



Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Meeting Minutes December 13, 2023

Welcome and Introductions

1. Welcome and Introductions of Commissioners, Alternates, and Guests

Chair Alejandra Albarran Moses opened the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission (Policy Roundtable) meeting at 10:01 a.m. by welcoming members and guests.

2. Comments by the Chair

Chair Albarran Moses shared her experience attending the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Building Sustainable Local Health Departments (LHDs) and Early Care and Education Partnerships meeting in Washington D.C. where discussions centered on improving collaboration between local public health organizations and education departments. She noted that these partnerships are consistent with the type of collaboration the Policy Roundtable promotes to support children and families in Los Angeles County. These types of partnerships also align with the Commission's theme of "Synchronized Systems" which aims to foster meaningful connections among County Departments and other systems.

General Business

3. Consent Calendar

3a. Approval of Minutes - November 8, 2023

3b. Approval of Policy Roundtable Commission Annual Report FY 2022-23

Vice Chair Justin Blakely presented the Consent Calendar which included the minutes from the Policy Roundtable's November 8, 2023 meeting and the Policy Roundtable Commission Annual Report FY 2022-23; Vice Chair Blakely then asked for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Commissioner Lisa Wilkin made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar; Commissioner Gloria Davis seconded the motion. Vice Chair Blakely opened the floor for discussion. The Consent Calendar to approve the minutes from the Policy Roundtable's November 8, 2023 meeting and the Policy Roundtable Commission Annual Report FY 2022-23 passed with no abstentions.

Our Unified Strategic Plan in Motion

4. ECE in Transition: Universal PreKindergarten and Infant Toddler Child Care Blueprint Update

Debra Colman, Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) Director, opened her presentation by acknowledging that the early care and education (ECE) landscape is shifting. Colman provided an update about the planning activities for: 1) Universal PreKindergarten (UPK) implementation and 2) the development of an Infant Toddler Child Care Blueprint (Blueprint) for Los Angeles County. For example, during November 2023 and December 2023 the OAECE facilitated a public listening session and sought input from the Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee, Santa Monica Early Childhood Task Force, Infant Toddler Policy Ad Hoc (Policy Ad Hoc), and Department of Economic Opportunity to inform the development of the Blueprint. Colman's PowerPoint presentation provides more detail. Colman opened the floor for questions and comments regarding UPK and the Infant Toddler Child Care Blueprint update. The following points were raised:

- Need to gather parent input on the type of UPK services parents prefer; a parent survey will be conducted during the next few months

- It is important for parents to know their UPK options and that Resource and Referral (R&Rs) agencies have an important role in providing this information to parents
- Need to build and strengthen relationships between local education agencies (LEA) and ECE mixed delivery providers
- Need to address pay parity between LEA teachers and UPK workforce

Public Policy

5. Improving the Infant and Toddler System of Care in LA County: Lessons from the Field

Chair Albarran Moses introduced Dr. Dawn Kurtz, Interim Chief Executive Officer of Los Angeles Education Partnership (LAEP). Dr. Kurtz led the development of a Conrad Hilton Foundation (Hilton) study which reviews the experiences, successes, and challenges of LA County's infant and toddler child care system. Dr. Kurtz outlined the study's approach and methodology, presented findings from the study, and highlighted key takeaways and recommendations. Further details can be found in the PowerPoint and the [webinar](#) titled "An Intimate Examination of the Infant and Toddler System of Care in LA." The complete report will be released at the beginning of 2024. Dr. Kurtz invited questions and comments regarding the findings presented. The following points were raised:

- The findings align with ECE field feedback shared with the Commission and includes key issues for the Commission to consider when developing policy recommendations
- Studies such as these must include parent participation that accurately reflects the demographic composition of Los Angeles County
- There is an urgent need to expand the ECE provider workforce

6. Infant Toddler Policy Ad Hoc

Chair Albarran Moses reviewed that the purpose of the Policy Ad Hoc is to provide input on the Blueprint policy recommendations. Commissioner Jennifer Cowan, a member of the Policy Ad Hoc, reviewed who are the Commissioners serving on the Policy Ad Hoc and topics discussed at the first Policy Ad Hoc meeting on December 5, 2023, which included:

- Reviewed OAECE's process to gather input for the Blueprint
- Reviewed Blueprint issue categories, rationale for the issues, and data
- Provided additional input for rationale of the issues
- Identified several policy recommendations to consider for inclusion in the Blueprint

Leanne Drogin, Deputy Director of OAECE, reviewed the Blueprint draft recommendations which included: 1) policy recommendations drafted by the OAECE, and 2) policy recommendations suggested by the Policy Ad Hoc. Drogin highlighted the five issue categories and noted the policy recommendations include the "Type of Policy Lever" and "Level of Policy Change." The five issue categories include: 1) Infant Toddler ECE Capacity, 2) Cost of Infant Toddler ECE, 3) Infant Toddler ECE Workforce Compensation, 4) Quality Infant Toddler ECE Programs, and 5) Access to Infant Toddler ECE Services. Drogin presented the draft policy recommendations for categories one, two, and five and noted the draft policy recommendations for three and four will be discussed at the January 10, 2024 Commission meeting. The Commission will review the draft policy recommendations for all five categories at its February 14, 2024 Commission meeting. Draft policy recommendations are provided in the PowerPoint.

Chair Albarran Moses opened the floor for discussion regarding the draft infant toddler child care policy recommendations. A range of suggestions for the policy recommendations were provided during the discussion. The following highlights some of the suggestions provided:

- Ensure policy recommendations do not result in unintended consequences such as limiting infant toddler child care access to families most in need
- Align General Child Care and Development-CCTR income eligibility requirements with California State Preschool Program income eligibility requirements
- Consider partnering with city programs
- Propose Family, Friends, and Neighbors providers are eligible for earned income tax credit
- Expand shared services options for infant toddler ECE providers

7. Creation of Ad Hoc

The Commission did not discuss the need to establish a new Ad Hoc.

Wrap Up

8. Announcements and Public Comment

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

- Commissioner Wilkin asked if the Policy Roundtable will establish an ad hoc for the Joint Committee on Legislation. Drogin responded that the chairs and vice chairs of the Child Care Planning Committee and the Policy Roundtable will meet to discuss the Joint Committee on Legislation.

9. Meeting in Review and Call to Adjourn

Vice Chair Blakely adjourned the meeting at 11:58 PM.

Attendance

Commissioners Attendance

1. Justin Blakely, *Second Supervisorial District*
2. Gloria Davis, *Second Supervisorial District*
3. Jennifer Cowan, *Third Supervisorial District*
4. Amber Rivas, *Third Supervisorial District*
5. Alejandra Albarran Moses, *Fourth Supervisorial District*
6. Ricardo Mota, *Fourth Supervisorial District*
7. Jennifer Hottenroth, *Department of Children and Family Services*
8. Kanchana Tate, *Department of Mental Health*
9. Robert Gilchick, *Department of Public Health*
10. Lisa Wilkin, *Child Care Planning Committee*
11. Paul Pulver, *Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles*
12. Luis Bautista, *Los Angeles County Office of Education*

Alternate Commissioners Attendance

1. Jaime Kalenik, *First 5 LA*

Guests Attendance

1. Christina Alvarado



2. Jen Baca Beltran
3. Seoyeon Choi
4. Marvin Espinosa
5. Andrea Fernandez Mendoza
6. Monica Hernandez
7. Nicole Jain
8. Rachel Klein
9. Dawn Kurtz
10. Esla Leal
11. Esther Nguyen
12. Kelly Reynolds
13. Shay Scott
14. Roders Shakhualadyan
15. Edilma Sorna
16. Rosa Valdés

Staff Attendance

1. Debra Colman, *Director*
2. Leanne Drogin, *Deputy Director*
3. Charli Lewis, *Management Analyst*
4. Zenaida Meza, *Staff Analyst*
5. Erica Torres-Ness, *Management Analyst*