



Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee
Minutes: March 3, 2010
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: The California Endowment
1000 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Members in Attendance: (32) Rocio Bach, Holly Reynolds, Karla Pleitez, Jenny Trickey, Lisa Wilkin, Sam Kirk, Deborah Gatti, Pamela Kwok, Kathleen Pompey, Susan McCombs, Linda Alexander for Yolanda Bosch, Celeste Salinas for Pat Mendoza, Patti Oblath, Diane Philibosian, Judy Sanchez, Peggy Sisson, Peter Huffaker for Kate Andersen, Joy Cyprian, Dianne Hackett, Andrea Joseph, Gay Macdonald, Atalya Sergi, Mary Helen Vasquez, Ofelia Aguilar, Ofelia Medina, Nurhan Pirim, Bobbie Edwards, Moises Roman, JoAnn Shalhoub Mejia, Fiona Stewart, Julie Taren, and Amy Bigelow for Patrice Wong

Guests and Alternates: Rebecca Patton, Ancelma Sanchez, Adrienne Gunn, Barbara Holtwick, Lou Orr, Nadia Varela, Elvie Matias, Emma Sin, Claudine Avila, Rita Mozian, Pam Schmidt, April Morris, Lloyd Kajikawa, Fran Chasen, Vanessa Mendez, and Kathy Schreiner

Staff: Laura Escobedo

I. Welcome and Introductions

Holly Reynolds, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:10 p.m., welcomed the group, and requested that everyone introduce themselves. The Chair read the opening statement.

II. Approval of Minutes from the February 3, 2010 Meeting

The Chair called for a motion to approve the February 3, 2010 minutes. Dianne Philibosian made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Peggy Sisson. The Chair called for the vote. The motion was approved without abstentions.

III. Office of Child Care Update

Laura Escobedo announced the planning for a Family Child Care Forum on the California Early Learning Quality Improvement System (CAEL QIS) to be held on March 20, 2010 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The event is being planned by the family child care members of the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee), who will also facilitate the three language break out groups. Recommendations from the forum will be sent to California Department of Education and the CAEL QIS Advisory Committee.

She also announced the formation of an Early Childhood Data Collaborative made up of the Office of Child Care, Head Start, and Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) representatives. Jointly they will collect, analyze and report data related to capacity needs and service gaps. An interactive Web site will be created to allow for easy access to the data.

IV. Census Toolkit for Early Care and Education Providers

Oscar Cruz of Families in Schools (FIS) presented. The work of his organization is to support the involvement of families in their children's education. In addition, FIS develops materials to use to address public policy issues. Recently they completed the development of a toolkit for early care and education providers that will help them educate their children and help the children promote Census 2010 participation at home. He stated that the most undercounted group is very young children. The kit consists of a poster, brochures, fact sheets, a children's book (about counting), and two activity plans to do with preschool-age children. Providers wishing to be sent a toolkit can contact Mr. Cruz at ocruz@familiesinschools.org or (213) 484-2870, ext. 236. They can also go to www.educationadvocacy.wordpress.com to download some of the materials.

V. Presentation on Conscious Discipline

Holly Reynolds presented information on Conscious Discipline, a program for social-emotional intelligence in children. Developed by Dr. Becky Bailey and based on brain and behavior research, it has proven effective at combating the increasing aggression often seen in children in group settings

and at helping children deal with stress from difficult home situations. She stressed that this is not a curriculum, but a program for interaction that should be integrated into all aspects of early care and education settings. There are seven skills to promote composure and compassion. She provided one example: STAR which stands for Smile, Take a deep breath, And Relax. This helps a frustrated or angry child pause before taking action and allows them to calm themselves. She noted that having instituted this in 2006, she has observed a huge decrease in the number of incidents reported, from over 300 in September of 2006 to around 80 in 2007. The materials and principles work wonderfully with parents and staff as well. She concluded by playing an eight minute video.

VI. 2010-11 Membership Recruitment

JoAnn Shalhoub Mejia and Ancelma Sanchez announced the beginning of the recruitment period for membership in 2010-11. Applications are now available. Members who wish to continue must complete a new application. They urged the group to help recruit new applicants.

VII. Presentation: State Head Start Outcomes Study

Peter Huffaker and April Morris of Child Care Results presented the results of their study on the effects of Head Start on the development of typical preschool children in several domains. Unlike research studies that place children in a random way into one category or another for comparison, they used data on children that was already available through agencies that collect performance data via the Desired Results Developmental Profiles-R (DRDP-R) for every child enrolled. All the children in the study were four years-old in September of 2008. Child Care Results worked with the California Head Start Association to identify participating agencies from all parts of California including Los Angeles County. Over 6,600 children were included. They were looking for differences in developmental level functioning between the children who had a previous Head Start experience (ages three to four) and those who were new to Head Start. The four developmental levels measured by the DRDP-R are exploring, developing, building, and integrating. They compared the developmental scores of the two groups and found that children with experience in Head Start achieve higher levels for all areas, the children with the previous Head Start experience achieved higher developmental levels across all developmental domains. The differences varied from 7% to 19% increase over the children without previous Head start experience. The study used a method call regression analysis and controlled for age, ethnicity, and gender. The advantage of this method is that it can be done quickly so that results are timely and can be used immediately.

VIII. Public Comment and Announcements

- A local advocacy training event is scheduled for April 28, 2010 at the Cathedral in downtown Los Angeles. It is sponsored by the Southern California Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC), the California Child Development Administrators Association (CCDAA), and the Child Development Consortium of Los Angeles (CDCLA) with funding from the California Community Foundation. Cost is \$20 to members, \$25 for non-members.
- A Strengthening Families event will be held March 19, 2010 at The California Endowment. It is targeting programs and providers in the 10 STEP communities. For information call (213) 974-4103.
- The California Association for the Education of Young Children (CAEYC) conference will be held in Long Beach April 8-11, 2010. Visit www.caeyc.org for more information.
- A CAEL QIS Town Hall meeting will be held on March 26, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Braille Institute.
- The Infant Development Association Conference is scheduled for April 22, 2010 in Riverside.
- The Constructing Connections LA Coordinating Council meeting will be held March 8, 2010 from 10 a.m. -12 p.m. at Public Counsel.