



## Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee

Minutes - November 4, 2009

2:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location:

LACOE Head Start

10100 Pioneer Boulevard

Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

**Members in Attendance:** (35) Rocio Bach, John Berndt, Holly Reynolds, Karla Pleitéz, Nurhan Pirim, Jenny Trickey, Tara Henriquez for Randi Wolfe, Lisa Wilkin, Sam Kirk, Bobbie Edwards, Deborah Gatti, Andrea Joseph, Pamela Kwok, Carolyn Wong, Moises Roman, JoAnn Shalhoub Mejia, Mary Helen Vasquez, Fiona Stewart, Ofelia Medina, Kathleen Pompey, Nellie Rios Parra, Susan McCombs, Anita Tetrault, Amy Bigelow for Patrice Wong, Debra Coleman for Jo Carcedo, Kimmie Szetzo for Guadalupe Chavez, Noreen Clarke, Holly Daasnes, Linette Hodson, Celeste Salinas for Pat Mendoza, Michelle Morse, Patti Oblath, Sylvia Parra, Diane Philibosian, Yolanda Benitez for Judy Sanchez, and Peggy Sisson

**Guests and Alternates:** Ancelma Sanchez, Elvie Matias, Nadia Varela, Pam Schmidt, Ben Phan, Laura Westerman, Kathy Shreiner, John Dempsey, Lou Orr, Flor Medrano, Lloyd Kajikawa, and Rosa Arevalo

**Staff:** Laura Escobedo and Helen Chavez.

### I. Welcome and Introductions

Holly Reynolds, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:16 p.m., welcomed the members and guests, and requested that everyone introduce themselves. The Chair read the opening statement.

### II. Approval of Minutes from the October 7, 2009 Meeting

**The Chair called for a motion to approve the October minutes. Sam Kirk made the motion and it was seconded by Bobbie Edwards. The Chair called for the vote. The motion was approved with no abstentions.**

### III. Office of Child Care Update: Proposed Process for Self-Review for Local Planning Council

Laura Escobedo and Sam Kirk presented the recommendation of the ad hoc group formed to develop a process for self-review. The ad hoc group recommended that the seven sections of the self-review document be allocated among the following Work Groups: Membership and Policies, Quality, Funding and Priorities. These Work Groups will review the state review form, the documentation provided by the Office of Child Care, and last year's self-review. Each group will decide if the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) is fulfilling the contract and Code requirements or needs improvement. The findings of each group will be forwarded to staff who will compile the final review document, which will be brought before the full Planning Committee for approval. Work will be done between now and the January meeting.

**Peggy Sisson moved to approve the procedure recommended by the ad hoc group; it was seconded by Dianne Philibosian. The Chair called for the vote. The motion passed with no abstentions.**

### IV. Leadership Development: Session 3 - Self-regulation

Diane reminded the group that we are reviewing elements of Emotional Intelligence as outlined in the Daniel Goldman article, "What is Leadership". We began with empathy and looked at self-awareness, the ability to accept feedback from others and adjust our behavior. Self-regulation is the ability to control disruptive impulses and moods; ability to suspend judgment; and to be able to think before acting. Self-regulation promotes reflective thinking.

It can facilitate moving toward consensus and create effective focus. All of which improve productivity.

V. Update on Steps to Excellence Project (STEP)

Helen Chavez, Coordinator for STEP presented data on the site evaluations conducted this year. She stated that there are approximately 255 centers and family child care homes participating, of which 98 have been rated. Those rated include 57 centers, 85% of which are governed by Head Start or Title 5 regulations. Ten communities are included in the pilot and providers in those communities can access free training, a one-time mini-grant, and free onsite evaluations. The entire review process takes eight to nine months and includes a licensing review, a program self-review and the final onsite evaluation. There are five steps in the Quality Rating System, from basic licensing level to level 5, which is aligned with accreditation standards. There are six domains that are evaluated and scored: licensing (pass/fail), teacher/child relationships, learning environment, inclusive practice, staff qualifications and working conditions, and community and family connections. The quality items are a balance between structural (ex. group size) and process (ex. teacher/child interactions).

The overall result for both centers and homes was a rating of 2.6 with the center average slightly higher than the family child care home average. The overall differences are greatly affected by the whether a provider operates under Title 5 or Title 22. The domain with the lowest average scores was staff qualifications and working conditions. Highest average scores were found in parent communication and family and community connections. Next steps include using the results for advocacy, developing greater public awareness, finding ways to offer follow-up technical assistance, and increase funding to expand. The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) has offered to assist in linking STEP information to its Web site.

VI. Update on Community Care Licensing (CCL)

Holly Daasnes, the only CCL Advocate in the state, reported that the budget cuts to CCL since 2003 have created an agency that does not have sufficient staff to address all its mandates. They have just completed an initiative to ensure that all licensed providers who had not been visited with five years had a licensing visit, but they will not be able to maintain the requirement to visit 30% of all licensed providers annually. The priorities for addressing mandates have put code enforcement and complaints at the top of the list. First time licensing inspections for new facilities might be seriously delayed depending on how many code enforcement events local analysts have to monitor. There are no paper resources or licensing guides. Everything is available on the CCL Web site and providers are encouraged to use the [www.myccl.ca.gov](http://www.myccl.ca.gov) portal. Licensing fees have increased by 10% for all facilities.

There has been and will continue to be a hiring freeze. There is a skeleton staff at CCL offices on furlough Fridays; however they will be handling call-ins only. The Director of the Department of Social Services (DSS) may request legislation to change the priorities in activities that could further impinge on licensing orientations, visits, etc.

Holly informed the group of some of the newest regulations:

- 1) There are increased penalties for both centers and family child care homes (up to \$150/day).
- 2) Family child care homes must have someone present at all times who is trained in CPR.

Holly stated that family child care homes are generally not prepared for disasters. She recommends that providers take the self-assessment on the CCL Web site and review the Disaster Preparedness Guide.

VII. Public Comment and Announcements

Noreen Clarke explained that the presentation on the Inclusion Web site would be delayed until December. She urged those present to visit the site before next month.

Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) is hosting the Parent Engagement subcommittee of the California Early Learning Quality Improvement System Advisory Committee (CAEL QIS) on November 19, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

John Dempsey from Low Income Investment Fund announced a new Project of the California Community Foundation to support facility development in Los Angeles County. The flyer is available on the back table.

XI. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m. after a motion from Bobbie Edwards.