



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee
Minutes - March 7, 2012
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

Members in Attendance: (30) Ofelia Medina, Lisa Wilkin, Kathleen Pompey, Peggy Sisson, Karla Pleitez Howell, Tara Henriquez, Rachelle Pastor Arizmendi, Patrice Wong, Kate Andersen for Peter Huffaker, Sarah Soriano, Andrea Joseph, Sandra Parvis, Kathy Schreiner, John Berndt, Joanne Shalhoub Mejia, Jenny Trickey, Deborah Gatti, Pat Mendoza, Julie Taren, Rocio Bach, Ricardo Rivera, Emilio Sosa, Norma Amezcua, Nurhan Pirim, Vanessa Mendez for Mary Helen Vasquez, Fatima Capinpin for Debra Coleman, Michelle Morse, Dianne Philibosian, Holly Reynolds and Adrienne Schoen Gunn

Guests and Alternates: Ancelma Sanchez Carol Hiestand, Jermaine Kyle, Elaine Waldman, Sarah Mejia, Stacy Lee, Fred Munoz, Alan Wu, Nadia Varela, Elvie Matias, Julia Lopez, Pamela Kwok, Randi Wolfe, Lisa Schoyen, Lupe Garcia, and Celeste Salinas

Staff: Laura Escobedo, Michele Sartell

I. Welcome and Introductions

Karla Howell, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:13 p.m. She read the opening statement and then asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes from January 4, 2012

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes for February 4, 2012. The motion was made by Adrienne Schoen Gunn and seconded by John Berndt. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with one abstention.

III. Update from the Office of Child Care

Laura Escobedo asked Kate Andersen to announce a new advocacy effort aimed at affecting the outcome of state budget negotiations. Several organizations including ZERO TO THREE and Children Now are creating a video campaign using YouTube. The group is soliciting videos made using smart phones. Any individual or group interested in submitting or collecting videos from parents and providers about the budget impacts can sign up with Kate Andersen.

IV. Proposed Motion to Recommend an Opposed Position to the Restructuring of Child Care and Development Programs

Kate Andersen explained that the workgroup working on the role of the Planning Committee and creating a unified voice through the Planning Committee had created a rationale for the opposition to the Governor's proposed restructuring of child care and development. This was done as part of creating a stronger voice for the Planning Committee.

Kate Andersen proposed the following motion: The Los Angeles Child Care Planning Committee recommends that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors oppose the restructuring of state funded child care and development. It was seconded by Andrea Joseph. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with two abstentions.

V. Presentation on the "Our Children, Our Future" Ballot Measure.

Kim Patillo Brownson of the Advancement Project provided an overview of the ballot measure. She stated that of the three initiatives likely to make the ballot November 2012, this was the only one that is relevant to early care and education. Over \$1.2 billion has been lost to child care and

development services since 2008 and over 160,000 thousand children have lost access to these services.

The initiative is intended to redress the substantial reductions that have been made to funding. The initiative would create about \$10 billion per year for 12 years by an across the board increase in income tax for all but the lowest income earners. The range of rate increases would be .04 percent to over 2 percent for those making \$10 million. The funds from these new rates would be handled outside the budget process. There would be a two phase implementation. In the first four years, there would be a 30 percent set aside to pay down school bond debt, which would be a savings to the general fund and free up money to cover other expenses. In years five through 12, all the funding would be applied to zero to 18 education: 85 percent to K-12, 15 percent to zero to five. In years one through four, \$1.1 billion would be available to increase access and quality, and fund a quality rating and improvement (QRIS) and tiered reimbursement systems. There would also be a portion dedicated to infant care and some for licensing and adding children under five years old to the CALPADS system. In years five to 12, there would be \$1.8 to \$1.9 billion for zero to five purposes. In years five to 12 funding for access and expansion would be approximately \$1.5 billion and include a set aside for infants of 25 percent to create a California Early Head Start.

This initiative would not require a sales tax increase, which impacts lower income families most. Polling indicates that 64 percent of registered voters would be willing to pay more to improve school funding. For more information, visit www.ourchildrenourfuture2012.com.

VI. Presentation: First 5 LA Policy Grants

Stacy Lee of the First 5 LA Policy Department spoke of First 5 LA's Strategic Plan and the goal to support advocacy that impacts the lives of children zero to five years old. In addition to the four outcome areas approved by the First 5 LA Commission, there are ten policy goals:

- Promote comprehensive, affordable health insurance for all
- Support integration and sharing of data
- Expand voluntary home visiting
- Increase support for breastfeeding
- Promote reduction in drug, alcohol and tobacco use by parents and caregivers
- Expand early identification and intervention
- Promote family strengthening principles and prevention practices in the child welfare system
- Improve the quality of early care and education programs
- Strengthen the prenatal to five workforce
- Increase access to healthy food options and physical activity

To achieve these goals, First 5 LA has issued Policy Opportunity Grants to 13 organizations from among 35 applicants. For example, Public Counsel will be working with cities in the southeast area of Los Angeles County to reduce barriers to creating more child care facilities and to encourage development of more green space for children and families. Crystal Stairs, another grantee will be working through the Child Care Resource and Referral (R&R) network on parent and provider advocacy. Occidental College is promoting the use of fresh food consumption among early childhood education providers and through WIC (Women, Infants and Children). The Advancement Project is leading advocacy efforts to protect early childhood education programs in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). A full list of grantees and their projects is on the First 5 LA website at www.first5la.org. Another round of proposals may be initiated in the fall of 2012.

VII. Breakouts for Strategic Planning

Those in attendance divided into four reconfigured groups: Quality, Access, Role of Planning Committee, and Workforce. The groups were charged with reviewing goals and beginning to build on these with strategies.

VIII. Announcements

- The Southern California Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC) is sponsoring two events in April. Flyers are on the tables.
- For those who live in Assemblymember Holly Mitchell's area, a petition is available to ensure she gets on the ballot for a reconfigured district.
- There will be a STOP the Budget Cut Rally April 14 in downtown Los Angeles; wear red t-shirts.
- Proposed cuts to the Cal Grants program will mean that many students at private colleges will have to drop out or enter California State campuses, which cannot accommodate them.
- A letter developed by several organizations will be submitted to the legislature related to the budget proposals. All interested groups are asked to sign on to increase the impact.

IX. Adjournment

Karla Howell, Chair, called for a motion to adjourn. Mary Helen Vasquez moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Andrea Joseph. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.