



## Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee

Minutes: June 3, 2009  
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Glendale Unified School District  
319 North Central Avenue  
Glendale, CA 91203

**Members in Attendance:** (28) Rocio Bach, Ancelma Sanchez, Peggy Sisson, Atalaya Sergi, Joy Cyprian, Alan Guttman, Holly Reynolds, Lorraine Gutierrez for Corrine Sanchez, Karla Pleitez for Lucy Fitzpatrick, Holly Daasnes, Pat Mendoza, Patti Oblath, Nurhan Pirim, Sarah Soriano, Jenny Trickey, Julie Taren, Dianne Philibosian, John Berndt, Randi Wolfe, Mayra Manriquez for Darlene Cabrera, Noreen Clarke, Bobbie Edwards, Pamela Kwok, Gay McDonald, Sylvia Parra, JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia, Sarah Soriano, and Anita Tetrault

**Guests and Alternates:** Lisa Wilkin, Sam Kirk, Rebecca Patton, Kathy Schreiner, Susan Savage, Eileen Friscia, Sally Valenzuela, Elaine Waldman, Barbara Holtwick, Moises Roman, Cecelia Ley, Pam Schmidt, Brian Brophy, Jon Schwalbach, Mary Helen Vasquez, Edilma Serna, Laurie Chew, Carolyn Wong, and Fiona Stewart

**Staff:** Laura Escobedo

### I. Welcome and Introductions

Bobbie Edwards, Vice Chair, opened the meeting at 12:12 p.m. She welcomed the group and read the opening statement. She asked all in attendance to introduce themselves. Holly Reynolds arrived and took over to Chair the meeting.

### II. Approval of Minutes from the May 6, 2009 Meeting

**The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2009. Peggy Sisson moved to approve. Jenny Trickey seconded the motion. The Chair called for the vote. The motion was approved, with one abstention.**

### III. Office of Child Care Update

Laura Escobedo spoke briefly about the state of flux related to the State budget. The situation changes from day to day. Proposals have been made to reduce almost all General Funds for Community Care Licensing and to dramatically increase fees. This would mean almost no monitoring visits and only responses to complaints. Programs such as the Local Planning Councils may lose substantial, if not all funding. Secondly, she informed the group that the California Department of Education (CDE) is taking time to fully review all the processes and language in its materials about the pilot initiative aimed at reducing the amount of unused funds in each county. CDE will issue information about the opportunity to voluntarily, temporarily give up a portion of unused contract funds (or accept more contract funds) later in the year.

The Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) will have a planning retreat this year on August 20, 2009 at The California Endowment.

### IV. Approval of Planning Committee Membership for 2009-10

**JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia presented the proposed roster of members for 2009-10. A motion to approve the roster was made by Dianne Philibosian; it was seconded by Bobbie Edwards. The Chair called for a vote. The motion was passed with no abstentions.**

V. Election of Vice Chair for 2009-10

**Bobbie Edwards was nominated to continue in the position of Vice Chair. JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia called for nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations. Dianne Philibosian moved to close the nominations; Peggy Sisson seconded the motion. The Chair called for the vote. Bobbie Edwards was elected to serve another year as Vice Chair.**

VI. Request to Expand Service Area

The YMCA of Greater Long Beach is seeking to include zip code 90806 in its current service area. It has the opportunity to acquire a new site to expand preschool and toddler care. The area is adjacent to its current service area and is a priority 1 area for full time care for ages 0-12. It was noted that the area is only a priority 3 for half-day preschool and that the agency will find other programs serving the area with half-day programs. For this reason, the Strategic Planning and Needs Assessment Work Group will include in its recommendation a request that the YMCA report back to the Planning Committee next year about its ability to recruit for a half-day preschool program in the area.

**Anselma Sanchez moved to approve the recommendation to approve the expansion of the YMCA's service area. The motion was seconded by Bobbie Edwards. The Chair called for a vote; motion approved with one abstention.**

VII. Sustainability Plan for Constructing Connections LA

Pam Schmidt of Public Counsel gave a short history of the Constructing Connections LA (CCLA) project funded by the Low Income Investment Fund to assist with facility development. She noted that the Planning Committee has traditionally had a capacity development work group which had become integrated into the CCLA collaborative.

Karla Pleitez, CCLA Director, spoke to the four system building elements in the current project: technical assistance (TA), reducing land use barriers, increasing local financial investments for facilities, and sustainability. A major strategy to ensure sustainability will be a return to the Planning Committee as its capacity development arm. Key stakeholders will form the CCLA Coordinating Council (Coordinating Council) which will be responsible for activities related to sustaining the systems, information, and progress made to date through CCLA. The plan for the other elements is:

- 1) Work with the Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (R&Rs) in Los Angeles County to integrate ongoing TA for center development into the services of the R&Rs. They have traditionally provided TA to family child care providers. CCLA will provide them with the tools and information to expand that TA. A primary tool is the Child Care Center Development Guide (Guide) which is web-based and describes the 20 step process in facility development including the resources available to help with each step. Members of the Coordinating Council will regularly review the Guide and update it.
- 2) CCLA has formed a Land Use Coalition consisting of pro bono attorneys from various Los Angeles firms. This coalition would continue its work with local communities to review and revise land use plans, zoning ordinances, etc. Public Counsel would remain the lead in this effort.

- 3) CCLA approached various local financial institutions to generate interest in making loans more available for child care facility development. They have also sought increased use of public dollars for facilities. The change in the economic climate derailed that effort. The Coordinating Council will determine how to continue this work.
- 4) Building the Coalition partnerships is another area that will continue.

#### VIII. Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) Professional Development/Workforce Initiative Update

Randi Wolfe, Director of Professional Development of LAUP, stated that the ECE Workforce Initiative Project was intended to foster professional development, promote recruitment and retention, and encourage collaboration among stakeholders. The goals of the project are: increase the number of high school students pursuing early childhood education; decrease attrition rates of early childhood education students at the college level; create systems to improve the transition from two year to four year colleges; and increase graduation rates at both two year and four year colleges.

The project is working with seven community colleges, 12 feeder high schools, and six universities. While funded by LAUP, participation is not limited to LAUP teachers. Some campus services and benefits are also available to non-participant early childhood education students on the campuses.

Some of the innovative strategies used by the colleges include:

- Dual enrollment of high school students who can complete college level early childhood education courses before they graduate from high school
- Creating student cohorts for support
- Dedicated advisement
- Parent orientations for the high school student families
- Leveraging other programs such as the California mentorship program
- Articulation agreements between two year and four year colleges
- Early childhood education student hotline
- University courses held on the Community College campuses
- Creation of a new major at campus without a child development program

Some of the impacts to date have been: expanded academic goals on the part of participants; increased understanding of the transfer process; increased collaboration among colleges; and increased numbers applying for permits, certificates, and credentials. The next steps include seeking funding to continue the efforts, particularly the most crucial elements such as dedicated advisement.

#### IX. Infant/Toddler Learning Development System

Bobbie Edwards and Edilma Serna of WestEd/Program for infant Toddler Caregiving (PITC), shared a sampling of the material available on DVD for training caregivers, teachers, and developing high quality infant/toddler programs. Bobbie Edwards explained the format and content of the Infant/Toddler Foundations. She pointed out that 11 of the 16 foundations are related to social and emotional development. Using the newly developed materials, WestEd/PITC will be presenting to many groups at various locations. They are prepared to present an overview (1.5 hours) or conduct a full six hour training. They are seeking

partners to coordinate the training events. The Curriculum Framework for Infants/Toddlers will be released by the end of 2009 (DVD - \$30; book - \$17). Training may be available for free through CDE or for a seminar fee.

X. Announcements and Public Comment

Infant Development Association is encouraging opposition to two policy changes for the California Early Start program: 1) a requirement that families access their private insurance first before regional center provides screening and services; and 2) limiting the eligibility for services to those infant/toddlers with the greatest need. There will be a Policy Forum at the Braille Institute from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on June 5<sup>th</sup> related to this issue.

Following the meeting, Department of Public Health staff will stay to provide updates on the West Nile Virus, salmonella, etc.

Community Care Licensing Division of the California Department of Social Services is facing an incredible threat that will greatly change what they can do if current budget proposals are approved. A major change would be to have Family Child Care Homes self-certify.

Randi Wolfe announced that LAUP is holding its Conference and Educational Expo October 16 and 17, 2009. There is a form being passed around that is the Call for Presenters. She encouraged anyone who is interested to apply by July 15, 2009.

XI. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.