



Policy Roundtable for Child Care Annual Retreat
Wednesday July 13, 2011
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Eaton Canyon Nature Center
1750 N. Altadena Drive, Pasadena



Proposed Meeting Agenda

- 8:30 Coffee and Networking
- Complete Annual Evaluation
- 9:00 1. Welcome and Introductions Terri Chew Nishimura
Chair
- a. Review of Minutes **Action Item**
- May 11, 2011 and June 8, 2011 Minutes
- b. Nominating Committee Report Anne Franzen
Duane Dennis
Connie Russell
- Election of Officers for 2011-2012
 - Comments from Incoming and Outgoing Officers
- c. Budget Brief
- d. Updating Roundtable By-laws
- 9:45 2. Integrating Strengthening Families (SF) into Our Work Terry Chew Nishimura
- a. Review Agenda and Goals
- b. **Thanks to BP for Retreat Support**
- c. Introduce Facilitator, Cecilia Sandoval
- 10:00 3. Building the Momentum for SF Movement Jacquelyn McCroskey
- A panel discussion from local organizations involved in SF Lila Guirguis
Magnolia Place Initiative
- Kathy House
Chief Executive Office
- Kathy Malaske-Samu
Office of Child Care
- 10:45 4. Break
- 11:00 5. Using the Child Care Policy Framework to Advance SF in LA A Facilitated Discussion
- a. A Brief Overview of Child Care Policy Framework
- b. Opportunities and Challenges for Implementation of the Framework

c. Our Priorities for the Next 18 Months

12:15	6.	Lunch hosted by bp	
1:00	7.	How We Will Get the Work Done	Small Group Work By Goals
2:30	8.	Next Steps	Jacquelyn McCroskey
2:40	9.	Public Comment	
2:50	10.	Wrap Up	Discussion
3:00	11.	Adjourn	



*Many thanks to **bp** for their support of this retreat.*

Mission Statement

The mission of the Policy Roundtable for Child Care is to serve as the official County body on all matters relating to child care, working in collaboration with the Child Care Planning Committee and the Children's Planning Council, to build and strengthen the child care system and infrastructure in the County by providing policy recommendations to the Board.



Policy Roundtable for Child Care

222 South Hill Street, Fifth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 974-4103 • Fax: (213) 217-5106 • www.childcare.lacounty.gov

MEETING MINUTES

**May 11, 2011
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Conference Room 743
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California**

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

a. Comments from the Chair

Ms. Terri Chew Nishimura, Chair of the Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable), opened the meeting at 10:09 a.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Ms. Nishimura made the following comments:

- The all-day annual retreat is scheduled for July 13, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Eaton Canyon Nature Center.
- The nominating committee has met and will be reporting on a slate for Chair and Co-chair at the June meeting. The Roundtable will vote on new officers at the retreat. Ms. Nishimura welcomed members to express their interest in serving as an officer.

b. Review of Meeting Minutes

- **April 13, 2011**

Ms. Bobbie Edwards moved to accept the minutes as written; Ms. Ann Franzen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. CHILD CARE POLICY FRAMEWORK

- **Ordinance Change**

Dr. McCroskey reported that County Counsel has prepared the ordinance and the letter to the Board of Supervisors (the Board) requesting their adoption of the amended ordinance adding members from the Departments of Mental Health, Public Health and Probation to the Policy Roundtable. The Board will consider adoption of the amended ordinance at their meeting scheduled for May 31, 2011; upon the Board's action, the ordinance would go into effect 30 days later. Ms. Kathy Malaske-Samu has been in preliminary discussions with the respective departments regarding potential representatives.

- **Steering Committee**

Next, Dr. McCroskey reported that the formation of the Child Care Policy Framework Steering Committee is underway, with the first meeting scheduled to follow the regularly scheduled meeting of the Roundtable on June 8, 2011. The Steering Committee will meet at 1:00 p.m. The plan is to meet every other month, adding meetings as needed, immediately after the Roundtable meeting. Each meeting will examine a Policy Framework goal; anyone with a stake in a particular goal will be invited, however meetings are open to anyone interested in attending.

Dr. McCroskey mentioned a couple of items underway, including examining how Illinois implemented the Strengthening Families Approach throughout their child welfare system. Ms. Kathy Malaske-Samu is working with Ms. Jean McIntosh of the Center for the Study of Social Policy and is in conversations with the person in Illinois who is heading up their Strengthening Families initiative. Of particular interest is learning about their successes with enrolling all four year olds into early care and education programs. Unfortunately, they have not been so successful with the birth to three year old population. Dr. McCroskey added that in addition to working on enrollments, Illinois has a parent council that advises their Department of Children and Family Services and other state departments.

As such, concrete activities include the following:

- Ms. Malaske-Samu is preparing a report on the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Strengthening Families Approach.
- Ms. Laura Escobedo is working on strategies to connect families known to County departments with child development services. Ms. Escobedo is initiating meetings with County department representatives to discuss how to build connections, take advantage of where there are spaces available, and enroll County families in those open spaces. She is also working with California Department of Education/Child Development Division (CDE/CDD)-contracted child development programs to ensure that they are ready to accept families and work with the County departments to identify families and help them enroll. Thus far, she has learned that the County of Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has established a pilot software application that may serve as a model for streamlining enrollments. Ms. Escobedo will report on efforts, including potential and barriers, at future meetings.

3. ALIGNING OUR WORK FOR THE WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Ms. Nishimura expressed her enthusiasm for the stellar panel of tireless advocates to speak with the Roundtable. Each of the panelists represents a County body working on issues related to children. While each body has a unique focus, it makes sense to explore both the specific areas of focus for each group and where collaborations could advance our shared mission of improving the lives of children and their families. Members were referred to their meeting packets for a copy of "A Brief Guide to County-related Bodies Addressing Children's Issues in Los Angeles County".

- **Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee)**

Ms. Bobbie Edwards, Chair of the Planning Committee, distributed a one page description of the Planning Committee, including its mission, primary functions per State regulation, and focus of efforts for program years 2010-13. The Planning Committee achieves much of its mission for improving the overall child care infrastructure - including quality and continuity,

affordability, and accessibility of child development services for all families – through its work groups.

The Planning Committee, by regulation is required to conduct regular needs assessments, which help determine priority areas for State funding subsidized child care and development services. In addition, the Planning Committee undertakes the development a strategic plan. Efforts are underway to create a strategic plan for the next ten years as the current one ends in 2013. The Planning Committee will identify areas of intersect with the Roundtable and the Policy Framework.

Ms. Edwards and Ms. Escobedo announced that the Planning Committee is working on the third major needs assessment. This year, the Planning Committee is partnering with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Head Start and Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP). LACOE Head Start is required to conduct a community needs assessment every two years, while LAUP looks at four year olds and spaces for them. The Planning Committee addresses the broader population of children from zero to 12 years old. The plan is to have a comprehensive perspective of the need for child care and development services. While not required, the plan is to update the needs assessment annually. The exercise of conducting the needs assessment is a means, in part, to monitor the availability of services as a result of budget reductions. Ms. Escobedo mentioned that the full impact of budget decisions are not fully known as it will be difficult to measure until the budget is fully resolved. Ms. Edwards added that she is particularly interested in learning of losses for infants and toddlers due to budget reductions.

Another area in which the Planning Committee is involved is in the development of bridge funding to support programs with CDE/CDD contracts that are not paid during funding delays. Ms. Escobedo identified this as a current nexus point between the Roundtable and the Planning Committee. A key partner is the California Community Foundation. They also are working with First 5 LA, although their status is tenuous given current funding dilemmas.

Other areas of work include improving access through the promotion of materials that describe the subsidy system and how best to access it, promoting the identification of children at risk for or with disabilities and other special needs, providing expertise on training and technical assistance relating to standards for the Steps to Excellence Project (STEP) and a statewide quality rating and improvement system, and contributing to workforce development strategies.

Questions and comments:

- Representatives of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and DCFS are members of the Planning Committee. A staff member from the Department of Public Health attends regularly. Currently, there is no representation from the Department of Mental Health.
- Bridge funding is important, particularly for small providers with direct contracts with the CDE/CDD as these are the programs most likely to not have lines of credit and to go out of business if there is no funding for a month or two. Ms. Escobedo noted that there is a focus on smaller programs that are not part of larger organizations. She added that they are also looking at nonprofit loan programs.
- Work needs to occur between child welfare and child development with respect to the definition of risk. The Policy Framework raises the issue of how best to serve children at risk and the role of child care and development. Ms. Edwards suggested looking at the research conducted by Dr. Carollee Howes around attachment and linking it to permanency and well-being.

- **Commission of Children and Families**

Ms. Trish Curry, Chair, and Commissioner Ms. Ann Franzen noted that the Commission's focus is much broader than children in DCFS. The Commission has a greater emphasis on prevention: preventing children in DCFS from crossing over into probation system, preventing children from entering the system, and helping families so that they do not re-enter the system after reunification.

The Commission has several committees and participates in a number of committees as well, including the Education Coordinating Council (ECC), the Roundtable, First 5 LA (non-voting), and DCFS and court committees. The purpose of their involvement is to keep aware of the various initiatives and figure out how to integrate services. The Commission historically has been aware that the best way to help children and families is to integrate services across systems.

The Commission is participating in the self-sufficiency committee that is addressing transition age youth as the beginning and ending cycle for prevention. Their concern is that 16-24 years old will start families of their own and that if efforts do not include supporting their self-sufficiency and addressing issues for raising their children, the cycle of abuse will not be broken and they will re-enter the system as adults with children of their own. Ms. Curry noted that lots of children in the system are being raised by family members other than their parents. These family members need lots of support to raise children.

Ms. Curry noted the challenging times in which DCFS is without permanent director. The decision to hire a Director is on hold while the Board decides to whom the Director should report – the Chief Executive Officer or the Board? If it is the Board, Human Resources will initiate the search. In addition to the absence of a Director, other high executive positions are empty. The Commission will support DCFS during these challenging times and promote a focus on all programs areas.

- **Education Coordinating Council (ECC)**

Ms. Trish Ploehn, Executive Director of the ECC, provided their revised mission proposed as follows: "To raise the educational achievement of children and youth served by the Department of Children and Family Services and the Probation Department so that they may have positive futures." She described the ECC as wanting to do more for children, considering that many of them already have two strikes against them. As such, everyone needs to become a champion for and understand the importance of education. ECC operates as a convener and broker of services to facilitate the development of strategies, solutions and policy issues for the children.

As background, the ECC evolved from the Board's concern that children in the child welfare and probation systems were not fairing as well as children in the community as a whole. The Board wanted an oversight body to provide information and facilitate change. The ECC is comprised of 24 members representing superintendents of school districts with the most children in the child welfare and probation systems, County departments, Judge Nash, city and county commissions, advocacy groups, an ex-foster youth, and a caregiver. The ECC recognizes that no one person or entity can fix the problem. Rather, it requires people working together.

During the first year, a five year blueprint was developed that set forth a roadmap for accomplishments and how to get there. Four major categories were identified: early care and education, youth development, data and information sharing, and school-based support. In July

of 2009 upon a motion of the Board, the ECC became part of the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office, Service Integration Branch.

Over the last five years, the ECC has made lots of progress. The ECC has elevated an understanding of the importance of education and developed a consensus that everyone serving children needs to come to the table to ensure their well-being and success. The ECC has successfully addressed the issue of data tracking and reached consensus on the legal ability to share information. There is the education pilot program that DCFS did with the First Supervisorial District, establishing liaisons in the schools; lots of lessons were learned and efforts are underway to spread the pilot throughout the county. Another lesson learned is the critically important relationship between the adult and the youth to helping them move from having very few units to actually graduating from high school. All children, regardless of age, need an adult that cares about their education.

In addition, progress has been made to refer children under the supervision of DCFS to early care and education programs. The goal is to refer 90 percent of the children. Only 20 percent of children were enrolled in some type of program when work began on the blueprint. Ms. Ploehn acknowledged the launch of the Steps to Excellence Project and noted that LAUP waived investment fees of children linked to DCFS and Probation. She added that the Policy Framework is an outstanding basis and springboard for ongoing collaborative work.

Ms. Ploehn reported that the ECC is now engaged in planning for the future. The ECC will take an in-depth look at their proposed updated strategic plan for the next three years at their meeting scheduled for May 26, 2011. Early care and education is the top priority.

Ms. Ploehn's thoughts on opportunities:

- Referring is only one step; how to enroll and achieve consistent attendance needs to be addressed. Also, connecting teen parents to quality programs is essential.
- Pursuing an automated data tracking system to follow children referred, enrolled and attending.
- Participating in and supporting trainings that involve staff, parents, and caregivers on the importance of early care and education. Ms. Ploehn announced the early learning symposium planned to November 10th that will feature presentations on early brain development and more.
- Perhaps most important for collaboration is promoting, supporting and implementing the Strengthening Families Approach (SFA). The SFA is picking up steam across country; 36 states have adopted it. Some County departments are beginning to adopt it. The SFA helps with child development, strengthens families, and reduces incidences of abuse and neglect.

Questions/comments:

- Has the ECC considered adding a representative of the early care and education community? Ms. Ploehn responded that with early care and education as a top priority, a much closer relationship makes sense.
- Ms. Sylvia Drew Ivie asked about the Probation day schools. Ms. Helen Chavez stated that there are after school activities. This effort is part of youth development and support services, where more work is underway.

- **Interagency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN)**

Ms. Deanne Tilton Durfee, Executive Director of ICAN, commented that she has worked with 12 different directors of DCFS during her tenure. Ms. Tilton Durfee stated that it is not only

DCFS that holds the responsibility for protecting children; rather DCFS is one part of a much larger system that begins with family, friends and neighbors. She explained that families coming to the attention of DCFS often lack of resources to meet a variety of needs. However, they do not come forward to address their needs due to fear of becoming known to the system, a sense of isolation, and lack of awareness of resources.

ICAN Policy Committee, chaired by the Los Angeles County Sheriff and comprised of County Department, City State and Federal agency heads, meets twice per year and is charged with oversight for meeting ICAN's mandate relating to the prevention, intervention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. The Policy Committee hosts two large conferences each year. ICAN's work is conducted through its Operations Committee and numerous sub-committees that address a plethora of issues, including but not limited to child abduction, child death review, the safe sleeping initiative, and pregnant and parenting teens.

The safe sleeping initiative arose from data that identified 70 babies who died while sleeping over the last year. These babies were either sharing a bed, had been placed in a crib or on surface cluttered with other things, or were sleeping on their stomachs. Unfortunately, the number of deaths of babies in unsafe sleeping environments has not decreased. First 5 LA has tentatively awarded funding for a task force to address safe sleeping, which requires addressing cultural beliefs and the prevalence that sleeping with babies is okay. Ms. Sylvia Drew Ivy is co-chair of the task force. They are hoping to use the lessons learned from the safe surrender initiative, which had a significant impact on parents coming forward and decreasing the numbers of abandoned babies.

Ms. Tilton Durfee concluded by stating ICAN's interested in integrating services and working more closely with other groups. She also corrected their website: <http://ican4kids.org>.

Ms. Malaske-Samu, referring to the Policy Framework, suggested partnering around foster youth who are parenting. She mentioned the challenge of reaching the young parents, however spoke to the importance of connecting them to the early care and education system before they emancipate from the DCFS and/or Probation systems. Ms. Malaske-Samu also mentioned the idea of convening a SFA learning community and inviting guest speakers to help provoke discussions. With respect to parenting youth, Ms. Tilton Durfee suggested working with ICAN's Task Force on Pregnant and Parenting Teens; Ms. Ploehn also suggested working with the youth self-sufficiency initiative.

Mr. Duane Dennis asked to what degree early care and education is involved with ICAN. Ms. Durfee Tilton answered that there is not much involvement, except maybe with the Task Force on Pregnant and Parenting Teens. She mentioned that while young children are a priority for ICAN, no special effort has been made to connect families with quality early care and education as a mechanism for child abuse and neglect and prevention. She thought a fit for this work might be with the child abuse councils.

4. FIRST 5 LA PROCESS FOR REALLOCATING RESOURCES

Mr. Duane Dennis reminded members and guests that First 5 LA is due to be subjected to a \$424 million cut as result of AB 99 (Chapter 4; approved March 24, 2011) based on reserves held as of June 2010. The funds are to be deposited into the Child and Families Health and Human Services Fund account by June 30, 2012. Since the April meeting, the First 5 LA Commission decided to sue the State of California stating that the monies are earmarked for children from birth to five and the Governor's grab was not the intent of the taxpayers.

First 5 LA has hosted a workshop and one meeting to discuss how to spread the cuts. Several scenarios have been presented by commissioners and staff. Mr. Dennis stated that these discussions are occurring at the same time as the School Readiness and Family Literacy programs are due to sunset on June 30th and Partnerships for Families is due to sunset at the end of December.

As the Roundtable representative, Mr. Dennis has been promoting creating a framework for funding rather than making decisions based on individual programs. He noted that the agenda for the Commission meeting on May 12, 2011 contains several action items related to funding initiatives, including continued funding for the School Readiness Initiative and Family Literacy. In addition, the Board of Supervisors has proposed an initiative that addresses autism. Mr. Dennis reported that the workforce development initiative is still on table, but with possible reductions. First 5 LA has approached LAUP to discuss the reductions, which may be close to 15-20 percent lower than the original budget. Mr. Dennis projected that the next couple of months will be interesting. While he will continue to push for the things of concern to the Roundtable, he will also advocate for careful strategic planning and decision making. On the other hand, Mr. Dennis suspects incremental motions will occur over the next couple of months, with no final decisions until the next fiscal year.

It was announced that First 5 LA has posted a survey asking stakeholders to weigh in on how to impose the cuts. Members and guests addressed the flaws of the survey, which ask respondents about the projects in which they are interested and why they want to maintain their project. Dr. McCroskey expressed her thinking that First 5 should be looking at entities such as those presenting information about the field generally and have data to share. She will be presenting a data report with information that has been missing from the discussions. She referred to efforts to articulate clearly the cuts to early care and education inclusive of the loss of the School Readiness and Language Development Program (SRLDP) at Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). The hope is to create a series of maps and demonstrate the dramatic change in the landscape for early care and education. Her goal is to provide First 5 LA with a context for making their decisions on where to make cuts.

5. BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

a. State

- **Budget**

Mr. Adam Sonenshein referred members and guests to their meeting packets for a copy of the fact sheet summarizing the impact of the State budget bills Senate Bill (SB) 70 (Chapter 7; approved March 24, 2011) and SB 69 (pending approval) on Los Angeles County and the matrix comparing the Budget Act of 2010 with the 2011-12 Budget (statewide).

Mr. Sonenshein reported that Governor Brown is scheduled to release the May Revise on Monday, May 16, 2011. The May Revise is an update on income and expense projections and will serve as the legislature's working document for finalizing the 2011-12 budget. Mr. Sonenshein relayed speculation that the May Revise will propose an "all cuts" budget given that the Governor was unable to convince Republicans to allow voter weigh-in on whether to extend the increased tax rates for another five years. In addition, his proposal to eliminate the local redevelopment agencies was met with great resistance. Adding to speculation about the May Revise, both the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) and the State Controller report slight revenue growth, however the Governor cautions against making too much of the growth given the size of the deficit and the seriousness of potential cuts if increased tax rates are not

extended or other revenue solutions are not forthcoming. Mr. Sonenshein promised a full analysis of budget proposals related to child care and development based on the May Revise at the next Roundtable meeting; the Joint Committee on Legislation will examine the proposals at their next meeting scheduled for Monday, May 23, 2011.

Mr. Sonenshein added that while in Sacramento recently, he spoke with legislators and their education staffers and found that they are not very well informed on the cut to the Standard Reimbursement Rate (SRR) that was included in the main budget bill (Senate Bill 69). He also heard from legislators that they are not hearing much from the early care and education community on the budget.

In conclusion, Mr. Sonenshein relayed that the Assembly has stated that they will not approve an all cuts budget, but without saying what they would do instead. Mr. Sonenshein noted that the time has passed for ballot initiatives in June and a ballot measure proposing new tax increases is not attractive.

- **State Legislation**

Mr. Sonenshein updated members and guests to the status of Assembly Bill (AB) 419 (Mitchell), which would require the California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division to conduct annual unannounced inspections of child development centers (and other licensed facilities) and biennial unannounced inspections of family child care homes. Since the Roundtable last met, the bill was amended (April 28, 2011), deleting the proposal to increase licensing fees. Mr. Sonenshein relayed that during the hearing, the Department of Social Services stated that the fee increases are not needed, but were included to offset other general fund cuts. The plan is to be more efficient in the use of their existing resources by conducting shorter inspections that do more.

Next, Mr. Sonenshein referred members and guests to the legislative matrix of bills, noting that the Joint Committee on Legislation has established levels of interest. Mr. Sonenshein referred the attention of members and guests to the following bills:

- SB 429 (De Saulnier) would establish eligibility for supplemental grants for After School Education and Safety (ASES), allowing them to operate additional hours, including during summer and intersession. The bill is currently in the Senate Committee on Appropriations suspense file.
- SB 634 (Runner) would prohibit school districts from initiating transitional kindergarten unless the Department of Finance certifies that sufficient funds are available to serve all children. Mr. Sonenshein mentioned that this bill does not have much of a chance of moving forward.
- Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 19 (Price) would authorize members to use their resources as state legislators to educate their constituency to the benefits of early care and education. Mr. Sonenshein suggested that the Roundtable recommend a position of support on the bill to the Board of Supervisors. The recommendation will be added as an action item for the May meeting.

Ms. Kate Sachnoff of First 5 LA extended her appreciation for the policy materials. She added that First 5 LA has put together their state legislative agenda, which is broader yet hits on topics that were addressed at this meeting.

b. Federal Budget and Legislative Update

Mr. Sonenshein briefly suggested that communications with representatives in Washington, D.C. be ongoing.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

None

7. CALL TO ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Mr. Duane Dennis
Ms. Bobbie Edwards
Ms. Ann Franzen
Ms. Charlotte Lee
Ms. Kathy Malaske-Samu
Dr. Jacquelyn McCroskey
Ms. Terri Chew Nishimura
Mr. Adam Sonenshein

Guests:

Mr. John Berndt, Los Angeles County Office of Education
Ms. Helen Chavez, Education Coordinating Council
Ms. Ellen Cervantes, Child Care Resource Center
Ms. Trish Curry, Commission for Children and Families
Ms. Mary Hammer, South Bay Center for Counseling
Ms. Trish Ploehn, Education Coordinating Council
Ms. Olivia Rubio, USC School of Social Work
Ms. Pam Schmidt, Public Counsel
Ms. Kate Sachnoff, First 5 LA
Ms. Angie Stokes, The John Tracy Clinic
Ms. Deanne Tilton Durfee, Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN)

Staff:

Ms. Laura Escobedo
Ms. Michele Sartell

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Policy Roundtable for Child Care

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MEETING MINUTES

June 8, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Conference Room 743

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

500 West Temple Street

Los Angeles, California

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

a. Comments from the Chair

Ms. Terri Chew Nishimura, Chair of the Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable), opened the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Ms. Nishimura asked Ms. Ruth Yoon to introduce the new Executive Director of the Los Angeles Unified School District Early Childhood Education Division (LAUSD/ECE). Ms. Yoon introduced Ms. Nora Armenta. Ms. Armenta has a long history with LAUSD, working on a variety of special initiatives including those focused on school readiness, children with disabilities and other special needs, bilingual education, and more. She started as a classroom teacher, working up to assignments as Principal at a number of elementary schools. Ms. Armenta thanked members and guests, speaking to the importance of investing in the youngest children to helping them prepare for school and lifelong success.

Members and guests introduced themselves.

Ms. Nishimura made the following comments:

- The nominating committee has met and identified nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Duane Dennis, member of the committee, announced the slate as Dr. Jacquelyn McCroskey for Chair and Ms. Mika Yamamoto for Vice Chair. Mr. Dennis noted that Dr. McCroskey helped initiate the Roundtable and served as its first chair. The Roundtable will vote on the new officers at the retreat.
- Ms. Nishimura reminded members of the all-day annual retreat scheduled for July 13, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Eaton Canyon Nature Center. Members are invited to bring contributions of food for breakfast; the cost of lunch is \$10 per person. Ms. Malaske-Samu will send an e-mail with breakfast assignments and include an estimate on the number of attendees.
- On May 31, 2011, the Board adopted the Roundtable ordinance change, which adds representatives from the Departments of Mental Health, Public Health and Probation. Part of the process is putting it forward for a second reading, which occurred yesterday, June 7, 2011. The ordinance goes into effect in 30 days.

b. Review of Meeting Minutes

• **May 11, 2011**

The minutes will be held to the July meeting due to a copying snafu.

2. PROMOTING ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY AMONG FOSTER AND PROBATION YOUTH

Ms. Nishimura commented on the ongoing challenges faced by the Roundtable of convincing those outside of the early care and education community to the critical importance of the early years on high school graduation, college participation, employment and successful participation in society. Ms. Nishimura introduced Dr. Carrie Miller, Manager of the Chief Executive Office Service Integration Branch as a friend and powerful ally in this mission. Previously, Dr. Miller served as the Executive Director of the Education Coordinating Council.

Ms. Miller referred members to their meeting packets for copies of the Board Memo, “Establishing Youth Self-sufficiency as a Countywide Goal”, and the plan, “Priority Self-sufficiency Action Items by Los Angeles County Department/Agency” (Action Plan). Ms. Miller reported that the initiative was the result of a motion by Supervisor Antonovich in March of 2010 out of concern that foster and probation youth were emancipating out of County systems without an overall need for self-sufficiency in the broadest sense of the definition. This led to a convening of County Department representatives, Board offices, and direct recipients of County services, resulting in a fourth child welfare outcome goal on Youth Self-sufficiency. In December 2010, Supervisor Antonovich entered a second motion to confirm the outcome goal. Ms. Miller stated that the goal, if done right, goes beyond the foster and probation system to a larger collective ownership.

Referring to the Action Plan, Ms. Miller noted that there are 55 outcome areas with 11 County departments or affiliates serving as leads. The Action Plan lists what each department will do and how they will be held accountable. In developing the Action Plan, the framers acknowledged that self-sufficiency begins at birth and contributes to children’s success as they exit the system. For youth, it means that they have a place to live, know how they will pay their living expenses, have connections with a support network and generally take care of themselves – that they have social/emotional readiness, similar to how parents prepare their children for long-term self-sufficiency.

The Action Plan articulates four main goals in key areas to help children experience self-sufficiency:

- 1) Permanency/housing (transitional age youth)
- 2) Education, inclusive of early care and education
- 3) Workforce and career readiness
- 4) Social and emotional well-being, the foundation needed to achieve success in the other three areas

Building partnerships and forming collaborations are the beginning points for achieving the goals. As such, Ms. Miller referred members to the four actions assigned to the Office of Child Care (see page 5), which are aligned with the Policy Framework:

- Developing a communications plan
- Adding Steps to Excellence Project (STEP) communities
- Facilitating connections between teen parents and quality early care and education programs
- Developing a protocol for implementing multidisciplinary team evaluations for children enrolled in early care and education programs in collaboration with the Department of Mental Health and the Child Care Resource and Referral (R&R) Agencies

Ms. Miller pointed out that there are other areas in the Action Plan that also address early care and education and will require the participation of the Office of Child Care. For example, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) will increase the number of children connected to early care and education and devise a system to track their enrollment; Parks and Recreation and the Library will involve youth in after school programs; the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) will ensure that CalWORKs families have information to help them participate in early care and education programs.

Ms. Miller concluded her comments with an invitation to the Roundtable to help shape the vision for stronger families and better childhood outcomes and collectively arriving at a truly integrated case planning system.

Comments and discussion:

- Operationally, what is occurring? There are ongoing self-sufficiency group meetings, now occurring every other month. Implementation is underway, for example a housing work group is looking at housing programs to determine a more efficient way to help match youth with places to live; the budget committee is attempting to obtain a sense of how much money spent on self-sufficiency, such as independent living across department and determine whether there are ways to streamline and leverage funds; an AB 12 group is working on implementation of the bill's goal that allows youth to voluntarily remain in the system until they are 21 years old; and an accountability work group is tracking implementation of the goals.
- What commitments or agreements have been established with County departments, such as DPSS? This has been a challenge for the Roundtable given that for DPSS, child care is more about supporting working parents than contributing to the optimal development of children. Ms. Miller answered that Departments identified action items based on the four key areas.
- The document is ambitious - what is next? Ms. Miller stated that there is a great deal of momentum to build upon. The larger goal is fully developing an integrative service model.
- Has the Commission for Women been approached? They are currently providing scholarships to youth in DCFS pursuing nursing.

3. BUDGET AND LEGISLATION ISSUES

a. California Budget and Legislation

- May Revise and Status of SB 69 – Main Budget Bill

Mr. Sonenshein directed members and guests to their meeting packets for a copy of the fact sheet, *Impact of 2011-12 State Budget Bills for Child Care and Development Services in Los Angeles County*, updated to reflect the May Revise. He noted that better than expected revenues in addition to the cuts already approved has reduced the budget deficit to \$9.6 billion. He reported that the May Revise released by the Governor on May 16, 2011 did not undo previous cuts or make significant additional cuts. However, there are a few of notable items:

- Decreases funding to reflect revised caseload estimates for CalWORKs Stages 2 and 3 Child Care and a revised estimate in the downward growth of young children.
- Eliminates the Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) – the elimination of ELAC is part of the Governor's greater effort to reduce inefficiencies and is one of 32 boards, commissions, task forces and offices proposed for elimination.

As background, in November 2009 then Governor Schwarzenegger established ELAC through executive order, making California eligible for \$10.8 million in federal funds over three years. Membership in ELAC was expanded to meet the requirements of the Head Start Act of 2009 and is intended to develop a comprehensive statewide plan for an integrated early learning system, including a pilot quality rating and improvement system, building upon the work of the California Early Learning Quality Improvement System Advisory Committee (CAEL QIS). The elimination of ELAC will result in the loss of \$3.6 million in federal funds for 2011-12.

Mr. Sonenshein stressed two reasons to not eliminate ELAC: 1) it does not cost the State money; and 2) it is required to be eligible for federal funds. Shortly after the May Revise was released, the U.S. Secretaries of Education and Health and Human Services announced that \$500 million of the \$700 million allocated to Race to the Top would be dedicated to a newly established Early Learning Challenge initiative. This initiative is similar to the previous proposal for an Early Learning Challenge Grant in that it would make available competitive grants to States that demonstrate efforts underway to develop and implement comprehensive plans designed to enhance the quality of and increase access to early childhood programs for low-income and disadvantaged children.

According to Mr. Sonenshein, there are two schools of thought: 1) convince the Governor to undo given that he was not aware of the Race to the Top initiative; or 2) continue to refer to the Early Learning Advisory Council, however move it out of the State and place it under the auspices of another entity, such as First 5. The Governor's main objection originally had to do with making something that the State can no longer afford to do, that is creating a quality rating and support system. There is some momentum in the legislature to push for a body to call ELAC. It may be something the Governor needs to designate in the end.

In response to the Governor's proposal, the Advancement Project is circulating a sample letter to the Governor, urging him to reconsider his position to eliminate ELAC. A copy of the sample letter is included in the meeting packets.

- With respect to diverting Proposition 10 funds to Medi-Cal, the Governor budgeted as if the lawsuits against the State would be successful. If the lawsuits are unsuccessful, the State will take the money.

Both the Senate and the Assembly budget subcommittees have met and considered the Governor's proposals and actions already taken to date. The Senate proposes undoing the cut to the Standard Reimbursement Rate (SRR), while the Assembly proposes undoing all cuts and restoring funding for child care and development. There now needs to be a meeting of the minds between the two bodies. The Governor has stated that he will veto restorations and the Department of Finance has expressed their disagreement with the budget committees' actions.

Overall, the current debate is over cuts to be made and whether the Republicans will sign off on tax extensions. To date, there is no agreement. The Constitutional deadline for the legislature to approve a budget to go to the Governor is June 15, 2011. Both houses plan to take votes before the deadline.

A question was raised whether anyone has friends in the Governor's office. The answer is that no one there has an interest in early education and the Governor is not a hard core believer. In the long-term, an important part of the process will be providing the Governor's office with information. Ms. Malaske-Samu mentioned that for this year the County is focusing on realignment issues, otherwise is not taking positions on individual budget issues.

Ms. Michele Sartell will send an electronic copy of the Fact Sheet to members and guests.

- AB 419 (Mitchell): Community Care Licensing

AB 419 failed to make it out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee when it was heard on May 27, 2011. This bill, as proposed, would have required the Department of Social Services/Community Care Licensing Division to conduct annual unannounced inspections of child care and development centers and biennial unannounced inspections of family child care homes. While those supporting the bill said that there would be no increase in costs given that the Department would use a set of indicators focusing on more egregious violations, the legislative committee analysis estimated increased costs in the tens of millions of dollars. AB 419 is now a two-year bill.

With respect to a County position, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) weighed in on the bill and also proposes a position of support. The County's Intergovernmental Relations and External Affairs Branch is now working on a pursuit of position to forward to the Board, which will allow the Roundtable to prepare letters as needed during the second session beginning January 2012.

Dr. McCroskey iterated the issue of licensing oversight as a priority for the Roundtable. Mr. Dennis added that a robust licensing system is required as a foundation for a quality rating and support system.

- SCR 19 (Price): Early Childhood Education

Mr. Sonenshein referred members and guests to their meeting packets for a copy of the bill analysis on SCR 19. This bill would authorize the members of the Legislature to use their resources to promote the benefits of high quality early care and education programs on

children's optimal development, readiness for school and lifelong success and encourage families to enroll their children in these programs.

The Joint Committee on Legislation suggests that the Roundtable recommend that the Board of Supervisors pursue a position of support on this bill, which is consistent with County policies to ensure that children and their families have access to continuous and consistent high quality early care and education services that promote optimal child development and support effective parenting.

Mr. Sonenshein made a motion to recommend to the Board a position of support of the bill; Ms. Bobbie Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Federal Budget and Legislative Update

Mr. Sonenshein relayed that there is no federal legislation of note on which to report. Representatives at the federal level are focusing their attention on whether to raise the debt ceiling, allowing the federal government to increase borrowing. On the table in exchange for votes are spending cuts (per Republicans).

4. BUDGET IMPACTS ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES: USING DATA TO INFORM DECISIONS

Dr. Jacquelyn McCroskey reminded members and guest of potential First 5 LA funding that would focus on how to use data from multiple sources in a timely manner to inform policy and planning. The augmentation of funds is still under discussion given the current budget situation. The five year plan is to use data from multiple sources to address timely issues, with a focus on maternal and child health and early care and education.

Last month Dr. McCroskey was prepared to present to First 5 LA a summary of the impact of projected cuts to child care and development in Los Angeles County, however it did not happen due to the urgency of the budget discussion. Dr. McCroskey distributed a one page summary of the presentation, which is on the agenda for the Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 9, 2011.

Dr. McCroskey relayed that there is understanding and support amongst staff; the hope is to capture the attention of the Commissioners to help them look at their budget and define how they establish priorities. Three maps will be presented with the caveat that the data is not completely accurate at this time. The maps are:

- Losses in Child Care Capacity (2008-11) – shows the greatest impact in South Los Angeles
- Capacity of Child Care Seats per 100 Children Ages 0 to 4
- Impact of Additional Budget Reductions to Child Care Supply – 15% Reduction (most speculative)

Dr. McCroskey suggested that the Roundtable convene a small group to think through data. The small groups would include the First 5 LA consultant, and a Healthy City representative. Other than the consultants, no one is being paid for this work.

In reaction to the maps and Dr. McCroskey's update, Ms. Sylvia Drew Ivie suggested sending information to the Second District representative. Ms. Armenta offered to provide an update on

LAUSD programs. She announced that SRDLP has been reinstated for the 2011-12 school year. On the other hand, Early Childhood Education has experienced cuts and 41 of the part-day state preschool programs operated at the elementary schools have closed. Ms. Laura Escobedo added that there is an early care and education data collaborative comprised of the Office of Child Care, Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE)/Head Start and Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP). The collaborative has conducted a survey of subsidized spaces that now needs adjusting due to the proposed budget cuts. They will have a compendium of data to report and will join with other colleagues looking at data.

5. FIRST 5 LA PROCESS FOR REALLOCATING RESOURCES

Mr. Duane Dennis reported that the current chair, Mayor Antonovich, stopped the reduction planning until September. The process has been challenging for staff, the commissioners and the community and has lots of folks advocating for their programs. On the positive side, Mr. Dennis announced that the Commission approved \$16 million in funding for LAUP for fiscal year 2011-12.

Discussion ensued over the challenges of sustainability when there are no other funding sources.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mr. John Berndt announced that the LACOE/Head Start acting director is Keisha Woods. No decisions will be made about replacing Ms. Sarah Younglove until a new Superintendent has been hired.
- Mr. Gray announced that DCFS has launched an electronic system for Head Start enrollments.
- First 5 LA is hosting their Policy Roundtable on June 21, 2011 from 2:00-4:30 p.m. A feature will be a conversation with public health advocates who worked with them on issues relating to sweetened beverages.
- Members and guests were referred to their meeting packets for information on resources including a Transitional Kindergarten Online Library and a new stipend program – Aspire – funding by First 5 California and administered by LAUP.

7. CALL TO ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Mr. Duane Dennis
Ms. Bobbie Edwards
Ms. Ann Franzen
Mr. Michael Gray
Ms. Dora Jacildo
Ms. Charlotte Lee
Ms. Kathy Malaske-Samu
Dr. Jacquelyn McCroskey
Ms. Terri Chew Nishimura

Ms. Connie Russell
Mr. Adam Sonenshein
Ms. Mika Yamamoto
Ms. Ruth Yoon

Guests:

Ms. Nora Armenta, Los Angeles Unified School District/Early Childhood Education
Mr. John Berndt, Los Angeles County Office of Education
Ms. Ellen Cervantes, Child Care Resource Center
Ms. Helen Chavez, Chief Executive Office/Service Integration Branch/Education Coordinating Council
Ms. Sylvia Drew Ivie, Second Supervisorial District
Dr. Carrie Miller, Chief Executive Office/Service Integration Branch
Ms. Terry Ogawa, Educare Consultant
Ms. Kate Sachnoff, First 5 LA

Staff:

Ms. Laura Escobedo
Ms. Michele Sartell



County of Los Angeles Policy Roundtable for Child Care



Policy Brief

July 12, 2011

2011-12 STATE BUDGET CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Overview

On June 30, 2011, Governor Jerry Brown signed the Budget Act of 2011¹ and 13 implementation bills, including bills addressing health,² human services,³ and education.⁴ The final budget package closes the remaining \$9.6 billion budget deficit while assuming \$4 billion in revenues above previous forecasts. The budget package contains a set of "trigger reductions" if revenues are lower than anticipated, which would result in further cuts to K-12, higher education, and child care and development services, among others if the Department of Finance determines that revenues are lower than expected.

The remainder of this policy brief summarizes the budget decisions most directly impacting the provision of child care and development services for 2011-12.

Budget Decisions Impacting Child Care and Development Services

The Governor's final spending plan for 2011-12 contains significant modifications to budget decisions approved in March 2011⁵ pertaining to child care and development services.⁶ Most notably, the final budget package included a reduction to the Proposition 98 obligation by removing most child care and development funding from the calculation; part-day state preschool and the After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program remain under the Proposition 98 guarantee.⁷ This shift is addressed more fully in a separate section of the brief.

The final budget package for child care and development services:

- Imposes an 11 percent instead of 15 percent across-the-board cut to the maximum reimbursable amounts of contracts for the State Preschool Program, General Child Care Program, Migrant Care, the Alternative Payment (AP) Program, CalWORKs Stage 3 Child Care, and the Allowance for Handicapped Program effective July 1, 2011.⁸

The California Department of Education may consider the contractor's performance or whether the contractor serves children in underserved areas when determining the contract reductions. However, the aggregate reduction to each program type must reach 11 percent.

- Reduces the income eligibility cap for subsidized child care and development services from 75 percent to 70 percent of the State Median Income (SMI), adjusted for family size effective July 1, 2011.⁹
- Reduces reimbursement to license exempt providers from 80 percent to 60 percent of the family child care rate effective July 1, 2011.¹⁰
- Rescinds the 10 percent family fee increase that was scheduled to take effect on July 1, 2011. Rather, adjusts the family fee schedule that has been in effect since fiscal year 2007-08 to reflect revised income eligibility limits for fiscal year 2011-12. The adjusted fee schedule is to be submitted to the Department of Finance for referral and implemented by July 1, 2011.

The revised family fee schedule shall begin at income levels at which families currently begin paying fees and are to reflect an increase that does not exceed ten percent of the family's monthly income.¹¹

- Retains the maximum standard reimbursement rate (SRR) at current levels, which are set at \$34.38 per day for general child care programs and \$21.22 per day for part-day state preschool programs.¹²
- Sets priorities for dis-enrolling families from subsidized child care and development programs consistent with priorities for services as follows.¹³
 1. Families with income that exceeds 70 percent of the SMI, adjusted for family size, except for children receiving child protective services or who are at risk of abuse or neglect.
 2. Families with the highest income below 70 percent of the SMI, adjusted for family size.
 3. Families with the same income and have been enrolled in child care services the longest.
 4. Families with the same income and have a child with exceptional needs.
 5. Families whose children are receiving child protective services or are risk of abuse or neglect, regardless of family income.
- Establishes the intent of the legislature to fully fund CalWORKs Stage 3 Child Care.¹⁴
- Restores subsidized child care and development services for 11 and 12 year old children during traditional hours; maintains the preferred placement of 11 and 12 year old children eligible for subsidized services in before and after school programs.¹⁵

As previously mentioned, if anticipated revenues are not realized, further reductions will be "triggered", including a cut of up to \$23 million to child care and development programs inclusive of State Preschool.¹⁶

Table 1 compares the 2011-12 state budget for child care and development services with the current budget year. Table 2 reflects the budget details for allocating reserved funding for quality improvements.

Removing Child Care and Development from the Proposition 98 Obligation

The final budget package removes funding for child care and development services, except State Preschool, from the Proposition 98 guarantee as follows:

“(7) Under existing law (Proposition 98), the California Constitution requires the state to comply with a minimum funding obligation each fiscal year with respect to the support of school districts and community college districts. Existing statutory law specifies that state funding for the Child Care and Development Services Act is included within the calculation of state apportionments that apply toward this constitutional funding obligation.

“This bill would, commencing July 1, 2011, specify that funds appropriated for the Child Care and Development Services Act do not apply toward the constitutional minimum funding obligation for school districts and community college districts, with the exception of state funding for the part-day California state preschool programs and the After School Education and Safety Program.

“The bill would make related changes in the calculation of the minimum funding obligation required by Proposition 98.”¹⁷

For background, voters passed Proposition 98 in 1988 for the purpose of guaranteeing a minimum level of funding for public education from kindergarten through 12th grade. According to *A History of Major Legislation Affecting Child Care and Preschool Funding*,¹⁸ there was some question regarding whether state-subsidized child care and development programs were included in the Proposition 98 guarantee and, if so, whether it applied only to programs operated by school districts. In summary, a lengthy court case (CTA v. Huff) was resolved in 1992, allowing non-school district as well as school district programs to be included in the Proposition 98 base funding for education.¹⁹

Removing child care and development services, exclusive of part-day State Preschool, from the Proposition 98 guarantee is a major policy change, raising a number of questions and concerns as follows:

- California State Preschool Programs (CSPPs)-Full-day and child development centers serving infants and toddlers meet the needs of working families while providing the same level of quality early care and education services as part-day State Preschool - promoting children’s optimal development to ensure their readiness for school and lifelong success, effectively engaging parents as partners in their child’s healthy growth and development, and connecting families to community resources as needed.
- What will be the impact on funding for child care and development services in the future? Will the child care and development system outside of Proposition 98 be more vulnerable to cuts?
- As economic times improve, will COLAs (cost of living adjustments) and growth adjustments be applied to child care and development programs across the board or only to State Preschool? What is the risk of increasing disparities between State Preschool and the rest of the child care and development system?
- What will be the impact to programs offering both part-day State Preschool and full day programs? Will administrative functions become more complicated rather than streamlined as was the goal under AB 2759 (Chapter 308), which established the California State Preschool Programs (CSPPs), Full- and Part-Day?

- Is this policy change providing the context for realigning child care and development services (or part of it) to the local level and loosening its ties to state education?

Early Learning Advisory Council Activities

The budget package retains the use of federal funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to support the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care (ELAC). According to bill language, ELAC is funded for three years at \$3.5 million, of which \$117,000 would be transferred to the CDE to support ELAC activities.^{20, 21}

For More Information on 2010-11 Budget Bills: Impact on Children and Families

A number of organizations have developed overviews and analyses of the 2011-12 Budget as it impacts health and human services for children and families, including child care and development as follows:

California Budget Project	www.cbp.org
Child Development Policy Institute	www.cdpi.net
Legislative Analyst's Office	www.lao.ca.gov

Questions or comments relating to this policy brief may be referred to Michele Sartell, Los Angeles County Office of Child Care within the Service Integration Branch of the Chief Executive Office, by e-mail at msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov or by telephone at (213) 974-5187.

Endnotes:

¹ SB 87, Chapter 33: 2011-12 Budget, Approved: June 30, 2011.

² AB 102, Chapter 29: Health, Approved: June 28, 2011.

³ AB 106, Chapter 32: Human Services, Approved: June 28, 2011.

⁴ AB 114, Chapter 43: Education Finance, Approved: June 30, 2011

⁵ Governor Brown approved SB 70, the Education Trailer Bill, on March 24, 2011.

⁶ The main budget bill, SB 87 (Chapter 33), and education trailer bill language, AB 114 (Chapter 43), modify the reductions to child care and development services that were contained in SB 70 approved in March of 2011.

⁷ SB 87, Chapter 33: 2011-12 Budget, Approved: June 30, 2011, Items 6110-194-0001 and 6110-196-0001 and AB 114, Chapter 43, Approved: June 30, 2011, Sec. 8. Section 8263.2(a).

⁸ SB 87, Chapter 33: 2011-12 Budget, Approved: June 30, 2011; Item 6110-194-0001, Provision 19 and 6110-196-0001, Provision 19.

⁹ SB 87, Chapter 33: 2011-12 Budget, Approved: June 30, 2011; Item 6110-194-0001, Provision 9(a) and 6110-196-0001, Provision 9(a).

¹⁰ SB 87, Chapter 33: 2011-12 Budget, Approved: June 30, 2011; Item 6110-194-0001, Provision 2(c).

¹¹ SB 87, Chapter 33: 2011-12 Budget, Approved: June 30, 2011; Item 6110-194-0001, Provision 9(b) and 6110-196-0001, Provision 9(b).

¹² SB 87, Chapter 33: 2011-12 Budget, Approved: June 30, 2011; Item 6110-194-0001, Provision 10 and 6110-196-0001, Provision 10.

¹³ SB 87, Chapter 33: 2011-12 Budget, Approved: June 30, 2011; Item 6110-194-0001, Provision 20 and 6110-196-0001, Provision 20.

¹⁴ AB 114, Chapter 43: Education Finance, Approved: June 30, 2011; Sec.10, Section 8447(b)(5).

¹⁵ AB 114, Chapter 43: Education Finance, Approved: June 30, 2011.

¹⁶ AB 121, Chapter 41: Budget Act of 2011, Approved: June 30, 2011; Section 1. Sec3.94(b)(5).

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ On the Capitol Doorstep, February 2006.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ SB 87, Chapter 33: 2011-12 Budget, Approved: June 30, 2011; Item 6110-199-0890.

²¹ Tim Fitzharris notes in the June 29, 2011 edition of *Capitol Plus* (Volume 2, Number 20) that the "Governor has not yet acted on his proposal to eliminate ELAC by Executive Order."

County of Los Angeles Child Care Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable for Child Care
Joint Committee on Legislation

LEGISLATION BEING CONSIDERED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE – 2011 AND FEDERAL LEGISLATURE – 112TH CONGRESS

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
LEGISLATION BEING CONSIDERED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE - 2011								
California Assembly Bills								
Inactive	AB 1 (Pérez)	Would reappropriate \$118 million in unobligated balances appropriated in the Budget Act of 2009 and from the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) and would also appropriate \$115.5 million from the General Fund to the California State Department (CDE) for CalWORKs Stage 3 Child Care services. Funding would cover Stage 3 child development services retroactive to October 31, 2010.	Superintendent of Public Instruction Torlackson	Gail Gronert 916.319.2046				Introduced: 12/6/10 Amended: 1/14/11 Assembly Inactive File
Watch	AB 123 (Mendoza)	Would expand the provision regarding the charge of misdemeanor against persons entering school grounds or the adjacent who are disruptive to also apply to persons who <i>willfully or knowingly create disruptions with intent to threaten the immediate physical safety of any pupil in preschool, kindergarten or 1st through 8th grades.</i>	Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)	Gabby Villanueva 916.319.2056		AFSCME, CA State Sheriffs' Association, CA School Employees Association, LA Sheriff's Dept, Whittier School District, Junior League of CA		Introduced: 1/10/11 Senate Floor
Watch	AB 245 (Portantino)	Would require the <i>CDE, at the request of the contractor, to request the Controller to make a payment via direct deposit by electronic fund transfer in to the contractor's account at their financial institution of choice.</i>	California Alternative Payment Program Association	Diane Shelton 916.319.2044		AFSCME, CCCRRN, CCIS, Valley Oak Children's Services, YMCA of the Central Bay Area		Introduced: 2/3/10 Amended: 4/25/11 Amended: 5/11/11 In Senate Committee on Appropriations

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
1	AB 419 (Mitchell) Two-year bill	Would require, at a minimum, an annual inspection of child development centers <i>using prescribed inspection protocols</i> to ensure the quality of care provided. Would require, at a minimum, inspections of family child care homes once every two years <i>using prescribed inspection protocols</i> to ensure the quality of care provided. Initial application and renewal fees for licenses would increase by 10%. Would eliminate the \$200 correction fee, replacing it with a re-inspection fee of \$100 when inspection of facility necessary to ensure the violation has been corrected. Inspection protocols to be research-based, field tested, reviewed by stakeholders and evaluated annually to ensure facilities in compliance with licensing requirements. All inspections to include review of all zero tolerance violations. Certain triggers shall require a comprehensive inspection.	Child Care Resource and Referral Network (CCRRN), Preschool CA	Tiffani Alvidrez 916.319.2047		Advancement Project, Aging Services of CA, Alzheimer's Assoc, BANANAS Inc., Bay Area Council, CA Assisted Living Association, CA Child Care Coordinators Assoc, CCDAA, CA Head Start Assoc, CA State PTA, Central Valley Children's Services Network, Child Care Resource Center, CDPI, Children Now, Choices for Children, Community Child Care Council of Alameda Co, Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County, Community Resources for Children, Contra Costa Child Care Council, Crystal Stairs, Del Norte Child Care Council, Dept of Defense-State Liaison Office, Military Community and Family Policy, Early Care and Education Consortium, Family Resource and Referral Center, Fresno County Office of Education, LAUP, Marin Child Care Council, MAOF, Pathways, PACE, Solano Family & Children's Services, Valley Oak Children's Svcs, Wu Yee Children's Services, Zero To Three	CA Council of Community Mental Health Agencies	Introduced: 2/14/11 Amended: 4/14/11 Amended: 4/28/11 Committee on Appropriations Held under submission
Watch	AB 596 (Carter) Two-year bill	Would require the California Department of Education (CDE) to collaborate with welfare rights and legal services to develop and adopt regulations and other policy statements to provide CalWORKs recipients of child care the same level of due process and procedural protections as afforded to public assistance recipients.	Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organization	Esther Jimenez 916.319.2062		AFSCME, CA Communities United Institute, Child Care Law Center, Western Center on Law and Poverty	CDPI, PACE	Introduced: 2/16/11 Passed Committee on Human Services; referred to Committee on Appropriations

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
Watch	AB 823 (Dickenson)	Would, <i>to the extent that federal or private funds are deposited with the state and appropriated by the Legislature</i> , establish the Children's Cabinet of California to serve until 1/1/2019 as an advisory for improving the collaboration and processes of the multiple agencies that serve children and youth. The advisory to include the SPI, Secretary of CA Health and Human Services, Chief Justice of CA Supreme Court, and heads of eight identified state agencies plus two members each representing the Senate and Assembly. Priorities include: maximizing federal resources; and assessing quality, appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of existing programs and services, improving alignment of federal, state and local resources, and eliminating or consolidating duplicative services.	Children Now	Celia Mata 916.319.2009		American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), AFSCME, Aspiranet Bay Area Council, CA Coalition for Youth, CA Family Resource Assoc, CA School Health Assoc, CA School Health Centers Assoc, CA State PTA, Children's Defense Fund-CA, Children's Hospital Assoc, First 5 Fresno County, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Merced County Local Child Care and Development Planning Council, Mission Focused Solutions, The Child Abuse Prevention Center, The Children's Partnership		Introduced: 2/17/11 Amended: 4/12/11 Amended: 4/28/11 Amended: 5/27/11 Amended: 6/27/11 In Senate Committee on Appropriations
Watch	AB 884 (Cook) <i>Two-year bill</i>	Would require any law enforcement entity notified of registration of a sex offender who has committed a sex crime against a child under 14 years old to provide notice to all persons living within 1000 feet of the residence of the convicted offender; notice to also go to all schools and child development centers and services within the area of the offenders residence.	More Kids	Tim Itnyre 916.319.2065			CA Attorneys for Criminal Justice	Introduced: 2/17/11 Committee on Public Safety Hearing: cancelled

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
	AB 1072 (Fuentes)	<p>Would establish the CA Promise Neighborhoods Initiative in the Office of Economic Development (OED), which would be required to establish 40 promise neighborhoods across the state to maximize collective efforts within communities. Existing state and federal funds would be used to implement the article. <i>Would require cities, counties and school districts electing to participate in the initiative to show coordinating multiple grant funds in planning and implementation. The OED to work with CA Health and Human Service Agency and local counties to establish participation goals for government health and food programs. Schools and districts in promise neighborhood to receive priority consideration for ASES Programs, CA Partnership Academies, and more. Similarly, OED to work with Employment Development Department, CA Workforce Investment Board and Employment Training Panel to ensure implementation; cities and counties located in promise neighborhoods to receive priority for certain programs and grants.</i></p>				<p>Boyle Heights Learning Collaborative, Broadous Ready for School Resource Center, CA State PTA, Friends of the Family, InnerCity Struggle, L.A.C.E.R. Afterschool Progs, Nury Martinez, Member, Bd of Ed - City of LA., LAUSD Dist 2, Pacoima Charter School, Proyecto Pastoral, Selma Avenue Elem School, Thai Community Dev Center, Vaughn Next Learning Center, Youth Policy Institute, and more</p>		<p>Introduced: 2/18/11 Amended: 3/31/11 Amended: 5/27/11 Amended: 6/21/11 In Senate Committee on Appropriations Hearing: 8/15/11</p>
	AB 1199 (Brownley) <i>Two-year bill</i>	<p>Would require the CDE to extent funding is available to conduct an evaluation of the centralized eligibility lists maintained and administered by the Alternative Payment (AP) Program agencies in each county to determine their success in enabling families to obtain information on available child care program and to obtain care. Evaluation to be completed by January 1, 2013 for submission to Legislature.</p>		Gerry Shelton 916.319.2087				<p>Introduced: 2/18/11 Committee on Education</p>

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
2	AB 1239 (Furutani)	Would, for purposes of protecting education funding and vital health and safety services for all Californians, reinstate income tax brackets for the highest earners for tax years beginning on 1/1/2012 through 12/31/16. Tax rate increases would be graduated, beginning with persons with incomes exceeding \$250,000 and married couples filing jointly with incomes exceeding \$500,000.				AFSCME, AFL-CIO, CA Commission on Status of Women, CA Labor Federation, CTA, and more	Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, CA Taxpayers Association	Introduced: 2/18/11 Committee on Appropriations Hearing: postponed
Watch	AB 1312 (Smyth) <i>Two-year bill</i>	Amends existing law by authorizing any public recreation program exempt from licensure requirements to operate under 20 hours per week (an increase of 16 hours) and for a total of 14 weeks (up from 12 weeks) or less during a 12 month period.		Kevin O'Neill 916.319.2038		CA Park & Recreation Society	CCCRRN	Introduced: 2/18/11 Amended: 3/31/11 Committee on Human Services Hearing: cancelled
California Senate Bills								
<i>Dropped</i>	SB 12 (Corbett)	Would appropriate \$250 million from the General Funds to the State School Fund for the restoration of CalWORKs Stage 3 Child Care		Djbril Diop 916.651.4010				Introduced: 12/6/10 Committee on Education
Watch	SB 30 (Simitian)	Would make technical, non-substantive changes to the kindergarten admission provision of the law regarding age of admission and the establishment of the Kindergarten Readiness Pilot Program. Would require independent evaluator to file a final report regarding the effects of the change in entry age for kindergarten and 1 st grade by 1/1/2013 rather than 1/1/2012.		Cory Jasperson 916.651.4011			CA Right to Life Committee	Introduced: 12/6/10 Amended: 3/25/11 In Assembly Committee on Appropriations
<i>Spot Bill</i>	SB 174 (Emmerson)	Would make technical, non-substantive changes to provisions relating to the licensure and regulation of community care facilities.		Teresa Trujillo 916.651.4037				Introduced: 2/7/11 Committee on Rules

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
Watch	SB 309 (Liu)	Would authorize a child care center licensed for school age children to provide non-medical care to an individual who is over 18 years old and has been determined by a regional center to have a developmental disability. Indoor activities that is provided for middle school, high school and transition age youth must be physically separated from space provided for younger, school age participants.	Ability First	Andi Lane 916.651.4021		AFSCME, Dev Dis Area Bd 10, Easter Seals So CA, Frank D. Lanterman Regional Ctr, Lawry's Restaurants, Inc., STAPLES Ctr, Therapeutic Living Center for the Blind (TLC), United Cerebral of LA, Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties , and more		Introduced: 2/14/11 Amended: 3/21/11 Amended: 5/10/11 Amended: 6/16/11 In Assembly Committee on Appropriations
Watch	SB 394 (DeSaulnier) Two-year bill	Would enact the Healthy Schools Act of 2011. Would limit the use of pesticides gels and pastes, self-contained baits, and spot treatments deployed as crack and crevice treatments on school sites (including child development centers). Would prohibit the use of pesticides known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity. Would also require a representative of the school site to attend a Department of Pesticide Regulation training every three years.		Indira McDonald 916.651.4007		Asian Pacific Environmental Network, Asian/Pacific Islander Youth Promoting Advocacy & Leadership (AYPAL), Breast Cancer Action, Breast Cancer Fund, CA Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF), CA NOW, CA Nurses Assoc, CA Pan-Ethnic Health Network, CA School Health Ctr on Race, Poverty, & the Environment, Clean Water Action, Comite Civico Del Valle, Communi-tea.Org, Coalition for Clean Air Sierra Club and many more	CA Chamber of Commerce, CA Park & Recreation Society, Consumer Specialty Products Association, Clorox Co, Mosquito & Vector Control Assoc of CA, Pest Control Operators of CA, Western Plant Health Assoc	Introduced: 2/16/11 Amended: 4/5/11 Amended: 4/14/11 Amended: 5/9/11 Committee on Appropriations Held under submission

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
1	SB 429 (DeSaulnier)	Would provide that any school that establishes an After School Education and Safety (ASES) Programs is eligible for a supplemental grant to operate in excess of 180 regular school days or during any combination of summer, intersession or vacation periods for a maximum of 30% of total grant amount awarded to the school per <i>school</i> year awarded to school. Would allow supplemental grantees to change location of program and open eligibility. Would required supplemental grantee to submit revised program plan to California Department of Education (CDE). Priority for enrollment to be given to pupils <i>enrolled</i> in the school and pupils to receive <i>at least</i> on nutritionally adequate free or reduced price meal in programs operating six hours per day.	SPI, Bay Area Partnership for Children and Youth, Children Now	Cynthia Alvarez 916.651.4007		A World Fit For Kids, Boys & Girls Clubs (several(m After School Coalition, CA Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs, CA State Alliance of YMCAs, Central Valley Afterschool Foundation, Fresno County Office of Education, Jamestown Community Center, Nat'l Summer Learning Assoc, Partnership for Children & Youth, Pro-Youth/HEART After-School Program, Sacramento City USD, Sunset Neighborhood Beacon Center, Team-Up for Youth, THINK Together, Whittier City School District, Woodcraft Rangers		Introduced: 3/16/11 Amended: 3/21/11 Amended: 4/4/11 Amended: 4/26/11 Amended: 6/13/11 Amended: 6/29/11 In Assembly Committee on Appropriations
1	SB 486 (Dutton) <i>Two-year bill</i>	Subject to voter approval, would amend the California Children and Families Act of 1988 by eliminating the percentage allocations in various accounts for expenditure by the First 5 California Commission. Funds would be transferred to the General Fund for appropriation to the Healthy Families and Medi-Cal programs. Ultimately, would abolish the state and county First 5 Commissions.		Anissa Nachman 916.651.4031			100% Campaign, Advancement Project, AAP, CCDAA, CA Family Resource Assoc, CA Food Policy Advocates, CA Head Start Assoc, CA School Employees Assoc, CA School Nurses Org, CSAC, CDPI, First 5 Commissions (several, including LA) , and more	Introduced: 2/17/11 Committees on Health Hearing: Cancelled and Government and Finance

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
Watch	SB 575 (DeSaulnier)	Would amend existing law that prohibits smoking of tobacco products inside enclosed places of employment by extending prohibitions to owner-operated businesses. In addition, would eliminate exemptions that permit smoking in certain work environments, including private residences used as family child care homes <i>during hours of operation as a family child care. Would exempt businesses that cater to the use of tobacco products.</i>	American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Lung Association	Krista Pfeffercorn 916.651.4007		AFSCME, CA Conf Bd of the Amalgamated Transit Union, CA Conf of Machinists, CA Official Court Reporters Association, and more	CA Assoc of Health Facilities (CAHF) (Oppose Unless Amended), Cigar Assoc of America, Small Business Commission, City and County of San Francisco, and more	Introduced: 2/17/11 Amended: 4/6/2011 Amended: 5/31/11 In Assembly Committee on Governmental Organizations Held in committee without recommendation
Watch	SB 614 (Kehoe)	Would amend the After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program Act of 2002 to specify that opportunities for physical activity may include age and gender appropriate self-defense and safety awareness training. Bill revised to address childhood immunizations for 7th to 12th graders.		Ted Muhlhauser 916.651.4039		CA National Organization for Women, CA After School Coalition, CA Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance		Introduced: 2/18/11 Amended: 4/6/11 Amended: 4/26/11 Amended: 7/1/11 Assembly Floor
1	SB 634 (Runner) <i>Two-year bill</i>	Would prohibit a school district from initiating transitional kindergarten unless Department of Finance certifies sufficient funds exists to initiate the program for all eligible children, including children of all socioeconomic statuses, English learners, and individuals with exceptional needs, without removing funds from existing state programs and services.		Jennifer Louie 916.651.4017			CA Assoc of School Psychologists, CA Assoc of Suburban School Districts, CFT, CTA, Preschool CA, Santa Clara County Office of Ed, Washington School	Introduced: 2/18/11 Amended: 4/7/11 Committee on Education Failed passage; reconsideration granted

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
Watch	SB 737 (Walters)	<p>Would require Department of Public Health, in amending rules and regulations pertaining to organized camps, to obtain input and advice of <i>organizations in the field</i>. <i>Costs associated with changes to be borne by participating organizations</i>. Would authorize programs administered by a city, county or nonprofit organization in the After School Learning and Safe Neighborhoods Program to operate up to 60 hours per week (up from 30 hours per week) without obtaining a license or special permit. A child is not to be in the care of the program for more than 30 hours per week. Organizations offering instructional activities less than four hours also exempt from child care licensure. Would modify definition of "organized camps" and require them to develop and submit plan to local health officer. <i>All employees required to have completed criminal background check before having direct supervision of children.</i></p>	CA State Alliances of YMCAs, CA Collaboration for Youth	Garth Eisenbeis 916.651.4033		Alpine Camp & Conf Ctr, Amer Camp Assoc So CA/Hawaii, Boy Scouts of America, CA Collaboration for Youth Camp, James Summer Day Camp, Camp Kinneret, Camp Mountain, Carmel Valley Tennis Camp, Catalina Island Camps, Coppercreek Camp, Douglas Ranch Camps, and more		<p>Introduced: 2/18/11 Amended: 4/5/11 Amended: 4/25/11 Amended: 5/10/11 Amended: 5/31/11 Amended: 6/23/11 Amended: 7/6/11 In Assembly Committee Appropriations</p>

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
Watch	SB 827 (Lowenthal)	Would require the SPI to establish a CA Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) to Advisory Committee to advise and provide recommendations to the Gov, SPI, State Board of Ed, and Legislation on CALPADS-related matters. Among issues to consider are creating a comprehensive data system that tracks progress from preschool through postsecondary education and employment, exploring usefulness to provide increased eligibility for and access to free and reduced lunches and pupil record transfers, and more. <i>Advisory Committee members to serve without compensation or reimbursement for any costs associated with their service.</i>				Association of CA School Admins, CA State PTA, Children Now, Public Advocates, CA SPI, Regional Economic Assoc Leaders Coalition, The Education Trust-West		Introduced: 2/18/11 Amended: 3/25/11 Amended: 5/4/11 Amended: 5/24/11 In Assembly Committee on Appropriations In Suspense
Watch	SB 885 (Simitian)	Amends expression of legislative intent that design and implementation of high quality, comprehensive and longitudinal preschool through higher education (P-20) statewide data system should support a system of continuous learning, provide educators and parents with tools to inform instruction and learning, integrate disparate resources, and anticipate and provide technological capacity for sharing appropriate non-educational data from state sources.		Cory Jaspersen 916.651.4011		Assoc of CA School Admins, Bd of Governor's of the CA Community Colleges, Children Now, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids CA, Education Trust-West, Little Hoover Commission		Introduced: 2/18/11 Amended: 3/24/11 Amended: 7/7/11 In Assembly Passed Committee on Appropriations to Consent Calendar
1	SCR 19 (Price)	Would proclaim the importance of early childhood education programs and each house of Legislature to promote early childhood education programs with appropriate and meaningful activities to educate public about the value of preschool and other early childhood education programs and encourage consumers to enroll their children in such programs.		Brandi Wolf 916.651.40				Introduced: 3/7/11 Committee on Rules

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
California Budget Bills (including Trailer Bills)								
	AB 98 (Committee on Budget)	Act to amend and supplement the Budget Act of 2011 – includes amendment to SB 69, which would restore the Standard Reimbursement Rate (SRR) to its current level.						Introduced: 1/10/11 Amended: 3/14/11 Amended: 6/9/11 <i>Vetoed by Governor</i>
Chapter 4	AB 99	California Children and Families Act of 1998: use of funds		Sara Bachez 916.319.2099				<i>Approved by Governor 3/24/11</i>
Chapter 33	AB 106 (Committee on Budget)	Human Services (i.e. CalWORKs)						<i>Approved by Governor 6/28/11</i>
Chapter 43	AB 114 (Committee on Budget)	<i>Education Finance - includes changes to child care and development programs</i>		Sara Bachez 916.319.2099				<i>Approved by Governor 6/30/11</i>
Chapter 41	AB 121	<i>Budget Trigger Provisions – if revenues lower than anticipated, would make additional reductions, including reducing funding to child care and development by \$23 million.</i>						<i>Approved by Governor 6/30/11</i>
	SB 69 (Leno)	2011-12 Budget (Main Budget Bill)						Introduced: 1/10/11 Amended: 2/28/11 Amended: 3/7/11 Enrolled: 3/18/11 <i>Vetoed by Governor</i>
Chapter 7	SB 70	Education Finance: Budget Act of 2011		Seija Virtanen 916.651.4103				<i>Approved by Governor 3/24/11</i>
Chapter 34	SB 73	<i>Health and Human Services – Trigger Cuts</i>						<i>Approved by Governor 6/30/11</i>
Chapter 33	SB 87 ((Leno)	<i>Main Budget Bill</i>						<i>Approved by Governor 6/30/11</i>

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
LEGISLATION BEING CONSIDERED BY THE FEDERAL LEGISLATURE – 112TH CONGRESS								
House Bills								
	H.R. 1	Full-year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 would fund government for remainder of 2011. Would significantly cut programs and services that reach low income individuals, children and families and more while increasing overall funding for security programs. Among cuts, would reduce funding for Head Start by nearly \$1.1 billion (15%) and Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) by \$39 million.						Introduced: 2/11/11 Passed House: 2/19/11 Senate Floor: 3/9/11 – Returned to calendar
	H.R. 1891 (Duncan)	Would establish the Setting New Priorities in Education Spending Act to repeal ineffective or unnecessary education programs in order to restore the focus of Federal programs on quality elementary and secondary education programs for disadvantaged students. Among the 43 federal education programs slated for elimination under the proposed Act are: Early Reading First, William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy, early childhood educator professional development, Reading is Fundamental, and more.						Introduced: 5/13/11 Committee on Education and Workforce

Level of Interest	Bill Number (Author)	Brief Description	Sponsor	Contact	County Position	Support	Oppose	Status (As of 7/12/11)
Senate Bills								
	S. 470 (Casey)	Supporting State Systems of Early Learning Act would establish the Early Learning Challenge Fund to help states build and strengthen systems of early learning. Funds to be made available to states on a competitive basis; states must demonstrate greatest progress in establishing a system of high quality early learning, priority to states that establish public-private partnerships, and that leverage federal child care funds. States would be required to provide a 15 percent match.						Introduced: 3/3/11 Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
	S. 581 (Burr)	Child Care Protection Act of 2011 would amend the CCDBG to require criminal background checks for child care providers. States would be required to have regulations, policies and procedures in place to required the background checks of child care staff and prospective staff and prohibit employment of staff found ineligible.						Introduced: 3/15/11 Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

To obtain additional information about any State legislation, go to www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.htm; for Federal legislation, visit <http://thomas.loc.gov>. To access budget hearings on line, go to www.calchannel.com and click on appropriate link at right under "Live Webcast". For questions or comments regarding this document, contact Michele Sartell, staff with the Office of Child Care, by e-mail at msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov or call (213) 974-5187.

KEY TO LEVEL OF INTEREST ON BILLS:

- 1: Of potentially high interest to the Child Care Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable for Child Care.
- 2: Of moderate interest.
- 3: Of relatively low interest.
- Watch: Of interest, however level of interest may change based on further information regarding author's or sponsor's intent and/or future amendments.

** Levels of interest are assigned by the Joint Committee on Legislation based on consistency with Policy Platform accepted by the Child Care Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable for Child Care and consistent with County Legislative Policy for the current year. Levels of interest **do not** indicate a pursuit of position. Joint Committee will continue to monitor all listed bills as proceed through legislative process. Levels of interest may change based on future amendments.

KEY:

ACLU	American Civil Liberties Union	CCALA	Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles
AFSCME:	American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees	CTC	Commission on Teacher Credentialing
CAPPA	California Alternative Payment Program Association	CWDA	County Welfare Directors' Association
CAEYC	California Association for the Education of Young Children	DDS	Department of Developmental Services
CAFB	California Association of Food Banks	DHS	Department of Health Services
CCCCA	California Child Care Coordinators Association	DMH	Department of Mental Health
CCRRN	California Child Care Resource and Referral Network	First 5	First 5 Commission of California
CCDAA:	California Child Development Administrators Association	HHSA	Health and Human Services Agency
CDA	California Dental Association	LCC	League of California Cities
CDE	California Department of Education	LAC CPSS	Los Angeles County Commission for Public Social Services
CDSS	California Department of Social Services	LACOE	Los Angeles County Office of Education
CFT	California Federation of Teachers	LAUSD	Los Angeles Unified School District
CHAC	California Hunger Action Coalition	MALDEF	Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund
CIWC	California Immigrant Welfare Collaborative	NASW	National Association of Social Workers
CSAC	California School-Age Consortium	NCYL	National Center for Youth Law
CSAC	California State Association of Counties	PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
CTA	California Teachers Association	SEIU	Service Employees International Union
CCLC	Child Care Law Center	TCI	The Children's Initiative
CDPI	Child Development Policy Institute	US DHHS	US Department of Health and Human Services

DEFINITIONS:¹

Committee on Rules	Bills are assigned to a Committee for hearing from here.
First Reading	Each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage. The first reading of a bill occurs when it is introduced.
Held in Committee	Status of a bill that fails to receive sufficient affirmative votes to pass out of committee.
Inactive File	The portion of the Daily File containing legislation that is ready for floor consideration, but, for a variety of reasons, is dead or dormant. An author may move a bill to the inactive file, and move it off the inactive file at a later date. During the final weeks of the legislative session, measures may be moved there by the leadership as a method of encouraging authors to take up their bills promptly.
On File	A bill on the second or third reading file of the Assembly or Senate Daily File.
Second Reading	Each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage. Second reading occurs after a bill has been reported to the floor from committee.
Spot Bill	A bill that proposes nonsubstantive amendments to a code section in a particular subject; introduced to assure that a bill will be available, subsequent to the deadline to introduce bills, for revision by amendments that are germane to the subject of the bill.
Third Reading	Each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage. Third reading occurs when the measure is about to be taken up on the floor of either house for final passage.
Third Reading Analysis	A summary of a measure that is ready for floor consideration. Describes most recent amendments and contains information regarding how Members voted on the measure when it was heard in committee. Senate floor analyses also list support or opposition by interest groups and government agencies.
Third Reading File	That portion of the Daily File listing the bills that is ready to be taken up for final passage.
Urgency Measure	A bill affecting the public peace, health, or safety, containing an urgency clause, and requiring a two-thirds vote for passage. An urgency bill becomes effective immediately upon enactment.
Urgency Clause	Section of bill stating that bill will take effect immediately upon enactment. A vote on the urgency clause, requiring a two-thirds vote in each house, must precede a vote on bill.
Enrollment	Bill has passed both Houses, House of origin has concurred with amendments (as needed), and bill is now on its way to the Governor's desk.

¹ Definitions are taken from the official site for California legislative information, Your Legislature, Glossary of Legislative Terms at www.leginfo.ca.gov/guide.html#Appendix_B.

STATE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR 2011 (Tentative)

Jan. 1	Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
Jan.3	Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(4)).
Jan. 10	<i>Budget must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12(a)).</i>
Jan. 21	Last day to submit bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel.
Feb. 18	Last day for bills to be introduced (J.R. 54(a)) (J.R. 61(b)(4)).
April 14	Spring Recess begins at end of this day's session (J.R.51(b)(1)).
Apr. 25	Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(2)).
May 6	Last day for policy committees to hear and report to Fiscal Committees fiscal bills introduced in their house (J.R.61(b)(5)).
May 13	Last day for policy committees to hear and report non-fiscal bills introduced in their house to Floor (J.R. 61(b)(6)).
May 15	<i>Governor to release May Revise of Proposed Budget</i>
May 20	Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 6 (J.R. 61(a)(4)).
May 27	Last day for Fiscal Committees to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(b)(8)). Last day for Fiscal Committees to meet prior to June 6 (J.R. 61(b)(9)).
May 3-June 3	Floor Session only. No committee may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(a)(7)).
June 3	Last day to pass bills out of house of origin (J.R. 62(b)(10)).
June 6	Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(b)(12)).
June 15	<i>Budget must be passed by midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)).</i>
July 8	Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(b)(13)).
July 18	Summer Recess begins at the end of this day's session if Budget Bill has been enacted (J.R. 51(b)(2)).
Aug. 18	Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(b)(2)).
Aug. 26	Last day for Fiscal Committees to meet and report bills to Floor (J.R. 61(b)(14)).
Aug. 29-Sept 9	Floor session only. No committees, other than the Committee on Rules or conference committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(b)(15)).
Sept 2	Last day to amend bills on the Floor (J.R. 61(b)(16)).
Sept 9	Last day for each house to pass bills (Art. IV, Sec 10(c)) and (J.R. 61(b)(17)). Interim Study Recess begins at end of day's session (J.R. 51(a)(4)).
Sept. 30	Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by Legislature before Sept. 1 and in Governor's possession on or after Sept. 1 (Art. IV, Sec.10(b)(2)).
Oct. 11	<i>Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by Legislature on or before Sept. 11 and in the Governor's possession after Sept. 11 (Art. IV, Sec.10(b)(1)).</i>

2011

Jan. 1	Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
Jan. 3	Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51 (a)(4))

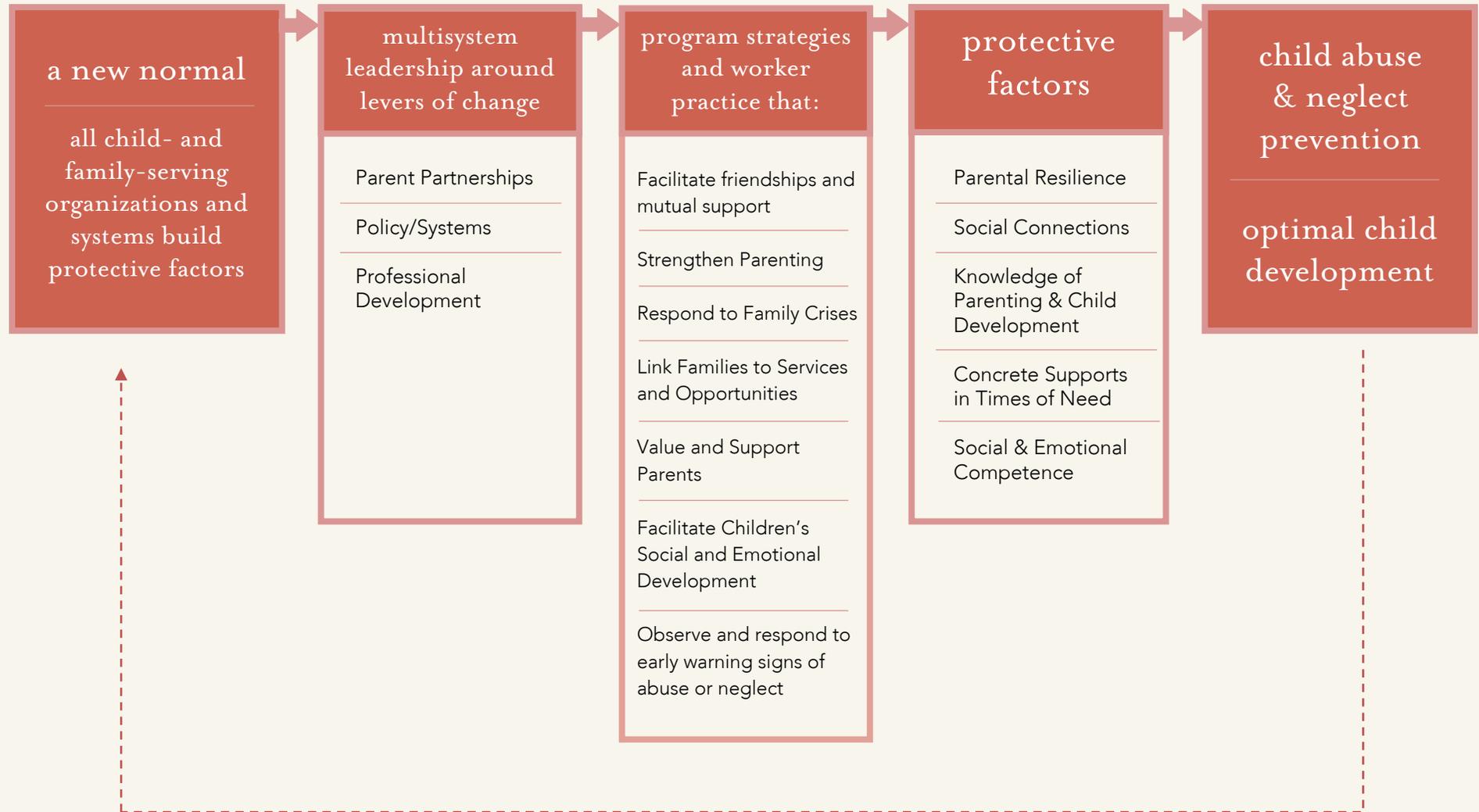
2012

Jan. 1.	Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
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strengthening families logic model

HOW POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND PRACTICE CAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT AND PROMOTE OPTIMAL DEVELOPMENT



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What We Know: Families thrive when protective factors are robust in their lives and communities.

Using the Strengthening Families Approach, more than 30 states are shifting policy, funding and training to help programs working with children and families build protective factors with families. Many states and counties also use the Protective Factors Framework to align services for children and families, strengthen families in the child welfare system and work in partnership with families and communities to build protective factors. For more information and many tools and options for implementation, visit www.strengtheningfamilies.net.

Nationally, Strengthening Families is coordinated by the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) and supported by national partner organizations including:

- Child Welfare Information Gateway
- The Finance Project
- FRIENDS National Resource Center
- The National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds
- Parents As Teachers
- United Way Worldwide
- ZERO TO THREE

The Protective Factors Framework

Five Protective Factors are the foundation of the Strengthening Families Approach: parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social and emotional competence of children. Research studies support the common-sense notion that when these Protective Factors are well established in a family, the likelihood of child abuse and neglect diminishes. Research shows that these protective factors are also "promotive" factors that build family strengths and a family environment that promotes optimal child and youth development.

Parental Resilience

No one can eliminate stress from parenting, but a parent's capacity for resilience can affect how a parent deals with stress. Resilience is the ability to manage and bounce back from all types of challenges that emerge in every family's life. It means finding ways to solve problems, building and sustaining trusting relationships including relationships with your own child, and knowing how to seek help when necessary.

Social Connections

Friends, family members, neighbors and community members provide emotional support, help solve problems, offer parenting advice and give concrete assistance to parents. Networks of support are essential to parents and also offer opportunities for people to "give back", an important part of self-esteem as well as a benefit for the community. Isolated families may need extra help in reaching out to build positive relationships.

Concrete Support in Times of Need

Meeting basic economic needs like food, shelter, clothing and health care is essential for families to thrive. Likewise, when families encounter a crisis such as domestic violence, mental illness or substance abuse, adequate services and supports need to be in place to provide stability, treatment and help for family members to get through the crisis.

Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development

Accurate information about child development and appropriate expectations for children's behavior at every age help parents see their children and youth in a positive light and promote their healthy development. Information can come from many sources, including family members as well as parent education classes and surfing the internet. Studies show information is most effective when it comes at the precise time parents need it to understand their own children. Parents who experienced harsh discipline or other negative childhood experiences may need extra help to change the parenting patterns they learned as children.

Social and Emotional Competence of Children

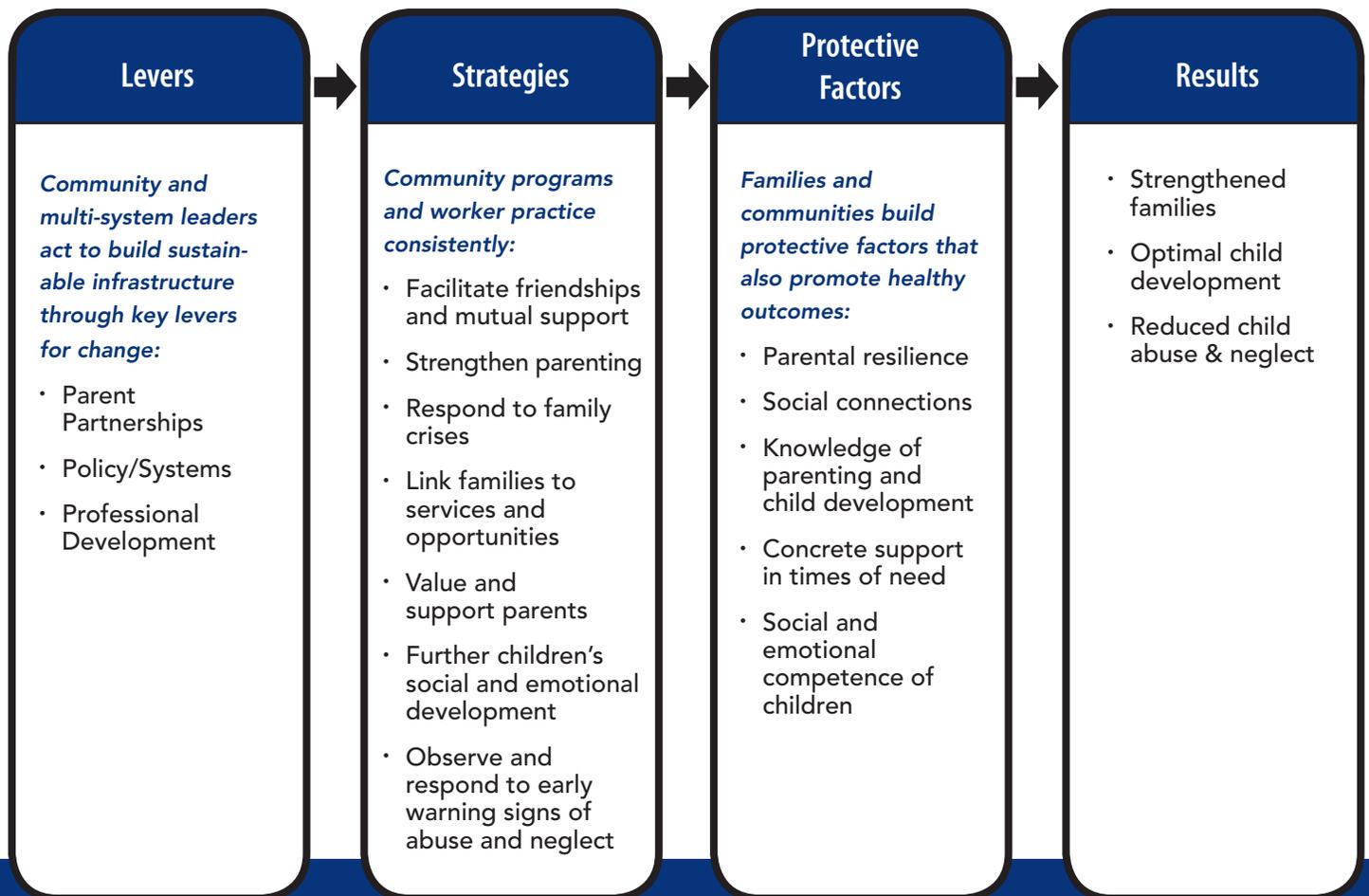
A child or youth's ability to interact positively with others, self-regulate their behavior and effectively communicate their feelings has a positive impact on their relationships with their family, other adults, and peers. Challenging behaviors or delayed development create extra stress for families, so early identification and assistance for both parents and children can head off negative results and keep development on track.

Mobilizing partners, communities and families
to build family strengths, promote optimal
development and reduce child abuse and neglect

Strengthening Families: Creating a New Normal

The Strengthening Families Approach:

- Benefits ALL families
- Builds on family strengths, buffers risk, and promotes better outcomes
- Can be implemented through small but significant changes in everyday actions
- Builds on and can become a part of existing programs, strategies, systems and community opportunities
- Is grounded in research, practice and implementation knowledge



A New Normal

Families and communities, service systems and organizations:

- Focus on building protective and promotive factors to reduce risk and create optimal outcomes for children, youth and families
- Recognize and support parents as decision makers and leaders
- Value the culture and unique assets of each family
- Are mutually responsible for better outcomes for children, youth and families



magnolia place

COMMUNITY INITIATIVE



WHAT WE HOPE & DREAM...

The 35,000 children and youth, especially the youngest ones, living in the neighborhoods within the 500 blocks of the Magnolia Catchment Area will break all records of success in their education, health, and the quality of nurturing care and economic stability they receive from their families and community.



Where we started

In 2006, Children's Bureau of Southern California initiated a new strategy for communities to support families and prevent child abuse.

The strategy is based in part on national and local research from:

- ❖ Carnegie Foundation Starting Points Task Force
- ❖ RAND
- ❖ First 5 Los Angeles and California
- ❖ Children's Council of Los Angeles
- ❖ *"Meaningful Differences"*



FOUR ANCHOR GOALS

- ❖ The strategic plan identified four recognized goals as having the most impact in achieving long term outcomes for children 0-5 years of age.
 1. Family functioning (safety and nurturing)
 2. Health and well-being
 3. School-readiness
 4. Economic stability



Magnolia Place Catchment Area



90007, 90006, 90015, 90011

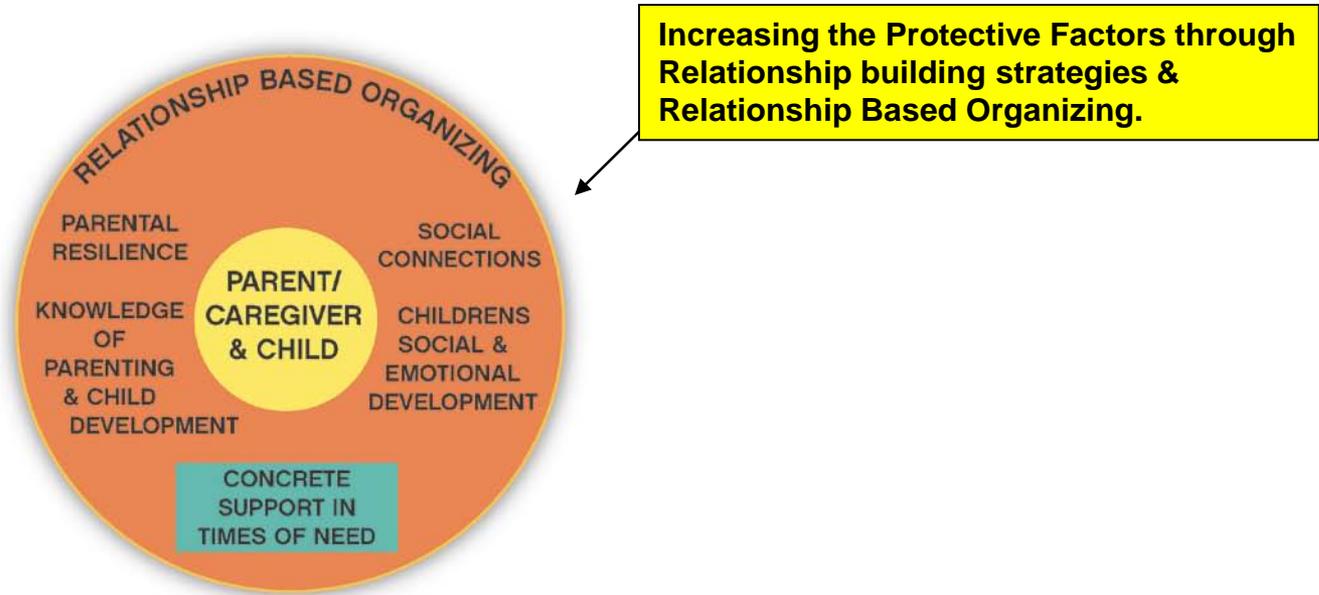


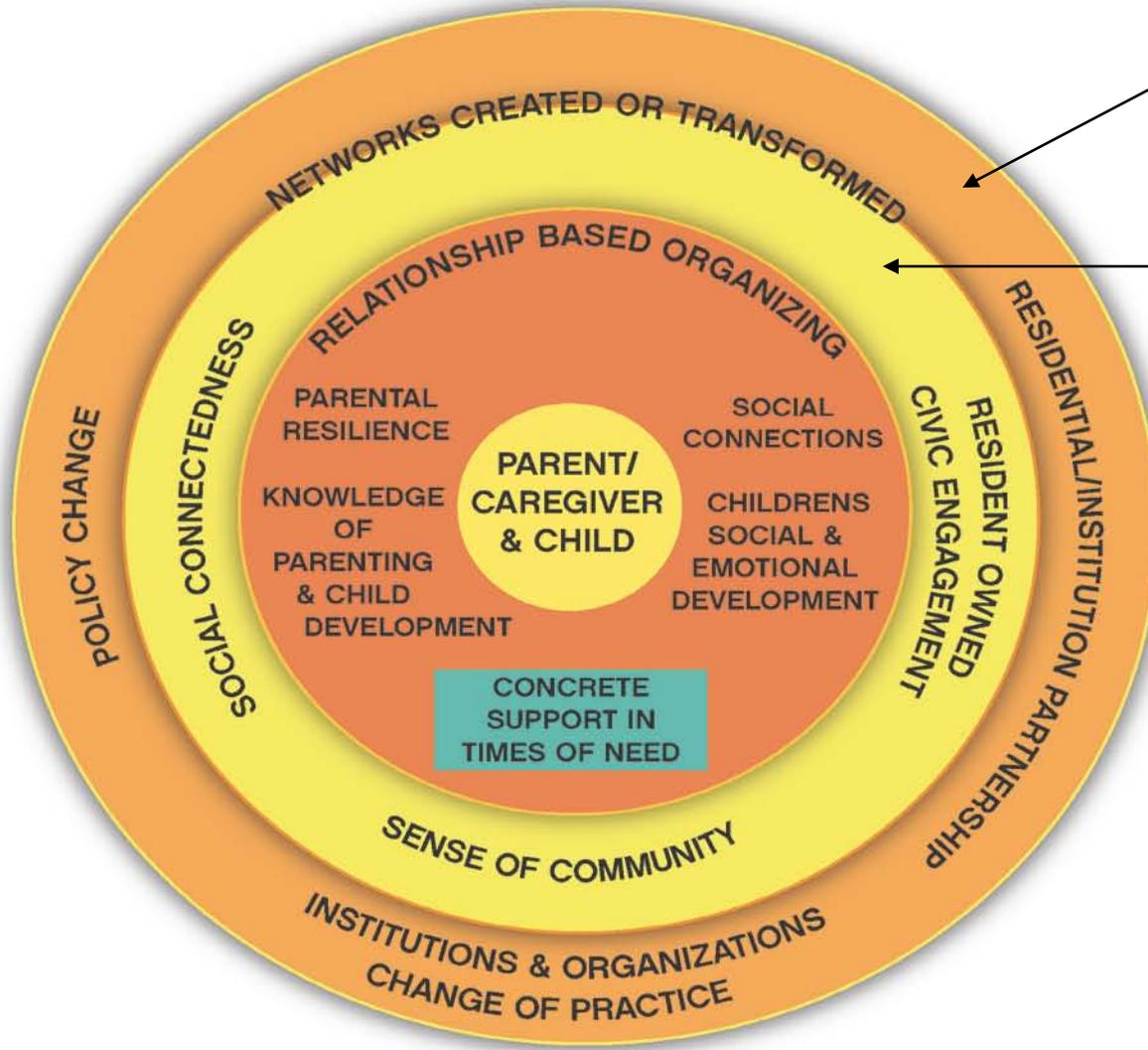
Community Level Change Model

PARENT/
CAREGIVER
& CHILD

♥ 📖 🍎 🍌

magnolia place





Builds Community Belonging & Civic Engagement.

Fostering interaction between & among Individuals & organizations.

Creates & strengthens networks of individuals & organizations with shared values & norms leading to collective efficacy.



HOW DO WE ACCOMPLISH THIS?

Adoption of Protective Factors Framework

- ❖ The most effective way to affect positive, long lasting change at the family AND community/neighborhood level is to strengthen the **protective factors*** and support families as the vehicle for transformation of the community.
- ❖ Protective Factors:
 - parental resilience
 - social connections
 - knowledge of parenting and child development
 - concrete support in times of need
 - social and emotional competence of children
 - nurturing and attachment

*Research conducted by the Center for the Study Social Policy



Adoption of *It Takes a Community*

- It Takes a Community was adopted by the Magnolia Place Community Initiative in 2008 as a core working philosophy to guide how public institutional partners, community-based organizations, and individuals can operate within communities.
- It is through the healing nature of connected relationships and compassion that the six protective factors become actualized into a daily practice with the expectation that change can happen on a personal level, at the organizational level, and at the community level.



Establish the Magnolia Network

- ❖ Each Network member agency or individual contributes to the vision and mission by using their own resources.
- ❖ The partners work to align their own activities within the 500 blocks towards the mission and strategies that have been adopted by the Initiative through cooperation, coordination and collaboration.
- ❖ Network members form subsets of partnerships to accomplish specific project initiatives and utilize a web-based group-site as a vehicle for centralized communication and planning in addition to face-to-face meetings.



Use Centralized Communication

Magnolia Place Network

magnoliaplacenetWORK.grouPSite.com

SUMMARY

COMMUNICATE ▾

SHARE ▾

NETWORK ▾

SUBGROUPS ▾

MORE ▾

 [Edit](#)



Welcome to the Groupsite for the Magnolia Place Community Initiative

The ***Magnolia Place Community Initiative*** is an innovative strategy whereby children, particularly the youngest, living in the neighborhoods surrounding West Adams, Pico Union, and the North Figueroa Corridor succeed at unprecedented levels in their education, health, and quality of nurturing care they receive from their families.

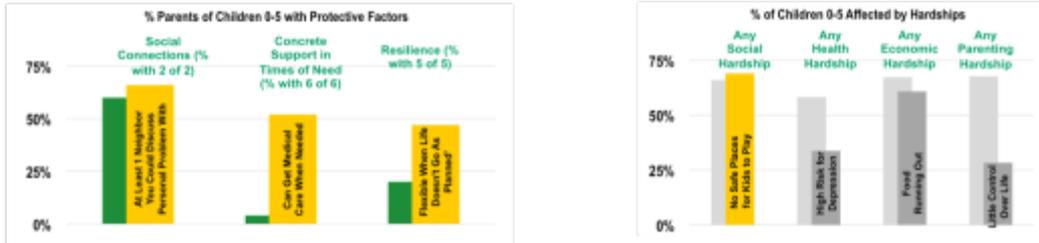
The ***Initiative*** builds neighborhood resiliency by supporting families as they themselves create change, in partnership with community based organizations, government, and philanthropy.

Developmental progress at school entry



3rd grade reading proficiency

Protective factors in families with children 0-5



Stressors in families with children 0-5

Care processes & experiences for families with children 0-5



% of families with children 0-5 who are reached by network improvements



Number of Families per Quarter - All Sites

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
ECE	-	-	82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WC	224	-	150	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MD	45	33	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OSI	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2009	2010	2011							



WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Launched Community Engagement Strategy

Community Survey



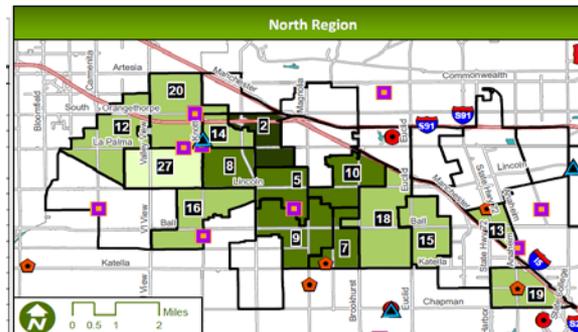
Community Dialogues



Mapping Local Neighborhoods



Introducing EDI Results



Community Initiative Representatives

- Administered the *Protective Factor Community Survey* to 550 community members throughout the catchment area
- Hosting *Community Dialogues* throughout the catchment area to introduce protective factors and discuss community survey results
- Inviting community members to map the geography of their neighborhoods and strengthening community connections
- Recruiting schools to participate in EDI
- Will host meetings to discuss EDI results (bridging community and organization members).



Network Workgroups

- Community Engagement
- Linkage and Referral
- Systems Improvement
- Economic Stability
- Research and Evaluation
- Leadership



SHARED REFERRAL FORM

MAGNOLIA PLACE NETWORK REFERRAL FORM

1910 Magnolia Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90007

Office Use Only

Referral #: _____

Referral Date: _____

Consent Form signed? Yes No

First visit? Yes No

Source: _____

1. What do you or your family need? (Mark all that apply)

Basic Needs

- Food
- Clothing
- Housing
- Transportation



Family Support

- Counseling
- Domestic Violence Support
- Help with Child's Behavior / Emotions
- Help with Gangs
- Immigration
- In-Home Supportive Services
- Legal Services
- Parenting Education
- Senior Services
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Translation Services

Financial Assistance

- Child Support
- Food Stamps
- Income Assistance (CalWORKs, SSI)
- Money Management
- Tax Preparation Assistance (EITC)



Child Care and Early Education

- Child Care PT FT
- Preschool PT FT
- Child Care Subsidies / Vouchers
- Recreational / Physical Activities
- Developmental Services / Screenings
- Special Needs / IEP



Health Care

- Doctor Visit
- Dentist Visit
- Health Insurance
- Medi-Cal
- Pregnancy Support
- Breast-feeding / Lactation Support
- Infant Care
- Nutrition Education



Education and Job Training

- Job Training / Resources
- Adult Education
- Adult Literacy, ESL
- Computer Classes
- High School Diploma / GED Programs
- Tutoring / Homework Assistance
- Vocational Programs



Community Connections

- Community Network
- Family Library
- Faith-based Group/Church
- Neighborhood Watch
- Parent Group
- Volunteer opportunities



Other

Family Source Services

Family size: _____

Family annual income: _____

2. First Name _____ 3. Middle Initial _____ 4. Last Name (please indicate if Jr., Sr., etc.) _____ 5. (Area) Phone Number _____

6. Home Address (Number and Street) _____ 7. City _____ 8. Zip Code _____

9. Date of Birth mm/dd/yyyy _____ 10. Number of adults and children assistance requested for: _____ Adults _____ Children _____

11. What language do you feel most comfortable using? (Adults)
 Armenian Cambodian Cantonese English Korean
 Mandarin Spanish Vietnamese
 Other (specify): _____

12. Sex/Gender Female Male

13. Race/Ethnicity
 Hispanic African American White Asian/Pacific Islander
 Native American Other (specify): _____

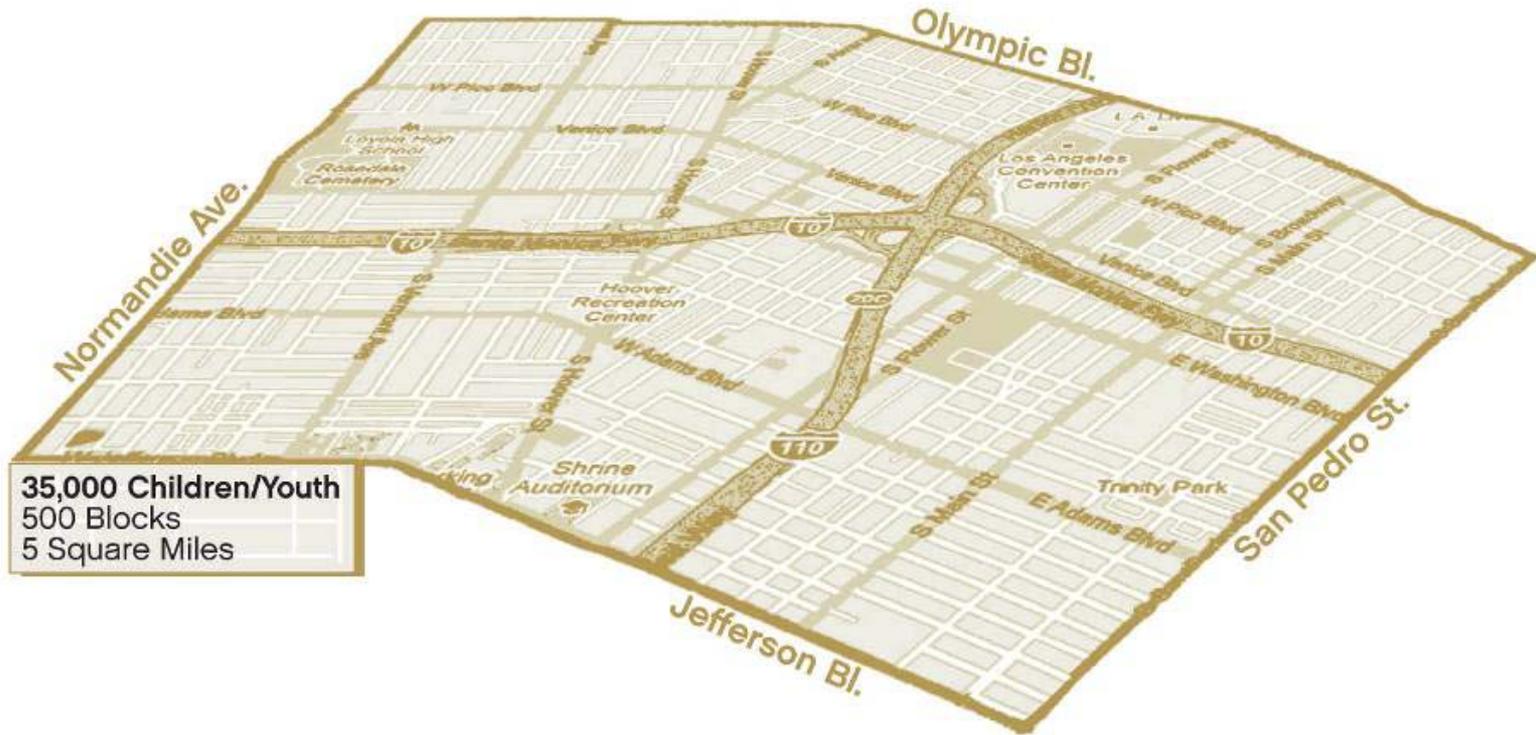
Person #	Family Member (First & Last Name)	Sex (M/F)	Date of Birth	Person #	Family Member (First & Last Name)	Sex (M/F)	Date of Birth
1	14. _____	15.	16. _____	4	23. _____	24.	25. _____
2	17. _____	18.	19. _____	5	26. _____	27.	28. _____
3	20. _____	21.	22. _____	6	29. _____	30.	31. _____



“Local actions spring up simultaneously in many different areas, if disconnected nothing happens beyond small efforts yet when connected local efforts can emerge as a powerful system of influence.”

Margaret Wheatley

How Do We Advance



35,000 Children?

Magnolia Place



35,000 Children/Youth
500 Blocks
5 Square Miles



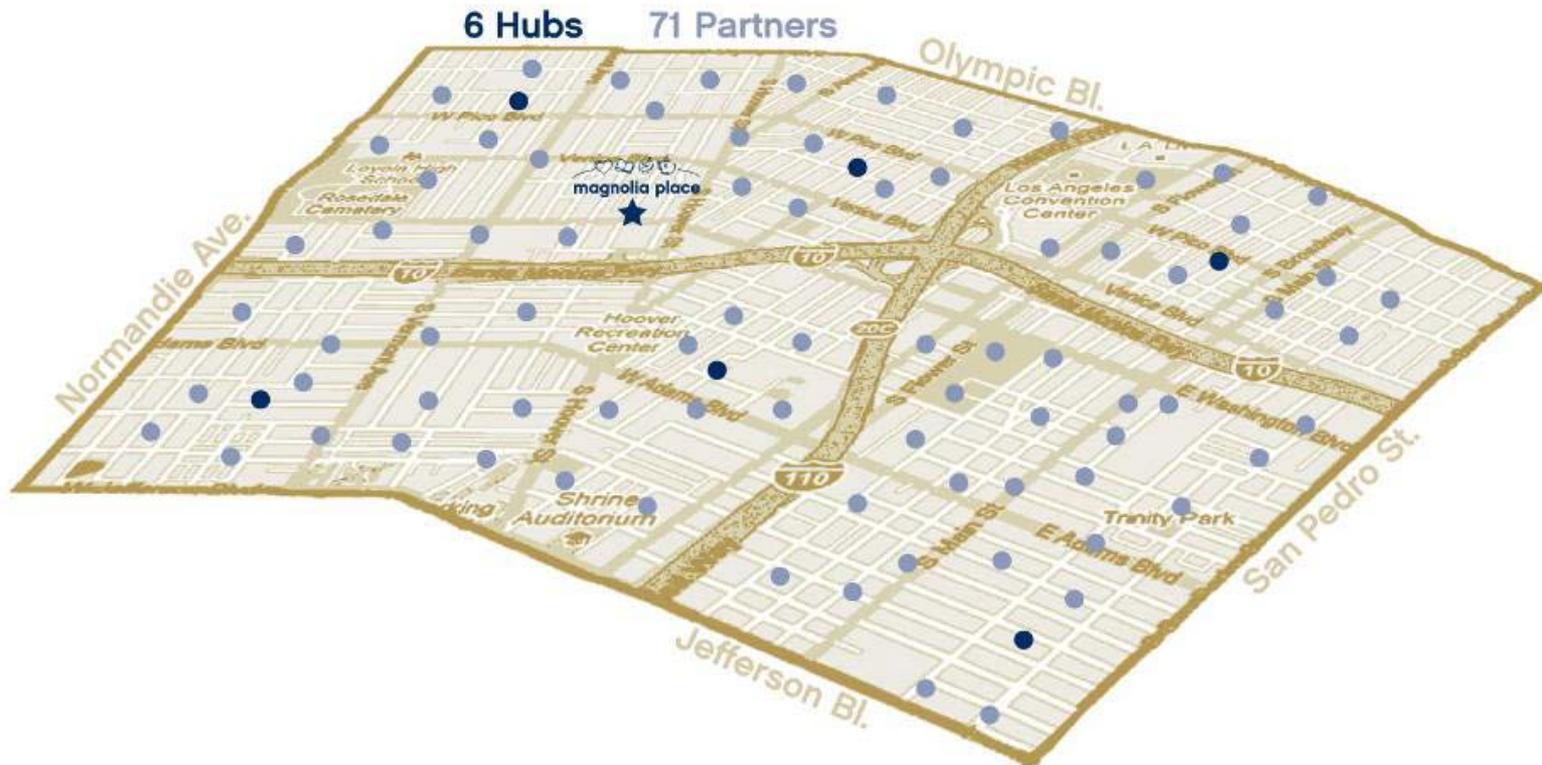
6 Hubs



35,000 Children/Youth
500 Blocks
5 Square Miles

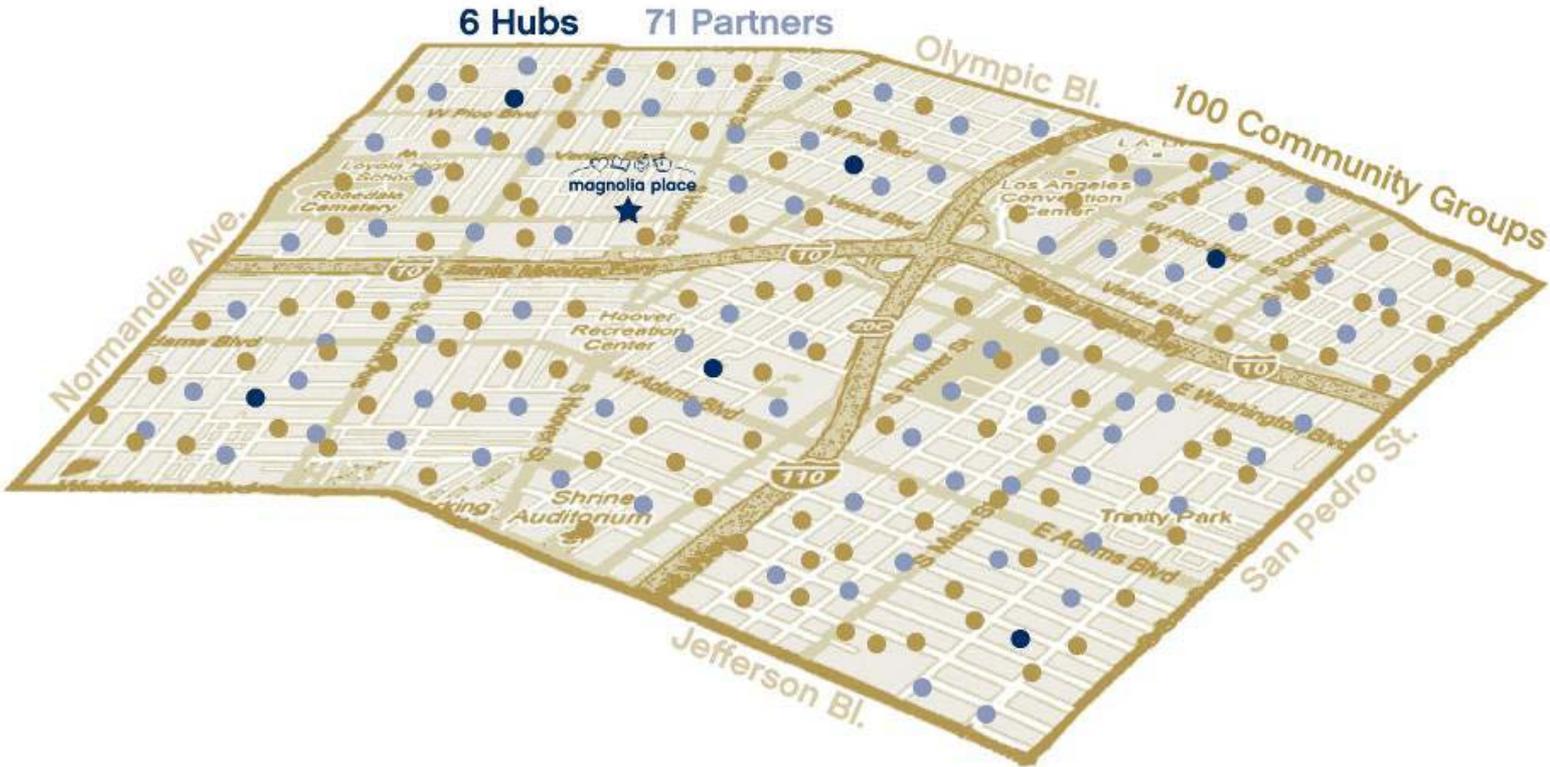


71 Partners



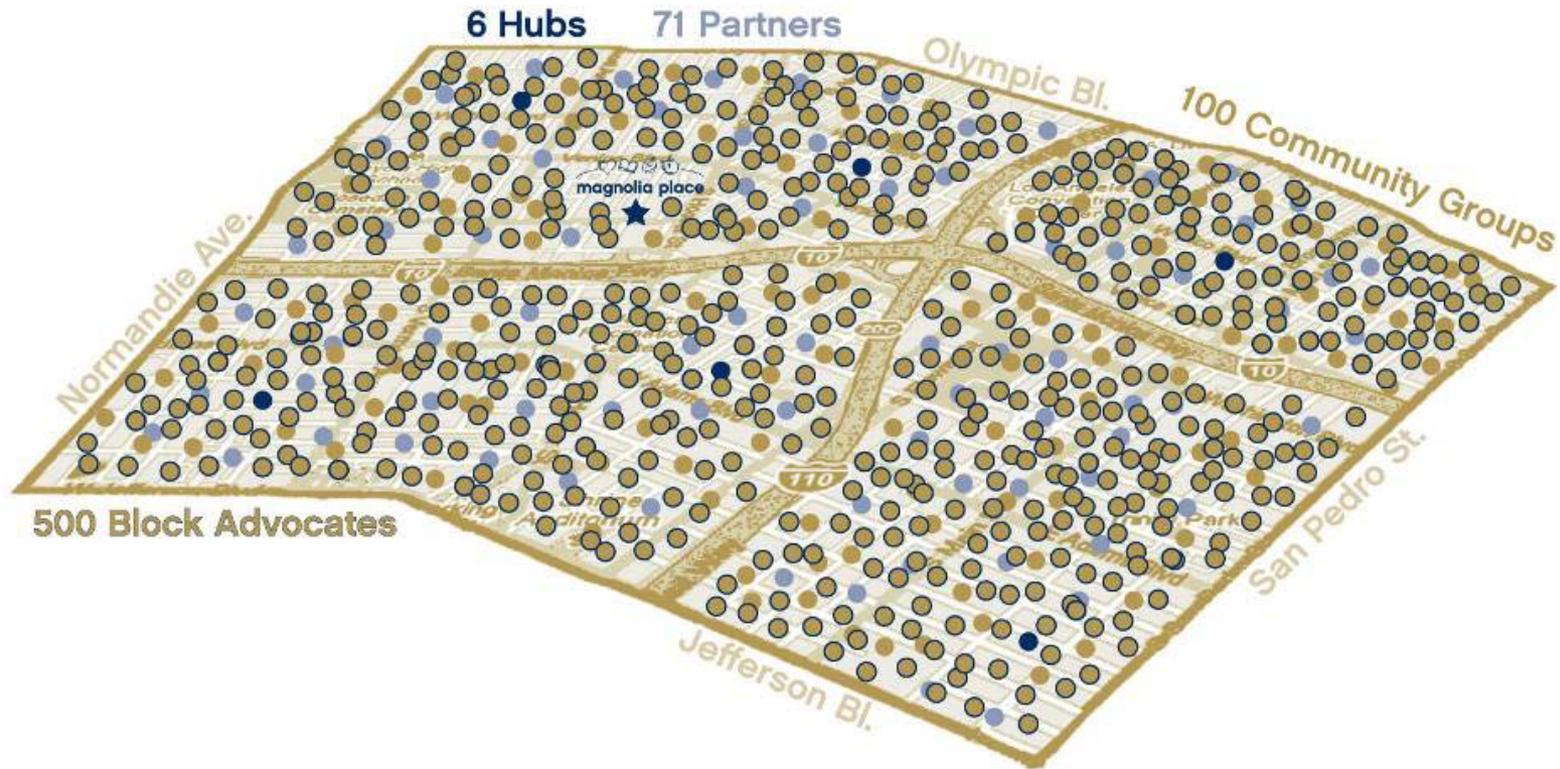
35,000 Children/Youth
500 Blocks
5 Square Miles

100 Community Groups



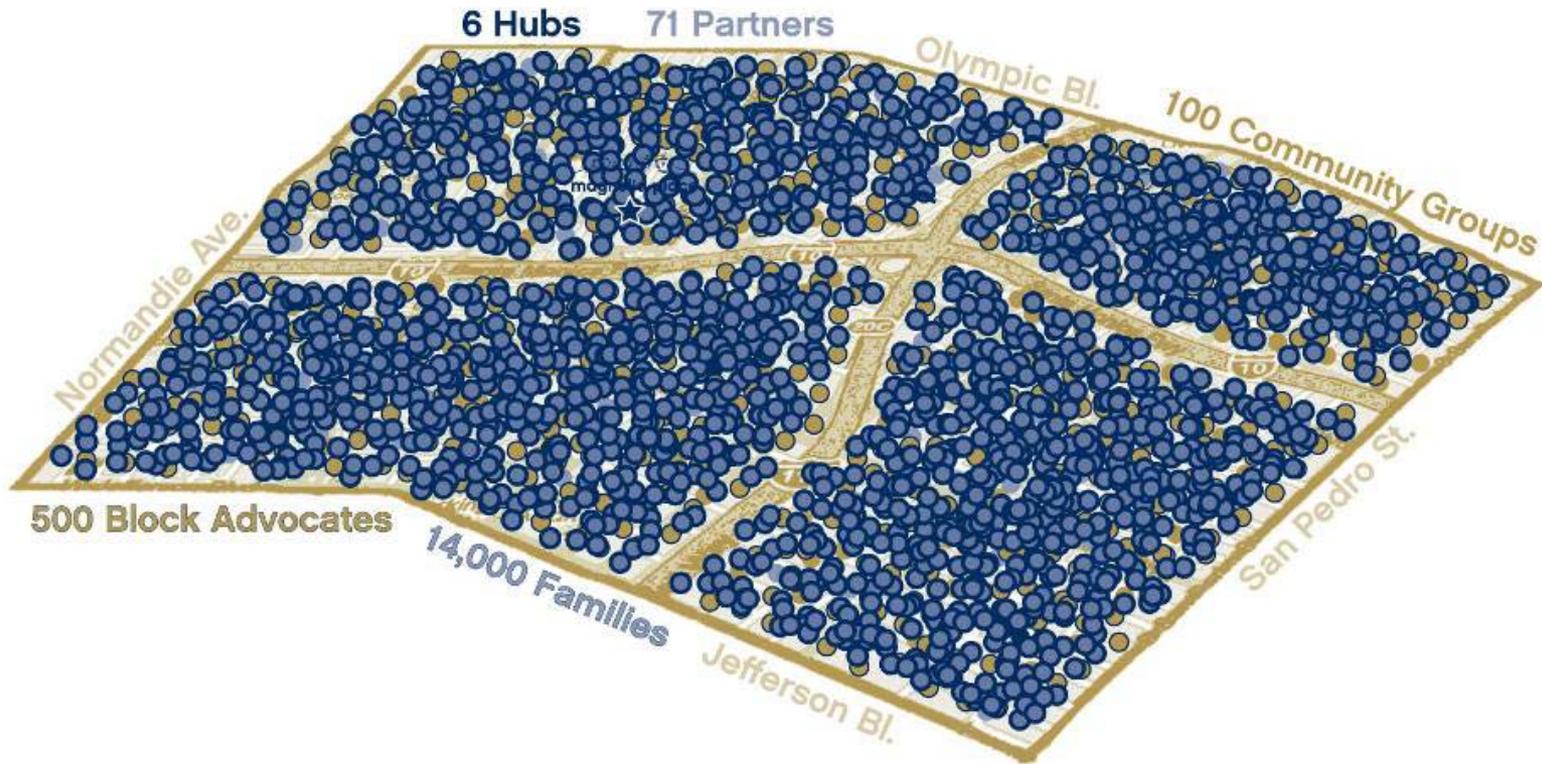
35,000 Children/Youth
500 Blocks
5 Square Miles

500 Block Advocates



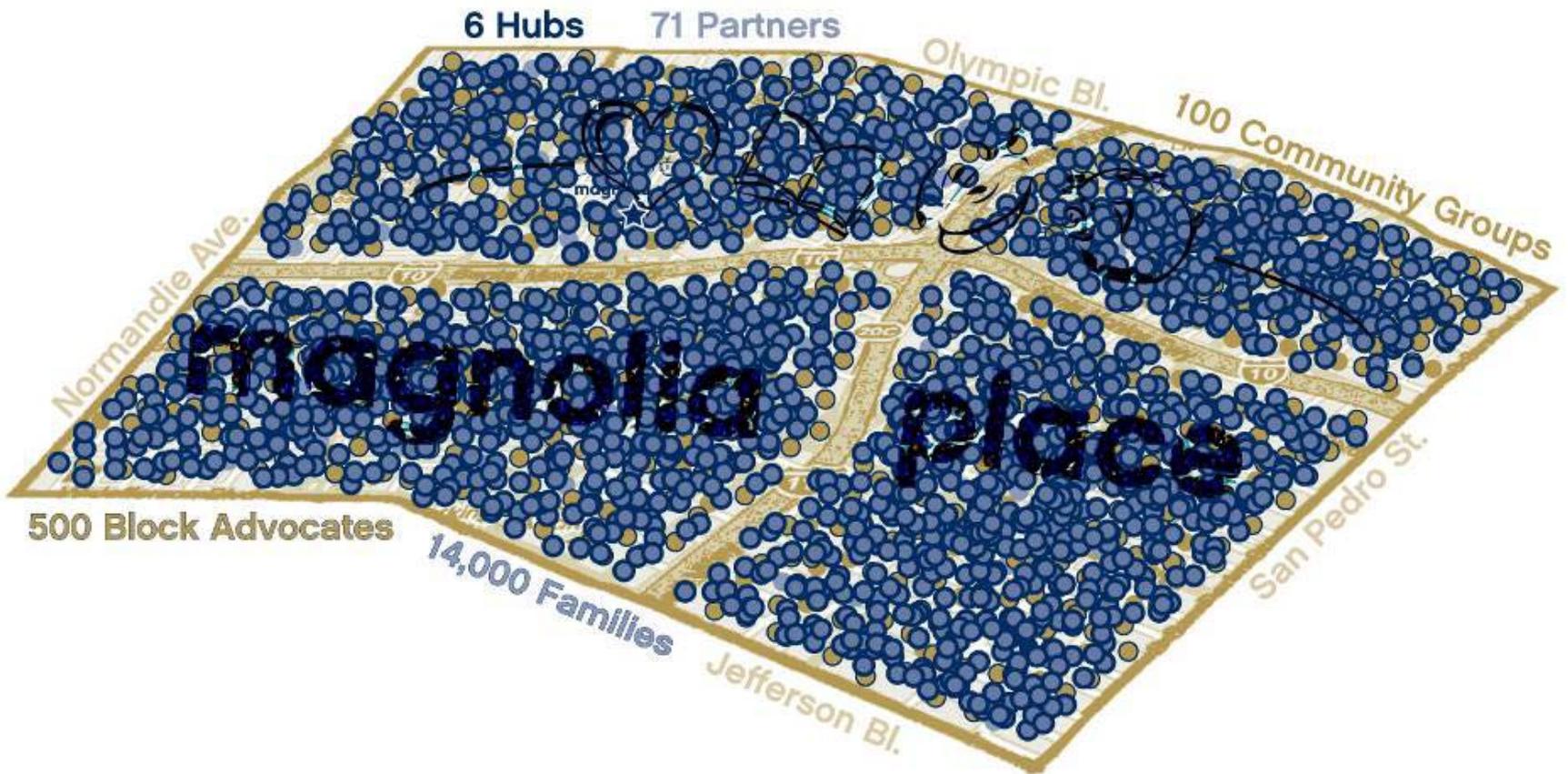
35,000 Children/Youth
500 Blocks
5 Square Miles

14,000 Families



35,000 Children/Youth
500 Blocks
5 Square Miles





35,000 Children/Youth
 500 Blocks
 5 Square Miles



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Los Angeles County Child Care Policy Framework 2011- 2013

Promoting Healthy Children, Strong Families and Vibrant Communities

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors on March 29, 2011 – Planning Version

The *Los Angeles County Child Care Policy Framework (Policy Framework) 2011-2013* reaffirms the commitment of the Board of Supervisors (Board), County departments and community stakeholders to close the gap between what we **know** and what we **do** to support the healthy development of young children, their families, and our communities.¹

Despite significant budget challenges in the last few years, implementation of the original Child Care Policy Framework², adopted by the Board of Supervisors on January 6, 2009, resulted in significant accomplishments by several departments, a deeper understanding of ongoing challenges and a host of lessons learned; however, much work remains. The *Child Care Policy Framework 2011-2013* builds on those successes, shared learning across departments, community-based agencies and clients, and seeks to engage new partners who share the vision of promoting healthy children, strong families, and vibrant communities.

Goals for 2011-2013

1. The quality of child development services for children birth to five years of age in Los Angeles County will be improved as the Steps to Excellence Project (STEP) is expanded and support services to STEP participants are intensified. *Why? The quality of care impacts early brain development.*
2. Utilization of local, State, and Federal child development resources will be maximized. All available resources and policies will help strengthen the child development infrastructure and support the expansion of high quality child development programs that integrate family support, health, mental health and other relevant services. *Why? Financial and regulatory support is needed from all sectors.*
3. County departments will work collaboratively with each other and community partners to maximize the utilization of available child development resources, support quality improvements and promote the delivery of integrated services for children and their families. *Why? The most vulnerable children need assistance to access services.*
4. County departments will work collaboratively with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), key school districts and community-based child
- a. articulation between child development and kindergarten, including approaches to effectively engage parents in the education of their children;
- b. design of developmentally appropriate transitional kindergarten programs; and
- c. identification and/or utilization of new or nontraditional funding for child development services such as, but not limited to, Federal Title 1 funds, to serve special populations. *Why? County departments are critical to providing integrated services for families*
5. The Chief Executive Office (CEO) will facilitate County department efforts to work internally, across departments, and with community partners, to integrate the Strengthening Families Approach (SFA) and Protective Factors into their work with children, families and communities; and engage families in high quality child development services. The CEO, with assistance from the Center for the Study of Social Policy and key local partners, will establish a multidisciplinary SFA learning community designed to support ongoing professional development and SFA projects that are underway or emerging in County departments. *Why? To ensure quality and consistent services.*

¹ Issue addressed by the National Scientific Council on the Developing Child in *The Science of Early Childhood Development*, (2007)
<http://www.developingchild.harvard.edu>.

² The original Child Care Policy Framework is available for review at www.childcare.lacounty.gov.

What We Know

Building on our collective experiences – we know that:

- Families must be active partners in determining which services and/or supports they need.
- Services and supports from multiple County departments and community-based agencies are frequently required to strengthen families and ensure the safe and healthy development of young children.
- Providing families with the services they need - when they need them - becomes significantly more difficult when County departments and community stakeholders attempt to work across disciplines with related but distinct goals, using different funding sources and their respective requirements.
- While these hurdles are sometimes overcome by valiant individual efforts, they should be systemically addressed by policies, systems and supports that bridge initiatives using common language and goals.
- A number of County departments, community stakeholders, and local philanthropies including First 5 LA and the LA Partnership for Early Childhood Investment are rethinking their practice models to align with the SFA. This approach seeks to engage the programs, services, and systems that are already supporting and working with children and families as partners in preventing maltreatment and promoting optimal development.
- The Protective Factors are the foundation of the SFA. Research indicates that when these factors are present and robust in families, the likelihood of child abuse, juvenile delinquency, school failure and poor connection to the labor market diminishes.

The Protective Factors are:

- Parental Resilience
 - Social Connections
 - Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development
 - Concrete Supports in Times of Need
 - Children's Social and Emotional Competence³
- Adopting the SFA, along with an action plan to speed implementation, will provide County departments, community-based agencies, local school districts and philanthropic organizations a common language to bridge a variety of disciplines. In addition, families working with these entities will be engaged in intentional partnerships aimed at promoting the optimum development of their children.



³ *“Small but significant changes that strengthen families and prepare children for success,”* page 2, Center for the Study of Social Policy, www.cssp.org.

What We Will Do

GOAL ONE: The quality of child development services in Los Angeles County will be improved as the Steps to Excellence Project (STEP) is expanded and support services to STEP participants are intensified.

Lessons Learned 2009 - 2011:

Research has demonstrated that high quality child development services can generate substantial benefits compared to costs,⁴ contribute to significant reductions in child abuse and juvenile delinquency,⁵ and narrow the achievement gap.⁶ These laudable results are however, limited to high quality programs. Unfortunately, both national and local research has consistently documented that the majority of child development services offer mediocre quality. Programs with mediocre quality do not produce strong child outcomes.

STEP is a locally developed child care quality rating and support program administered by the Office of Child Care (OCC). STEP focuses on licensed child development centers and family child care homes serving children from birth to six years old and was launched in Los Angeles County in 2007. Currently, over 400 child development programs, representing 62 percent of the original recruitment goal, are enrolled in STEP and more than 1,500 early educators have participated in STEP trainings or received technical assistance. As of

⁴ Kilburn, M. Rebecca, Karoly, Lynn A., *The Economics of Early Childhood Policy: What the Dismal Science Has to Say About Investing in Children* (2008) RAND. Per this analysis, the Perry Preschool generated a benefit of \$17.07 for each \$1 invested and the Chicago Child Parent Centers generated a benefit of \$7.14 for each \$1 invested.

⁵ Reynolds, Arthur J., Temple, Judy A., Robertson, Dylan L., Mann, Emily A., *Age 21 Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Title I Chicago Child-Parent Center Program Executive Summary*, (2001). Participants in the Chicago Child-Parent Center Program experienced a 51 percent reduction in child maltreatment, a 33 percent lower rate of juvenile arrest, and a 42 percent reduction in arrest for a violent offense.

⁶ Karoly, Lynn, Zellman, Gail, Li, Jennifer, *Promoting Effective Preschool Programs* (2009). Planning Version of the Child Care Policy Framework - 7/13/11

June 2010, 160 child development programs were rated by STEP. These ratings revealed that the majority of programs (83 percent) scored a “3” or below on the STEP rating scale. This indicates that most programs are meeting a minimal threshold in terms of the quality of services being provided.⁷ Children and families throughout Los Angeles County would benefit from a substantial improvement in child care program quality.

Strategies for 2011-2013:

- 1-A. Expand STEP to additional communities.
- 1-B. Expand STEP’s on-site coaching.
- 1-C. Link STEP participants to County resources so they can offer families “concrete supports in times of need”.

Partners and Commitments for 2011-2013:

- 1-1 Implement agreement with Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to support and process 50+ Early Education Centers in STEP during FY 2010-11.
- 1-2. Implement agreement with Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) to expand STEP to additional communities.
- 1-3. Work with child care resource and referral agencies to expand on-site coaching.
- 1-4. Work with the Department of Public Health to research nutrition, activity standards, and obesity prevention for inclusion in the STEP rating matrix and training activities.

Success Story

“Thanks STEP for helping our center with funding to enhance our inside and outside environments, and providing staff with professional development support that has improved our service delivery to the children and families in our community.”

Maxine Higa, Salvation Army
South Los Angeles Child Development Center

⁷ STEP Annual Report, 2011.

GOAL TWO: Local, State and Federal policies and budgets will strengthen the child development infrastructure and support the expansion of high quality child development programs that integrate family support, health, mental health and other relevant services into their operations.

Lessons Learned 2009 - 2011:

Both the State and Federal governments play a critical role in funding subsidized child development services. Los Angeles County has the capacity to act both in Sacramento and Washington D.C. Ensuring access to high quality child development services is consistent with meeting County Strategic Plan Goal 2 “Child, Family and Adult Well-Being: Enrich lives through integrated, cost-effective and client-centered supportive services.”

There is a need for a strong, unified voice including parents and a range of stakeholders, to effectively advocate for the expansion of child development services. In addition, coordination at the County level can help to maximize the utilization of all available resources.

The ability to impact policies related to child development services are enhanced when families are full partners in the process and local stakeholders, both traditional and non-tradition, work toward common goals.

Strategies for 2011-2013:

2-A. The OCC, working in conjunction with the CEO Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IGEA) and the Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable), will continue efforts to enlist public and private sector partners to aggressively advocate for the continuation and/or expansion of funding for high quality, comprehensive services which ensures the safety of children, promotes school success, strong families and communities. At the same time, the OCC and Roundtable will expand efforts to assure that all available resources are used to benefit families and children. A decades-long pattern of returning available funds and under-utilization of existing capacity must be addressed. The OCC and Roundtable

will lead efforts to develop a countywide mechanism to track use of existing capacity. Other specific actions will include informing members of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation of the need to restore or maintain funding to:

- California Department of Education/Child Development Division (CDE/CDD) Programs, and
- Child development infrastructure including but not limited to local child care planning councils, child care resource and referral services, and Community Care Licensing.

2-B. Similar efforts will be engaged at the local level to enlist public and private sector partners to advocate for local support of services that ensure the safety of children, promote school success and strong families. Activities will include:

- Work with local philanthropic organizations to develop a “Bridge Funding” mechanism to assist State funded child development programs during times of State Budget stalemates.
- Work with First 5 LA and the local child development community to ensure both targeted and countywide support for high quality child development services.

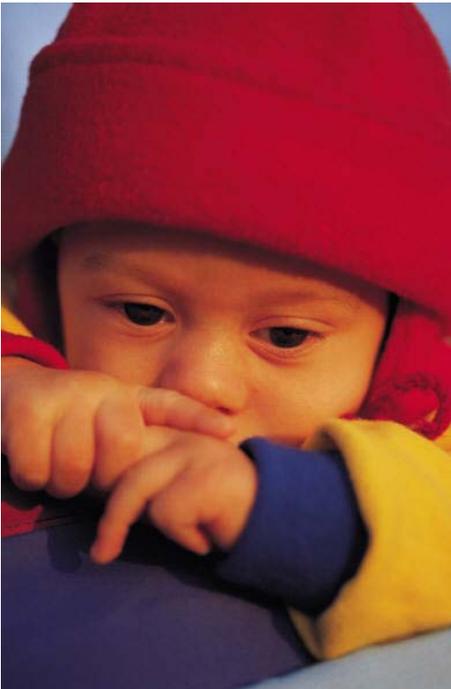
**A Success Story
(Under the Circumstances)**

Despite experiencing the worst budget crisis in recent history, child development and other service providers stood together in opposition to Governor Schwarzenegger’s budget for 2010-11. This unified front fueled the Legislature’s refusal to accept the Governor’s proposal to eliminate funding for the CalWORKs Program and most State funding for child development services.

Partners and Commitments for 2011-2013:

2-1. Consistent with Board adopted policies, the CEO IGEA and County departments will continue to advocate to maintain and expand high quality child development services for children and families in Los Angeles County.

2-2. OCC will work with a range of external advocacy partners to maintain and expand high quality child development services for children and families in Los Angeles County. Partners will include but not be limited to the Advancement Project, First 5 LA, Los Angeles County Office of Education - Head Start (LACOE-HS), LAUP, LAUSD, and Preschool California.



Challenges Ahead

California's budget crisis presents serious challenges to the well-being of children and their families. The California Budget Project has noted the following issues:

- California workers and their families face the toughest job market in decades, battered by the longest and most severe national recession in the post-World War II era.
- Millions of low- and middle-income Californians are struggling to make ends meet in the face of job loss or reduced hours of work.
- Consequently, more of California's families are turning to public programs such as Food Stamps, Healthy Families, Medi-Cal, and CalWORKs for assistance.
- Increased demand for public programs comes at a time when recent budgets have made deep cuts to health and human services programs and the Governor has proposed more reductions to close the state's budget gap.⁸

Governor Brown's proposed budget for 2011-2012 includes further cuts to human services. Families in need of subsidized child development services may be facing a smaller pool of subsidized programs, higher parent fees, shorter periods of assistance, and lower income ceilings. "Infrastructure" supports such as Community Care Licensing, local child care planning councils, child care worker retention services, training and support are also facing serious reductions or complete elimination.

⁸ California Budget Project, *Proposed Budget Cuts Come at a Time of Growing Need*. (February 2010) www.cbp.org.

GOAL Three: County departments will work collaboratively with each other and with community partners to maximize the utilization of child development resources and promote the delivery of integrated family support services. Particular emphasis will be placed on connecting the following populations to child development resources and when appropriate, early intervention services:

- **CalWORKs families who are homeless and have young children.**
- **Children under the supervision of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Probation Department, including those in foster care, kin care, and with their families.**
- **Teen parents under the jurisdiction of DCFS and/or the Probation Department.**

Lessons Learned 2009 - 2011:

The “subsidized child care system” is, in reality, a complicated conglomeration of programs serving specific age groups, during specific times, with different funding sources and different eligibility requirements. The current array of child development services are a reflection of available resources – not necessarily family needs. High quality child development programs with the option of full-day, full-year services for children across age groups are in short supply.

We know that the demand for subsidized child development services far exceeds the supply – currently, over 29,000 income eligible children in Los Angeles County are waiting for a space to become available.⁹ We know that young children and families in stressful circumstances benefit from access to high quality child development services with stable and nurturing relationships. We know that access to such services can reduce incidents of abuse and neglect, or mitigate the long term impacts of trauma on children who experience abuse and/or neglect. We know that children in

families coping with homelessness, domestic violence, substance abuse, and mental health issues are among the most vulnerable and have the potential to reap significant benefits from participating in high quality child development services. Unfortunately, these children are among the least likely to access such services. In order to promote connections to child development services, Los Angeles County departments will work to identify vulnerable families with young children who are in need of child development services and will inform these families of local child development resources.

Additional resources are needed to support programs designed to meet the needs of low income working families as well as families dealing with additional challenges. New strategies are needed to ensure that the most vulnerable children and families are able to participate in high quality child development services.

Success Stories

A unique collaboration was launched between the LACOE-HS and the DCFS in 2009. DCFS piloted a variety of Head Start enrollment drives and found that DCFS Children’s Services Workers were more likely to promote the use of child development services and foster families were more likely to enroll children when the application process was significantly streamlined. As a result of these “enrollment drives”, 197 children in foster care were connected to local Head Start programs that were prepared to enroll and serve them.

LACOE-HS also collaborated with the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS). DPSS distributed LACOE – HS recruitment flyers to clients with age eligible young children. The opportunities for further collaboration have expanded as Head Start and Early Head Start have identified homeless children as priority populations for their services.

⁹ Data from the Los Angeles County Centralized Eligibility List as of December 2010.
Planning Version of the Child Care Policy Framework - 7/13/11

Strategies:

3-A. OCC will work with County departments, child development program operators, child care resource and referral agencies and community stakeholders to develop strategies to make the subsidized child development system more accessible to vulnerable children and families in Los Angeles County.

3-B. OCC, in collaboration with the Department of Parks and Recreation and the County Library, will convene a forum with after school community-based providers to identify opportunities to increase the enrollment of DCFS and Probation youth in safe and educationally enriching activities during non-school hours.

3-C. OCC, in conjunction with DCFS, will convene child care resource and referral agencies and child development stakeholders to explore possible collaborative efforts to include child development personnel in Team Decision Making conferences.

3-D. Building on the successful DCFS-LACOE HS collaboration, DPSS will launch a targeted outreach effort aimed at CalWORKs participants with young children who are experiencing homelessness.

3-E. The Roundtable will assist DCFS in promoting, among Children's Services Workers, an understanding of the lifelong impacts of early brain development including cognitive, emotional and physical well being.

Partners and Commitments for 2011-2013:

3-1. Working in conjunction with the child care resource and referral agencies, DCFS will expand its "enrollment drives," to include LAUP and California State Preschool Programs.

3-2. Transition Age Youth who are teen parents and teen parents who are clients of both DCFS and Probation will be introduced to their child care resource and referral agency and assisted in enrolling their children in child development services prior to their leaving the child welfare system.

3-3. The Roundtable will convene members representing DPSS, LACOE-HS, Long Beach Unified School District Head Start Programs, Regional Centers and Children Today, as well as other stakeholders, for the purpose of 1) exploring the unique array of services available to families with young children in Long Beach who are experiencing homelessness, substance abuse, domestic violence and/or mental health issues, and 2) creating opportunities to replicate similar service systems in other parts of Los Angeles County.

3-4. The ICAN (Interagency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect) Task Force on Pregnant and Parenting Teen will review materials developed by the OCC which are intended to facilitate the enrollment of teen parents and their children in high quality child development services and assist with the distribution of these materials.

3-5. The Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles and the University of Southern California – School of Social Work will pursue the development of an intern program for Social Work graduate students. As currently conceived, interns would be stationed at local child care resource and referral agencies. As their understanding of the child development and family support service sector grows, they will guide families identified by specific County departments through the child development referral process, interfacing as needed with the County department.



GOAL FOUR: County departments will work collaboratively with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), key school districts and community-based child development programs to integrate a range of services, thereby supporting the effective:

- articulation between child development and kindergarten, including approaches to effectively engage parents in the education of their children,
- design of developmentally appropriate transitional kindergarten programs throughout the County, and
- identification and/or utilization of new/nontraditional funding for child development services such as, but not limited to, Federal Title 1 funds, to serve special populations.

Lessons Learned:

Children who experience poverty, abuse, neglect, parental substance abuse, mental illness, and/or exposure to violence are “at risk” for negative impacts on their physical and mental health. High quality child development programs that include family support services have proven to be an effective intervention for children and families in these circumstances.¹⁰ The trajectory for high school graduation, employment, and economic self sufficiency is set in these very early years.

Some studies have shown that the cognitive benefits associated with high quality child development services can erode by third grade. Rather than trying to fix the blame for this “erosion of benefits” it may be more appropriate to identify how to effectively bridge the child development and public school systems for the purpose of sustaining these benefits. Such efforts would build on the intensity of relationships common in child development programs, while also enhancing

¹⁰ *The Impact of Early Adversity on Children’s Development.* Center on the Developing Child, www.developingchild.harvard.edu.

the instructional support in these programs. When child development programs, transition kindergarten, kindergarten and elementary grades are viewed as a continuum rather than as separate entities, the likelihood of actually meeting the needs of individual children is increased.

Low-income working families, families involved with the child welfare system, and those struggling with homelessness, mental health, substance abuse, and/or domestic violence could all benefit from access to high quality child development services. Unfortunately, the supply of high quality subsidized child development services is dwarfed by the demand. While accessing these services can be complicated for any family, those without a fixed address or other challenges are at a serious disadvantage.

New resources are needed to expand the supply of high quality subsidized child development services for low-income working families and families experiencing trauma and to integrate family services into child development programs.

Success Story

The Packard Foundation and First 5 California are working with the Ounce of Prevention and The Buffet Early Education Fund to bring Educare to Los Angeles and Santa Clara. Under the leadership of LAUSD, a coalition is forming to plan and apply for the development of an Educare site in Los Angeles.

Educare is a network of state-of-the art child development centers operating full-day, full-year programs for children birth to five years of age. There are Educare sites in ten states, each serving from 140 to 200 low-income children and their families. These centers have highly qualified teaching staff in all classrooms, address a range of family service needs, and are actively engaged in research aimed at improving the practice in individual centers while also contributing new information to the field. Educare centers form a growing network committed to advancing quality and changing public policy in their own states and across the country.

Strategies:

4-A. The OCC and the Roundtable shall work in partnership with LACOE and key school districts to promote articulation between child development programs and grades K-3, and the establishment of developmentally appropriate transition kindergartens with effective parent engagement practices in school districts throughout the County.

4-B. OCC and County departments will support the development of an Educare site in Los Angeles County and will promote co-location of County and other family services at the site.

4-C. The Roundtable will work in partnership with DCFS, Probation, and other stakeholders to:

- ✓ Engage the CDE/CDD in a dialogue regarding the potential long term impacts (physical, emotional and mental) of child abuse and neglect, and the role of high quality child development services to mitigate those impacts.
- ✓ Explore regulatory or legislative remedies to facilitate access to high quality child development services for children determined to be at risk or who have experienced child abuse and/or neglect, including children who have been removed from their homes.
- ✓ Identify and/or access new or nontraditional funding for child development services such as, but not limited to, Federal Title 1 and Title IVE Waiver funds, to serve special populations.

Partners and Commitments:

4-1. LACOE will work with local school districts to promote articulation between child development and K-3 systems and the use of Title 1 funds for early education services.

4-2. LAUSD will expand Transition Kindergarten services designed to build the cognitive, social and emotional skills needed for school success.

4-4. The Roundtable will convene representatives of the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and local child care resource and referral agencies to explore the use of child development settings for mental health services including but not limited to multidisciplinary team evaluations for children who are enrolled in child development programs.

Success Stories

The Preschool Clinics are a part of LAUSD's commitment to "recognize and respond" to the unique needs of individual children. The clinics target children birth to five years of age and make an array of professionals available including school psychologists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, nurses, audiometrists, and social workers. The clinics are held in preschool settings and all screenings are conducted with age appropriate tools. At the end of the clinic, families receive a written report, a toolkit of supporting materials, and have the opportunity to discuss follow-up options.

Beginning in April 2011, the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles will launch an innovative seasonal flu vaccine outreach and distribution program serving the hardest-to-reach, most vulnerable populations, throughout Los Angeles County.

Alliance agencies will collaborate with Health Educators from DPH to develop vaccine health literacy materials and will create innovative trainings and workshops for parents and providers that are aimed at "re-norming" the community's knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors related to vaccine-preventable illnesses. Further, the program is intended to create a "cocoon" of people in the lives of young children. When caregivers are protected from seasonal flu, the risk of serious flu illnesses are reduced for the children in their care.

Goal Five: The Chief Executive Office (CEO) will facilitate County department efforts to work internally, across departments, and with community partners,

to integrate the Strengthening Families Approach (SFA) and Protective Factors into their work with children, families and communities; and engage families in high quality child development services. The CEO, with assistance from the Center for the Study of Social Policy and key local partners, will establish a multidisciplinary SFA learning community designed to support ongoing professional development and SFA projects that are underway or emerging in County departments.

Lessons Learned:

As noted earlier in this document, SFA seeks to engage the programs, services, and systems that are already supporting and working with children and families as partners in both preventing maltreatment and promoting optimal development. Developed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy, SFA began as an approach to child abuse prevention which focused on children from birth to five years of age. This age group was targeted because it accounts for a significant proportion of children who experience abuse and/or neglect. This period of high risk for abuse is also a time of critical brain development in young children. Adverse experiences during these early years have the potential for lifelong negative impacts to both physical and mental health.

A number of federal government agencies and national and local foundations are actively engaged in the SFA and 33 states that have adopted the SFA are participating in the Strengthening Families National Network. The Director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Erwin McEwen, describes why Illinois has adopted this approach to promoting child safety and well-being:

"We protect children when we strengthen and support families. Strengthening Families Illinois brings early education and child welfare professionals together not only to prevent harm, but to build protective capacity in the place where it matters most: the family."¹¹

As in other parts of the county, young children, birth to five years of age account for a substantial portion (averaging 30 percent per month) of the open cases managed by the DCFS. Local philanthropies, community-based agencies and specific programs within some County departments, have adopted the SFA to serve children and families in Los Angeles County.

It is time to expand the commitment to SFA, including the five Protective Factors, from specific projects within various County departments, to a countywide commitment. Adoption of the SFA could provide a common language and approach to services across disciplines, County departments and community-based agencies. SFA could also facilitate coordination across diverse initiatives. Fortunately, the Center for the Study of Social Policy is prepared to provide guidance to County departments as we move forward in this endeavor. The Center for the Study of Social Policy will draw on the extensive experience of working with public and private entities around the country.

Success Story

During 2009-2010, the OCC and LACOE-HS provided a full day of training on the SFA, early brain development, and the range of local child development resources available to families to nearly 300 Deputy Juvenile Probation Officers. This training supported the Probation Department's effort to adopt a "family engagement focus", modify their emerging "practice model" and implement the SFA. Working with the same collaborative partners, the Probation Department has identified a series of action steps to reinforce and expand the first year training activities.

¹¹ Strengthening Families Illinois E Update, January-February 2008 at www.strengtheningfamiliesillinois.org. Planning Version of the Child Care Policy Framework - 7/13/11

Success Stories

The DMH Birth to Five Program has infused the SFA and Protective Factors into the 0-5 Initial Assessment training that is required of all Birth to Five mental health providers. In addition, substantial efforts have been made with the DMH staff co-located at the DCFS offices to ensure inclusion of the approach in their work. Numerous other DMH and/or community agency sponsored trainings have similarly incorporated the role of the Protective Factors as part of trainings on multiple topics in the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health field that are designed for mental health providers, Head Start mental health consultants, early care and education providers, and representatives from other disciplines.

Evaluation of the Prevention Initiative Demonstration Project (PIDP) funded by DCFS between 2008 and 2010 includes promising indications that Protective Factors can be enhanced through community-based social networking strategies that complement more intensive and expensive service strategies, and are effective across a broad range of families and communities. Findings from the Relationship-based Organizing Protective Factors Survey include responses from over 1000 parents and youth who participated in PIDP activities. Data collected from the survey and focus groups held in all eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs) highlighted the benefits that parents and youth felt they had received; those who participated in Neighborhood Action Councils and social networks reported a pattern of benefits including greater involvement in their community, more desire to engage in community activities, and feeling less lonely or isolated.

Strategies:

5-A. Consistent with the CEO's mission to facilitate "effective program implementation", the OCC will work with the Center for the Study of Social Policy to promote the integration of the SFA into County department practices by establishing a multidisciplinary learning

community and convening multi-disciplinary professional development opportunities.

5-B. Work collaboratively with First 5 LA, LAUP, the LA Partnership for Early Childhood Investment and other local entities to integrate work across County departments and among community stakeholders.

5-C. Work collaboratively with the Education Coordinating Council and County Commissions to support departments in accessing child development services for their clients.

5-D. Work collaboratively with First 5 LA in their place-based approach and countywide efforts to promote the SFA.

Partners and Commitments:

5-1. CEO/SIB/OCC will lead efforts to establish a SFA learning community involving County departments and community stakeholders with assistance from the Center for the Study of Social Policy.

5-2. OCC will work collaboratively with County departments, First 5 LA and stakeholders such as the child care resource and referral agencies to inventory existing materials and organizational access to traditional and social media that could be used to inform parents of the critical importance of early brain development and the role of high quality child development services in supporting optimum brain development.

5-3. The Roundtable to work collaboratively with CEO Public Information, Cable and Telecommunications to develop a coordinated public information campaign using the materials identified above and various forms of media.



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A Brief Guide to County-Related Bodies Addressing Children's Issues in Los Angeles County

The County of Los Angeles encompasses over 4,000 square miles and is home to over 10 million people. There are 88 incorporated cities, 80 K-12 school districts, and 13 community college districts within the County. Los Angeles County Office of Education reports that 90 different languages are spoken by students in the County. In addition, Los Angeles County is home to some of the wealthiest and some of the poorest families in the country.

The size, density and diversity of the County tend to complicate how services are developed and accessed by families. As a result, a number of County-related committees and commissions have evolved to address both service specific and service integration issues. The following information offers the reader a very brief description of groups that are currently working on children's issues.

Child Care Planning Committee

Enabling Authority: State legislation AB 2141, adopted in 1991, and AB 1542, adopted in 1997.

Established: June 1991

Membership: Per the California Education Code Section 8499.3, the 50 Child Care Planning Committee members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and the County Superintendent of Schools, and represent five categories; child care consumers, child care providers, community representatives, public agency representatives, and discretionary. Each category is to account for 20 percent of the membership.

Focus: The Planning Committee implements the mandates described in the California Education Code Sections 8499-8499.7, and works closely with the California Department of Education (CDE) on issues related to child care funded by CDE. Mandates include:

- Conduct a countywide child care needs assessment every five years, addressing child development services for children birth through 12 years of age;
- Develop a countywide plan to meet identified needs; and
- Identify high-need areas for subsidized child care services.

Contact: Laura Escobedo, Planning Coordinator
Office of Child Care

Phone: 213.974.4103

Website: www.childcare.lacounty.gov



Commission for Children and Families

Enabling Authority: County Ordinance

Established: May 1984

Membership: Each member of the Board of Supervisors nominates three Commissioners, for a total of 15.

Focus: The Commission for Children and Families reviews all programs administered by County departments that provide services to children at risk, receives input from persons and community groups related to County administered services, and makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and County departments.

Contact: Martha Arana

Phone: 213.974.1431

Website: www.lachildrenscommission.org

Education Coordinating Council (ECC)

Enabling Authority: Action of the Board of Supervisors

Established: November 2004

Membership: Twenty-four members drawn from school districts, county departments, juvenile court, city and county commissions, advocacy groups, community agencies, youth, and their caregivers.

Focus: To raise the educational achievement of foster and probation youth throughout Los Angeles County to equal that of other youth.

Contact: Trish Ploehn, Executive Director

Phone: 213.974.4532

Website: www.educationcoordinatingcouncil.org

First 5 LA Commission

Enabling Authority: Proposition 10 - approved by California voters in November 1998.

Established: December 1998

Membership: Nine members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors, including the Directors of the Departments of Public Health and Mental Health, an expert on early childhood education, and five members, each nominated by a member of the Board of Supervisors. Ex officio members include representatives of the Commission for Children and Family Services, the Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect, and the Policy Roundtable for Child Care. The Chair of the Board of Supervisors serves as the Commission Chair.

Focus: The First 5 LA Commission administers the County of Los Angeles portion of the tobacco taxes levied by Proposition 10, and directs these funds to services that will increase the number of children from prenatal stage through age 5 who are physically and emotionally healthy, safe and ready to learn.

Contact: Evelyn Martinez, Executive Director

Phone: 213.482.5902

Website: www.first5la.org

Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN)

Enabling Authority: County Ordinance

Established: 1977

Membership: ICAN membership includes 27 County, City, State and Federal agency heads; five private members appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and a representative from UCLA.

Focus: ICAN is dedicated to improving the lives of abused, neglected and at-risk children through multi-disciplinary efforts that support the identification, prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. ICAN provides advocacy at the County, State and Federal levels.

Contact: Deanne Tilton Durfee
Executive Director

Phone: 626.455.4585

Website: <http://ican4kids.org>



Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP)

Enabling Authority: Action by the First 5 LA Commission

Established: September 2004

LAUP Board of Directors: Five members are appointed by the County Board of Supervisors; the Superintendent of County Schools and two representatives of First 5 LA serve as ex officio members; and eight additional members are elected by the Board of Directors.

Focus: Within ten years, LAUP intends to:

- Implement preschool services to 100,000 four-year olds in Los Angeles County;
- Develop 32,000 new preschool spaces; and
- Create 10,000 new "Teacher" and "Teacher Assistant" positions.

Contact: Celia Ayala, Chief Executive Officer

Phone: 213.416.1200

Website: www.laup.net

Policy Roundtable for Child Care

Enabling Authority: County Ordinance

Established: March 2000

Membership: The 25 members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and include a variety of backgrounds such as business, education, research, and economics.

Focus: The Policy Roundtable for Child Care is charged with reviewing and developing policies that affect the supply, affordability and quality of local child development services for the purpose of advising the Board of Supervisors.

Contact: Kathleen Malaske-Samu, Director
Office of Child Care

Phone: 213.974.4103

Website: www.childcare.lacounty.gov

