



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee

Minutes: April 7, 2010

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

Location:

Lakeshore Learning, Inc.
2695 East Dominguez Street
Carson, CA 90895

Members in Attendance: (27) Rocio Bach, Jenny Trickey, Lisa Wilkin, Sam Kirk, Pamela Kwok, Kathleen Pompey, Susan McCombs, Linda Alexander for Yolanda Bosch, Patti Oblath, Diane Philibosian, Judy Sanchez, Peggy Sisson, Joy Cyprian, Dianne Hackett, Andrea Joseph, Mary Helen Vasquez, Ofelia Aguilar, Ofelia Medina, Nurhan Pirim, Bobbie Edwards, JoAnn Shalhoub Mejia, Fiona Stewart, Patrice Wong, John Berndt, Michelle Morse, Sarah Soriano, and Randi Wolfe

Guests and Alternates: Ancelma Sanchez, Barbara Holtwick, Elaine Waldman, Lou Orr, Elvie Matias, Emma Sin, Claudine Avila, Rita Mozian, Vanessa Mendez, Kathy Schreiner, Madonna Cardenas, Fernando Rodriguez, Cristina Ruiz, Rachele Pastor, Sharon Mancha, and Mary Picone

Staff: Laura Escobedo

I. Welcome and Introductions

Bobbie Edwards, Vice Chair, opened the meeting 12:16 p.m. in the absence of Holly Reynolds. She welcomed the group and thanked Lakeshore Learning, Inc. and Lou Orr for hosting. She requested that everyone introduce themselves. The Vice Chair read the opening statement.

II. Approval of Minutes from the March 3, 2010 Meeting

The Chair called for a motion to approve the March 3, 2010 minutes. Sam Kirk moved to approve; Patti Oblath seconded the motion. The Chair called for the vote. The motion was approved with no abstentions.

III. Office of Child Care Update

Laura Escobedo shared that there is no new demographic data or data from the California Department of Education (CDE) on numbers of children served in CDE-contracted programs that could be used to recalculate geographic priorities for funding. After consultation with the Funding and Priorities Work Group, it has been decided that the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) will not revise its funding priorities this year. New data will be available through the efforts of the Early Care and Education (ECE) Data Collaborative including the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Head Start, which will allow a thorough review of priorities in 2011.

IV. Presentation: Head Start in Family Child Care Homes (FCCH)

Mary Picone and Sharon Mancha of LACOE Head Start provided an overview of the pilot to use licensed family child care homes (FCCHs) as sites for Head Start services. Currently, three delegate agencies are working with a small group of licensed FCCHs that are providing a Head Start program for 151 children. This is a new program option LACOE is very carefully testing. LACOE is exploring strategies for offering the training and technical assistance to FCCHs and how to contract with them. In addition, LACOE is exploring a contract with Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) for training and consultancy services.

A major benefit is that it could dramatically increase the availability of Head Start spaces without the difficulty of finding and developing facilities. Challenges have included finding family child care providers within service area boundaries who meet the staff qualifications and want to undertake the complexity of operating Head Start. Each delegate agency conducts their own outreach and recruitment activities to identify FCCHs. Providers must have an Associate of Arts (AA) degree in early childhood education or have a business focus with early childhood education units or units equivalent to an AA degree. Providers without Bachelor of Arts (BA) degrees must be willing to continue their education since they will be required to have a BA by 2013. The provider must qualify

to be the teacher or to stand in when the qualified teacher is not available. LACOE is also looking at how a Child Development Association Certificate fits into this model.

The delegate agency contracts with the FCCH to serve 12 children per two half-day sessions. Reimbursement is determined by each delegate agency. The national average is \$575 per month per child. From this amount, the provider must pay for the teacher (or assistant if she is the teacher), all materials, and any other costs associated with providing care in her home. The provider must ensure that all federal Head Start and LACOE requirements and standards are met, must maintain licensing standards, and conduct developmental reviews using the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) of the children enrolled. Support services are provided in the home setting by the Head Start Specialists.

V. Recommendations to the California Early Learning Quality Improvement System Advisory Committee

The Quality Workgroup and the Workforce Workgroup undertook work to monitor and review the design of a quality rating and improvement system in development by the California Early Learning Quality Improvement System (CAEL QIS) Advisory Committee. Each group developed recommendations and then merged their efforts resulting in the document presented to the Planning Committee participants for approval. If the Planning Committee approves the list of recommendations, they will be sent up the CAEL QIS Advisory Committee and CDE staff; and individual work group members will be able to represent these concepts as they participate in CAEL QIS work groups.

Peggy Sisson moved to approve the recommendations as presented; Andrea Joseph seconded the motion. Bobbie Edwards called the vote. Motion was passed with no abstentions.

VI. Emotional Intelligence

Given the limited amount of time left for the agenda, Dianne Philobosian proposed postponing the session on Social Skills until May. She asked all participants to review the material, select one of the eight social skills described, think of an example of how someone used this skill to good effect, and share with her by e-mail before the next meeting.

VII. Report on the Results of the Family Child Care Forum.

Ofelia Aguilar and Joy Cyprian represented the Forum Planning Committee, which included JoAnn Shalhoub Mejia, Nancy Wyatt, Grace Castro, Wendy Tseng, and Pamela Kwok. They presented the results of the Forum held on March 20, 2010 at the International Institute, hosted by Pamela Kwok. One hundred thirteen providers participated in three language groups: Spanish, Chinese, and English. Each group discussed at least three of the four components that are part of the CAEL QIS design: Group Size and Ratios; Qualifications; Environmental Rating Scales; and Parent Involvement. A team of family child care providers facilitated each group. By the end of the morning, participants had developed several recommendations:

- 1) Family child care providers should be able to meet requirements through units, training or a combination of both.
- 2) Qualifications for providers and their assistances should not be the same as for center-based staff.
- 3) Ratios and group sizes should conform to Title 22 across all tiers of the rating scale.
- 4) There should be great flexibility for providers to choose activities that foster parent involvement and are appropriate to a family child care situation.

- 5) If the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS) is used as a rating tool, the top score to meet tier 5 would be a 5; no reimbursements should be based on the FCCERS scores.

In general the providers stressed that home-based care is and should be different from a center-based program and therefore the quality indicators and scale for FCCHs should be different. The report on the results has been sent to CDE and to the Chairs of the CAEL QIS Design Work Group.

VIII. Public Comment and Announcements

- A local advocacy training event is scheduled for April 28, 2010 at the Center at the Cathedral Plaza in downtown Los Angeles. It is sponsored by the Southern California Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC), the California Child Development Administrators Association (CCDAA), and the Child Development Consortium of Los Angeles (CDCLA) with funding from California Community Foundation. Cost is \$20 to members, \$25 for non-members.
- PACE Head Start will be holding a college fair at Magnolia Place on April 16, 2010.
- Elaine Waldman and Barbara Holtwick from the Department of Public Health reminded the group that they want to meet with some Planning Committee members after the meeting to review materials developed for use in child care programs and with families.
- Betty Jones will be honored this evening at Pacific Oaks on the occasion of her retirement. All are welcome to attend from 7 to 10 p.m.
- The draft Preschool Learning Foundations will be reviewed at two day long events at LACOE. Contact Judy Sanchez if you wish to participate on either April 16 or 23, 2010.
- Members were reminded to turn in their applications to continue on the Planning Committee and to submit nominations for Chair and Vice Chair by May 7, 2010.

IX. Adjournment

The chair adjourned the meeting at 2:04 P.M.