



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee

Minutes: September 2, 2009

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

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

Members in Attendance: (41) Ofelia Aguilar, Rocio Bach, Jo Carcedo, Guadalupe Chavez, Peggy Sisson, Atalaya Sergi, Holly Reynolds, Karla Pleitez, Holly Daasnes, Celeste Salinas for Pat Mendoza, Patti Oblath, Nurhan Pirim, Sarah Soriano, Jenny Trickey, Fran Chasen for Julie Taren, Dianne Philibosian, Roselma Samala for Randi Wolfe, Lisa Wilkin, Sam Kirk, Noreen Clarke, Bobbie Edwards, Deborah Gatti, Diane Hackett, Linette Hodson, Andrea Joseph, Yolanda Bosch, Michele Morse, Pamela Kwok, Carolyn Wong, Moises Roman, Sylvia Flores, JoAnn Shalhoub Mejia, Mary Helen Vasquez, Fiona Stewart, Wilma Kiel, Ofelia Medina, Kathleen Pompey, Nellie Rios Parra, and Judy Sanchez

Guests and Alternates: Darlene Cabrera, Ancelma Sanchez, Rebecca Patton, Susan Savage, Elaine Waldman, Pam Schmidt, Edilma Serna, Debra Colman, Diana Careaga, JJ Johnston, and Myra Fregoso

Staff: Laura Escobedo

I. Welcome and Introductions

Holly Reynolds, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:11 p.m., welcomed the group, and read the opening statement. The Chair requested that presenters be mindful of their time allotments since there was a full agenda. She then read an e-mail received by the Office of Child Care from a single mother as a reminder of the importance of the work on behalf of children and families by the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee).

II. Approval of Minutes from the June 3, 2009 Meeting

The Chair called for a motion. Dianne Philibosian moved to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Lisa Wilkin. The Chair called for the vote. The motion was approved with one abstention.

III. Office of Child Care Update

Laura Escobedo stated that it is important for the Planning Committee to finalize the process to be used in facilitating the Temporary Voluntary Transfer of Funds (TVTF). A new work group would be formed to do this by October so the process could be approved by the whole Planning Committee. She asked for volunteers to participate in this short term endeavor. The first TVTF orientation for contractors is scheduled for September 17, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the East Los Angeles Library.

IV. Approval of Guidelines for Processing Requests to Change Priorities; Approval of a Priority Change Request from the YWCA

Sam Kirk, Co-Chair of the Strategic Planning Work Group (SP Work Group), explained that this Work Group has the task of reviewing requests to change service area priorities and then recommend actions to the full Planning Committee. The requests are made to relocate subsidy spaces from one area to another or to expand service areas, or to change the age group served. The SP Work Group has always considered the priorities and unmet child development needs involved in any relocation of spaces. The SP Work Group now includes other information in its deliberations, such as identifying other agencies that serve the area. The process has been formalized into a set of written guidelines that are being brought before the Planning Committee for approval. There is also a Request Form to be used in requesting a priority change. It is intended to provide the SP Work Group with important information as well as provide the agency with questions that must be considered in any relocation, etc. In response to a question, Sam Kirk, indicated that the availability of family child care could be integrated into these considerations.

Bobbie Edwards moved to approve the guidelines as presented; her motion was seconded by Kathleen Pompey. The vote was called and the motion passed with no abstentions.

Sam Kirk presented a specific priority change request from the YWCA, which is asking to move 35 subsidized spaces from 90008 to a newly built center in 90023. In developing a recommendation to approve or not approve this shift in spaces, the following was considered: more children of working families and income eligible un-served children reside in 90023 than in 90008 based on the needs assessment and priority zip code list; no subsidized infant care in centers exists in 90023 while 90008 has an infant care program operated by another agency; the transfer of spaces would create new center-based infant care for the 90023 area; this project, a new and beautifully designed center, is a collaborative community redevelopment project sponsored by the First District; the ability of an operator to bring subsidized spaces to the table can be an important factor in facilitating increased capacity in communities; and finally, there are several non-subsidized programs in 90008, which can serve subsidized children through an Alternative Payment (AP) Program mode, while 90023 has very few centers that are not subsidized directly. The SP Work Group is recommending approval of this request.

Peggy Sisson moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Rocio Bach. The vote was called and the motion passed with no abstentions.

- V. Review and Approve Updated County of Los Angeles State and Federal Legislative Agendas for 2010
Michele Sartell of the Office of Child Care presented the Agendas that were accompanied by a more in-depth platform explaining the short broad statements required for the Legislative Agenda. Two changes were suggested; 1) clarify language in the first statement of the federal agenda to read “increase funding”; and 2) add “well compensated” to the third item on the State Agenda.

Sam Kirk moved to approve the State agenda as amended. Bobbie Edwards seconded. The motion passed with one abstention. Sam Kirk moved to approve the federal agenda as amended. Nirhan Pirim seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.

- VI. Presentation: Read for the Record Campaign
Atalalya Sergi of Jump Start briefly introduced the annual Read for the Record Campaign coordinated by Jump Start. The goal is to have over one million children reading The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle on the same day, October 8, 2009. The purpose is to highlight the importance of school readiness and to facilitate the development of home libraries with book give-aways. Jump Start partners with schools, child development centers, libraries, and more who hold reading events on the same day. Individuals and groups may participate by volunteering to read or donating/buying books (virtually) to be given out on that day. For information and resources to support participation, visit www.jstart.org.

- VII. Leadership Training (Emotional Intelligence) Session II: Empathy
Dianne Philibosian, Professor at California State University at Northridge, presented the next component of emotional intelligence, “Empathy”. This is the ability to understand the emotional make-up of other people and skill in treating people according to their emotional reactions. Leaders with empathic skills are able to build and retain talent, display cross cultural sensitivity and understand the value of service to clients and customers. A work sheet was distributed and small group discussions took place. This will be continued at the November meeting.

- VIII. Work Group Formation
Meeting participants selected one of the Work Groups resulting from the work of the Planning Committee Retreat in August. Each Work Group was charged with: 1) identifying at least one Co-Chair; 2) starting a member roster; and 3) scheduling meetings.

IX. Announcements and Public Comment

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health staff handed out information on the H1N1 flu.
- Holly Daasnes provided an update on the status of Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division.
- The South Central Consortium's annual Professional Development Conference is scheduled for April 18, 2010.
- Infant Development Association is scheduling trainings. Contact Fran Chasen for information or visit the Web site at www.idaofcal.org.

X. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.