



Child Care Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2023

1. Welcome and Introductions

Lisa Wilkin, Chair of the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) began the meeting at 12:06 p.m. by welcoming members and guests. Wilkin shared the vision and mission statement and invited members to introduce themselves, share their affiliated organization, and their role within the Planning Committee.

2. Governance

Nellie Rios-Parra, Governance Ad hoc Co-Chair, reviewed the Annual Summary and Self-Evaluation Findings Report FY 2022-23. Rios-Parra highlighted the purpose, process, findings, and next steps. All findings were compliant per the Welfare and Instruction Code (WIC). Rios-Parra highlighted eight findings, which include but are not limited to Involvement in Local Priority Setting Process, Staffing and Professional Development Finding, and Opportunity and Equal Educational Access. More information about all the findings is provided in the PowerPoint.

3. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes - September 6, 2023

B. Approval Annual Summary and Self-Evaluation Findings Report

Manuel Fierro, Vice Chair, presented the September 6, 2023, minutes and the Annual Summary and Self-evaluation Findings Report and asked for a motion to approve. Andrea Fernandez made the motion to approve the minutes; Ana Lopez seconded the motion. Fierro opened the conversation for comments. Rachel Klein noted an amendment on page 4 to replace "LA County" with "LA City." Rios-Parra requested an amendment to rectify the spelling of her surname. The motion passed to approve the consent calendar with the two amendments to change "LA County" to "LA City" and correct the spelling of Nellie Rios-Parra surname. The motion passed with no abstentions.

4. Governance

A. Child Care Planning Committee Policies and Procedures Proposed Changes

B. Approval of Child Care Planning Committee Policies and Procedures Proposed Changes

Rios-Parra highlighted the proposed changes for the Planning Committee Policies and Procedures. She addressed the purpose, process, review, and highlighted next steps. Rios-Parra noted seven proposed changes to the policies and procedures, which include but are not limited to revising subcommittee and Ad hoc language, changing "she/he" to "they/them" to provide more inclusive language, and removing the section "Staff Selection." More information on the proposed changes for the Planning Committee Policies and Procedures are provided in the PowerPoint.

Manuel Fierro, Vice Chair, presented the Child Care Planning Committee Policies and Procedures Proposed Changes and asked for a motion to approve. Alicia Rivas made the motion to approve the



Planning Committee Policies and Procedures; Veronica Torres seconded the motion. Fierro opened the conversation for discussion. The motion passed to approve the Child Care Planning Committee Policies and Procedures Proposed Changes with no abstentions.

5. Universal PreKindergarten Los Angeles (UPKLA)

Debra Colman, Director of the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE), addressed the Universal PreKindergarten Los Angeles (UPKLA) plan. She highlighted the November 1, 2023 Infant/Toddler listening session, which allowed for discussions about Quality, Access, and Workforce in the Infant/Toddler system to contribute to the development of the Infant Toddler Blueprint. Colman discussed the difference between Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and Universal Prekindergarten (UPK). She noted information about the Mixed Delivery Grant and the Implementation Grant. Colman highlighted the strategy development process timeline. She grounded the Committee in the four UPKLA Planning goals and highlighted the three Planning Committee UPK Ad hoc for FY 23-24 which are 1) Access/Parent Engagement, 2) Special Needs, and 3) Workforce. More information is provided in the PowerPoint.

Colman opened the discussion for comments. A member questioned why the Ad hocs are starting in January 2024. Colman noted capacity and bandwidth considerations. Rios-Parra addressed the issue of early childhood education (ECE) professionals lacking access to professional development and discussed potential partners who could help communicate options to the workforce. Another member inquired about the age at which children can enter Transitional Kindergarten (TK). Rios-Parra clarified that children must be 4 years old when the school year begins, continuing through April 2024, to attend TK. Rachel Klein inquired about parent engagement and UPK options and how they connect the work between Infant/Toddler programs and UPK. Colman noted the California State directive, which focuses on UPK and the ECE system but does not include Infant/Toddler programs. The LA County Board of Supervisors has directed OAECE to address Infant/Toddler programs separately. A question was raised about integrating private centers throughout the county. Wilkin noted that community-based organizations may only offer before and after-school services, not TK, as TK must be provided by local school districts. However, UPK might offer opportunities for collaboration between community organizations and local school districts. Another member inquired about the role of the workforce Ad hoc within the UPK framework, whether it aims to ensure the rest of the system aligns with credential requirements or strengthens the workforce throughout the system. Colman emphasized that the Ad hoc goal is to focus on supporting the workforce and increasing compensation across the system.

6. Quality Start Los Angeles

Gina Rodriguez and Katie Kurutz from First 5 LA, along with Ilyssa Foxx from Quality Start Los Angeles (QSLA), discussed the Dual Language Learner Initiative and their partners. Foxx covered QSLA's Dual Language Learners (DDL) family resources, highlighting family workshops, male/father engagement workshops, and family cafes. She discussed the Read Together Initiative and parent perspective videos and noted LACOE training available through Resource and Referral (R&R) agencies. Kurutz provided an



overview of the Communications Campaign, including development strategies and partnerships to raise awareness. She mentioned increased funding from LACOE for multilingual resources. More information is provided in the PowerPoint. Planning Committee member Andrea Fernandez suggested partnering with California State Preschool (CSPP) to eliminate the need for parents to translate information.

Kelly Reynolds, Senior Policy Analyst at Early Edge, discussed California legislation. AB 1363 implemented a process for identifying DLL. She highlighted the governor's recent signing of AB 393, which builds on AB 1363 in expanding asset-based DLL identification to general child care programs (CCTR) and the Migrant Child Care Program (CMIG) in working towards the goals of the Master Plan to support DLLs. Reynolds emphasized close collaboration with California Department of Education (CDE) and the importance of CDE's use of these communication materials by providers. Additionally, as TK expands, the goal is to create a supportive environment for DLLs and educators who speak multiple languages in the classroom.

Rodriguez opened the floor for discussion and questions. Answers provided by the presenters included:

1. Methods for tracking data involve the use of customized QR codes.
2. Regarding the inclusion of other languages, it's crucial to ensure that each language and culture is respected within every resource. QSLA is expanding to include Armenian, Khmer, Vietnamese, Korean.
3. The selection of these additional languages was based on data points representing the most spoken languages in LA County.

7. Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

Andrea Welsing, Department of Public Health's Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) Director, discussed the OVP's creation, vision, and establishment by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in February 2019. She addressed the early implementation priorities of the OVP, elaborating on the process for their development and highlighted the communities most affected by violence. Welsing shared data on firearm mortality rates, child firearm death rates by demographic groups, and the issue of gun violence in LA County. She presented the goal of the Gun Violence Prevention Platform (GVPP). GVPP's taskforce primary focus was robust gun safety legislation, promoting social connections, health, and a culture of peace, improving awareness and access to legal restraining orders, and enhancing access to comprehensive, culturally relevant physical and mental health support and services for K-12 students. Welsing provided comprehensive details on OVP resources, including trauma-informed care. More information is provided in the PowerPoint.

8. Announcement and Public Comment

Fierro opened the floor for announcements and public comment.

9. Call to Adjourn

Wilkin adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Attendance

Public Agency

1. Alicia Rivas
2. Ana Lopez
3. Regina Angelo Tarango, alternate for Ana Lopez
4. Kristina Meza, alternate for Kelly LoBianco
5. Nellie Rios-Para
6. Gus Bribiesca, alternate for Nora Garcia-Rosales
7. Rachel Klein
8. Heesu Kim, alternate for Rachel Klein
9. Tracey Washington, alternate for Ranae Amezcua
10. Mariela Ramon, alternate for Scott Herring
11. Vanessa San Martin
12. Rececca Lynch, alternate for Vanessa San Martin

Early Educator

1. Andrea Fernandez
2. Lisa Wilkin
3. Norma Amezcua
4. Rocio Bach

Parent/Caregiver

1. Seoyeon Choi, alternate for Anne Backstock-Bernstein
2. Christina Moore
3. Eli Pessar
4. Mona Franco
5. Sasha Duarte
6. Micha Mims, alternate for Sasha Duarte

Discretionary

1. Gina Rodriguez
2. Helen M. Davis
3. Ivy Chang
4. Lester Farcia, alternate for Jen Baca Beltran
5. Patrick MacFarlane, alternate for Jessica Guerra

6. Kimberly Dobson Garcia, alternate for Kelly O'Connell
7. Sarah Soriano
8. Veronica Torres

Community Organization

1. Monica Hernandez, alternate for Edilma Serna
2. Gina Rodriguez
3. Stephanie Orozco, alternate for Gina Rodriguez
4. Ilyssa Foxx
5. Fiona Stewart, alternate for Ilyssa Foxx
6. Joelle Landazabal
7. Maribel Z. Gonzalez, alternate for Joelle Landazabal
8. Kathy Schreiner
9. Manuel Fierro
10. Victoria Tarrango

Guests

1. Gaby Acosta
2. Justin Blakely
3. Michelle Dang
4. Kelsey Gordon
5. Claudia Guangorena
6. Zephania Hartojo
7. Katie Kurutz
8. Jessica Reynaga
9. Gloria Santiago
10. Shay Scott
11. Chris Sears
12. Julie Taren
13. Crystal Thompson
14. Elly Yu

Staff Attendance

11. Debra Colman, *Director*
12. Leanne Drogin, *Deputy Director*
13. Charli Lewis, *Management Analyst*
14. Zenaida Meza, *Staff Analyst*
15. Meliza Hernandez, *Staff Analyst*