenue enhancements to early care and education.

IV. Presentation: Campaign for Quality Early Education

Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) members Ofelia Medina from Alliance for Better Communities and Rachelle Pastor from PACE provided a brief history of the evolution of the Campaign for Quality Early Education and its foundation based on concerns about the development of the early learning foundations and guidelines related to the education of English Language Learners. Current attention is focused on the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) and its appropriateness in bilingual early education environments.

This current focus began when the California First 5 Commission launched its CARES+ program, which required all participants to be trained in CLASS. Initially the CLASS instrument and training were not available in any language other than English, making it very difficult to be inclusive of all segments of the early care and education workforce. Members of the campaign lobbied First 5 CA on this issue; the Commission responded positively and has facilitated connections with Dr. Pianta who developed the CLASS instrument and tested it in Virginia. The group is meeting with Dr. Pianta to continue the discussion about the evolution of the tool to make it more appropriate for the

children, teachers, trainers, and qualified bi-lingual observers. Ofelia Medina and Rachelle Pastor asked for feedback from the group, particularly anyone who has had experience with the CLASS. They encourage anyone who would like to share information in the future to contact them.

V. Strategic Planning: Review of Goals

Laura Escobedo presented the current impact statements that provided the original impetus for the development of strategic plan goals. She then presented all of the currently developed goal statements and asked the attendees to review with an eye to consolidation and ultimately re-organizing the workgroups around new goal clusters. The group identified which could be primary goals and which are subordinate and which statements might actually be strategies related to goals. The results of the discussion were recorded and will be applied to the strategic plan worksheets. Appropriate reorganization of work groups will take place and all members will be notified before the February meeting.

VI. Announcements

- The Infant Development Association (IDA) is coordinating a Vivian Weinstein Leadership Day for February 27, 2012. Flyers were available on the table and an e-mail announcement will be sent.
- Peter Huffaker announced an event coordinated by the Californians for Support of Early Education (CSEE) to be held on February 16, 2012 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. A formal announcement will go out soon. Invited speakers include Assembly Member Holly Mitchell and Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky.
- Sarah Soriano announced the 2012 Kindergarten Festivals planned for the long Beach area beginning in January. The festivals are held annually to ensure a smooth transition for families to public kindergarten. All are invited. They could provide a good model for other communities.
- Laura Escobedo announced that the public hearing for the needs assessment and the new zip code priorities is scheduled for January 11, 2012 from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at the Department of Public Works located in Alhambra. She encouraged anyone interested to attend.
- Laura Escobedo announced that California has been awarded an Early Learning Challenge Grant and that the Steps to Excellence Project (STEP) administered by the Office of Child Care is one of the 16 consortia that will receive funding.
- Lisa Wilkin informed the group that once again families receiving child care support from Stage 3 are being terminated from care because the contractors have used all the funding allocated by the state and the state has no way to provide additional funds. She urged a central point of communication between Alternative Payment Programs administering the Stage 3 program and local state-funded contractors who may have openings that could be used by families currently receiving Stage 3 funds.

VII. Adjournment

Karla Howell, Chair, called for a motion to adjourn. Patti Oblath moved to adjourn; Rachelle Pastor Arizmendi seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.