



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee

Minutes: December 3, 2008

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

Members in Attendance: (29) Kathleen Pompey, Rocio Bach, Ancelma Sanchez, Peggy Sisson, Diane Philibosian, Bobbie Edwards, Gay Macdonald, Roselma Samala for Randi Wolfe, Rebecca Patton for Atalaya Sergi, Ofelia Medina for Angelica Solis, Rosa Arevalo, Pamela Kwok, Alan Guttman, Fran Chasen for Julie Taren, Ana Cubas, Alejandra Guillen for Sandra Menendez, Patti Oblath, JoAnn Shalhoub Mejia, Kate Andersen, John Berndt, Jan Isenberg, Wilma Kiel. Karen Kirsche, Michael Ladjevic, Holly Reynolds, Nellie Rios Parra, Corrine Sanchez, Jenny Trickey, and Alicen Vera.

Guests and Alternates: Diana Careaga, Sam Kirk, Carol Hiestand, Roxana Machado, Lucia Trejo, Gisela Reoyo, Julia Quiroz, Cecelia Ley, Yecenia Olmos, Reshna Boishnoj, Kathy Schreiner, Elaine Waldman, Paula Miller.

Staff: Laura Escobedo, Kathy Malaske-Samu

I. Welcome and Introductions

Holly Reynolds opened the meeting at 12:15 and read the opening statement. She introduced herself and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

II. Office of Child Care Update

Laura Escobedo reported on the meeting held November 6, 2008 of a diverse group of stakeholders who offered up options for legislative action to minimize under-utilized child care contract funds. Ideas included raising the infant reimbursement rates, retaining parent fees, moving to grant-based funding, and various regulation changes. It was acknowledged that there is no single change that would dramatically affect the use of all types of funds. Participants will check in with their various constituent groups about these issues. The next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2009.

Laura Escobedo also reported on the Los Angeles Preschool Advocacy Project, which is an effort of the California Community Foundation and funded by the Packard Foundation. Staff from the Office of Child Care have been involved from the beginning and have helped influence a broader vision for the group that includes 0-5 issues, not just preschool. A Statement of Principles has been developed for which the California Community Foundation is seeking endorsements. Copies of the statement were provided to those present. Laura Escobedo asked that everyone review the statement and be prepared to vote on whether to endorse it at the January meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes from the November 5, 2008 Meeting

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 5, 2008. A motion to approve was made by Dianne Philibosian and seconded by Fran Chasen. The Chair called for a vote. The motion passed with one abstention.

IV. Endorsement of Child Care Policy Framework

Kathy Malaske-Samu, Director of the Office of Child Care, provided background and history related to the creation of the framework and the Board of Supervisor's interest in child care and development. She provided an overview of County Departments' missions and client needs that connect with child care and development. Recognizing that high quality child care and development services assist families with self-sufficiency, set a strong trajectory toward school achievement, and support children and families identified at risk of abuse and neglect, the Board is most interested in working to increase access to subsidized services for County clients.

The framework document was written for those policy makers and stakeholders unfamiliar with the child care and development system in Los Angeles County.

Fran Chasen moved to have the Planning Committee endorse “Bridging Child Development and Related Service Sectors: A Policy Framework for Los Angeles County”. The motion was seconded by Peggy Sisson. The Chair called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Approval of the Endorsement of “Developing America’s Potential: An Agenda for High Quality Child Care.

Laura Escobedo stated that there is a move to create a national agenda for child development as embodied in the statement that was introduced at last month’s meeting. The National Women’s Law Center is seeking endorsements. She invited questions and comments about the elements of the document. A few participants indicated that there should be greater clarity in some areas as the statements made indicate standards that are less than those currently used in California or that certain things were not emphasized sufficiently.

Dianne Philibosian moved to endorse the Agenda for High Quality Child Care with the proviso that a letter be sent restating our comments and concerns. The motion was seconded by Bobbie Edwards. The chair called for the vote. The motion was passed without abstentions.

VI. Approval of the Revised Policies and Procedures

JoAnn Shalhoub Mejia explained that the Policies and Membership Work Group conducted a review of the Policies and Procedures and is recommending the following revisions:

- Add a new Section I. Standard Operating Procedures. This would change all subsequent numbering.
- Under Section II. Membership, add a statement: “The Policies and Membership Work Group will review the membership applications in consultation with the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) Coordinator and recommend a membership slate to the Planning Committee for action. Any participant of the Policies and Membership Work Group who is being considered for membership cannot participate in the discussion of the membership slate or the final recommendations for membership that will be forwarded to the full Planning Committee. This includes alternates who have applied to become members and members whose first three year term is expiring and wish to extend their membership for another three year term.”
- Under Section III. Attendance and Participation, added: “Work Group participation is open to any interested individuals regardless of membership status. However, the Policies and Membership Work Group is limited to only members and alternates.”
- The stipends which assist parents and providers to attend the meetings have been raised from \$35 to \$50 and from \$50 to \$75 respectively.

A question about having a parliamentarian was raised as well as having a copy of Robert’s Rules of Order at each meeting for reference.

Peggy Sisson moved to approve the revisions to the Policies and Procedures. It was seconded by Dianne Philibosian. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with two abstentions.

VII. New Member Presentation: Youth Policy Institute (YPI)

Ana Cubas, Deputy Director of the Youth Policy Institute, described the various programs administered by YPI. They serve the San Fernando Valley and the Pico Union area of Los Angeles County. Funding for the programs comes from City of Los Angeles, and state and federal sources. YPI began with tutoring programs in area schools and have expanded to offer either direct services or counseling and referrals to families related to employment, mental

health, education, and now, Preschool. Their newest program is the Pre-Kindergarten Family Literacy (PKFL) Program funded by the California Department of Education (CDE). They have one site open in Pacoima, are planning on three more, and will be opening up several State Preschool classrooms with newly received funding from CDE. YPI emphasizes computer literacy skills in all services they provide. They have a computer give-away program for families who participate in 60 hours of training; 500 computer systems have been given away to date. They find that they can connect families that they serve through the preschool program to their other services.

VIII. Update from the Department of Public Health (DPH)

Elaine Waldman from the Communicable Disease Unit of the DPH provided an update on current issues. There is a food born salmonella outbreak in Los Angeles County which has affected 400 children and 200 adults. She stressed how important it is to create a culture of infection control within child care and development settings. This includes using good hand washing techniques consistently (soap and water), having adults and children stay at home when they are ill, and more training on food preparation and storage safety for all who handle food. She has materials that she can forward to the Planning Committee.

IX. Announcements and Public Comments

Holly Daasnes from Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) provided an update on the effects of the budget crises on CCLD.

- Many positions are frozen; employees may be asked to take one day off per month without pay. These actions are affecting their ability to hire and retain staff.
- An analysis of the inspection and technical support efforts of CCLD staff indicate that within a year staff have had contact with approximately 50% of the licensed providers and programs statewide. Not all of these contacts were comprehensive monitoring reviews.
- AB 978 requires more stringent fines on providers. It describes six categories of serious violations that call for fines of \$150/day for each day out of compliance. They include such things as absence of sufficient supervision, availability of firearms, and staff/adults who have been excluded based on the criminal clearance procedure. These will apply to both centers and family child care homes. In addition, family child care providers who have converted garages for child care use may not continue to use these spaces unless they can show a building permit for the garage conversion to a living space. This will result in fewer large family child care homes.
- Because the American Red Cross has reduced the number of hours in their CPR training (from 4 to 2.5), providers may not be earning the 15 hours of safety training required by statute.
- Cell phones may not be used as toys: they are considered hazardous waste.
- The Great Shake-up earthquake exercise highlighted a few areas where more work is needed. Child care is one of them. Staff and providers need more training to react appropriately and staff do not have back up plans for their own families. More attention needs to be paid to how to manage child care during catastrophes.
- Holly reminded all present that all information coming from CCLD may be obtained on the Web at www.cclcd.ca.gov.

A new CDE management bulletin describes how to begin implementation of the new California Preschool Program (Consolidation) as authorized by the Jones bill (AB 2759). Programs that will be

required to develop new plans include general center-based (preschool only), State Preschool including Part- and Full-day, and the PKFL Program.

The South Central Training Consortium is holding its 17th annual Staff Development Conference on April 17, 2009 at the Radisson Hotel.

A website, www.designchildcare.com, provides a report with pictures on innovative ways to design modular buildings for child care and development programs.

The Policies and Membership Work Group would like the Planning Committee to know that it intends to bring forward a new proposal for revising our meeting schedule. Any input from members is welcome. Please contact Laura Escobedo (lescobedo@ceo.lacounty.gov) with any ideas and she will pass them to the Work Group. A proposal will be presented in January for discussion.

December 11, 2008 is the date of the IDA presentation on young children oral health. Flyers are on the table.

February 21, 2009 is the date of the Leadership Conference (SCAEYC) in Sacramento.

X. Adjournment

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn. It was so moved by Wilma Kiel and seconded by Fran Chasen. The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.