



CHILD CARE
PLANNING
COMMITTEE



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health

Child Care Planning Committee

Los Angeles County

Local Child Care and Development Planning Council (LPC)

Manuel Fierro, Chair

Andrea Fernandez Mendoza, Vice Chair

Debra Colman, OAECE Director

Simone Taylor, Local Planning Council Coordinator

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.



Vision Statement

Children are healthy, thriving and have equitable opportunities to achieve optimal development and succeed in life.

Mission Statement

Lead, build, and strengthen an affordable and high-quality early care and education system for the children and families of Los Angeles County.





Chair



Manuel Fierro
Community Organization

Vice Chair



Andrea Fernandez Mendoza
Early Educator

Please share your:

- **Name**
- **Role as a Child Care Planning Committee Member, Alternate, or Public**
- **Organization or Affiliation, if it applies**



**Presentation
of the
FY 25-26 Local Planning Council (LPC)
Local Funding Priorities Report**

Local Funding Priorities

What is it?

- Compares the number of LA County children income eligible* for subsidized early care and education services, to the number of children enrolled in subsidized early care and education
- Separated by zip code & age group

How is it used?

- State departments consider the report when distributing funding to promote equal access to child development services
- Local Planning Councils elevate for strategic planning
- Early care and education providers use to apply for funding
- Programs that support families utilize to prioritize service areas
- Excel and PDF reports are available at childcare.lacounty.gov/lpc/#activities

Service Planning Area (SPA)	Supervisorial District	Zip Code	Estimated Number of Infants & Toddlers Eligible for Subsidized Care	Number of Children Served in Subsidized Spaces	Number of Children NOT Served in Subsidized Spaces	Percentage of Children NOT Served in Subsidized Spaces	2022-2023 Priority
6	2	90001	2924	204	2720	93%	1
6	2	90002	2548	187	2361	93%	1
6	2	90003	3218	201	3017	94%	1
4	2	90004	1356	121	1235	91%	2
4	1	90005	909	32	877	96%	3
4	2	90006	1647	155	1492	91%	2
6	2	90007	1205	248	957	79%	2
6	2	90008	506	85	421	83%	3
5	4	90009	0	0	0	No unmet need	No unmet need
4	2	90010	87	3	84	97%	3
6	2	90011	4853	236	4617	95%	1
4	1	90012	1096	46	1050	96%	2
4	1	90013	434	5	429	99%	3
4	1	90014	259	1	258	100%	3
4	1	90015	580	215	365	63%	3
4	1	90016	773	86	687	89%	3
6	2	90017	606	89	517	85%	3
6	2	90018	1133	204	929	82%	2
4	2	90019	977	87	890	91%	2
4	2	90020	955	46	909	95%	2
4	1	90021	145	37	108	74%	3
7	1	90022	2080	190	1890	91%	1
4	1	90023	1593	140	1453	91%	2
5	3	90024	278	1	277	100%	3
5	3	90025	248	8	240	97%	3
4	1	90026	1700	337	1363	80%	2
4	3	90027	878	28	850	97%	2
4	3	90028	518	65	453	87%	3
7	4	90029	717	32	685	96%	3
4	1	90030	0	0	0	No unmet need	No unmet need
7	4	90031	1005	182	823	82%	2
8	2	90032	772	223	549	71%	3
4	1	90033	1801	192	1609	89%	1
8	2	90034	539	61	478	89%	3
5	2	90035	364	12	352	97%	3
4	3	90036	473	7	466	99%	3
6	2	90037	2733	169	2564	94%	1
4	3	90038	520	115	405	78%	3
4	1	90039	471	5	466	99%	3
7	1	90040	465	84	381	82%	3

LPC Local Funding Priorities Background Data Approved by the Child Care Planning Committee (LPC) on May 3, 2023.

*Management Bulletin 15-04. Local Child Care and Development Planning Council Funding Priority Setting Process. June 2015. Available at <https://cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-and-development/quality-improvement-initiatives/local-child-care-and-development-planning-councils/management-bulletin-15-04>

Summary of Unmet Need for Child Care and Development Services in Los Angeles County (2025)

Age Group	Eligible Children	Children Served	% of Children Unserved	Number of Prioritized Zip Codes
Infants & Toddlers	159,909	22,090	86%	95
Preschool	117,560	77,857	34%	12
School age	498,825	27,154	95%	206
Total	776,294	127,101	84%	305

Priority 1: Zip code qualifies when there are 50% or more eligible children unserved AND more than 1,500 eligible children unserved

Priority 2: Zip code qualifies when there are 50% or more eligible children unserved AND more than 750 eligible children unserved

Priority 3: Zip code qualifies when there are 50% or more eligible children unserved AND more than 500 eligible children unserved

Another option is to count all other Zip Codes with any unmet need as priority 3

Overview of Findings: Infants and Toddlers



	Programs Serving Infants and Toddlers				
Service Planning Area	Number of Zip Codes with Priority Ratings				
	1	2	3	Prioritized Zip Codes	Total Zip Codes
SPA 1 (Antelope Valley)	1	3	1	5	15
SPA 2 (San Fernando)	3	6	9	18	71
SPA 3 (San Gabriel Valley)	2	7	5	14	54
SPA 4 (Metro)	0	8	2	10	34
SPA 5 (West)	0	0	0	0	30
SPA 6 (South)	7	5	4	16	22
SPA 7 (East)	4	5	5	14	34
SPA 8 (South Bay)	1	8	9	18	45
Totals	18	42	35	95	305

Overview of Findings: Preschool-Age Children



	Programs Serving Preschool-Aged Children				
Service Planning Area	Number of Zip Codes with Priority Ratings				
	1	2	3	Prioritized Zip Codes	Total Zip Codes
SPA 1 (Antelope Valley)	0	1	0	1	15
SPA 2 (San Fernando)	0	1	1	2	71
SPA 3 (San Gabriel Valley)	0	0	3	3	54
SPA 4 (Metro)	0	0	1	1	34
SPA 5 (West)	0	0	0	0	30
SPA 6 (South)	0	3	0	3	22
SPA 7 (East)	0	0	1	1	34
SPA 8 (South Bay)	0	0	1	1	45
Totals	0	5	7	12	305

Overview of Findings: School-Age Children

	Programs Serving School-Age Children				
Service Planning Area	Number of Zip Codes with Priority Ratings				
	1	2	3	Prioritized Zip Codes	Total Zip Codes
SPA 1 (Antelope Valley)	5	2	0	7	15
SPA 2 (San Fernando)	18	13	16	47	71
SPA 3 (San Gabriel Valley)	19	18	7	44	54
SPA 4 (Metro)	13	10	1	24	34
SPA 5 (West)	0	4	1	5	30
SPA 6 (South)	18	2	0	20	22
SPA 7 (East)	15	10	5	30	34
SPA 8 (South Bay)	17	9	3	29	45
Totals	105	68	33	206	305

3A. Vote on the Approval of
Minutes – February 4, 2026

3B. Approval of the FY 25-26
Local Planning Council (LPC)
Local Funding Priorities Report
for Submission to California
Department of Social Services



Purpose:

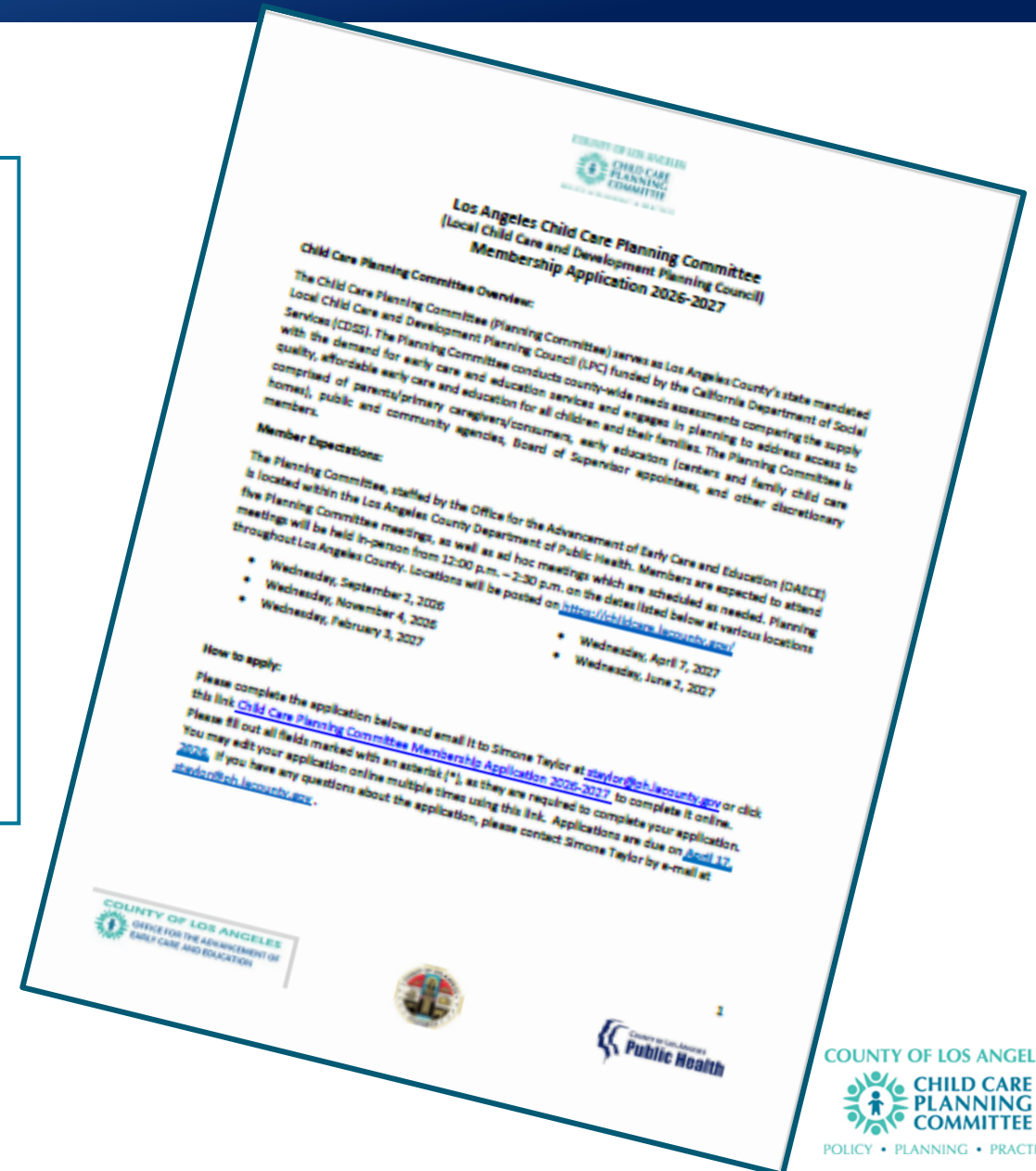
To oversee the Planning Committee governance and reporting processes and review proposed changes to the Planning Committee Member Policies and Procedures Manual.

Goal for 2025-26:

Inform the membership application process, develop the membership slate for fiscal year 2026-2027, and present LPC Leadership state candidates to the Planning Committee.

Governance Ad hoc Update

- Membership Application deadline: **April 17, 2026**
- Received:
 - 22 New Members
 - 39 Returning Members
- Membership slate will be ready for review and vote at the June 2026 meeting
- Members or alternates must attend 3 out of 5 meetings



FY 26-27 Candidates for Chair, 1st Vice Chair, and 2nd Vice Chair

Chair Nominee:

Andrea Fernandez Mendoza

First Vice Chair Nominees:

Rachel Bocarsly

Sarah Soriano

Second Vice Chair Nominees:

Dr. Kelly Fountain

Saul Hurtado

Christina Moore

Candidate for Chair

Andrea Fernandez Mendoza



Candidates for First Vice Chair

Rachel Bocarsly



Sarah Soriano



Candidates for Second Vice Chair

Dr. Kelly Fountain

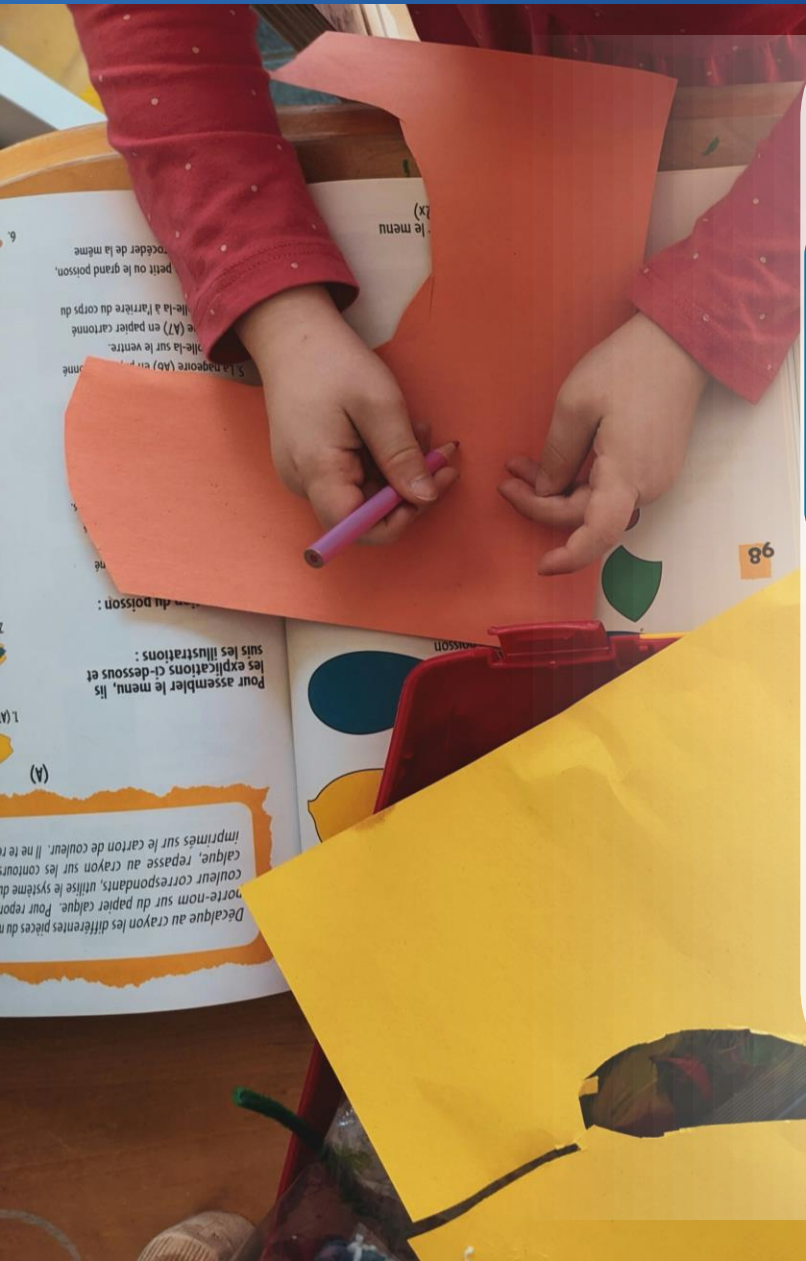


Saul Hurtado



Christina Moore





Purpose:

To promote the inclusion of children ages-3 and-4 at risk for disabilities or with special needs in early care and education environments that are the least restrictive

Goal for 2025-26:

Advise on the development of a landscape analysis of special needs and inclusion services and supports, with a specific focus on those working with 3- and 4-year-old children



DESIGN & ALIGNMENT

- Fall 2025
- Establish data sharing pathways
- Develop stakeholder matrix
- Schedule meetings with key partners

DATA COLLECTION

- Winter 2026
- Conduct document review
- Launch interviews
- Identify focus-group partners






ANALYSIS & VALIDATION

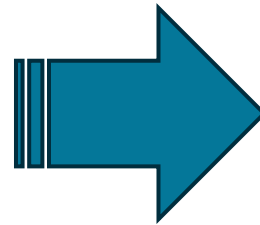
- Spring 2026
- Conduct Family focus groups
- Begin systems mapping
- Integrate qualitative & quantitative data
- Share preliminary themes and findings with Ad Hoc

FINAL REPORT

- Summer 2026
- Produce final Landscape Analysis Report + Executive Summary
- Outline systems-strengthening recommendations for FY 26-27

Activities to Date

- **Project Setup** 
- **Active Data Collection** 
- **Stakeholder Interviews** 
 - **20 Interviews** scheduled
 - **Of those 13** have been completed



Next Steps

- **Initial Analysis and Identifying Early Themes**
- **Begin systems mapping**
- **Parent focus groups**

**Presentation on Joint Committee on
Legislation Update and Pursuit of Position
and
Presentation on Federal and
State Public Policy Update**

March 2026

Policy Roundtable Approved the Following Pursuit of Positions

1. Support Implementation of Rate Reimbursement Alternative Methodology:
Support AB 1981 and similar measures that require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide a definitive timeline and annual updates regarding CDSS's transition to new reimbursement rates based on the alternative methodology
2. Strengthen Measures that Protect Immigrant Children, Families and Staff:
Support AB 2379 and similar measures that strengthen protections for immigrant child care providers and the children they serve by notifying child care providers of their constitutional rights when confronted by immigration enforcement
3. Support Wildfire Rebuild and Recovery:
Support proposed FY 2026-2027 Budget item and similar measures that strengthen child care infrastructure, specifically targeted toward communities impacted by recent fires

- Joint Committee on Legislation (JCL) rescheduled its March 2026 to April 2, 2026
- JCL will identify priority public policies to track progress and include on a “Watch List”
- JCL will review current Public Policy Platform and process to identify possible edits to the Public Policy Platform for 2027-2028 Legislative Session



State Budget 2026-2027

State Legislation: Status of Key Bills

- AB 1914 - General plan elements: childcare
- AB 1937 - Discrimination: business establishments
- AB 1996 - California Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council
- AB 2092 - Early Childhood Integrated Data System
- AB 2429 - Child care: mental health consultation services
- AB 2673 - Personal Income / Corporation Tax: credit: childcare
- SB 902 - Child care: electronic signatures
- SB 980 - Access to medical records
- SB 1051 - Foster care: childcare
- SB 1110 - Early learning and care: rates
- SB 1200 - Family daycare homes
- Spot bills: AB 2258, **AB 2314**, SB 954

Federal Funding

Federal: 2027 Funding

- President's budget was due first Monday in February, expected late March or April
- “Dear Colleague” letters circulating for 2027 funding

Focus on Fraud in Child Care and Nutrition Programs

- Focus remains on fraud, oversight, and protecting taxpayer dollars
- Senate HELP Committee hearing on fraud in child care assistance on 2/12/26
- House Committee on Education & Workforce passed 8 bills on 3/5/26
 - H.R. 7720–26 & 7677

- **Discussion among Child Care Planning Committee Councilmembers**
- **Public Comment**



- 1 Review Los Angeles County ECE Strategic Plan Purpose
- 2 Recap Ad Hoc Discussions in February and March
- 3 Review Key Takeaways and Recommendations Ideas
- 4 Discussion



➤ Purpose of Strategic Plan

- **What it is:**
 - A plan developed by the Local Child Care and Development Planning Council is required every 5 years by CA Welf & Inst Code § 10486:
 - *“Prepare a comprehensive countywide child care plan designed to mobilize public and private resources to address identified needs.”*
- **What it is not:**
 - OAECE's strategic plan
- **How it is used:**
 - Guides public and private investments in the ECE system, informs policy priorities at a local, state, and federal level, and serves as a framework to unify ECE system across LA County.



- Strategic Planning Ad Hoc met on February 19 and March 19, 2026
- Meetings chaired by Eli Pessar, facilitated by Estolano Advisors and OAECE staff
- Discussions focused on ECE Facilities, ECE Workforce Compensation, and ECE Workforce Well-being priorities



ECE Facilities Discussion Key Takeaways

1. Need to streamline local approval systems and reduce bureaucracy around renovating and constructing ECE facilities.
2. Infant and toddler facilities are particularly vulnerable, as providers operate on very thin margins while Transitional Kindergarten expansion is pulling older children out of care, reducing the revenue needed to subsidize and sustain infant and toddler programs.
3. Funding and systems don't yet support ECE facility modernization at scale.

ECE Facilities Recommendation Ideas

- Advance shared tools, templates, and best practices across municipalities. Create models, guidance, and potentially timelines/milestones to support cities in implementing ECE facility strategies that streamline city permitting and reduce cost and wait times.
- Replicate and scale proven local funding models (e.g., child care linkage fees) by supporting cities in adopting revenue generating policies for ECE facility development.
- Invest in facility modernization and resilience. Support upgrades to ECE facilities to improve climate resilience, emergency preparedness, and long-term sustainability.

Workforce Compensation and Workforce Well-Being Key Takeaways

1. ECE workforce stress is being driven by external conditions, such as I.C.E. raids, economic uncertainty, and climate disasters like Eaton and Palisades fires.
2. Compensation is the root of ECE workforce instability.
3. ECE providers are financially strained and at risk of leaving.

Workforce Well-Being and Workforce Compensation Recommendation Ideas

- Expand and increase access to ECE workforce well-being supports, including mental health resources (e.g., stress and anxiety management) and financial wellness supports (e.g., financial planning and management training).
- Support ECE workforce well-being by offering accessible emergency preparedness training and relevant resources (e.g., Know Your Rights, climate disaster response, etc).
- Establish a dedicated, sustainable revenue source to increase and stabilize compensation for the ECE workforce, including wages, benefits, and career advancement pathways.

Discussion:

1. To what extent do these recommendation ideas resonate?
2. What's missing regarding ECE Facilities, Workforce Well-being and Workforce Compensation?



Strategic Planning Session on Access to Early Care and Education Services



Facilitated by:

Demetria M. Murphy
Estolano Advisors



Summary of Unmet Need for Child Care and Development Services in Los Angeles County (2020 and 2025)

Age Group	Eligible Children		Children Served		% Unserved		% Difference
	2020	2025	2020	2025	2020	2025	
Infants & Toddlers	209,964	159,909	17,871	22,090	91.5%	86.2%	-5.3%
Preschool	162,563	125,673	70,562	81,264	56.6%	35.3%	-21.3%
School Age	636,529	498,825	26,081	27,154	95.9%	94.6%	-1.3%
Total	1,009,056	784,407	114,515	130,508	88.7%	83.4%	-5.3%

Guiding Question #1

With the expansion of Transitional Kindergarten and Universal Pre-Kindergarten, 66 percent of preschool-age children eligible for publicly funded ECE are being served.

*How does LA County need to shift its
Preschool-age strategies?*

Guiding Question #2

Only 14 percent of infants and toddlers eligible for publicly funded ECE are enrolled in a program.

What types of strategies should LA county focus on to expand infant/toddler services?

Guiding Question #3

Only 5% of eligible school aged children are being served.

Are there opportunities to develop strategies to support before and after school care for school age children?

- **Discussion among Child Care Planning Committee Councilmembers**
- **Public Comment**



Discussion:

*How does LA County need to shift its
Preschool-age strategies?*

*What types of strategies should LA county focus on to
expand infant/toddler services?*

*Are there opportunities to develop strategies to support
before and after school care for school age children?*



General Public Comment And Announcements

See you at the next meeting
Wednesday, June 3, 2026!
Los Angeles County of Education



childcare.lacounty.gov

