

**February 6, 2019  
12:00 – 12:45 p.m.**

Los Angeles County Community Development Commission  
700 West Main Street, Conference Room Babe Ruth A&B  
Alhambra, CA 91801

**AGENDA**

- |       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| 1.    | Welcome and Introductions   | Nellie Ríos-Parra, Chair                   |
| 12:00 | ▪ Opening Statement and Comments by the Chair   |  |
| 2.    | Approval of Minutes   | <b>Action Item</b> Julie Taren, Vice Chair |
| 12:10 | ▪ January 17, 2019  |  |
| 3.    | Local Child Care and Development Planning Council Updates   | Michele Sartell, Staff                     |
| 12:15 | ▪ Preschool Development Grant: What it means for the local child care and development planning councils |  |
| 4.    | Announcements and Public Comment  | Julie Taren                                |
| 1:35  |   |  |
| 5.    | Call to Adjourn   | Nellie Ríos-Parra                          |

**Public Hearing – LPC Local Funding Priorities – 2018-19  
February 6, 2019 ▪ 12:50 – 2:00 p.m.**

**Next Child Care Planning Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 ▪ 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.  
To be determined

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*The mission of the Child Care Planning Committee is to engage parents, child care providers, allied organizations, community, and public agencies in collaborative planning efforts to improve the overall child care infrastructure of Los Angeles County, including the quality and continuity, affordability, and accessibility of child care and development services for all families.*

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**Meeting Minutes – January 17, 2019**

Members in Attendance (24)				
Parents	ECE Program	Community Agency	Public Agencies	Discretionary
Alejandra Berrio	Monica Barahona for Andrea Joseph	Norma Amezcua	Theresa Figueras	La Tanga Hardy
Rosa Alvarez for Jessica Chang	Ricardo Rivera	Mallika Bhandarkar	Angela Gray	Kimberly Dobson-Garcia for Kelly O'Connell <i>1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District</i>
Mona Franco	Andrea Sulsona	Alexandra Himmel	Daniel Orosco	Dianne Philibosian <i>5<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District</i>
Judy Sanchez for Tara Henriquez		Melissa Noriega	Cyndie Allen for Laurel Parker	Michael Shannon
Nellie Ríos-Parra		Joyce Robinson		Sarah Soriano <i>4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District</i>
		Kathy Schreiner		Julie Taren <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisorial District</i>

**Guests and Alternates:** Rocio Bach – The Children's Collective, Carolyn Crolotte – Early Edge California, Kevin Dieterle – First 5 LA, Tinatra Glaspie – Learning Care Group/La Petite Academy, Matthew Kennedy – Atwater Park Center, Gina Rodriguez – First 5 LA, Rodgers Shakhvaladyon – Department of Public Social Services, Ruth Tiscareño – Department of Mental Health Parent Advocate/SPA 7

**Staff:** Michele Sartell

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Nellie Ríos-Parra, Chair, opened the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) meeting at 12:05 p.m. She welcomed members and guests after reading the opening statement and asked Norma Amezcua to read the mission statement. She then asked meeting participants to make self-introductions that included a one word resolution for the year.

Nellie reviewed the agenda for the meeting, beginning with a briefing of the new legislative session and the introduction of the first budget proposal presented by our new Governor, Gavin Newsom. She exclaimed excitement for our field given his commitment to a Cradle to Career agenda. Yet, his administration will need to hear from us to help guide his agenda. In addition, Nellie welcomed Renatta Cooper, staff with the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education, to the meeting to talk about efforts underway at the state level to explore potential augmentations and changes to the AB 212 program. AB 212 is implemented in Los Angeles County under the title Investing in Early Educators Stipend Program. Lastly, time has been scheduled on the agenda to reflect on the Strategic Planning retreat held in December and to present next steps.

## **II. Approval of Minutes**

*Julie Taren, Vice Chair, reviewed the minutes from November 7, 2018 and then asked for a motion to approve. Alex Himmel made the motion to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Dianne Philibosian. The motion on the minutes passed with abstentions from Mallika Bhandarkar, Kimberly Dobson-Garcia, Teresa Figueras, La Tanga Hardy, Daniel Orozco, Judy Sanchez and Kathy Schreiner.*

*Next, Julie reviewed the minutes from strategic planning retreat held on December 14, 2018. She reference the notes from the retreat that were attached. She then asked for a motion to approve. Dianne Philibosian made the motion to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Kathy Schreiner. The motion passed.*

## **III. Public Policy Report**

Michele Sartell, staff, provided the report on behalf of the Joint Committee on Legislation. She noted the two prevailing issues in the news: President Trump's partial shutdown of the federal government as it continues into its 27<sup>th</sup> day and its impact on the daily lives of federal workers and others; and day four of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) teachers' strike with negotiations expected to resume at City Hall. In addition, Michele commented on the Board of Supervisors recent motion to provide funding to LAUSD to enhance mental health and well-being of its students, staff and others and instructs the Departments of Health Services and Public Health to identify sources of funding for LAUSD to hire school nurses and other health professionals.

Moving on, Michele directed meeting participants to the budget summary included in the meeting packets. Governor Newsom introduced his first budget proposal after being sworn into office as California's 40th Governor. His ambitious budget proposal proposes a Cradle to Career agenda that encompasses early care and education as well as other services designed to improve child and family well-being. The proposed budget increases investments in the early years with a priority focus on full-day universal preschool and kindergarten. In addition, he proposes funding for infrastructure and workforce development and a Cradle to Career data system. Other items of interest targeted to families with young children are an expansion of paid family leave and home visitation programs and funding for developmental screenings. Missing from the Governor's budget are two areas of continued interest to the field, increased investments to expand services for infants and toddlers and reimbursement rates for subsidized services.

Michele mentioned recent key appointments by the Governor, including Ben Chida as his Senior Policy Advisor for Cradle to Career and Giannina Pérez as his Senior Policy Advisor for Early Childhood. She reminded members that shortly after elected to office, Governor Newsom named Anna O'Leary his Chief of Staff. Ms. O'Leary has a history of work that includes a focus on children and family policy. *Since the meeting, the Governor appointed Dr. Nadine Burke Harris as California's first Surgeon General and Kim Perry as the Deputy Secretary for Early Childhood Development, again confirming his commitment to child and family well-being.*

To date, 17 early care and education related bills have been introduced by Legislature, six of which are aligned with Governor's budget proposals. Additional bills propose streamlining the reimbursement system (see AB 125) and appropriating \$1 billion to improve access to the Alternative Payment Program and general child care for low-income families (see AB 194). Michele noted concern raised about AB 5 (Gonzalez) due to potential implications that a Supreme Court decision on employer/employee relations specific to independent contractors could have on certain providers accepting child care vouchers for the provision of early care and education services. Lastly, she

mentioned other likely bills pending introduction: the Services Employees International Union (SEIU) is expected to introduce a bill that would allow for the unionization of licensed family child care and license-exempt providers; the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) is working on legislation that would include language to augment duties and increase funds to the local child care and development planning councils; and First 5 CA is exploring language for a bill that would boost funding for the AB 212 program with elements of standardization across the state and more closely linked the quality rating and improvement system work.

Michele concluded by inviting members, and others to bring to attention any bills that they think should be added to the matrix for tracking. The next meeting of the Joint Committee on legislation will be held on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 during which the process of prioritizing bills will begin along with a review of the Governor's budget proposals.

#### **IV. Re-visiting Child Care Salary/Retention Program Funds (AB 212): Informing the Development of Guidelines and Principles**

Nellie referred meeting participants to their materials packet for information on Los Angeles County's Investing in Early Educators Stipend Program, which has been providing stipends to early educators working in centers and family child care homes that are providing subsidized services to a majority of children enrolled in their programs since 2001. She mentioned that at the Lennox School District, teachers have received a cumulative total of about \$20,000 over the last ten years. And 50 percent of her staff have earned a Bachelor's degree as a result of their participation in the program. Nellie welcomed Renatta Cooper to talk about efforts underway to re-envision the AB 212 program.

Renatta Cooper, staff with the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education and responsible for overseeing implementation of the Investing in Early Educators Stipend Program (Los Angeles County's AB 212 program), attended a meeting of stakeholders from across the state in January to discuss the current status of AB 212 and look into its future. A second meeting is planned for February 14<sup>th</sup>. The meeting began with a presentation by Dr. Marcy Whitebook, Director of the Center for the Study of Child Care Employment at the University of California, Berkeley, highlighting the findings from her organization's study on the workforce. Among Dr. Whitebook's comments, if funding for AB 212 had kept pace with inflation, the statewide allocation would be \$25 million rather than \$11 million. In AB 212's infancy, First 5 CA was implementing CARES, which allowed early educators not eligible to participate in AB 212 to also receive a stipend for ongoing education.

Renatta commented on the reach of Los Angeles County's AB 212 program in that family child care providers working in homes participating in networks and early educators working in family child care homes and centers in which most of the children are subsidized by the state are eligible. As such, she asked "what do we want and how do we keep moving forward as the largest county and the most diverse in the state?" Among the issues under discussion at the state level include: the desire for more robust evaluations, which currently is not funded; standardization versus flexibility based on local needs; and linking AB 212 eligibility with QRIS. Renatta added that AB 212 was envisioned as a retention/salary program and, as such, suggested that consideration on how we perceive retention is needed. With more education, opportunities to move into positions with better pay are important, particularly as salaries in the field are not increase commensurate with education.

After offering some anecdotes from her experience overseeing implementation of the program in Los Angeles County, Renatta offered some questions for the meeting participants to consider in small groups. She noted that approximately 1,500 early educators participate in the Investing in Early Educators Stipend Program each year. She added that participants need to understand the value of the ECE Workforce Registry if we want them to use it beyond obtaining a unique identifier. While not included in the scope of work, Renatta offers guidance on educational goals upon request.

Highlights from the breakouts are as follows:

- What outreach efforts are underway to recruit stipend applicants?
- Link AB 212 qualified applicants to eligibility for Cal Grant eligibility.
- The linkage between AB 212 and higher education is essential – research by Neal Halfon suggests that a child's attendance in college is impacted by their success in early care and education.
- The Workforce Registry benefits people entering the field, however less so for veterans with years of experience in the field.
- Advisement is critical to ensuring people meet their educational goals.
- Explore expanding loan forgiveness programs currently available to teachers working in the K-12 system with low-income families to those working in early care and education programs.
- Explore zero percent interest loan to cover coursework upfront, which is then forgivable upon verification of completed coursework.
- Allow for online applications; create a Workforce Registry app.
- The AB 212 link to education is not negotiable and needs to maintain diversity in the field that is inclusive of public and private organizations and centers and family child care homes.
- Educational equity and pay parity must be interlinked. Additionally, need to address tuition costs and classes in languages other than English and in non-traditional environments.
- Additional paths may include offering apprenticeship programs and funding for advisement; involve Growth Advisors to work with AB 212 participants.

Nellie thanked Renatta for her steady voice on behalf of the workforce.

## **V. Strategic Planning**

Julie referenced the notes from the retreat included with December retreat minutes and provided a brief recap. Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development (Roundtable) members and guests worked a full day at Almansor Court, festively decorated for the holidays. From the notes, there was a good balance of people from both bodies. She gave a shout out to the consultant team for a well-organized day and noted the great continental breakfast and buffet lunch thanks to The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation. Julie highlighted the creativity, thoughtfulness and deep analytical thinking on direction for the strategic plan. She added that the Blue Ribbon Commission's principles are adaptable to the work for Los Angeles County. She noted strong potential for alignment between the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) within the Department of Public Health (DPH) and opportunities given the Board of Supervisors interest in early care and education and Governor Newsom's Cradle to Career agenda.

Julie invited others to share their highlights from the retreat. Members commented on how much they appreciated being with people working deep in the field, sharing goals and thinking about systems. People were enthusiastic with the idea of alignment. Equity was a common theme and while it is still early to fully comprehend, there is a desire to work with the OAECE in its full transition under the DPH umbrella. Participants mentioned the conversations targeting all children in Los Angeles County that was inclusive of middle-income as well as low-income families. There is early consensus on a common vision and sense of direction and agreement to allowing for multiple expressions of all voices.

The consultant team will be scheduling a meeting with a small group of representatives from both the Planning Committee and Roundtable. Planning Committee members volunteering to participate in the work group are: Alejandra Berrio, Kathy Schreiner, Joyce Robinson, La Tanga Hardy, Dianne Philibosian, Julie Taren, and Kelly O'Connell. A doodle poll from the Center for Nonprofit Management will be sent to the working group members within the next couple of weeks. Julie relayed that updates on progress with opportunities for the members of both bodies to comment will be provided at upcoming monthly meetings.

**VI. Announcements and Public Comment**

- Joyce Robinson's brother, Dr. Jeffrey Stewart, has a newly published book entitled The New Negro – The Life of Alain Locke. Joyce's brother is a professor of Black Studies at University of California at Santa Barbara and chair of the Black Studies Department.
- The Southern California Chapter of the Infant Development Association will hold its 4th Annual Early Start/ECE Policy Updates on January 28, 2019. For more information, visit <https://www.idaofcal.org/events-southern-california-chapter>.
- Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee will be holding its annual Early Learning Symposium on March 30, 2019. The theme is "Building Resiliency in Family and Community". More information will be forthcoming at their website: <http://lbece.org/>.

**VII. Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 p.m.*

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# PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT: What it means for the local child care and development planning councils

Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee  
February 6, 2019



# INTRODUCTION

- ☼ Administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Administration for Children and Families
  - ✚ California Department of Education applied for \$15M; awarded \$10.5M
  - ✚ 15 month grant period from March 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020Grant period Community Survey PUMS data, and an AIR-administered survey of Head Start programs

\* Presentation points excerpted from California Department of Education/Early Learning and Care Division to the California Child Care Coordinators Association on January 29, 2019.

## PURPOSE OF GRANT

- ✦ Support states' analysis of current early care and education (ECE) landscape of their mixed delivery system
- ✦ Use analysis to implement systems change that:
  - ✦ Maximizes availability of high quality ECE options
  - ✦ Improves quality of ECE services
  - ✦ Coordinates delivery models and funding streams within each state's mixed delivery system and streamline administrative infrastructure
  - ✦ Improves state-level early learning and care funding efficiencies

## REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

- ✦ Develop a statewide needs assessment
  - ✦ Analyze gaps in existing services and improve ability to target services to vulnerable populations
- ✦ Create a detailed and innovative strategic plan
  - ✦ Engage stakeholders to provide guidance to policymakers for systems improvement
- ✦ Expand dramatically family access to information
  - ✦ Build parent information portal, increase parental knowledge of child development and revamp parent engagement practices
  - ✦ Launch parent committee to elevate their voices

## REQUIRED ACTIVITIES (continued)

- ✚ Share best practices
  - ✚ Improve professional learning and quality platforms and better integrate system
- ✚ Improve quality
  - ✚ Launch a peer learning network to support further leadership development in Tribal Child Care

## ROLE OF LOCAL CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COUNCILS

- ✦ Needs Assessment
- ✦ Strategic Plan
- ✦ Maximizing Parental Knowledge

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- ✚ American Institutes for Research (AIR) as the lead in working with LPCs to:
  - ✚ Determine local data needed; at a minimum, to include data on program quality, workforce characteristic, capacity, and supply and condition of facilities
  - ✚ Design a template and tools for local needs assessments (e.g. survey, focus group models and questions)
- ✚ Outcomes:
  - ✚ LPCs , with protocols developed by AIR, to convene **transition to kindergarten** conversations with school districts
  - ✚ Collect local **facilities** information (centers and family child care homes) for analysis by AIR

## STRATEGIC PLAN

- ✦ State Advisory Council to gather information via LPC partnerships and informant interviews, which will include soliciting input on key stakeholder, expectations and outcomes for the process and preliminary feedback on indicators



## MAXIMIZING PARENTAL KNOWLEDGE

- ✚ Build LPC capacity to fully understand the needs of culturally/linguistically diverse families and develop local systems, programs and supports to meet these needs
  - ✚ LPCs to participate in Training and Technical Assistance
  - ✚ \$1.2M enhancement to LPCs' annual allocation for 2019-20 to strengthen partnerships with community partners and address issues that limit parent access, such as child care deserts, non-traditional hours, transition to school and tribal child care needs

Augmentation to be fully spent by December 2019

## REPORTING AND TIMELINE FOR LPC WORK

- ✦ LPCs to submit final report to CDE that shares their use of updated tools, community findings, and suggestions on how to address findings
- ✦ Timeline
  - ✦ LPS begin work with AIR – Spring 2019
  - ✦ Receive training on suite of new tools - Spring/Summer 2019
  - ✦ Convene conversations – July through November 2019
  - ✦ Report due to CDE – December 31, 2019

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS...

Michele P. Sartell  
Child Care Planning Coordinator  
[msartell@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:msartell@ph.lacounty.gov)  
(213) 639-6239

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MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN  
AND MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

February 5, 2019

**Los Angeles County's Coordinated Effort: Early Care and Education**

On January 10, 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom unveiled his "California for All" budget proposal for 2019-20. The budget includes a strong focus on early childhood, with funding for preschool expansion, child care infrastructure (including facilities and professional development for the workforce), and the creation of a roadmap toward universal preschool and quality, affordable subsidized child care, home visiting and other supports for California families with young children. The Governor's budget proposal aligns nicely with current efforts in Los Angeles County (County) to expand access, improve quality, strengthen the workforce, and build infrastructure to support the local early care and education system.

Under the leadership of the Board of Supervisors (Board), partnerships among various County Departments – Public Health (DPH), Children and Family Services (DCFS), Public Social Services (DPSS), the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), Office of Child Protection (OCP), the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and

- MORE -

**MOTION**

SOLIS	_____
RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
KUEHL	_____
BARGER	_____
HAHN	_____

Development, the Child Care Planning Committee, First 5 LA, the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles and others are being strengthened and revitalized. This is keenly reflected in the County's coordinated efforts to strengthen and expand the critical systems of support for young children and their families, particularly around early care and education and home visitation.

The Board has recognized the need for a more nuanced understanding of the funding landscape and physical infrastructure to support early care and education. There is also a need to build capacity so that early childhood education and home visiting programs support prevention and early intervention to improve child, family, and community well-being. Within the last six months, the Board unanimously passed two motions, one on October 30, 2018 that asked for a comprehensive financial landscape analysis to understand what local, state, and federal funding currently exists to support early care and education services and how funds can be maximized in the County; and the other, on November 27, 2018, which asked for a review of the County-owned properties that could serve as future early care and learning sites. The Board will receive reports on both of these motions within the next few months, and these reports, combined with DPH's strategic plan for expanding home visitation and OCP's report, *Paving the Road to Safety for Our Children: A Prevention Plan for Los Angeles County* (2017), will lay the groundwork for a coordinated effort to connect the dots for young children and their families in Los Angeles County. The Governor's proposed budget provides a unique opportunity to deepen the County's partnership with the State.

-MORE-

**WE THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer to send a five-signature letter to the Governor and the County's State legislative delegation expressing the Board's support for the Governor's proposals for funding early care and education programs and encouraging additional investments in infant and toddler care and other related services that increase access to high quality early care and education programs.

# # #

JH:mk

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## Michele Sartell

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**From:** bounce-1593175-10235827@mlist.cde.ca.gov on behalf of CDDLlists@cde.ca.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 11, 2018 1:35 PM  
**To:** Michele Sartell  
**Subject:** Update on Early Learning and Care 2018 Legislation

This is a message from the California Department of Education (CDE), Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Update on Early Learning and Care 2018 Legislation

This email is to provide the CDE, ELCD contractors with a summary, and the implementation plans for the Statutes of 2018, which will impact the early learning and care field in the next few years.

#### Assembly Bill (AB) 2698

- Beginning January 1, 2019, California *Education Code (EC)* 8265.5 will provide an adjustment factor for reimbursement to specified contractors that provide mental health consultation services for children.
- A Management Bulletin (MB) will be released shortly with more clarification on what mental health consultation services are eligible and how to apply the adjustment factor.

#### AB 2626

- Effective July 1, 2019, various sections of *EC* will be amended to:
  - increase initial income eligibility threshold to 85 percent of State Median Income (*EC* 8263.1);
  - expand age eligibility and remove restrictions for children that can be served in California State Preschool Programs (*EC* 8208);
  - increase the opportunities for the voluntary transfer of funds (*EC* 8275.5); and
  - include two paid professional development days (*EC* 8272.1).
- These requirements will be described in more detail with the release of a MB in early 2019.

#### AB 2960

- The addition of *EC* 8209.6 requires the CDE to develop and post an online portal for California's early learning and care services by June 30, 2022. In order to accomplish this, the CDE is required to convene a stakeholder workgroup to evaluate and provide recommendations for the online portal prior to June 30, 2019.
- Prior to January 1, 2021, the workgroup will evaluate and provide their recommendations and submit a plan to the Legislature for implementing the recommendations of that workgroup.

## **AB 605**

- Amendments to Section 1596.951 of the Health and Safety Code, require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to adopt regulations to create a single child care center license to serve infant, toddler, preschool, and school age children, on or before January 2021.
- The CDSS will work in consultation with stakeholders to develop these regulations. The CDE will provide recommendations as part of the stakeholder workgroup.
- By January 1, 2024, all day care centers shall be licensed as a child care center with the new single license. The CDE will release more information as the CDSS progresses in the writing of the regulations and the development of the new license.

## **AB 2370**

- Amendments to Section 1597.16 of the Health and Safety Code, require the CDSS to adopt regulations implementing the provisions of this statute no later than January 1, 2021. Amendments include the requirements for licensed centers to:
  - have their drinking water tested for lead contamination every five years and instate procedures in the event of lead contamination being discovered;
  - provide families with information on the risks of lead exposure, blood lead testing recommendations and requirements, and options for obtaining blood lead testing when enrolling or reenrolling a child; and
  - amend the preventative health practices course for licensed center directors and teachers to include training on prevention of lead exposure.
- As the CDSS releases information regarding the new regulations, the CDE will release a MB providing guidance and direction to the CDE contractors.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this email, please contact your assigned Early Learning and Care Field Services Consultant. A list of consultants can be found on the CDE Consultant Regional Assignments web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/assignments.asp>.

You have received this message because you are subscribed to an e-mail list from the California Department of Education's Early Learning and Care Division. To unsubscribe from this list, go to <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/emailindex.asp>.



January 29, 2019

The Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair  
Senate Budget Committee  
State Capitol Building, Room 5050  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting, Chair  
Assembly Budget Committee  
State Capitol Building, Room 6026  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Mitchell and Ting,

The Early Care and Education (ECE) Coalition is a partnership of early childhood education advocacy and service organizations working together to secure access to high quality early learning and care for all of California's low-income children and families, particularly families of color.

We are excited by the bold initiatives put forward in the 2019-2020 Governor's Budget proposal that prioritize our youngest children and their families. This budget makes it clear that this Administration understands the value of early care and education opportunities for the care, development, and learning of our state's youngest children.

The Governor has proposed significant investments of one-time funds to lay a strong foundation for the state's ECE infrastructure. Notably, the budget provides \$500 million in one-time funding to expand child care facilities and provide training for the ECE workforce. There are currently shortages in these areas that are

contributing significantly to limiting access to ECE services. The budget also makes additional investments to increase full-time State Preschool spaces and a commitment to move the state towards providing Universal Preschool to all low-income four-year olds. These proposals will significantly expand the capacity of the ECE system to serve more of the state's eligible children.

The Governor's budget recognizes the need to develop a long-term, comprehensive plan to achieve quality, affordable subsidized child care and universal preschool in the state and provides resources to jump-start this important conversation. We also applaud the commitment to expand the Paid Family Leave program, which acknowledges the critical importance of parental bonding during the first six months of a child's life and, during this formative period, fortifies parents as a child's first and most important teacher.

Lastly, we are deeply appreciative that the budget focuses on the state's low-income families and recognizes that ECE programs are an essential part of "cradle to career" opportunities and strategy to combat child poverty in the state. Many of the state's low-income working families work in jobs meeting the demands of our 24/7 economy. Access to child care options that meet their unique needs, such as non-traditional work schedules, is a key component to addressing the inter-generational cycles of poverty by allowing parents to work and create opportunities for their families.

While the budget proposal makes substantial gains in expanding and strengthening care for children during the first few months of life through expanded Paid Family Leave, and for four-year-old children through investments towards universal preschool, child care for children under three, where the unmet need is greatest, is still largely missing. There is a severe undersupply of infant and toddler care in the state that leaves too many families struggling to find care and not be able to return to the workforce.

We respectfully request legislators to support the Governor's budget and include significant funds for more child care spaces to provide relief for working families and to ensure our youngest children receive safe and nurturing care they need to thrive. Children will be ready for school, parents will be able to work and provide for their family's needs, and our communities will grow stronger.

A fundamental pillar in laying a strong foundation for the state's ECE infrastructure is reimbursement rate reform, which needs to be addressed this year. The state's current bifurcated reimbursement rate system limits access to care, fails to maximize program quality, and forces many child care providers out of business because it does not cover the true cost of providing care or supporting a fairly paid workforce. It is crucial to adopt a policy in this year's budget that will begin the process of developing a single, regionalized reimbursement rate system, since this reform will take several years to achieve and implement. To create a stable and more effective ECE system and increase workforce retention rates, our state needs to transition to a reimbursement rate system that will better meet the needs of California's young children, their families, and their teachers.

We look forward to working with the Legislature and this Administration to advance a holistic package that strengthens and expands our early care and education system to meet the needs of California's young children and their families, to close the opportunity gap for families of color, and to make smart one-time and ongoing investments to ensure our system can bring stability and continuity to our most vulnerable families.

Cc:       Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2 on Education Finance  
          Members, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee 1 on Education



### Meeting Schedule – FY 2018-19

Meeting Date	Time	Location
September 5, 2018	<b>New Member Orientation</b> 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. <b>General Meeting</b> 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Head Start-State Preschool 10100 Pioneer Boulevard, Conference Room 110 Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
October 3, 2018	12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Head Start-State Preschool 10100 Pioneer Boulevard, Conference Room 110 Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
November 7, 2018	12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Pacific Oaks College 55 Eureka Street, Classrooms 40-41 Pasadena, CA 91103
December 14, 2018	<b>Joint Strategic Planning with the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development</b> 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Almanson Court 700 South Almanson Street Alhambra, California 91801
January 17, 2019 <i>*Note date change</i>	12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Pacific Oaks College 55 Eureka Street, Classrooms 40-41 Pasadena, CA 91103
February 6, 2019	<b>General Meeting:</b> 12:00 – 12:45 p.m. <b>Public Hearing – Local Funding Priorities</b> 12:50 – 2:00 p.m.	Los Angeles County Community Development Commission, Conference Room Babe Ruth A&B 700 West Main Street Alhambra, CA 91801
March 6, 2019	12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Pacific Oaks College 55 Eureka Street, Classrooms 40-41 Pasadena, CA 91103
April 3, 2019	12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Educare Los Angeles at Long Beach 4840 Lemon Avenue Long Beach, CA 90807
May 1, 2019	12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Head Start-State Preschool 10100 Pioneer Boulevard, Conference Room 109 Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
June 5, 2019	12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Center for Healthy Communities at The California Endowment, Catalina Room 1000 N. Alameda Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

\*\* The Child Care Planning Committee generally meets the first Wednesday of the month from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. at various locations throughout the County. The public is welcome to attend the Committee meetings and participate in its work groups. To confirm meeting schedule and verify meeting locations, check the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education website at [www.childcare.lacounty.gov](http://www.childcare.lacounty.gov) or contact Michele Sartell by e-mail at [msartell@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:msartell@ph.lacounty.gov) or by telephone at (213) 639-6239.