



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee
Minutes: November 2, 2011
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location

LACOE Head Start
10100 Pioneer Boulevard
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Members in Attendance: (28) Ancelma Sanchez for Lisa Wilkin, Eileen Friscia, Bobbie Edwards, Kathleen Pompey, Peggy Sisson, Dianne Philiposian, Norma Amezcua, Karla Pleitez Howell, Judy Sanchez, Tara Henriquez, Rachelle Pastor Arizmendi, Patrice Wong, Kate Anderson for Peter Huffaker, Sarah Soriano, Andrea Joseph, Sam Kirk, Sandra Parvis, Kathy Schreiner, Nancee Lee-Allen for Diana Pinto, John Berndt, Joanne Shalhoub Mejia, Jenny Trickey, Elvie Matias for Leticia Colchado, Deborah Colman, Ofelia Medina, Michelle Morse, Ann Oshiro, and Atalaya Sergi

Guests and Alternates: Edilma Serna, Lloyd Kajikawa, Melinda Felice, Jeremy Fisher, Holly Daasnes, Carol Heistand, Elaine Waldman, Alan Wu, Erin McAvoy, Elesah Hingshott, Lou Orr, Randi Wolfe, Lindsey Hanlon, and Patricia Salgado

Staff: Laura Escobedo

I. Welcome and Introductions

Bobbie Edwards, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:12 p.m. She read the opening statement and then informed the group that this would be her last meeting. She is resigning due to the fact that her family is moving to Kern County. She expressed her appreciation for all the work the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) members have done and how glad she has been to work with all of the members. Karla Pleitez Howell, current Vice Chair, will step into the Chair's position for the December meeting.

The Chair asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes from October 5, 2011

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes for October 5, 2011. Sam Kirk made the motion; the motion was seconded by Kathleen Pompey. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with one abstention.

III. Update from the Office of Child Care: Report of the 2011 Needs Assessment and Priority Settings

Laura Escobedo presented a synopsis of the results of the Needs Assessment. This year it was conducted through collaboration with Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) and Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Head Start. For the first time, a survey of all subsidized site-based programs was conducted. The collaboration members agreed to definitions of age cohorts, sources of data, and rules for determining areas of need. Capacity (spaces/services) was compared to specific populations. This meant that there would be data on children in working families compared to all full-day care options, children in low-income working families compared to all full-day subsidized options, and all low-income three and four year olds compared to part-day subsidized preschool options. The findings include the fact that Los Angeles County has the biggest deficit in care for infants and toddlers, both in centers and family child care homes. Countywide, only 14 percent of children under the age of three of working parents are able to access a licensed space, whereas 76 percent of preschool-age children could access a licensed space. In addition, the establishment and expansion of After School Education and Safety (ASES) Programs and the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CLCs) has created an abundance of school-age spaces. However, these programs do not operate during the summer or school holidays and therefore are

not the best match for working parents. In comparing the school-age children of working parents with all the licensed care options and the licensed-exempt center-based spaces in ASES and 21st Century CLCs, there are enough spaces to serve 128 percent of all the children who need them. When it comes to infants and toddlers in low-income working families, there are sufficient subsidized spaces to serve 21 percent of the eligible population. Yet, most of the subsidized programs will be trimming services due to the 11 percent budget reduction and may reduce infant spaces since infant and toddler care is the most costly form of care. Approximately 53 percent of preschoolers and 69 percent of school-age children in low-income working families can be served with the current supply of subsidized care. In looking at the gap in services for part-day preschool enrichment for three and four year olds, 70 percent of eligible children can be served.

Based on the analysis with the collaboration partners, the rules related to determining zip code priorities were changed. The changes were reviewed with a subcommittee of the Planning Committee and then implemented. The result is that there are only 40 zip codes with any priority for part-day preschool; only five zip code areas have a priority 1 for future preschool funds. There are 97 zip codes for priority rating for subsidized, full-day center-based care (all ages); 30 are priority 1.

The new rules are as follows:

Priority 1: 700 or more eligible children un-served representing at least 25 percent of all eligible children.

Priority 2: 500-699 un-served representing at least 25 percent of eligible children.

Priority 3: 300-499 un-served representing at least 25 percent of eligible children.

After applying the rules, zip codes were reviewed to see if adjacent areas affected the availability of care or the need. A few zip codes with high numbers of infants have no priority because the spaces for all ages are counted together. For example, zip code 91331 has 499 un-served infants, 11 percent un-served.

Next Steps:

- 1) Planning Committee approves Needs Assessment and Priorities.
- 2) Public hearing on priorities is held.
- 3) Endorsement of the Superintendent of Schools is secured.
- 4) Board of Supervisors approves the Needs Assessment and the Priorities.
- 5) The final reports are submitted to the California Department of Education (CDE).
- 6) Data and report are available on the Office of Child Care website.

IV. Presentation: Children Now and the Children's Movement

Kate Anderson, new staff to Children Now and based in Los Angeles, shared some of her history as a parent of two premature twin daughters who used Regional Center Services and participated in high quality child care and development services. Because of this, development of policy that ensures high quality services for young children is her passion.

Children Now is a children's research and policy advocacy organization. Approximately six months ago, Children Now initiated the Children's Movement. It is Kate's job to encourage individual organizations to sign up with the movement to create a kind of policy "army". There is much goodwill toward children generally, but it does not translate into good investments for children. There have been other coalitions of groups and organizations that care about children, but the interest is too diffused to be effective. With the Children's Movement, Children Now has laid out a three step process:

1. Build a corps of individuals who will recruit and encourage businesses, churches, organizations, and agencies to sign on to the movement. All that is required is that the group be able to agree with the statement, "Our organization supports prioritizing children's health and education in public policy making."
2. Share the children's agenda of policy ideas that includes an early education section.
3. Use the policy "army" created by those signing on to the movement to campaign for specific policies or bills at the state level. Each bill that is issued from the legislative analyst comes with a list of those who have stated their support for it. Most bills have a few organizations listed. With the Children's Movement "army" of supporters, there could be hundreds of names supporting the legislation. Each organization can choose whether to sign onto a particular piece of legislation.

Children Now hopes to expand its policy expertise to create a dialogue with those who are part of the Children's Movement. Kate is working to connect with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to engender their support for the movement. She hopes the Planning Committee can endorse the Children's Movement and that each member's organization will sign on.

V. Breakouts for Strategic Planning

Those in attendance divided into six groups, one for each of the impact statements developed at the previous meetings. The groups were charged with refining the statements and creating more targeted goals based on the impact statements. These will be reported out at next meeting.

VI. Announcements

Elaine Waldman from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health stated that her team is planning a Food Safety Conference. She is interested in hearing from Planning Committee members to help shape the event. She requested that members respond to the survey they have created for that purpose.

VII. Adjournment

Karla Howell, Vice Chair, called for a motion to adjourn. Peggy Sisson moved to adjourn; Michelle Morse seconded the motion. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.