



Child Care Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2023

Members/Alternates in Attendance (27)				
Parents	ECE Program	Community Agency	Public Agencies	Discretionary
Erica Torres-Ness for Jessica Chang	Rocio Bach	Manuel Fierro	Ranae Amezquita & Tracey Washington	Kelly O'Connell & 1 st Supervisorial District
Crystal Jones	Elsie Soto for Jacqueline Torres	Joelle Landazabal & Maribel Gonzalez	Eileen Carrillo-Lau	Dianne Philibosian 5 th Supervisorial District
Eli Pessar	Angela Gray	Edilma Serna & Monica Hernandez	Tom Woodward	Sarah Soriano 4 th Supervisorial District
	Nellie Rios Parra		Ana Lopez & Regina Angelo - Tarango	Julie Taren 3 rd Supervisorial District
	Lisa Wilkin & Ancelma Sanchez		Maria Mora	Jennifer Baca Beltran SEIU Local 99
	JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia		Nadia Varela for Nora Garcia-Rosales	Gina Rodriguez & Stephanie Orozco
				Jennifer Baca Beltran
				La Tanga Hardy
				Patrick MacFarlane for Jessica Guerra 2 nd Supervisorial District

Guests: Felisa Chavez – DSS, Gaby Acosta – DHHS, Rachel Klein – City of LA, Heesu Kim – City of LA, Amy Battle – Lakeshore, Mark Funston – Lakeshore, Luis Molina – Early Edge CA, Veronica Torres, Karen Chambers – CCL, Shay Scott– Really Good Stuff, Amy – Discount School Supplies, Alejandra Albarran – Moses – Long Beach DHHS, Stacey Lee – Children Now, Fiona Stewart – Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles, Gus Briebesca – DPSS.

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

Opening Statement and Comments by the Chair

Nellie Ríos Parra, Chair of the Governance Work Group, began the meeting at 12:26 p.m. by welcoming members and guests. Ríos Parra shared the vision and mission statement and invited members to



introduce themselves, share their affiliated organization, and their role within the Child Care Planning Committee (CCPC).

2. Consent Calendar

Ríos Parra introduced the consent calendar. The consent calendar included the approval of the May 3, 2023 minutes. No members requested that an item be removed from the consent calendar.

Approval of Consent Calendar

Ríos Parra *presented the May 3, 2023, minutes and asked for a motion to approve. Dianne Philibosian made the motion to approve the minutes; Sarah Soriano seconded the motion. Two comments about the May 3, 2023, minutes included removing Valerie Marquez and instead inserting Angela Gray on page 3 and removing Eli Pessar's title with the Maryland State Department of Education. The motion on the consent calendar passed with no abstentions. To note in the minutes, The City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks is opening a total of 30 centers but only a few centers will be opened in 2024.*

3. Policy Update

Stacey Lee, Senior Managing Director of Children Now, presented the state budget, emphasizing that Children Now is a statewide organization focused on the holistic well-being of children. Lee provided an overview of the budget timeline, stating that the budget was recently updated in May based on the state's revenue projections. Due to a projected multibillion-dollar deficit, the budget was revised with new information. Extensions made to tax returns in California will delay the process until the fall, when the exact revenue can be determined. The budget is expected to pass on June 15, but refinements will continue throughout the summer and fall due to various factors. The legislature will pass a proposal by June 15, followed by negotiations with the governor, who must sign it by July 3.

Lee mentioned that the governor's May revision includes an 8.22% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for child care, including the California State Preschool Program (CSPP). Family fees will be waived through September 30, 2023, using existing federal funds. However, there is a proposal to reduce family fees by as much as 1%, which would be significantly lower than the current rate. President Biden's executive order to reduce burdens on childcare includes family fees.

Lee discussed changes and requirements for transitional kindergarten, noting that the legislature already recognizes developmental concerns and the importance of smaller ratios. There is a growing awareness of the problems and concerns in the field and the need to strengthen it.

Further detail regarding the budget update is listed in the PowerPoint. Lee opened the floor for questions and discussion.

Ríos Parra noted the regression from the progress made in previous years and emphasized the importance of considering other critical factors in preschool, such as maintaining 1:8 ratios rather than 1:10.



Lee highlighted that California is spending the most but not meeting many quality benchmarks, as indicated in the NIERR report.

Dianne Philibosian pointed out that California different ECE programs lacks equity requirements, with different programs having varying requirements.

4. Governance

Nellie Ríos Parra, Chair of the Governance Work Group, provided a membership update and noted the FY 2023 -24 membership slate. *Ríos Parra presented the FY 2023 -24 membership slate and asked for a motion to approve. Kelly O’Connell made the motion to approve the FY 2023 -24 membership slate; Dianne Philibosian seconded the motion. The motion on the membership slate passed with no abstentions.*

Nellie Ríos Parra extended a formal welcome to the new membership for FY 2023-24. The commissioners recognized Julie Taren as an indispensable member of the committee, acknowledging her impressive 30-year tenure. Taren emphasized the significance of the special needs project.

Ríos Parra provided an update on the election of a new Vice Chair for the Child Care Planning Committee. *Ríos Parra presented the new Vice Chair of the Child Care Planning Committee and made a motion to elect Manual Fierro as the Vice Chair of the Child Care Planning Committee. To note, the voting is limited to the position of vice chair, as Lisa Wilkin holds a two-year term. Julie Tarren made the motion to elect Manual Fierro as the Vice Chair of the Child Care Planning Committee; Ana Lopez seconded the motion. The motion to elect Manual Fierro as the Vice Chair of the Child Care Planning Committee passed with no abstentions.*

Nellie Ríos Parra welcomed Manual Fierro as the Vice Chair of the Child Care Planning Committee.

5. Child Care Needs Assessment

Debra Colman, Director of the OAECE, provided an update on the Child Care Needs Assessment. She noted the CCPC is required by Los Angeles County to perform an Early Care and Education (ECE) needs assessment every 5 years. The assessment must be shared publicly and include recommendations for systems change. The three focus areas for this needs assessment are 1) Access, 2) Quality, and 3) Workforce. Colman highlighted the importance and background of Access, Quality, and Workforce. Further detail is listed in the PowerPoint regarding these important focus areas.

Members, alternates, and guests divided into smaller groups to engage in discussions regarding recommendations pertaining to Access, Quality, and Workforce.

Colman invited each group to share their discussion and recommendations.



Eli Pessar reported that the workforce group accepted the draft recommendations, with the top priority being to “establish a local investment to increase the compensation of the ECE workforce.” All other points were endorsed and accepted, and the group aims to expand on resources needed to invest in the workforce. Additionally, he mentioned the need to align systems to provide broader support.

Shay Scott presented the draft recommendations for quality, emphasizing the support for the model over family engagement, which presents a contradiction with single payer. Two new points were added, including streamlining towards a single system, and setting a single requirement as the maximum requirement. Collaboration with Title Five and Title Twenty-Two is crucial to ensure all are on the same path. She noted the importance of starting an awareness campaign for Family, Friend, and Neighbor Providers (FFNS) to address equity barriers and ensure they are aware of the available support system.

Zenaida Meza, OAECE Staff Analyst, discussed the draft recommendations for access, highlighting the importance of system alignment to increase family’s ability to access information about available early care and education programs and decrease provider competition. Accessibility about eligibility and enrollment should be available in a centralized platform, website, or app where a family and referral entities may find information to support parental choice. The discussion also emphasized identifying underserved areas and utilizing social media to support providers with outreach and enrollment.

Colman closed the conversation with next steps regarding these recommendations.

6. Announcement and Public Comment

Ríos Parra opened the floor for announcements and public comment.

- Fiona Stewart mentioned the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles is hiring.
- Jen Baca Beltran, SEIU, provided an update on the lack of progress regarding state rates. She emphasized the need for input from all attendees and from California as a whole. Bargaining discussions will take place in Los Angeles highlighting the importance of establishing child care providers as essential workers. Additionally, there is a call to action on June 15, 2023, for an ECE gathering at the capital in Sacramento.
- Chair Lisa Wilkin and OAECE Director Debra Colman acknowledge members who will no longer be part of the CCPC and extended their appreciation to everyone for their involvement in both the current and upcoming year.

7. Call to Adjourn

Ríos Parra adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.