

Child Care Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2023

Members/Alternates in Attendance (34)				
Parents	ECE Program	Community Agency	Public Agencies	Discretionary
Dominic Armendariz	Norma Amezcua	Gwen Price for Cathy Coddington	Ranae Amezcuita & Tracey Washington	Jessica Guerra <i>2nd Supervisorial District</i>
Sally Valenzuela for LaRae Cantley	Rocio Bach	Joelle Landazabal	Eileen Carrillo-Lau	Kelly O'Connell & <i>1st Supervisorial District</i>
Erica Torres-Ness Jessica Chang	Brittie Crawford and Zivia Munoz	Ariana Oliva	Melita E. Ferguson	Dianne Philibosian and Carla Hegwood <i>5th Supervisorial District</i>
Sandra Flores	Angela Gray	Kathy Schreiner	Nadia Varela for Nora Garcia-Rosales	Sarah Soriano <i>4th Supervisorial District</i>
Crystal Jones	Micha Mims	Edilma Serna & Monica Hernandez	Scott Herring	Jennifer Baca Beltran
	Nellie Rios Parra		Ana Lopez	Gina Rodriguez
	JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia and Wendy Tseng		Maria Mora	La Tanga Hardy
	Elsie Soto for Jacqueline Torres		Tom Woodward	
	Lisa Wilkin			

Guests: Karen Starks - Community Care Licensing, Zoenda Parks – SMC, Amy Sullivan -DSS, Fiona Stewart – Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles, Gabriela Guerrero – Children’s Institute, Amy Battle – Lakeshore, Martha Duenas – MUSD Head Start, Andrea Fernandez – CA Children’s Academy, Rachel Klein – City of LA, Crystal Green - Community Care Licensing, Deborah Ajao - Community Care Licensing, Yecenia Cardenas – Think, Justin Blakely – Crystal Stairs, Denise Ginns - Community Care Licensing, Crystal Thompson – Little Scholars Academy, and Hoa Pham – Compton College.

OAECE Staff: Debra Colman, Leanne Drogin, Betsy Jacoby, Charli Lewis, and Zenaida Meza.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Opening Statement and Comments by the Chair

Lisa Wilkin, Chair to the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee), began the meeting at 12:11 p.m. by welcoming members and guests and reading the opening statement. Wilkin referred members to

the vision and mission statement at the bottom of the agenda to guide the work of the Planning Committee.

2. Consent Calendar

Vice Chair Ariana Oliva, introduced the consent calendar. Today's item on the consent calendar is the approval of the February 1, 2023, minutes. No members requested that an item be removed from the consent calendar.

Approval of Consent Calendar

Vice Chair Oliva presented the Consent Calendar and asked for a motion to approve. Edilma Serna made the motion to approve the minutes; Angela Gray seconded the motion. Angela Gray requested that she be added to the list of members in attendance from the February 1, 2023 meeting. The motion on the consent calendar passed with 5 abstentions: Ana Lopez, Scott Herring, Gwen Price, Vanessa San Martin, Nellie Rios-Parra.

3. Policy Update

Ariana Oliva, Vice Chair, summarized the Pursuit of Position approved by the Policy Roundtable Commission:

- Continue child care family fee waivers for all state subsidized early learning and care programs through June 30, 2024.
- Increase current reimbursement rates for state subsidized early care and education programs by 25% and adopt an alternative methodology using a cost estimation model and include a timeline for implementation for the actual cost of care based on program enrollment without charging families fees.

Commissioner Oliva noted the Pursuit of Position process and shared it was sent to the County Office of Legislative Affairs for approval. Commissioner Oliva highlighted the Board of Supervisor (BOS) engagement teams and addressed the Planning Committee BOS Appointee members. She added the objective of the engagement team meetings is to provide BOS staff with context of the Pursuit of Position and provide answers to questions. Commissioner Olivia noted the Policy Roundtable Commission lead will contact the Planning Committee member for scheduling.

Jessica Guerra, Co-chair of Joint Committee on Legislation, provided context on the Joint Committee on Legislation March meeting. Guerra highlighted the conversation from Joshua Bobrowsy, Department of Public Health Director of Public Affairs, who discussed the Pursuit of Position process. The Joint Committee on Legislation discussed the Governor's Budget and important bills to watch. Guerra provided resources to receive more information about the Pursuit of Position and early care and education (ECE) bills. Guerra highlighted next steps and noted the start of bill hearings. She added the importance of being present at hearings or sending letters of support for ECE bills. More information and resources included on the PowerPoint.

4. Governance Work Group

Nellie Rios-Parra, Chair of the Governance Work Group, highlighted the Planning Committee membership launch for FY 2023-24. She noted that terms are 3-years long and members may serve two consecutive terms. She added the application will be sent electronically and the deadline to apply is May 5, 2023. She noted the scheduled meeting dates and addressed the new meeting frequency for the Planning Committee. Rios-Parra proposed the new Planning Committee schedule for 2023-24, which will five times in-person and workgroup meetings will be held virtually. She added that Planning Committee meetings are scheduled but workgroup meeting times can be negotiated. Dianne Philibosian asked if scholars can apply to this committee. Rios-Parra responded that they may apply.

5. Local Planning Council Local Funding Priorities

Wilkin provided background about the LPC local funding priorities. Zenaida Meza, OAECE Staff Analyst, highlighted the process for the LPC to determine the local funding priority levels per the California Welfare and Institution Code Section 10486 (b) which requires the LPCs to review local State and Federal data and provide the CDSS with an updated listing of their local child care and development funding priorities by May 30 every year. WIC Section 10390.1 (a) specifies that LPCs must identify local priorities for the distribution of any new state general child care and development and new preschool funding to promote equal access to child development services across the state. Data sets from American Institutes for Research – Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, California Department of Education, California Department of Public Health, the American Community Survey PUMS data, and an AIR-administered survey of Head Start programs. The data is prioritized using the direction of the state to set priorities as a 1, 2 and 3 based on a number and percent thresholds and methodology. The methodology can be found at <https://cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-and-development/quality-improvement-initiatives/local-child-care-and-development-planning-councils/management-bulletin-15-04>.

Kathy Schreiner asked about the priority levels as the levels do not seem to describe need for all families and zip codes do not reflect a method for planning services in communities. Meza noted the percentage better reflects the need in a zip code and focuses on subsidy services and eligible families per eligibility guidelines, not need of all children nor all licensed capacity. Rios-Parra added the importance of elevating background stories as families may not reside in a zip code where they work or have support.

Rachel Klein asked how the state works with the data. Chair Wilkin noted the priorities are used by the state to determine where to focus new funds for subsidized childcare. She added the State reviews the data zip code by zip code and each LPC needs to establish new services or provide move services within certain zip codes.

Crystal Jones asked how to use the data to advocate for the needs of children and families. Debra Colman, OAECE Director, noted the LPC funding priorities are a requirement of the state and that the Child Care Need Assessment which is completed every five years is a better data set to address needs of children and families. She added the Needs Assessments highlights the background and story behind the data sets. Commissioner Wilkin highlighted her Downtown LA childcare center, which serves families who commute

to the area due to their work locations. She observed that despite many children not residing in the corresponding zip code, the demand for childcare services remains high at this location. Commissioner Wilkin addressed that the priorities do not provide the best understanding of need in certain zip codes. Kelly O'Connell highlighted utilizing the R&Rs and connecting with the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles for specific more accurate data of capacity and need. Fiona Stewart from the Child Care Alliance welcomed anyone to contact her to receive the information they need. Justin Blakely noted the need for data resets and the need to discuss all important data points with all partners of the LA county ECE system. Chair Wilkin noted Options for Learning was very helpful when she requested data. The need for a more robust data set to capture need for care and parent preference was discussed, Meza shared that assessment activities will be an activity through the Universal Prekindergarten Grant and that the Planning Committee will lead that work.

Meza closed the conversation by reviewing the timeline for approval of the Local Funding Priorities. The Planning Committee will vote to approve the Local Funding Priorities at the May meeting.

6. Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) Mixed Delivery Grant

Meza introduced the UPK workgroup chairs for Access & Inclusion and Parent Engagement. Each workgroup highlighted their UPK planning recommendations. All draft recommendations were developed from feedback from the Planning Committee and work groups. They recommendations were distributed to the Planning Committee and displayed on the power point. Meza noted the importance of feedback as the workgroup recommendations. Recommendations goals are as follows:

Goal 1: Increase understanding of parent's needs

Goal 2: Inform parents about preschool choices

Goal 3: Strengthen partnerships between LEA's and the mixed delivery system

Goal 4: Strengthen partnerships to support children with special needs

Goal 5: Increase supports for workforce

Goal 6: Strengthen collaboration with LA County Quality Improvement Consortium

Meza opened the conversation for feedback. Diane Philibosian asked about the requirements for the mixed delivery grant. Meza noted the grant funding is strictly for planning and convening and not service provision. Meza added that the LPC is to collaborate with LACOE to explore the possibility of funding additional activities as LACOE received UPK implementation dollars. Multiple members highlighted the importance of including the R&Rs around referral and need activities to avoiding the duplication of efforts and to build on the existing system. Nellie Rios-Parra asked if the funding allows us to support compensation, Meza noted that wages are approved in the funding parameters. Diane Philibosian asked if School Districts are limited to providing transitional kindergarten services and Wilkin answer yes and noted some effort that may potentially challenge that like Assembly Bill 51 Bonta. Members noted the importance of the multimedia campaign addressing parent choice. Many members noted the importance of doing this work at the local and community level to best reach children and families.

Meza closed the conversation by reviewing the timeline for approval. The Planning Committee will vote to approve the recommendations at the May meeting.

7. Announcement and Public Comment

Vice Chair Oliva opened the floor for announcements and public comment.

- Commissioner Sarah Soriano noted that the Southern Revision Board positions, Chair and Co-Chair, at EveryChild California are open. Commissioner Soriano added that on April 28, 2023 Dianne Philibosian is speaking on leading group change at the EveryChild California meeting.
- Betsy Jacoby, OAECE Staff Analyst, noted on April 21, 2023, the fee waiver program at OAECE is launching which provides funds for child care providers who serve infants and toddlers and want to make improvements to or construct facilities.
- Deborah Ajao from Community Care Licensing announced staffing changes and share a CCL Quarterly Update publication with the group.
- Meza added OAECE launched the Voluntary Temporary Transfer of Funds (VTTF) for CSPP and CCTR funded contracts. An orientation will be held on April 7th from 1:30-2:30 pm, RSVP by emailing Meza at zmeza@ph.lacounty.gov
- Wilkin highlighted that then VTTF is specifically meant to temporarily transfer funding in CSPP and CCTR contracts between agencies to avoid having contractors be underspent or overspent. However the deadline for an agency to request a inter-agency transfer of funds directly from the state (CDE or CDSS) is April 14th, 2023.

8. Call to Adjourn

Chair Lisa Wilkin adjourned the meeting at 1:59 p.m.