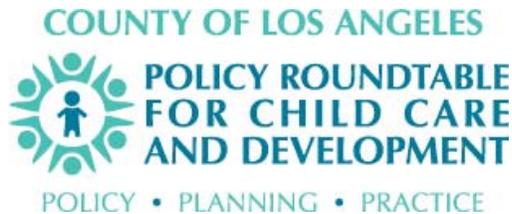




**Proposed agenda**  
**July 9, 2014 Annual Retreat**  
**Eaton Canyon Nature Center ♦ 1750 N. Altadena Drive ♦ Pasadena**

|       |  |   |
|-------|--|---|
| 8:30  | Coffee, networking, and posters on innovations underway in Los Angeles County. Invitations have been extend to: Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge, Office of Child Care and Los Angeles Universal Preschool, 211 LA Developmental Screening and Care Coordination, and Choose Health LA Child Care Initiative   |   |
| 9:00  | 1. Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments from the Chair</li> <li>• Approval of June 11, 2014 Minutes <i>Action Item</i></li> <li>• Review of Retreat Agenda</li> </ul>   | Dora Jacildo<br><br>Sharoni Little  |
| 9:15  | 2. Election of Officers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of Slate</li> <li>• Nominations from the Floor</li> <li>• Call for a Vote <i>Action Item</i></li> <li>• Comments from the Officers</li> </ul>  | Nominating Committee<br>Terri Nishimura<br>Jennifer Hottenroth              |
| 9:45  | 3. Reflections on 2013-14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Group Discussions</li> </ul> <p><b>Process:</b> Does the Roundtable meeting process work for you and your organization? How can we improve?</p> <p><b>Content:</b> Over the past year, which issues were most important to you and your organization? Which issues did we miss or not address adequately? (Responses will be charted)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report Back</li> </ul> | Sharoni Little<br><br>Members & Guests                                      |
| 10:45 | 4. Budget and Legislative Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State Budget</li> <li>• Legislation</li> <li>• Reflection on Services to Infants and Toddlers</li> </ul>   | Michele Sartell<br>Maureen Diekmann<br><br>Carolyn Brennan<br>ZERO TO THREE |
| 11:45 | Quick break – Get ready for working lunch  |   |
| 12:00 | 5. Aligning Our Work with Colleague Organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First 5 LA</li> <li>• First 5 CA</li> <li>• Child Care Planning Committee</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Over – not done yet!</i></p>   | Kim Belshe<br>Camille Maben<br>Richard Cohen                                |
| 1:30  | Break  |   |

|      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| 1:45 | 6. Policy and Action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue Ribbon Commission Recommendations (BRC) on Early Childhood Education</li> <li>• Aligning the Policy Framework and BRC Recommendations</li> </ul> | Jennifer Hottenroth<br><br>Dora Jacildo<br>Sharoni Little |
| 2:45 | 7. Wrap Up and Feed Back  | All   |
| 3:10 | 8. Announcements and Public Comment   | Members & Guests  |
| 3:15 | 9. Adjourn  | Dora Jacildo  |



## Minutes June 11, 2014

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Vice Chair Sharoni Little called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and invited members and guests to introduce themselves. Following introductions, Dr. Little announced that Mr. Cagle Moore, Assistant Program Administrator with the Southern California Child Care Area Office of the California Department of Social Services/Community Care Licensing Division (CDSS/CCLD) was not available to attend this meeting.

As was reported at the May meeting, the Board of Supervisors (Board) responded to the Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection recommendations at their meeting yesterday. A copy of the Board's final action was included in the meeting materials. It was no easy feat to sort through multiple motions and the various amendments offered. Dr. Jacquelyn McCroskey added that the Board hearing room was full and the discussion lasted four and one half hours. In Dr. McCroskey's opinion, adoption of the recommendations marks a turning point for the County.

The final vote was four to one. Dr. McCroskey noted that Supervisor Knabe's opposition to the recommendations appeared to be based on a concern for increasing the child welfare bureaucracy.

- **Approval of the May 14, 2014 Minutes**

Dr. Little directed members to the May 14, 2014 minutes and suggested that they review the top of page three as Mr. Nurhan Pirim had suggested edits to the version that was distributed earlier. One further correction was offered – the date of the upcoming Roundtable retreat is July 9, 2014. *Ms. Maria Calix moved acceptance of the minutes and Ms. Terri Nishimura provided the second. Minutes were approved with two abstentions. Ms. Karla Pleitez Howell and Ms. Keesha Woods abstained as they did not attend the May meeting.*

- **Update on First 5 LA Strategic Plan**

Dr. Little invited Ms. Karla Howell to update the group on the First 5 LA strategic planning process. Ms. Howell reported that the Commission is considering an updated vision statement, defining a target population, and overarching and contributing goals.

The proposed vision statement is:

First 5 LA contributes to a future throughout Los Angeles' diverse communities where all young children are born healthy and raised in a loving and nurturing environment so that they grow up healthy, are eager to learn, and reach their full potential.

The Commission has not had an identified target population in the past. The proposed target population is defined as:

First 5 LA will work on behalf of all children 0-5 in Los Angeles County, but will prioritize children who experience significant risk factors in relation to achieving optimum physical health, socio-emotional health, and/or learning.

In the discussion of the target population, the question was raised as to how risk would be defined. Ms. Howell noted that definitions are in process and suggestions are welcome. The following suggestions were offered on defining risk:

- Poverty and education levels of parents have been identified as risk factors in various studies
- Exposure to violence is a risk factor
- Dr. Shonkoff's work has demonstrated that exposure to multiple risk factors is particularly damaging to young children
- "Attachment issues" could be a broad umbrella of risk factors
- Special developmental needs can also be risk factors.

Ms. Howell presented the proposed goals for the Commission:

- **OVERARCHING GOAL:**  
Children enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and life
- **CONTRIBUTING GOAL 1:**  
Children 0-5 achieve optimum physical health
- **CONTRIBUTING GOAL 2:**  
Children 0-5 achieve optimum socio-emotional health
- **CONTRIBUTING GOAL 3:**  
Children 0-5 achieve optimum cognitive development

In closing this discussion, Dr. Dawn Kurtz noted that the Commission's Program and Planning Committee meetings are extremely important and a unique opportunity to impact the future work of the Commission. She noted that very few early care and education representatives are in attendance.

- **Nominating Committee Report**

Ms. Terri Nishimura reported that the Nominating Committee, including Dr. Jennifer Hottenroth, and Ms. Kathy Malaske-Samu, was pleased to announce that Ms. Dora Jacildo and Dr. Sharoni Little were willing to serve as Chair and Vice Chair for a second term. The Roundtable will vote on officers at the July 9, 2014 retreat.

- **Retreat Plans**

Dr. Little pointed out that a short survey on retreat topics and presenters were included in the meeting materials and had been sent electronically to members. She encouraged members to respond. The Retreat Committee is very interested in gathering input.

- **Status of the Child Care Policy Framework**

Dr. McCroskey reported that the Child Care Policy Framework was moving forward and appeared headed for a July meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

## **2. ECE Landscape Project**

Dr. Little welcomed Ms. Kim Pattillo-Brownson, noting that there is great interest in this report being prepared by the Advancement Project.

Ms. Pattillo-Brownson thanked Dr. Little and opened her presentation by reviewing the three research questions that the Advancement Project had been tasked with addressing:

1. What is the current landscape of early care and education (ECE) (in relation to access, workforce, and quality) in Los Angeles County?
2. What have been the past roles and strategies around ECE for First 5 LA, other county commissions, and other ECE funders?
3. What are potential future roles and strategies for First 5 LA and other ECE funders?

Ms. Pattillo-Brownson stated that this presentation would focus on questions 2 and 3. She noted that the Commission's Strategic Plans have evolved since 2001:

- Programming Strategy – has changed from initiative driven, broad-based investments from 2001-2004 to a place-based strategy starting in 2009
- Early Learning Focus – started with a focus on school readiness based on third grade reading scores between 2004 and 2009 and then shifted to early learning and, in 2009, returned to focus on kindergarten readiness and third grade reading scores
- Evaluation – between 2001 and 2004, the scope of grant making and the lack of metrics made evaluation difficult. Strong evaluation components began in 2009
- Policy – the Commission has gone from a minimal policy focus to a significant policy focus

Ms. Pattillo-Brownson identified the roles that First 5 LA has played, including funder, partner, convener, implementer, program designer, and researcher/evaluator. She then shared how other Commissions have functioned in similar roles.

- Partner:
  - First 5 California is partnering with the California Department of Education and 16 counties to implement the Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge and is exploring partnerships with Women, Infant, Children Nutrition Program (WIC).
  - First 5 Ventura is partnering with the County's Economic Development Collaborative to administer a loan fund for low cost facility development.

- First 5 Santa Clara is partnering with the Packard Foundation on early learning and with the Department of Mental Health.
- First 5 San Francisco supports the ECE office, blending funds from various sources to support a number of ECE workforce, wage and compensation projects, and a family child care network.
- School District Partner
  - A number of Commissions partner in different ways to operate prep camps for children entering kindergarten.
- Convener
  - First 5 Orange County has convened a large conference on best practices of early STEM<sup>1</sup> education with over 500 early educators and school-based early learning professionals.
  - First 5 San Diego convenes the early learning community annually to examine past data and promote an understanding of various metrics and how to interpret their results.
- Implementer
  - First 5 San Francisco provides bridge funding to ensure that children can remain enrolled in a subsidized program, even if their subsidy is interrupted.
- Researcher and Evaluator
  - First 5 Orange County administers the Early Development index and uses the information to tailor programming.
- Program Designer
  - First 5 Marin is focused on a place-based approach targeting the five highest need communities.
  - First 5 Ventura also uses a place-based approach through Neighborhoods for Learning.
- Capacity Builder of Coaches and Trainers
  - First 5 San Francisco trains and funds a cadre of 25 coaches.
  - First 5 San Diego is developing the capacity of assessors.
  - First 5 Santa Clara now has in-house coaching staff.
- Advocate: Litigate, Campaign
  - First 5 Marin sponsored “Marin’s Kids” campaign.
  - First 5 in Alameda, Fresno, and Marin partnered with SEIU’s “Raising California Together”.

---

<sup>1</sup> Science, Technology, English and Math (STEM).

Ms. Pattillo-Brownson shared the following timeline for distribution of report:

Question 1 – June 30, 2014 Launch online display of research findings  
Summer 2014 Publish final report

Question 2 – Summer 2014 Publish final report

Question 3 – Summer 2014 Publish final report

Dr. Little thanked Ms. Pattillo-Brownson for the very informative report.

### **3. Legislative Update**

Ms. Michele Sartell opened this item and directed members to the draft letter in their materials. Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IGEA) staff, Patricia Carbajal and Martha Guerrero, meet with the Legislative deputies on a weekly basis to review legislative issues. Recently they were surprised by a request for information on one of the bills dealing with transitional kindergarten. As a result of this encounter, it was suggested that the Roundtable may want to provide regular information to the Board on child care and development issues.

In response to that suggestion, Ms. Sartell prepared a memo which offers a more detailed review of bills and budget issues related to child care and development.

Members found the document to be very helpful, as it provided them with talking points that they could use in meetings with the Board deputies. *Dr. Sam Chan moved that the letter be sent to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Maria Calix offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.*

Ms. Maureen Diekmann then provided an update on specific bills:

- AB 1454 by Assembly Member Calderon would, among other things, phase-in additional on-site reviews of licensed child care and other facilities. After three years, on-site reviews would be conducted annually.
- AB 1902-by Assembly Member Bonta proposes to eliminate fees for part-day State Preschool.
- AB 2125 by Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas has been amended significantly and currently calls for a study of the child care reimbursement systems.
- SB 837 by Senator Steinberg has been amended and it is uncertain if this bill regarding Transitional Kindergarten will move forward or if it will be addressed in the budget.
- SB 1123 by Senator Lui is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly.

In the discussion that followed, Dr. Chan remarked how important it is when visiting legislators, to allow them to share the challenges they face. Members expressed hope that the upcoming budget would begin to re-invest in the child care and development sector.

#### **4. Annual Report**

Ms. Malaske-Samu reported that she would be providing materials on the annual report shortly.

#### **5. Public Comments and Announcements**

Ms. Ellen Cervantes with the Child Care Resource Center announced a new publication available through the child care resource and referral agencies on emergency preparedness.

Mr. Scott Henning, with CDSS/CCLD, introduced Sharon Greene as the new Child Care Advocate with CDSS/CCLD. In this capacity, Ms. Greene will be responsible for a large region of the state. Members expressed their appreciation to both Mr. Henning and Ms. Greene.

#### **6. Call to Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

#### **Members and Alternates**

Jeannette Aguirre, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Maria Calix, Second District

Sam Chan, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

Duane Dennis, Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles

Maureen Diekmann, Los Angeles Unified School District

Lena Ward for Jennifer Hottenroth, Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services

Karla Pleitez Howell, Child Care Planning Committee

Sharoni Little, Second District

Dawn Kurtz, Los Angeles Universal Preschool

Kathleen Malaske-Samu, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office

Jacquelyn McCroskey, Third District

Terri Nishimura, Fourth District

Faith Parducho, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation

Nora Garcia-Rosales for Nurham Pirim, Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services

Nina Sorokin, Los Angeles County Commission for Children and Family Services

Esther Torrez, First District

John Whitaker, Fifth District

Keesha Woods, Los Angeles County Office of Education

75% of members/alternates were in attendance

#### **Guests:**

Cristina Alvarado, Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles

Debi Anderson, Los Angeles County Office of Education

Robert Beck, Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services

Carolyn Brennan, ZERO TO THREE

Patricia Carbajal, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office

Ellen Cervantes, Child Care Resource Center

Tessa Charnoffsky, First 5 LA

Shar Greene, California Department of Social Services/Community Care Licensing Division

Scott Henning, California Department of Social Services/Community Care Licensing Division  
Lynn Robnett, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health  
Araceli Sandoval, Early Edge California  
Susan Savage, Child Care Resource Center

**Staff:**

Michele Sartell

This page intentionally blank

# Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Topics Addressed During 2013-14

## July 2013

- The Child Care Policy Framework
- Quality Rating and Improvement System Update
- Best Start update

## September 2013

- Legislative Platform
- The Child Care Policy Framework

## October 2013

- The Child Care Policy Framework
- Quality Rating and Improvement System Expansion

## November 2013

- Local Control Funding Formula
- Federal Legislation
- Report from the Child Care Planning Committee

## December 2013

- Federal Legislation
- Child Care Characteristics Study
- The Child Care Policy Framework

## January 2014

- Expansion and Improvements to the California Early Learning System

## February 2014

- The Child Care Policy Framework
- Update from Community Care Licensing
- Legislation

## March 2014

- Endorsement of the Child Care Policy Framework
- Update on Race to the Top by representatives of the California Department of Education and First 5 CA

## April 2014

- LAUP Strategic Plan
- First 5 LA Strategic Planning Process

## May 2014

- Restructuring California's Child Care and Development System
- Legislation and State Budget

## June 2014

- Child Care Landscape Report
- Legislation and State Budget

This page intentionally blank



## Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities 2012: Statistics and Interventions

Despite the efforts of the child protection system, child maltreatment fatalities remain a serious problem.<sup>1</sup> Although the untimely deaths of children due to illness and accidents have been closely monitored, deaths that result from physical assault or severe neglect can be more difficult to track. The circumstances surrounding a child's death, its investigation, and communication across all the disciplines involved complicate data collection.

<sup>1</sup> This factsheet provides information regarding child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect by a *parent* or a *primary caregiver*. Other child homicides, such as those committed by acquaintances and strangers, and other causes of death, such as unintentional injuries, are not discussed here. For information about leading causes of child death nationally from 1999 to 2010, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website ([http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/leadcaus10\\_us.html](http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/leadcaus10_us.html)). Statistics regarding child homicide from 1980 to 2008 can be obtained from the U.S. Department of Justice (<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=2221>).

### WHAT'S INSIDE

How many children die each year from child abuse or neglect?

What groups of children are most vulnerable?

How do these deaths occur?

Who are the perpetrators?

How do communities respond to child fatalities?

How can these fatalities be prevented?

Summary

References

For more information

Unless otherwise noted, statistics in this factsheet are taken from *Child Maltreatment 2012* and refer to the Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2012 (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2013). As all States were able to report unique counts (in which each victim is counted just once) for FFY 2012, the Child Maltreatment report series has transitioned from analyses with duplicate counts (in which a victim is counted each time the child is found to be a victim) to analyses with unique counts. For the *Child Maltreatment 2012* report, basic counts and demographic analyses (age, sex, and race) were conducted with the unique counts. For analyses where events and attributes of the victims were examined—such as disposition type and perpetrator relationship—a duplicate count was used.

## How Many Children Die Each Year From Child Abuse or Neglect?

According to data from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), 49 States reported a total of 1,593 fatalities. Based on these data, **a nationally estimated 1,640 children died from abuse and neglect in 2012**. This translates to a rate of 2.20 children per 100,000 children in the general population and an average of four children dying every day from abuse or neglect. This rate increased slightly from FFY 2011. NCANDS defines “child fatality” as the death of a child caused by an injury resulting from abuse or neglect or where abuse or neglect was a contributing factor.

The number and rate of fatalities have fluctuated during the past 5 years. The national estimate is influenced by which States report data as well as by the U.S. Census Bureau’s child population estimates. Some States that reported an increase in child fatalities from 2011 to 2012 attributed it to improvements in reporting after the passage of the Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act (P.L. 112–34), such as the implementation of new child death reviews or expanding the scope of existing reviews.

Most data on child fatalities come from State child welfare agencies. However, States may also draw on other data sources, including health departments, vital statistics departments, medical examiners’ offices, and fatality review teams. This coordination of data collection contributes to better estimates.

Many researchers and practitioners believe that child fatalities due to abuse and neglect are still underreported. A recent report on national child abuse and neglect deaths in the United States estimates that approximately 50 percent of deaths reported as “unintentional injury deaths” are reclassified after further investigation by medical and forensic experts as deaths due to maltreatment (Every Child Matters Education Fund, 2012). It also is often more difficult to establish whether a fatality was caused by neglect than it is to establish a physical abuse fatality. The different agencies that come into contact with a case of a possible child neglect fatality may have differing definitions of what constitutes neglect, and these definitions may be influenced by the laws, regulations, and standards of each agency (Schnitzer, Gulino, & Yuan, in press).

Issues affecting the accuracy and consistency of child fatality data include:

- Variation among reporting requirements and definitions of child abuse and neglect and other terms
- Variation in death investigation systems and training
- Variation in State child fatality review and reporting processes
- The length of time (up to a year in some cases) it may take to establish abuse or neglect as the cause of death
- Inaccurate determination of the manner and cause of death, resulting in the miscoding of death certificates; this includes deaths labeled as accidents, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), or “manner undetermined” that would have been attributed to abuse or neglect if more comprehensive investigations had been conducted (Hargrove & Bowman, 2007)

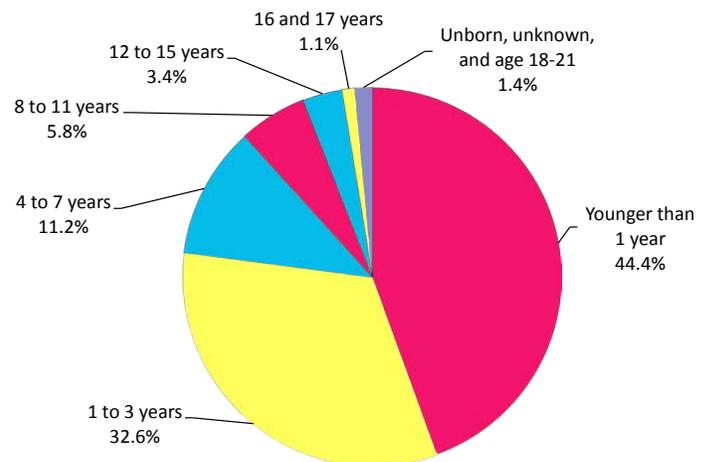
- Limited coding options for child deaths, especially those due to neglect or negligence, when using the *International Classification of Diseases* to code death certificates
- The ease with which the circumstances surrounding many child maltreatment deaths can be concealed or rendered unclear
- Lack of coordination or cooperation among different agencies and jurisdictions

A report by the U.S. Government Accountability Office that assessed NCANDS data, surveys and interviews with State child welfare administrators and practitioners, and site visit reports to three States suggests that facilitating the sharing of information and increased cooperation among Federal, State, and local agencies would provide a more accurate count of maltreatment deaths (U.S. Government Accountability Office, 2011). A study of child fatalities in three States found that combining at least two data sources resulted in the identification of more than 90 percent of child fatalities ascertained as due to child maltreatment (Schnitzer, Covington, Wirtz, Verhoek-Oftedahl, & Palusci, 2008).

## What Groups of Children Are Most Vulnerable?

Research indicates that very young children (ages 4 and younger) are the most frequent victims of child fatalities. NCANDS data for 2012 demonstrated that children younger than 1 year accounted for 44.4 percent of fatalities; children younger than 4 years accounted for over three-fourths (77.0 percent) of fatalities. These children are the most vulnerable for many reasons, including their dependency, small size, and inability to defend themselves.

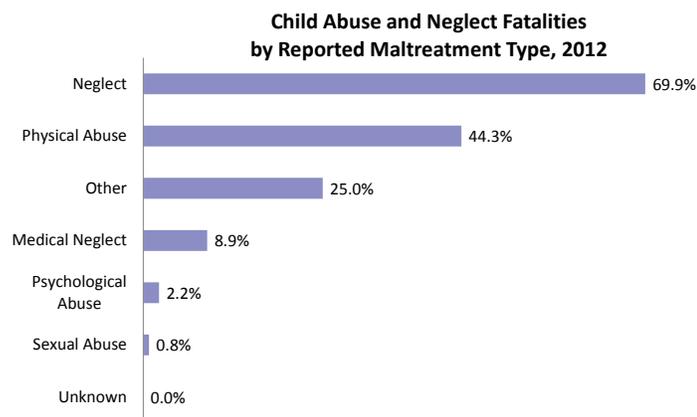
**Child Abuse and Neglect Fatality Victims by Age, 2012**



## How Do These Deaths Occur?

Fatal child abuse may involve repeated abuse over a period of time (e.g., battered child syndrome), or it may involve a single, impulsive incident (e.g., drowning, suffocating, or shaking a baby). In cases of fatal neglect, the child's death results not from anything the caregiver does, but from a caregiver's failure to act. The neglect may be chronic (e.g., extended malnourishment) or acute (e.g., an infant who drowns after being left unsupervised in the bathtub).

In 2012, 69.9 percent of children who died from child maltreatment suffered neglect either alone or in combination with another maltreatment type, and 44.3 percent suffered physical abuse either alone or in combination with other maltreatment. Medical neglect either alone or in combination was reported in 8.9 percent of fatalities.



## Who Are the Perpetrators?

No matter how the fatal abuse occurs, one fact of great concern is that the perpetrators are, by definition, individuals responsible for the care and supervision of their victims. In 2012, parents, acting alone or with another parent, were responsible for 80.0 percent of child abuse or neglect fatalities. More than one-quarter (27.1 percent) were perpetrated by the mother acting alone, 17.1 percent were perpetrated by the father acting alone, and 21.2 percent were perpetrated by the mother and father acting together. Nonparents (including kin and child care providers, among others) were responsible for 14.3 percent of child fatalities, and child fatalities with unknown perpetrator relationship data accounted for 5.6 percent of the total.

There is no single profile of a perpetrator of fatal child abuse, although certain characteristics reappear in many studies. Frequently, the perpetrator is a young adult in his or her mid-20s, without a high school diploma, living at or below the poverty level, depressed, and who may have difficulty coping with stressful situations. Fathers and mothers' boyfriends are most often the perpetrators in abuse deaths; mothers are more often at fault in neglect fatalities.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> National Center for the Review and Prevention of Child Deaths: <http://www.childdeathreview.org/causesCAN.htm>

## How Do Communities Respond to Child Fatalities?

The response to the problem of child abuse and neglect fatalities is often hampered by inconsistencies, including:

- Underreporting of the number of children who die each year as a result of abuse and neglect
- Lack of consistent standards for child autopsies or death investigations
- The varying roles of CPS agencies in investigation in different jurisdictions
- Uncoordinated, non-multidisciplinary investigations
- Medical examiners or elected coroners who do not have specific child abuse and neglect training

To address some of these inconsistencies, multidisciplinary and multiagency child fatality review teams have emerged to provide a coordinated approach to understanding child deaths, including deaths caused by religion-based medical neglect. Federal legislation further supported the development of these teams in an amendment to the 1992 reauthorization of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), which required States to include information on child death review (CDR) in their program plans. Many States received initial funding for these teams through the Children's Justice Act, from grants awarded by the Administration on Children, Youth and Families in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Child fatality review teams, which exist at a State, local, or State/local level in the District of Columbia and in every State,<sup>3</sup> are composed of prosecutors, coroners or medical examiners, law enforcement personnel, CPS workers, public health-care providers, and others. Child fatality review teams respond to the issue of child deaths through improved interagency communication, identification of gaps in community child protection systems, and the acquisition of comprehensive data that can guide agency policy and practice as well as prevention efforts.

<sup>3</sup> For information about child fatality review efforts in specific States, visit the National Center for the Review and Prevention of Child Deaths (formerly known as the National Center for Child Death Review) at <http://www.childdeathreview.org>.

The teams review cases of child deaths and facilitate appropriate follow-up. Follow-up may include ensuring that services are provided for surviving family members, providing information to assist in the prosecution of perpetrators, and developing recommendations to improve child protection and community support systems.

Recent data show that 48 States have a case-reporting tool for CDR; however, there had been little consistency among the types of information compiled. This contributed to gaps in our understanding of infant and child mortality as a national problem. In response, the National Center for the Review and Prevention of Child Deaths, in cooperation with 30 State CDR leaders and advocates, developed a web-based CDR Case Reporting System for State and local teams to use to collect data and analyze and report on their findings. As of December 2013, 43 States were using the standardized system, and 4 more are considering adopting the system.<sup>4</sup> As more States use the system and the numbers of reviews entered into it increase, a more representative and accurate view of how and why children die from abuse and neglect will emerge (Palusci & Covington, 2013). The ultimate goal is to use the data to advocate for actions to prevent child deaths and to keep children healthy, safe, and protected.

Since its 1996 reauthorization, CAPTA has required States that receive CAPTA funding to set up citizen review panels. These panels of volunteers conduct reviews of CPS agencies in their States, including policies and procedures related to child fatalities and investigations. As of December 2012, 18 State CDR boards serve additional roles as the citizen review panels for child fatalities.

<sup>4</sup> Kansas, North Carolina, Utah, and Vermont are considering joining the CDR Case Reporting System. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming are participating. (Source: National Center for the Review and Prevention of Child Deaths.)

## How Can These Fatalities Be Prevented?

When addressing the issue of child maltreatment, and especially child fatalities, prevention is a recurring theme. Well-designed, properly organized child fatality review teams appear to offer hope for defining the underlying nature and scope of fatalities due to child abuse and neglect. The child fatality review process helps identify risk factors that may assist prevention professionals, such as those engaged in home visiting and parenting education, to prevent future deaths. In addition, teams are demonstrating effectiveness in translating review findings into action by partnering with child welfare and other child health and safety groups. In some States, review team annual reports have led to State legislation, policy changes, or prevention programs (National Center for Child Death Review, 2007). Findings associated with these reviews have identified decreases in child fatalities (Palusci, Yager, & Covington, 2010).

Users of the CDR Case Reporting System can record their recommendations for prevention efforts. Examples of recommendations include improved multiagency coordination policies for death investigations; improvements in CPS intake, referral, and case-management procedures; intensive home visiting; worker training; and improved judicial practices (Palusci & Covington, 2013).

The Federal Government has a long history of promoting prevention. The first National Child Abuse Prevention Week, declared by Congress in 1982, was replaced the following year with the first National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Other activities followed, including a 1991 initiative by Louis W. Sullivan, M.D., the Secretary of HHS, designed to raise awareness and promote coordination of prevention and treatment. In 2003, the Office on Child Abuse and Neglect, within the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, HHS, launched a child abuse prevention initiative that included an opportunity for individuals and organizations across the country to work together. This ongoing initiative also

includes the publication of an annual resource guide.<sup>5</sup> Increasingly, this effort focuses on promoting protective factors that enhance the capacity of parents, caregivers, and communities to protect, nurture, and promote the healthy development of children.

In early 2013, Congress passed H.R. 6655 (the Protect Our Kids Act of 2012), which establishes the Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities. The Commission will develop recommendations for a national strategy to reduce fatalities resulting from child abuse and neglect, specifically:

- The Commission is tasked with studying the use of funding under titles IV-B, IV-E, and XX (SSBG) of the Social Security Act to reduce fatalities from child abuse and neglect.
- A report to the President and Congress with the Commission's findings and recommendations is due within 2 years.
- Federal agencies must develop a plan to address the Commission's recommendations within 6 months after the report is submitted to the President and Congress.
- \$2 million is authorized out of the TANF contingency fund for the Commission for FY 2013 and 2014.

For more information, visit the Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect section of the Child Welfare Information Gateway website: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing>

## Summary

While the exact number of children affected is uncertain, child fatalities due to abuse and neglect remain a serious problem in the United States. Fatalities disproportionately affect young children and most often are caused by one or both of the child's parents. Child fatality review teams appear to be among the most promising current approaches to accurately count, respond to, and prevent child abuse and neglect fatalities, as well as other preventable deaths.

<sup>5</sup> Access the free guide from Child Welfare Information Gateway at <https://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth>.

## References

- Every Child Matters Education Fund. (2012). *We can do better: Child abuse deaths in America* (3rd ed.). Retrieved from [http://www.everychildmatters.org/storage/documents/pdf/reports/can\\_report\\_august2012\\_final.pdf](http://www.everychildmatters.org/storage/documents/pdf/reports/can_report_august2012_final.pdf)
- Hargrove, T., & Bowman, L. (2007). *Saving babies: Exposing sudden infant death in America*. Scripps Howard News Service. Retrieved from <http://www.nwsids.org/Exposing%20SIDS.pdf>
- National Center for Child Death Review. (2007). *Child death review findings: A road map for MCH injury and violence prevention; Part I* [PowerPoint presentation]. Retrieved from <http://www.childrensafetynetwork.org/sites/childrensafetynetwork.org/files/CDRWebinar.pdf>
- Palusci, V. J., & Covington, T. M. (2013). Child maltreatment deaths in the U.S. National Child Death Review Case Reporting System. *Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal*, 38(1). Retrieved from <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2013.08.014>
- Palusci, V. J., Yager, S., & Covington, T. M. (2010). Effects of a citizens review panel in preventing child maltreatment fatalities. *Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal*, 34(5). Retrieved from <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0145213410000621>
- Schnitzer, P. G., Covington, T. M., Wirtz, S. J., Verhoek-Oftedahl, W., & Palusci, V. J. (2008). Public health surveillance of fatal child maltreatment: Analysis of 3 State programs. *American Journal of Public Health*, 98(2), 296–303. Retrieved from <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2376893/pdf/0980296.pdf>
- Schnitzer, P. G., Gulino, S. P., & Yuan, Y.-Y. T. (in press). Advancing public health surveillance to estimate child maltreatment fatalities: Review and recommendations. *Child Welfare*, 92(2), 77–98.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau. (2013). *Child maltreatment 2012*. Retrieved from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/resource/child-maltreatment-2012>

U.S. Government Accountability Office. (2011). *Child maltreatment: Strengthening national data on child fatalities could aid in prevention*. Retrieved from <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11599.pdf>

## Additional Resources

### National Center for the Review and Prevention of Child Deaths

<http://www.childdeathreview.org>

The National Center for the Review and Prevention of Child Deaths is a resource center for State and local CDR programs, established and funded since 2002 by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

### National Center on Child Fatality Review

<http://www.ican-ncfr.org>

The National Center on Child Fatality Review (NCFR) is a clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination of information and resources related to child deaths. NCFR was established in 1996 with a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and is dedicated to providing training and technical assistance to CDR teams throughout the world.

### National Citizens Review Panels

<http://www.uky.edu/SocialWork/crp>

This website is a virtual community containing information about each State's Citizens Review Panel, including annual reports, training materials, resources, sample review instruments, and other documents, as well as a discussion board.

### National Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Program

<http://www.nfimr.org>

This program is a collaborative effort between the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. The resource center provides technical assistance on many aspects of developing and carrying out fetal infant mortality review programs.

### Suggested Citation:

Child Welfare Information Gateway. (2014). *Child abuse and neglect fatalities 2012: Statistics and interventions*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families  
Administration on Children, Youth and Families  
Children's Bureau



This page intentionally blank

## GOVERNOR SIGNS BUDGET ACT OF 2014 CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

### Overview

On June 20, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed the Budget Act of 2014. The \$156.3 billion budget, part of a multi-year plan, continues the Governor's themes of reducing budgetary debt, building and strengthening the teacher pension system and saving for a rainy day. The budget moderately increases investments in education and health and human services among other state-funded services.<sup>1</sup> The same day, the Governor approved a number of related trailer bills containing implementation language of the main budget bill.

This policy brief summarizes the 2014-15 state budget package as it pertains to child care and development services. Table 1 on page 4 compares the line items for child care and development services contained in the Budget Act of 2014 with the Budget Act of 2013.

### Child Care and Development Budget Items

Diverging from previous years of significant cuts and very modest efforts to mitigate harm caused by anticipated federal sequestration, the budget package for 2014-15 reflects important efforts towards the restoration of child care and development services. It allocates funds in three key areas: increasing the number of subsidized spaces available to children of low-income families, raising reimbursement rates for subsidized care, and enhancing the quality of programs that serve our state's children and their families. In addition, the budget package specifies the requirements for the teaching staff of transitional kindergarten, expresses legislative intent for a robust licensing system for child care centers and family child care homes, and reinstates Early Start for infants and toddlers at risk for developmental delays.

### Child Care and Development Spaces

- Increases the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) budget by \$30 million to serve 11,500 more three and four year old children in part- and full-day state preschool; 4,000 of the additional spaces are for part-day state preschool beginning June 15, 2015.<sup>2,3</sup>
  - ✓ Second priority (after first priority for three and four year old children who are recipients of child protective services or at risk of abuse, neglect or exploitation) for state preschool will be given to eligible four year old children who are not enrolled in a state-funded transitional kindergarten program before enrolling eligible three-year old children.<sup>4</sup>
  - ✓ Allocates \$10 million one-time augmentation to provide loans for state preschool facility expansion.<sup>5</sup> Beginning June 15, 2015, the Superintendent of Public Instruction will award expansion funds, giving priority to applicant agencies that will provide the greatest progress toward achieving access to full-day, full-year services for all income-eligible four year old children. Family Child Care Home Education Networks (FCCHEs) also will be eligible to apply for expansion funds. Needs assessment and other high quality data resources will be used to inform the award decisions.<sup>6</sup>

*The California Department of Education/Early Education and Support Division (CDE/EESD) anticipates releasing the Request for Applications in late fall, with notifications of funding sent in early 2015.<sup>7</sup>*

- Adds \$57 million to non-Proposition 98 programs, including General Child Care to serve an additional 1,000 infants and toddlers and school age children and the Alternative Payment Program to provide child care and development vouchers to an additional 500 children from birth to 12 years old of low-income families.<sup>8</sup> Of the allocation for General Child Care, \$2 million is available to provide 4,000 spaces for wrap-around care for children participating in part-day state preschool beginning June 15, 2015.<sup>9</sup>

### **Reimbursement Rates**

- Budgets \$25 million Proposition 98 General Fund and \$24 million General Fund to raise the Standard Reimbursement Rate (SRR) for state contracted child care and development programs by five percent, effective July 1, 2014.<sup>10</sup> The reimbursement rate for part-day state preschool is not to exceed \$22.81 per day (up from \$19.22) and for general child care, programs shall not exceed \$36.10 per day (up from \$34.38).<sup>11</sup>
- Allocates \$19 million General Fund to update the Regional Market Rate (RMR) for voucher-based providers, effective January 1, 2015.<sup>12</sup> As of that date, reimbursement for child care services provided through the voucher-based programs will be based on the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile of rates charged by providers offering the same type of care in that region based on the 2009 RMR survey data, reduced by 13 percent. Current rates based on the 2005 RMR survey will be maintained in counties where the use of the 2009 data with the 13 percent reduction would reduce the RMR lower than it was prior to January 1, 2015. License-exempt providers will continue to be reimbursed for costs up to 60 percent of the regional reimbursement limits established for family child care homes.<sup>13</sup>

### **Quality Improvement**

- Provides \$50 million Proposition 98 General Fund to be allocated to local consortia for support of the local early learning quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS) that increase the number of low-income children in high quality preschool programs.<sup>14,15</sup>

The Superintendent of Public Instruction, in consultation with the executive director of the state board will allocate the block grant funds to the local consortia that satisfies the QRIS requirements based on the number of CSPP slots within the county or region. The receiving local consortia will allocate the funds to agencies holding CSPP contracts or local education agencies for activities that support and improve quality and assess quality and access. Priority for allocating the block grant funds is to go directly to supporting classrooms of the CSPP sites that have achieved the highest common local tier of quality. FCCHENs that provide CSPP services are eligible for an allocation of block grant funds from the local consortium.<sup>16</sup>

- Makes one-time funds in the amount of \$25 million available for professional development and stipends for teacher education for transitional kindergarten and state preschool teachers. Transitional kindergarten teachers are to receive priority for the education stipends. The funds may be encumbered until June 30, 2015.<sup>17</sup>

*In March of 2014, AB 212 Staff Retention Plan contractors (in Los Angeles County, the Investing in Early Educator's – Stipend Program) were informed that contracts for 2014-15 would be reduced by 4.4 percent in counties with CARES Plus or Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC). Counties with both CARES Plus and RTT/ELC would receive an 8.8% cut. The reduction is due to the lack of one-time or carryover funds to supplement the loss of \$750,000 to AB 212 contracts. Clarification from the CDE/EESD regarding the impact of this budget item to the AB 212 contracts is pending.*

### **Additional Child Care and Development Items**

- Repeals family fees for part-day state preschool by backfilling with \$15 million Proposition 98 General Fund.<sup>18,19</sup>
- Authorizes the CDE to develop a process requiring every contracting agency to re-compete for continued funding no less than every five years.<sup>20</sup>
- Requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) to review and update, if appropriate, the requirements for the issuance and renewal for permits required of child care and development staff, including program supervisors by July 1, 2016. This item will sunset on January 1, 2017.<sup>21</sup>
- Allows a CSPP contracting agency to retain in a reserve fund an additional 10 percent of the sum of the maximum reimbursable amounts of all of its preschool contracts for purposes of professional development of its instructional staff.<sup>22</sup>

### **Transitional Kindergarten<sup>23</sup>**

- Expresses legislative intent that transitional kindergarten (TK) curriculum be aligned to the California Preschool Learning Foundations developed by the CDE.
- Requires, teachers assigned, after July 1, 2015, to a TK classroom hold at least one credential by the CTC and by August 1, 2020 have one of the following:
  - At least 24 units in early childhood education or childhood development or both
  - As determined by the local educational agency employing the teacher, professional experience in a classroom setting with preschool age children that is comparable to 24 units of early childhood education or child development
  - A child development permit issued by the CTC

### **Regulatory Compliance**

- Expresses legislative intent to comprehensively increase the penalties for facilities licensed by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) in subsequent legislation, with particular emphasis on penalties for violations that result in serious injury or death.<sup>24</sup>
- Expresses legislative intent that increased staffing and funding resources for the CDSS appropriated in the budget be used to enhance the division's structure and improve operations. In addition, the intent is that over time inspections of licensed facilities will increase resulting in annual inspection for some or all facility types. Requires the CDSS to update the legislature on the status of the structural and quality enhancement improvements during the 2015-16 budget subcommittee hearings.<sup>25</sup>

AB 1454 (Calderon) would phase-in over three years the frequency of inspections of licensed facilities, inclusive of child care centers and family child care homes, beginning July 1, 2015. As of this writing, the bill is in the Senate Committee on Appropriations Suspense File.

- Increases licensure and renewal fees for community care facilities, inclusive of child care and development centers and family child care homes, by ten percent.<sup>26</sup>

### Early Start

- Allocates \$7.9 million to reinstate Early Start, effective January 2015, to provide early intervention services to infants and toddlers with developmental delays or with established risk conditions.<sup>27,28</sup>

| Table 1. Comparison between the Budget Act of 2013 and the Budget Act of 2014 |  |                             |                      |
|---|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Programs  | Budget Act of 2013   | Budget Act of 2014          | Variance             |
| <b>Proposition 98 General Fund</b>  |  |                             |                      |
| State Preschool <sup>29,30</sup>  | \$506,965,000  | \$579,450,000               | \$72,485,000         |
| Quality Rating and Improvement Grants   |  | 50,000,000                  | 50,000,000           |
| Child Development, Preschool Quality  |  | 25,000,000                  | 25,000,000           |
| <b>Proposition 98 Sub-total</b>   | <b>\$506,965,000</b>   | <b>\$654,450,000</b>        | <b>\$147,485,000</b> |
| <b>Non-Proposition 98 General Fund</b>  |  |                             |                      |
| General Child Development   | \$476,938,000  | \$543,867,000               | \$66,929,000         |
| Migrant Child Care  | 26,742,000   | 27,513,000                  | 771,000              |
| Alternative Payment (AP) Program  | 178,501,000  | 182,296,000                 | 3,795,000            |
| CalWORKs Stage 2 (AP)   | 357,797,000  | 354,548,000                 | (3,249,000)          |
| CalWORKs Stage 3 (AP)   | 183,000,000  | 219,825,000                 | 36,825,000           |
| Resource and Referral Programs  | 18,687,000   | 18,687,000                  |                      |
| Handicap Allowance  | 1,457,000  | 1,535,000                   | 78,000               |
| CA Child Care Initiative  | 225,000  | 225,000                     |                      |
| Quality Improvement   | 48,063,000   | 46,476,000                  | (1,587,000)          |
| Local Planning Councils   | 3,319,000  | 3,319,000                   |                      |
| Accounts Payable  | 4,000,000  | 4,000,000                   |                      |
| <b>Non-Proposition 98 Sub-total</b>   | <b>\$1,298,729,000</b>   | <b>\$1,402,291,000</b>      | <b>\$103,562,000</b> |
| Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund  | \$5,000,000  | \$15,000,000                | \$10,000,000         |
| Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)  | \$0  |                             |                      |
| Growth  |  |                             |                      |
| <b>Proposition 98 and non-Proposition 98 Sub-total</b>                        | <b>\$1,810,694,000</b>   | <b>\$2,061,741,000</b>      | <b>\$261,047,000</b> |
| <b>Department of Social Services</b>  |  |                             |                      |
| CalWORKs Stage 1  | \$408,579,000  | \$332,800,000               |                      |
| <b>Learning Supports</b>  |  |                             |                      |
| After School and Education Safety Program                                     | \$547,025,000  | \$546,902,000               |                      |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers                           | \$126,155,000  | \$158,324,000 <sup>31</sup> |                      |
| Cal-SAFE Child Care   | Among categorical programs eliminated due to education finance reform. |                             |                      |
| Pregnant Minor Program  |  |                             |                      |
| <b>Learning Supports Totals</b>   | <b>\$673,180,000</b>   |                             |                      |
| <b>California Community Colleges<sup>32, 33</sup></b>                         |  |                             |                      |
| Cal-WORKs Child Care – Community Colleges                                     | \$9,188,000  | \$9,188,000                 |                      |
| Campus Child Care Tax Bailout <sup>34</sup>                                   | \$3,350,000  | \$3,350,000                 |                      |
| <b>Other</b>  |  |                             |                      |
| State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Development                         | \$162,000 <sup>35</sup>  |                             |                      |
| Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Fund <sup>36</sup>                   | \$11,339,000   | \$22,799,000                | \$11,460,000         |

## For More Information on 2014-15 Budget Bills: Impact on Children and Families

A number of organizations have developed overviews and analyses of the Budget Act of 2014 as it impacts health and human services for children and families.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| California Budget Project                           | <a href="http://www.cbp.org">www.cbp.org</a>   |
| California Child Care Resource and Referral Network | <a href="http://www.rnetwork.org">www.rnetwork.org</a>   |
| Child Care Law Center                               | <a href="http://www.childcarelaw.org">www.childcarelaw.org</a>   |
| Child Development Policy Institute                  | <a href="http://www.cdpi.net">www.cdpi.net</a>   |
| Early Edge California                               | <a href="http://www.earlyedgecalifornia.org">www.earlyedgecalifornia.org</a>   |
| Legislative Analyst's Office                        | <a href="http://www.lao.ca.gov">www.lao.ca.gov</a>   |
| ZERO TO THREE – Western Office                      | <a href="http://www.zerotothree.org/about-us/western-office.html">www.zerotothree.org/about-us/western-office.html</a> |

---

Questions or comments relating to this policy brief may be referred to Michele Sartell, Los Angeles County Office of Child Care within the Service Integration Branch of the Chief Executive Office, by e-mail at [msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov](mailto:msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov) or by telephone at (213) 974-5187.

### Endnotes:

---

<sup>1</sup> Brown, Jr. E.G. *California State Budget 2014-15*. State of California, June 20, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> SB 852, Chapter 25: Budget Act of 2014, Approved: June 20, 2014; 6110-196-0001.

<sup>4</sup> SB 858, Chapter 32: Education finance: education omnibus trailer bill, Approved: June 20, 2014. See SEC 3. Section 8236(a)(2).

<sup>5</sup> Brown, Jr. E.G. *California State Budget 2014-15*. State of California, June 20, 2014.

<sup>6</sup> SB 858, Chapter 32: Education finance: education omnibus trailer bill, Approved: June 20, 2014. See SEC 4. Section 8236(c)(1)(A and B).

<sup>7</sup> Webinar: Early Learning and the 2014 Budget hosted by the California Department of Education, Early Edge California, and First 5 California. Available for streaming at <http://vimeo.com/99289747>.

<sup>8</sup> Brown, Jr. E.G. *California State Budget 2014-15*. State of California, June 20, 2014.

<sup>9</sup> SB 852, Chapter 25: Budget Act of 2014, Approved: June 20, 2014; 6110-194-0001 (1.1). See also Provision 14.

<sup>10</sup> Brown, Jr. E.G. *California State Budget 2014-15*. State of California, June 20, 2014.

<sup>11</sup> SB 852, Chapter 25: Budget Act of 2014, Approved: June 20, 2014; 6110-196-0001, Provision 4 and 6110-194-0001, Provision 6.

<sup>12</sup> Brown, Jr. E.G. *California State Budget 2014-15*. State of California, June 20, 2014.

<sup>13</sup> SB 852, Chapter 25: Budget Act of 2014, Approved: June 20, 2014; 6110-194-0001, Provision 7(b).

<sup>14</sup> SB 852, Chapter 25: Budget Act of 2014, Approved: June 20, 2014; 6110-196-0001 (1.1). See also Provision 6.

<sup>15</sup> SB 858, Chapter 32: Education finance: education omnibus trailer bill, Approved: June 20, 2014. See SEC 2. Item 8203.1.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> SB 852, Chapter 25: Budget Act of 2014, Approved: June 20, 2014; 6110-196-0001 (1.2). See also Provision 7.

<sup>18</sup> Brown, Jr. E.G. *California State Budget 2014-15*. State of California, June 20, 2014.

<sup>19</sup> SB 858, Chapter 32: Education finance: education omnibus trailer bill, Approved: June 20, 2014. See SEC 9. Section 8273.1(e).

---

<sup>20</sup> SB 858, Chapter 32: Education finance: education omnibus trailer bill, Approved: June 20, 2014. See SEC 6. Section 8261(a)(7).

<sup>21</sup> Ibid. See SEC 13. Section 8363.1 for the amendment to the Education Code.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid. See SEC.15. Section 8450 for the amendment to the Education Code. Under current law, may retain a reserve fund balance equal to five percent of the sum of the maximum reimbursable amounts of all contracts or \$2,000, whichever is greater.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid. See SEC. 33. Section 48000(f-g) for amendment to the Education Code.

<sup>24</sup> SB 855, Chapter 29: Human Services. Approved: June 20, 2014. See item (8) on page 4.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid. See item (9) on page 5.

<sup>26</sup> SB 858, Chapter 32: Education finance: education omnibus trailer bill, Approved: June 20, 2014. See SEC. 28. Section 1596.803(a).

<sup>27</sup> Brown, Jr. E.G. California State Budget 2014-15. State of California, June 20, 2014.

<sup>28</sup> SB 856, Chapter 30: Developmental Services. Approved: June 20, 2014. See SEC 2. Section 95014 and SEC 3. Section 95014.

<sup>29</sup> As in previous years, \$5 million of the allocation is available for the family literacy supplemental grant provided to the CSPPs.

<sup>30</sup> The State Preschool budget for 2014-15 reflects the additional funding to increase slots, the raise to the Standard Reimbursement Rate, and the backfill to cover the repeal of fees for part-day state preschool.

<sup>31</sup> Of the funding allocation to the 21<sup>st</sup> CLCs, \$36,629,000 is provided in one-time carryover funds to support the existing program.

<sup>32</sup> AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; 6870-101-0001(23).

<sup>33</sup> SB 852, Chapter 25: Budget Act of 2014, Approved: June 20, 2014: 6870-101-0001(23); see also Provisions 12(g) and 25.

<sup>34</sup> Funds are restricted to community college child care and development programs.

<sup>35</sup> AB 1464, Chapter 21: 2012-13 Budget, Approved: June 27, 2012; 6110-199-0890.

<sup>36</sup> AB 110, Chapter 20: Budget Act of 2013, Approved: June 27, 2013; Item 6110-200-0890. This item is supported with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.



LEGISLATION BEING CONSIDERED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE - 2014

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)  | Brief Description  | Sponsor   | Contact                         | County Position | Support  | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------------|-----------------|--|--------|--|
| California Assembly Bills      |   |  |   |                                 |                 |  |        |  |
| Dead                           | AB 41 (Buchanan)  | <i>Expresses legislative intent to enact legislation to create the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2014, if approved by the voters, as a state general obligation bond act that would provide funds to construct and modernize education facilities.</i>   |   |                                 |                 |  |        | Introduced: 12/7/12<br>Amended: 3/14/13<br>Amended: 4/1/13<br><br>Assembly Committee on Education                      |
| Dead                           | AB 273 (Rendon)<br><i>Two-year bill</i>                             | Would enact the CA Partnership for Infants and Toddlers Act of 2013 and require the SPI by 3/1/14 to apply to the CA Children and Families Commission for funds to make supplemental grants of \$2,500 annually per child available to qualifying general child care and development infant and toddler contracting agencies to provide enrolled children and families an array of support services. | Early Edge California (formerly Preschool California), California Child Development Administrators Association (CCDAA), ZERO TO THREE | Stacy Reardon<br>916.319.2063   |                 | CAPPA, Children Now, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids CA, Kidango, LA Area Chamber of Commerce, Options - A Child Care and Human Services Agency, Special Needs Network |        | Introduced: 2/7/13<br>Amended: 3/19/13<br>Amended: 4/8/13<br><br>Assembly Committee on Appropriations<br>Suspense File |
| Dead                           | AB 364 (Calderon)<br><i>Two-year bill</i><br><br><i>See AB 1454</i> | Would require the CA Department of Social Services (CDSS) to conduct unannounced visits to licensed community care facilities no less than once every two years.   |   | Courtney Jensen<br>916.319.2057 |                 | CA Police Chiefs Association, CFPA, CWDA, LeadingAge CA  |        | Introduced: 2/14/13<br>Amended: 4/1/13<br><br>Assembly Committee on Appropriations<br>Held under submission            |



\* Levels of interest are assigned by the Joint Committee on Legislation based on consistency with the Public Policy Platform accepted by the Child Care Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development and consistent with County Legislative Policy for the current year. Levels of interest do *not* indicate a pursuit of position in either direction. The Joint Committee will continue to monitor all listed bills as proceed through the legislative process. Levels of interest may change based on future amendments.

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author) | Brief Description  | Sponsor      | Contact                   | County Position | Support   | Oppose   | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---|--|--|
| 1                              | AB 641 (Rendon)      | <p>Would authorize family child care providers <i>to form, join and participate in activities of</i> a provider organization to act as their exclusive on matters relating to child care subsidy programs. Would establish a Family Child Care Parent Advisory Committee to advise the Governor and the provider organization on issues of quality, affordability and accessibility of child care through the subsidy programs. Stipulates membership appointments <i>with consideration for parents who have participated in training from organizations focused on child care advocacy or parents whose children receive child care</i>, meeting schedule and reimbursement for travel. <i>Would instruct CDE to require all R&amp;Rs provide in-person introductory workshops and trainings in substantive topics such as child development and literacy as well as resources to family child care providers who participate in subsidy programs. Adds to Health and Safety Code a requirement that the Department of Social Services consult with a stakeholder group of family child care providers and parents or guardians to ensure most effective implementation of safety standards for family child care homes.</i></p> | SEIU, AFSCME | Bill Wong<br>916.319.2063 |                 | California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, CA<br>Correctional Peace Officers Association, Dream Team Los Angeles, First 5 LA, United Auto Workers Local 4123, 27 individuals | Professional Association for Childhood Education | <p>Introduced: 2/20/13<br/>Amended: 3/19/13<br/>Amended: 6/17/13<br/>Amended: 7/10/13</p> <p>Inactive File</p> |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)                    | Brief Description  | Sponsor  | Contact                         | County Position | Support  | Oppose  | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|--|---|---|
| Dead                           | AB 646 (Cooley)<br><i>Two-year bill</i> | Would express intent of Legislature to affirm the employer-education partnership model of a regional P-20 council as a desired structure in CA to help align preschool, K-12, community college, 4-year college, and graduate and professional education programs and funding to advance strategic educational and economic outcomes.  | NextEd   | Brendan Repicky<br>916.319.2008 |                 | Folsom Cordova Unified School District, Los Rios Community College District, NextEd, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, Roebbelen Contracting, Inc., Yuba County Office of Education   | California Right to Life Committee  | Introduced: 2/21/13<br>Amended: 1/6/14<br>Amended: 1/16/14<br><br>Assembly Committee on Appropriations<br>In Suspense |
| Dead                           | AB 760 (Dickenson)                      | Would re-fund the Early Mental Health Intervention (EMHI) that provides mental health services to children in kindergarten up to third grade via a tax on ammunition. <i>Amendments to findings and declarations.</i>  | Children Now                                   |                                 |                 | CA Black Health Network, CA Council of Community MH Agencies, CA Immigrant Policy Ctr, CA Pan-Ethnic Health Network, CA School Health Ctrs Assoc, CA Tax Reform Assoc, Children's Advocacy Institute, CDF-CA, The Children's Partnership, Coalition Against Gun Violence, LA County Ed Foundation, LA Trust for Children's Health, and more. | CA Association of Firearms Retailers, CA Chapters of Safari Club Intern'l, CA Rifle and Pistol Assoc, CA Sportsman's Lobby, CA Waterfowl Assoc, NRA, Nat'l Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc., Outdoor Sportsmen's Coalition of CA, Shasta Co Sheriff Bosenko, State Bd of Equalization Member Runner, and more | Introduced: 2/21/13<br>Amended: 3/19/13<br><br>Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation<br>Hearing: Cancelled       |
| Watch                          | AB 835 (Muratsuchi)                     | Existing law authorizes the Department to make subordinated loans to certain entities for the purchase, development, construction, expansion, or improvement of child care and development facilities or make microenterprise loans available to small or large family child care homes or licensed child care and development facilities serving up to 35 children. Would authorize the Department of Housing and Community Development, <i>upon the request of the borrower, to modify the terms of a loan if the department determines that the borrower has demonstrated hardship.</i> | Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Boys and Girls Club | Brett Williams<br>916.319.2066  |                 | Boys and Girls Club of the South Bay   |   | Amended: 3/14/13<br>Amended: 6/27/13<br><br>In Senate Committee on Appropriations                                     |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)                          | Brief Description  | Sponsor   | Contact                       | County Position | Support   | Oppose  | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|---|---|--|
| New                            | AB 876 (Bonta)                                | Would amend existing Public Utilities Code by extending discounted rates for universal, advanced communications provided by the CA Teleconnect Fund Administrative Committee Fund to qualified schools maintaining preschools and transitional kindergartens. Would require feasibility study for creating a database of communications services. Purchased by qualifying entities receiving the financial support. <i>Minor amendments.</i> | Steve Midgley<br>an Education<br>Technology<br>Consultant | Max Mikalonis<br>916/319/2018 |                 | Bay Area Council, Children Now, Navigation North Learning, Ronald S. Schandler, CIO, Los Angeles Unified School District          |   | Introduced: 2/22/13<br>Amended: 1/6/14<br>Amended: 1/17/14<br>Amended: 7/1/14<br><br>In Senate Committees on Appropriations<br>Hearing: 8/4/14 |
| Dead                           | AB 1016 (Quirk-Silva)<br><i>Two-year bill</i> | Would require Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue a foreign language teaching credential for the purpose of providing foreign language instruction as part of an after school program voluntarily maintained by the school district.  |   | Gina Frisby<br>916.319.2065   |                 |   |   | Introduced: 2/22/13<br><br>Assembly Committee on Education   |
| Dead                           | AB 1152 (Ammiano)<br><i>Two-year bill</i>     | Would exempt the California School Age Families Education Program (Cal-SAFE) from any new education financing proposal that would eliminate categorical education programs beginning with the 2013-14 fiscal year and all subsequent fiscal years.   | CCDAA   | Wendy Hill<br>916.319.2017    |                 | CA Family Resource Assoc, CDPI, Options, Planned Parenthood Affiliates of CA, Teen Success, many individual Cal-SAFE participants | California Association of School Business Officials, Riverside County Superintendent of Schools | Introduced: 2/22/13<br><br>Assembly Committee on Appropriations<br>Held under submission   |
| Dead                           | AB 1178 (Bocanegra)                           | Would establish the CA Promise Neighborhood Initiative to develop a system promise neighborhoods throughout the state to support children's development from cradle to career.   |   |                               |                 | Chula Vista Promise Neighborhood, Los Angeles Unified School District, Youth Policy Institute                                     |   | Introduced: 2/22/13<br>Amended: 4/23/13<br>Amended: 1/8/14<br>Committee on Appropriations<br>In suspense                                       |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)                      | Brief Description   | Sponsor                         | Contact                         | County Position | Support  | Oppose   | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Dead                           | AB 1187 (Mansoor)<br><i>Two-year bill</i> | Would require CDSS to amend foster care state plan to authorize use of designated state child care & development funds administered by CDE and ASES funds, in addition to county funds, as the nonfederal match for specified child care for children receiving child protective services, foster children, and children at risk of abuse and neglect.  | County of Orange                | Saulo Londono<br>916.319.2074   |                 | County of Orange Board of Supervisors  |  | Introduced: 2/22/13<br><br>Assembly Committee on Human Services  |
| New                            | AB 1261 (Gorrell)                         | <i>Would establish the California Preschool Investment Pilot Program, which would authorize the CDE to accept monetary contributions to the fund for purposes of preschool education until 1/1/2020. Five counties, via application by the counties' local child care and development planning council, will be selected by the CDE/EESD based on a number of factors to be included in the pilot. The CDE to develop a system for accepting monetary contributions to the program and to allocate credits to contributors on a first-come, first-served basis. The aggregate amount of credit shall not exceed \$250 million for each calendar year.</i> |                                 | Sam Chung<br>916.319.2044       |                 |  |  | Amended: 6/5/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Education  |
| Watch                          | AB 1444 (Weber)                           | Would require, beginning with the 2016-17 school year, a child to have completed one year of kindergarten before being admitted to the 1 <sup>st</sup> grade.   | California Teachers Association | Marcus McKinney<br>916.319.2079 |                 | AFSCME, Association of CA School Administrators, CCDAA, Compton USD, CWDA, LA County Ed Foundation, UTLA, and more | CA Right to Life Committee, Independent Private Schools of CA, Private School Advocacy Ctr | Introduced: 1/6/14<br>Amended: 3/28/14<br>Amended: 4/22/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Appropriations<br>Suspense File |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author) | Brief Description   | Sponsor  | Contact                         | County Position | Support  | Oppose   | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| 1                              | AB 1454 (Calderon)   | Would amend existing law by making every licensed community care facility, including child care centers and family child care homes, subject to an annual unannounced visit by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) <i>on and after July 1, 2017. Phases in frequency of licensing visits beginning July 1, 2015, requiring licensed centers and family child care homes to receive, at minimum, biennial visits.</i> In addition, would make pre-licensure survey optional at the discretion of DSS if application for licensure at currently licensed facility for which no material change to management or operations of the facility occur.   |  | Courtney Jensen<br>916.319.2057 | Support         | Advancement Project, AFSCME, BANANAS, CAPP, CA Assisted Living Association (CALA), CCCRRN, CA Commission on Aging, CA Communities United Institute, CFPA, CICAL, CCLC, CCRC, Children Now, County of San Diego, CWDA, First 5 Association of CA, First 5 LA, LeadingAGE CA, Marin Child Care Council, NASW-CA, Northern Director's Group, PRCCD, | California Council of Community Mental Health Agencies | Introduced: 1/9/14<br>Amended: 3/17/14<br>Amended: 5/23/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Appropriations Suspend File   |
| Watch                          | AB 1516 (Gonzalez)   | Would require that an additional young child special needs supplement be paid in the amount of \$80 per month to a child under 3 years old in an assistance unit and the amount be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the cost of living. Provides participants with option to request supportive services via county's website, if available, otherwise county would be required to accept requests in manner to ensure participants able to request supportive services they need. Additionally, as of 1/1/19, would create Unmet Diaper Need Financing Fund in State Treasury for distribution to entities serving low-income children to meet unmet diaper needs of communities served by entities. Requires dollar-to-dollar match. CDSS to implement through an all-county letter or similar instruction by April 1, 2015 and adopt regulations as needed by July 1, 2016. | Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, Inc. |                                 |                 | CFPA, CA Immigrant Policy Center, Children Now, County of Santa Clara, Help a Mother Out.org, LA Diaper Drive, National Diaper Bank Network (NDBN), Peninsula Family Service, UWD/AFSCME Local 3930, WCLP  |  | Introduced: 1/15/14<br>Amended: 3/28/14<br>Amended: 4/22/14<br>Amended: 5/23/14<br>Amended: 6/30/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Appropriations Hearing: 8/4/14 |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)  | Brief Description   | Sponsor      | Contact                            | County Position | Support   | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|---|--------|---|
|                                | AB 1719 (Weber and Buchanan)  | Would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to provide the Legislature no later than <i>September 1, 2015</i> , with a feasibility study and implementation plan for providing a full-day kindergarten program in all public schools. Specifies considerations and would permit the SPI to convene a task force comprised of school district superintendents, principals, kindergarten teachers, pupil support services <i>and facility</i> personnel, <i>child development professionals</i> , and parents. |              | Matthew Hamlett<br>916.319.2079    |                 | AFSCME, CCDAA, California State PTA, Compton USD, Greater Sacramento Urban League, LACOE, Los Angeles County Education Foundation, Santa Clara County Office of Education   |        | Introduced: 2/13/14<br>Amended: 3/28/14<br>Amended: 4/22/14<br>Amended: 5/1/14<br>Amended: 5/23/14<br>Amended: 6/30/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Appropriations Hearing: 8/4/14 |
| Watch                          | AB 1819 (Hall)  | Would amend existing law that currently prohibits smoking in a private residence licensed as a family child care home during the hours of operation. Would prohibit smoking of tobacco on the premises of a licensed family child care home regardless of hours of operation. <i>Amendments technical.</i>  |              | Brian Duke<br>916.319.2064         |                 | AFSCME, AFL-CIO, APA-CA, Amer Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Amer Lung Assoc in CA, CAPP, NASW-CA, ZERO TO THREE, and more   |        | Introduced: 2/18/14<br>Amended: 5/15/14<br><br>Senate Floor   |
| 1                              | AB 1902 (Bonta)<br><i>(Co-authors: Assembly Members Bonilla, Buchanan, Gordon, Mullin, and Wieckowski)</i><br><i>(Coauthor: Senator Mitchell)</i> | Would eliminate the imposition of fees families are assessed for part-day State Preschool. Authority given to SPI to establish a fee schedule would not apply to part-day preschool.  | CCDAA, CCCCA | Jacqueline Orpilla<br>510.286.1670 | Support         | CCDAA, Alameda Co Board of Supervisors, Alameda Co Early Care & Education Planning Council, CCCRRN, CA Children and Families Commission, CA Head Start Association, CCALA, Children Now, Early Edge CA, Options - A Child Care and Human Services Agency, and many more |        | Introduced: 2/19/14<br>Amended: 4/9/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Education Hearing: cancelled at request of author  |
| Watch                          | AB 1944 (Garcia)  | Existing law requires 11 and 12 year old children eligible for subsidized child care services and development services use before and after school programs, unless parent certifies in writing that program does not meet family needs. Would also delete provision requiring annual reports on the savings generated from the preferred placement of children in before and after school program.   | CAPPA        | Ashley Medina<br>916.319.2058      |                 | CAPPA, CCDAA, CCALA, Child Care Links, Child Dev Associates, Choices for Children/CDI, Community Resources for Children, Davis Street Family Resource Center, Del Norte Child Care Council, Family R&R Center, MAOF, Options, and more                                  |        | Introduced: 2/19/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Appropriations Hearing: 8/4/14  |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author) | Brief Description   | Sponsor                                       | Contact                          | County Position | Support  | Oppose  | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
|                                | AB 2030 (Campos)     | Amends existing law by prohibiting employers with 25 or more employees from discharging or discriminating against an employee who is a parent, guardian or grandparent having custody of one or more children in K-12 or in a child care program from taking up to 40 hours each year without loss of pay to participate in school or child care activities, with reasonable notice to the employer of the planned absence. Prohibits requiring employee to use existing vacation, personal leave or compensatory time off for the planned absence. |   | Sailaja Rajappan<br>916.319.2027 | Oppose          | AFSCME, Assoc for LA Deputy Sheriffs, CA Assoc of Professional Employees, CFTA, CA Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, CA Nurses Assoc, CA State Council of SEIU, and many more | CSAC, CA Chamber of Commerce, CA Employment Law Council, CA League of Food Processors, CA Manufacturers & Technology Association, CA New Car Dealers Assoc, and many more | Introduced: 2/20/14<br>Committee on Labor and Employment<br>Hearing: cancelled at author's request |
| N/A                            | AB 2086 (Calderon)   | <del>Would make changes to existing law regarding the coordination of early intervention services for infants and toddlers at risk for or with disabilities and their families in natural environments. Gulled &amp; amended to address Secretary of State: Filing Fees</del>   |   |                                  |                 |  |   | Introduced: 2/20/14<br>Amended: 3/28/14  |
| Watch                          | AB 2101 (Levine)     | Would authorize CDE-contracted programs, including Alternative Payment (AP) Program contractors and providers, to maintain records electronically regardless of whether the original records were created in an electronic format <i>in compliance with state and federal standards as determined by the CDE</i> . Would allow AP Programs to use electronic signatures. <i>Amendments add to list of records that may be created and maintained by AP programs and providers.</i>  | California Alternative Payment Program (CAPP) | Michael Miller<br>916.319.2010   |                 | CCDAA, Controltec, Inc., CWDA, Drew Child Development Corporation, MAOF, and many more   |   | Introduced: 2/20/14<br>Amended: 5/6/14<br>Committee on Appropriations<br>Held under Submission     |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)     | Brief Description   | Sponsor            | Contact                    | County Position | Support   | Oppose  | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---|---|--|
| Watch                          | AB 2107 (Gorell & Olsen) | Would establish the California Preschool Investment Pilot Program, which would authorize the CDE to accept monetary contributions to the fund for purposes of preschool education. Five counties, <i>via application by the counties' local child care and development planning council</i> , will be selected by the CDE/EEED based on a number of factors to be included in the pilot. The CDE to develop a system for accepting monetary contributions to the program <i>and to allocate credits to contributors on a first-come, first-served basis</i> . The aggregate amount of credit shall not exceed <i>\$250 million for each calendar year</i> .   |                    | Sam Chung<br>916.319.2044  |                 |   | AFSCME, CFT, California Tax Reform Association, Small School District Association | Introduced: 2/20/14<br>Amended: 4/1/14<br>Amended: 4/30/14<br><br>Committee on Appropriations<br>Held under Submission |
| 1                              | AB 2111 (Ammiano)        | Would provide that participation by any school district, charter school or county superintendent of schools in a California School Age <i>Families Education (Cal-SAFE)</i> program is voluntary and may be paid for with local control funding formula (LCFF) funds <i>in accordance with the intent to improve outcomes of high need pupil populations. Specifies rights of expectant and parenting pupils without discrimination</i> . Any school district, charter school or county superintendent of schools choosing to offer early learning and education support programs for the children of the teen parents participating in Cal-SAFE using LCCF or other funds would be required to meet certain health, safety and quality requirements. | SPI, Tom Torlakson | Wendy Hill<br>916.319.2017 |                 | American Association of University Women – CA, ACLU, CCDAA, CA Latinas for Reproductive Justice, Planned Parenthood | CA Right to Life Committee, Inc.  | Introduced: 2/20/14<br>Amended: 4/2/14<br><br>Committee on Appropriations<br>Held under Submission                     |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)    | Brief Description   | Sponsor         | Contact                      | County Position | Support  | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--|--------|---|
|                                | AB 2120 (Ridley-Thomas) | Would exempt tutors, teaching assistants, instructional aides, student teachers, day care providers, vocational instructors or other similar employees of a private elementary or secondary academic institution for students in grades K-12 from overtime compensation requirements.   |                 | Khaim Morton<br>916.319.2054 |                 |  |        | Introduced: 2/20/14<br><br>Committee on Labor and Employment  |
|                                | AB 2125 (Ridley-Thomas) | <i>Would require, on or before January 1, 2016 the SPI to review the plan that establishes reasonable standards and assigned reimbursement rates and submit recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor for a single reimbursement system that reflects the actual current cost of child care based on the most recent regional market rate survey. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2017.</i>  | CCDAA,<br>CCRRN | Khaim Morton<br>916.319.2054 |                 | CAPPA,<br>CCDAA,<br>CCRRN,<br>CCALA, CCRC,<br>Compton USD,<br>LACOE, Los Angeles County Education Foundation,<br>Northern Director's Group |        | Introduced: 2/20/14<br>Amended: 4/10/14<br>Amended: 5/1/14<br>Amended: 5/23/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Appropriations Hearing: 8/4/14 |
| Watch                          | AB 2228 (Cooley)        | Would amend existing Health and Safety code relating to crisis nurseries by limiting licensed capacity for an overnight nursery to 14 children and bases maximum licensed capacity on 35 square feet of indoor activity space per child. <i>Would prohibit child from receiving child care services at a crisis nursery for more than 30 calendar days in a six month period unless an extension is issued.</i> In addition, would require staffing that meets certain minimum requirements relating to child development coursework and permits, experience working in early childhood programs and <i>all</i> caregivers complete CPR and pediatric first aid. The licensee to development and implement a staff training plan, |                 |                              |                 | California Alliance of Child and Family Services, Contra Costa County  |        | Introduced: 2/20/14<br>Amended: 5/7/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Appropriations Hearing: 8/4/14   |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author) | Brief Description  | Sponsor | Contact                             | County Position | Support  | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--|---------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--|--------|---|
|                                | AB 2287 (Pan)        | Would <i>require</i> school districts or county superintendent of schools to consider incorporate into free or reduced-price meals application packet or notification of eligibility the option to request gluten-free meals if the child has an individualized education program authorizing such meals. <i>Amended resulting in references to child development programs deleted.</i>  |         | Bernadette Lawrence<br>916.319.2009 |                 |  |        | Introduced: 2/21/14<br>Amended: 4/3/14<br>Amended: 4/22/14<br><br>In Senate<br>Committee on Education                         |
| 2                              | AB 2302 (Mullin)     | Pertaining to the Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund, would <i>require</i> the period of lease <i>to be</i> 10 years <i>or a different term as established by regulations</i> . SPI may transfer funds appropriated for child care facilities into this fund for allocation to school districts and contracting agencies for purchase, transportation, and installation of facilities for replacement and expansion of capacity. <i>Specifies the parameters of the regulations to include developing forms, policies and procedures for fund management, project fund eligibility criteria, maximum award amounts, and terms of the loan.</i> |         | Miriam Farouk<br>916.319.2022       |                 | CAPPA, Child Care Coordinating Council of San Mateo County, Inc., San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council |        | Introduced: 2/21/13<br>Amended: 4/22/14<br>Amended: 5/1/14<br><br>Committee on Appropriations<br>Held under Submission        |
| 2                              | AB 2386 (Mullin)     | Would require community care facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, <i>residential care facilities for persons with chronic, life-threatening illness</i> , and child development centers and family child care homes (small and large) to have one or more carbon monoxide detectors and would require CDSS to account for detectors during inspections.  |         | Miriam Farouk<br>916.319.2022       |                 | AFSCME, CA State Fire Fighters Association, Safe Kids California   |        | Introduced: 2/21/14<br>Amended: 5/7/14<br>Amended: 6/26/14<br><br>In Senate<br>Committee on Appropriations<br>Hearing: 8/4/14 |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)     | Brief Description   | Sponsor                                     | Contact                        | County Position | Support   | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|--------|--|
| 1                              | AB 2544 (Hernandez)      | Would require the SPI, commencing with the 2015-16 fiscal year, to annually calculate and apportion a preschool funding grant for each school district and charter school <i>that offers kindergarten or first grade</i> in the state pursuant to the LCFF to serve four year old children.   |   | Gregory Cramer<br>916.319.2048 |                 |   |        | Introduced: 2/21/14<br>Amended: 4/23/14<br><br>Committee on Education<br>Hearing: Cancelled by author  |
| Watch                          | AB 2555 (Bocanegra)      | Would require the SPI, in <i>collaboration</i> with other State departments, the CA Children and Families First Commission, <i>the CA Workforce Investment Board</i> , academic institutions and others to develop a <i>5-year plan</i> for expanding cradle to career initiatives <i>throughout the state. Specifies elements to include in and objectives of the plan</i>   |   |                                |                 | CA School-Based Health Alliance, CA School Boards Association, CDF-CA, City of LA, Communities in Schools, Harlem Children's Zone, Mission Economic Dev Agency, Policy Link, Reading and Beyond, Youth Policy Institute, and numerous individuals |        | Introduced: 2/21/14<br>Amended: 4/23/14<br><br>Committee on Appropriations<br>Held under Submission  |
| 1                              | AB 2621 (Garcia & Olsen) | Would require, except as prohibited by law, CDSS to post certain information pertaining to child care centers and family child care homes (FCCHs)( <i>except small FCCHs</i> ) to its Internet website, including information on number of site visits, number of substantiated and inconclusive complaint inspections and noncompliant inspections, <i>and citations assessed</i> during the preceding five year period. Posted information to be updated monthly. | Commission on the Status of Women and Girls | Elena Lee<br>916.319.2950      |                 | CAPPA, CCRRN, Children Now  |        | Introduced: 2/21/14<br>Amended: 4/21/14<br>Amended: 5/23/14<br>Amended: 6/27/14<br><br>In Senate<br>Committee on Appropriations<br>Hearing: 8/4/14 |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)     | Brief Description   | Sponsor  | Contact                       | County Position | Support  | Oppose  | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|--|---|---|
| Watch                          | AB 2632 (Maienschein)    | Would prohibit the CDSS from issuing a criminal record clearance to a person who has been arrested for specified crimes <i>or for any crime for which the department is prohibited from granting a criminal record exemption</i> and arrest is pending investigation or conviction, for certain crimes prior to CDSS completion of an investigation of the incident to establish conduct by person that may pose a risk to the health and safety of any person who is or may become a client. <i>Requires person not exempt from fingerprinting to sign a declaration under penalty of perjury regarding any prior criminal convictions</i> | Children's Advocacy Institute at University of San Diego-School of Law | Erin Donnette<br>916.319.2077 |                 | Association of Regional Center Agencies, Assisted Living Association, Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy, Children Advocacy Institute (CAI), The Legislative & Public Policy Clinic, University of the Pacific-McGeorge School of Law | ACLU, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, Youth Law Center | Introduced: 2/21/14<br>Amended: 3/28/14<br>Amended: 5/7/14<br>Amended: 6/18/14<br><br>In Senate Committee on Appropriations Hearing: 8/4/14 |
| Watch                          | ACA 2 (Nestande & Olsen) | Assembly Constitutional Amendment resolution pertaining to the required apportionments of state aid to school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, and community college districts.   |  |                               |                 | Advancement Project, EdVoice, LACOE, Manhattan Beach Council of PTAs, Oakdale Joint USD, Waterford USD   |   | Introduced: 12/18/12<br>Amended: 4/16/13<br>Amended: 8/7/13<br>Assembly Committee on Education Hearing: cancelled                           |
| California Senate Bills        |                          |   |  |                               |                 |  |   |   |
| Dead                           | SB 154 (Berryhill)       | Would make technical, non-substantive changes to the law regarding licensing of community care facilities.  |  |                               |                 |  |   | Introduced: 1/31/13<br><br>Senate Committee on Rules  |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)                 | Brief Description   | Sponsor | Contact                        | County Position | Support  | Oppose                                   | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------|--------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|---|
| 1                              | SB 192 (Liu)<br><i>Two-year bill</i> | <p>Would recast the Child Care and Development Services Act as the Early Learning and Educational Support Act, and change all references to child care and development to early learning and educational support. Would consolidate early education center-based contracts and require that the Child Care Resource and Referral (R&amp;Rs), and Alternative Payment Program agencies provide families with consumer education to help them make informed choices regarding early learning and support services. Would add the consideration of resources available in attendance areas of elementary schools ranked in deciles 1 to 3 of the Academic Performance Index to the existing methodology used by local planning councils to determine priorities for expansion funds as become available. The CDE may create a list of high quality early learning and educational support resources to demonstrate high quality options available to parents. If list is created, CDE to post on their website and make information available to resource and referral and alternative payment programs. Deletes sections pertaining to supports for teen parents and their infants and toddlers available through their high schools.</p> <p><i>Amendments mostly technical and include language to strengthen definitions.</i></p> | SPI     | Darcel Sanders<br>916.651.4025 | Support         | <p>Advancement Project, CCDAA, CTA, CCALA, CCLC, Child Development Resources, Children Now, Compton Unified School District, Early Edge CA, First 5 LA, LA Area Chamber of Commerce, LACOE, LAUP, Options, Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development, San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council</p> | California Right to Life Committee, Inc. | <p>Introduced: 2/7/13<br/>Amended: 3/12/13<br/>Amended: 4/3/13<br/>Amended: 4/16/13<br/>Amended: 5/28/13<br/>Amended: 6/14/13<br/>Amended: 8/5/13<br/>Amended: 6/18/14</p> <p>In Assembly Committee on Appropriations</p> |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)                     | Brief Description  | Sponsor  | Contact                          | County Position | Support  | Oppose  | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|----------------------------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
| Dead                           | SB 301 (Liu)                             | Expresses intent of Legislature to enact legislation that would create the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2014 to authorize an unspecified sum of state general obligation funds to construct and modernize education facilities.   |  |                                  |                 |  |   | Introduced: 2/15/13<br><br>Senate Committee on Rules   |
| 3                              | SB 443 (Walters)                         | <i>Recasts and defines</i> "organized resident camp" "organized day camp" and "organized camp" and <i>defines</i> "camper". Would require the <i>organized camps to register annually with the local public health officer or designee with documentation describing its operating plan and accreditation. Specifies criminal background checks of staff and volunteers.</i>   | California Collaboration for Youth, California State Alliance of YMCAs | Michelle Clarke<br>916.651.4037  |                 | American Camp Association in CA, AstroCamp, Camp Fire, Catalina Island Camps, Inc., Catalina Island Marine Institute, Channel Islands YMCA, Tom Sawyer Camps, Tumbleweed Day Camp, Yosemite Sierra Summer Camp, YMCA of San Diego County, and more | CA Park and Recreation Society, City of Torrance, City of Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department | Introduced: 2/21/13<br>Amended: 4/16/13<br>Amended: 8/7/13<br>Amended: 6/25/14<br><br>In Assembly Committee on Appropriations              |
| Dead                           | SB 464 (Jackson)<br><i>Two-year bill</i> | Would enact the Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Act and add it to the Child Care and Development Services Act. Would establish nutrition and physical activity standards for early childhood education, infant, and after school programs.  | California State Alliance of YMCAs                                     | Concepcion Tadeo<br>916.651.4019 |                 |  |   | Introduced: 2/21/13<br><br>In Senate Committee on Education  |
| Dead                           | SB 766 (Yee)<br><i>Two-year bill</i>     | Would require staff of ancillary child care center to be registered as a trustline provider and require them to ensure the presence of at least one provider who is 18 years or older, and require at least one provider present at the center has received training in health and safety inclusive of pediatric first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. (Ancillary centers are ancillary to principal business activity and provide day care services for the children of the clients or customers of the business.) |  | Sara Rogers<br>916.651.1524      |                 |  |   | Amended: 4/1/13<br>Amended: 4/18/13<br>Amended: 4/25/13<br>Amended: 1/6/14<br><br>Senate Committee on Appropriations<br>Held in submission |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author) | Brief Description  | Sponsor                    | Contact                        | County Position | Support   | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|--------|---|
| 1                              | SB 837 (Steinberg)   | Would require that the allocation of \$15 million of the moneys appropriated for State Preschool in the Budget Act of 2014 to be used to fund professional development for teachers, as follows: 1) first priority for professional development for transitional kindergarten (TK) teachers to include stipends for teachers to complete 24 units in early childhood education or child development or a combination of both and strengthening teacher knowledge of the CA Preschool Learning Foundations; 2) second priority for professional development for teachers in the CA State Preschool Program. Would require the allocation of \$10 million of the moneys appropriated for State Preschool be allocated to the CDE for other professional development projects not described above. CDE to consult with the CA Community Colleges, <i>CA State University, resource and referral programs</i> , the CA Children and Families Commission, school administrators and teachers in administering this section. | SPI, Early Edge California | Susanna Cooper<br>916.651.4170 |                 | Advancement Project, Bay Area First 5 Executive Directors, CA State PTA, Children Now, Common Sense Media, Compton USD, Co of Santa Clara Supervisor-District Three, Families in Schools Family Engagement Institute, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, First 5 Association of CA, First 5 Fresno Co, InnerCity Struggle, Jr Leagues of CA State Public Affairs Committee, League of Women Voters of CA, LA Chamber of Commerce, Mission: Readiness Military Leaders for Kids, Parent Institute for Quality Education, Santa Clara County Office of Education, Superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District, SD USD, United Way of CA, Zero To Three-Western Office, and more | CCDAA  | Introduced: 1/6/13<br>Amended: 4/2/14<br>Amended: 4/22/14<br>Amended: 5/28/14<br>Amended: 6/18/14<br>Amended: 7/2/14<br><br>In Assembly Committee on Appropriations |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author) | Brief Description  | Sponsor  | Contact                       | County Position | Support  | Oppose   | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|---|
|                                | SB 935 (Leno)        | Would increase the minimum wage as of 1/1/15 to \$11/hour and as of 1/1/16 to \$12/hour and as of 1/1/17 to \$13/hour. Thereon, would require automatic adjustment in minimum wage annually to maintain employee purchasing power diminished by rate of inflation during previous year, adjusting it based on CA Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, as published by the Department of Industrial Relations, <i>Office of Policy, Research and Legislation</i> . Bill would apply to all industries, including public and private employment.  | CA State Council of SEIU, The Women's Foundation of CA, WCLP |                               |                 | AFSCME, AFL-CIO, ACLU, CA CA Assoc of Food Banks, CFPA, CA Immigrant Policy Ctr, CA Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, CWDA, CA CDF, City and County of San Francisco, NASW-CA Chapter, multiple labor unions and many more  | CA Chamber of Commerce, multiple local Chambers Associated Builders and Contractors - San Diego Chapter, Agricultural Council of CA, Air Conditioning Trade Assoc, Anaheim Health Services at Home, CA Assoc of Health Facilities, and many more | Introduced: 1/3/14<br>Amended: 3/18/14<br>Amended: 5/27/14<br><br>In Assembly Committee on Labor and Employment<br>Failed passage in committee; reconsideration granted |
|                                | SB 949 (Jackson)     | Would establish the Distinguished After School Health (DASH) Recognition Program to be administered by the State Department of Public Health in consultation with the CDE. Would require the CDE to develop process for an after school program be <i>recognized as meeting the requirements specified in the bill and to include all resources and links that an after school program may use to meet the requirements</i> . The on the CDE's website that they meet requirements for healthy eating and physical activity. CDE to provide after school program with option to create a certificate using a template designed by the CDE with a statement that the information on the certificate <i>is</i> verified by the CDE. Certificate would be valid for one year and require posting list of certificate holders on Internet website. | California State Alliance of YMCAs                           | Myriam Valdez<br>916.651.4019 |                 | Armed Services YMCA of the USA Twentynine Palms, Assoc of CA Healthcare Districts, Ctr for Public Health Advocacy, CA Collaboration for Youth, CFPA, CA Primary Care Assoc, CA State PTA, Ctr for Collaborative Solutions, Ecological Farming Assoc, Family YMCA of the Desert, and more |  | Introduced: 2/6/14<br>Amended: 4/8/14<br>Amended: 5/7/14<br><br>In Assembly Committee on Appropriations   |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author) | Brief Description   | Sponsor | Contact                     | County Position | Support  | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--|--------|---|
|                                | SB 1023 (Liu)        | <p>Would allow the Office of the Chancellor of the Community Colleges to enter into agreements with up to 10 community college districts to provide funds for services in support of postsecondary education for foster youth and expand the number of students participating in the Community College Extended Opportunity Programs and Services. <i>If more than 10 colleges apply for funding, priority to go to colleges with higher number of eligible students.</i> Support services may include child care as well as transportation allowances, money for books and supplies, counseling and other services and referrals to mental health services and housing assistance. Specifies requirements for community college districts wishing to participate in the newly named Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program and the criteria for student participation. Regulations to be adopted by the board of governors in consultation with the DSS. Biennial reporting required and to include <i>whether and how program can be expanded to other community college districts and campuses.</i></p> |         | Lynn Lorber<br>916.651.4105 |                 | <p>AFSCME, Alliance for Children's Rights, Bienvenidos Children's Center, CASA County Chapters (including Los Angeles among others across the state), CA CASA Assoc, CA State Polytechnic University-Pomona, CSUs Chico &amp; San Marcos, CA Youth Connection, Children's Law Center of CA, LAC DCFS, Five Acres, NASW-CA, Legal Services for Children, Public Counsel, Richstone Family Center, UCs of Berkely, Davis &amp; Riverside, and more</p> |        | <p>Introduced: 2/14/14<br/>Amended: 4/3/14<br/>Amended: 4/24/14<br/>Amended: 5/27/14<br/>Amended: 6/12/14<br/>Amended: 6/19/14</p> <p>In Assembly Committee on Appropriations</p> |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author) | Brief Description   | Sponsor               | Contact                        | County Position | Support  | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|--|--------|--|
| 1                              | SB 1123 (Liu)        | <p>Would modify Education Code relating to the Child Care and Development Act as follows:</p> <p>1) makes four year old children enrolled in TK programs deemed eligible for <i>wraparound</i> child care services through CSPP if they are also eligible for Cal-Fresh or Medi-Cal or family income is at or below 70% of the SMI; 2) recasts General Child care for infants and toddlers as California Strong Start to serve children from birth to their third birthday and include parent engagement, full- and part-day options, voluntary home visitation, nutrition services and referrals as needed to health and social services; 3) requires the SPI to develop standards, rules and regulations for the implementation of infant-toddler services based on the Early Head Start model;</p> <p>4) establishes supplemental grants to support program elements;</p> <p>5) deems a child eligible for the program year upon enrollment;</p> <p>6) establishes minimum staff to child ratios and group sizes for each age group of children (infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school age) and teacher qualifications; and 7) gives 2<sup>nd</sup> priority for State Preschool to 4 year old children not enrolled in TK and deletes requiring ½ of children enrolled at preschool be 4 years old.</p> | Early Edge California | Darcel Sanders<br>916.651.4105 |                 | <p>Advancement Project, Californians Together Coalition, CCLC, Children Now, CA Alliance of Child &amp; Family Services, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, First 5 Fresno Co, First 5 Santa Clara Co, Jumpstart for Young Children, Kids' Club Preschool, LA Urban League, NCJW, Next Generation, Parent Institute for Quality Education, Ready Nation/America's Edge CA, Stanford U Grad School of Ed, St. Elizabeth's Day Home, &amp; Early Ed Organization, ZERO TO THREE Western Office, and more</p> |        | <p>Introduce: 2/19/14<br/>Amended: 3/26/14<br/>Amended: 4/3/14<br/>Amended: 5/27/14</p> <p>In Assembly Committee on Appropriations</p> |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup>                           | Bill Number (Author)   | Brief Description   | Sponsor                                 | Contact                         | County Position | Support   | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)   |
|--|--|---|---|---------------------------------|-----------------|---|--------|---|
|  | SB 1221 (Hancock)  | <p>Would amend several sections of the Education Code relating to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens (ASSETS) and the After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program. Would give priority for grants to programs that provide year round learning opportunities and would define expanded learning as before and after school, summer and intersession programs that complement school day and school year learning. Contains data components and programs would be required to demonstrate field-recognized and research-based quality improvement assessments tools and processes are in place. Makes additional funding available for transportation if program operated as school site is in area with population density of less than 11 persons per square mile.</p> <p><i>Requires CDE to submit a biennial report to the Legislature related to the pupils attending, and the program quality of, expanded learning programs. Specifies information to include in the report.</i></p> | CDE, Partnership for Children and Youth | Rebecca Baumann<br>916.651.4593 |                 | <p>After School Coalition, Alameda Co Superintendent of Schools, Aspiranet, Building Educated Leaders for Life, CA Alliance of Boys &amp; Girls Clubs, CA Library Assoc, CA School-Age Consortium, Families In Schools, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, GreatSchools, InnerCity Struggle, LA's BEST, Partnership for Children &amp; Youth, SPI, The Children's Initiative, Think Together, Youth Alliance and more</p> |        | <p>Introduced: 2/20/14<br/>Amended: 3/27/14<br/>Amended: 5/27/14<br/>Amended: 7/2/14</p> <p>In Assembly Committee on Appropriations</p> |
| <b>California Budget Bills (including Trailer Bills)</b> |  |   |   |                                 |                 |   |        |   |
|  | SB 852 (Leno)<br>Chapter 25                                  | Budget Act of 2014  |   |                                 |                 |   |        | <i>Approved by Governor: 6/20/14</i>  |
|  | SB 855 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review)<br>Chapter 29 | Human Services – Trailer Bill Language  |   |                                 |                 |   |        | <i>Approved by Governor: 6/20/14</i>  |
|  | SB 856 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review)<br>Chapter 30 | Developmental Services – Trailer Bill Language  |   |                                 |                 |   |        | <i>Approved by Governor: 6/20/14</i>  |

| Level of Interest <sup>1</sup> | Bill Number (Author)   | Brief Description                                 | Sponsor | Contact | County Position | Support | Oppose | Status (As of 7/8/14)                    |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---------|---------|-----------------|---------|--------|--|
|                                | SB 858 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review)<br>Chapter 32 | Education Finance: Education Omnibus Trailer Bill |         |         |                 |         |        | <i>Approved by Governor:<br/>6/20/14</i> |

To obtain additional information about any State legislation, go to [www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.htm](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.htm); for Federal legislation, visit <http://thomas.loc.gov>. To access budget hearings on line, go to [www.calchannel.com](http://www.calchannel.com) and click on appropriate link at right under "Live Webcast". Links to Trailer Bills are available at [http://www.dof.ca.gov/budgeting/trailer\\_bill\\_language/](http://www.dof.ca.gov/budgeting/trailer_bill_language/). For questions or comments regarding this document, contact Michele Sartell, staff with the Office of Child Care, by e-mail at [msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov](mailto:msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov) or call (213) 974-5187.

An additional source of information on bills posted in this matrix is the subscription-based publication, *Legislative Updates on Child Development*, issued weekly by On the Capitol Doorstep. For more information, visit [www.otcdkids.com](http://www.otcdkids.com).

**KEY TO LEVEL OF INTEREST ON BILLS:**

- 1: Of potentially high interest to the Child Care Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable for Child Care.
- 2: Of moderate interest.
- 3: Of relatively low interest.
- Watch: Of interest, however level of interest may change based on further information regarding author's or sponsor's intent and/or future amendments.

\*\* Levels of interest are assigned by the Joint Committee on Legislation based on consistency with Policy Platform accepted by the Child Care Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable for Child Care and consistent with County Legislative Policy for the current year. Levels of interest *do not* indicate a pursuit of position. Joint Committee will continue to monitor all listed bills as proceed through legislative process. Levels of interest may change based on future amendments.

**KEY:**

|         |  |          |  |
|---------|--|----------|--|
| ACLU    | American Civil Liberties Union                               | CCALA    | Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles                       |
| AFSCME: | American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees | CTC      | Commission on Teacher Credentialing                      |
| CAPPA   | California Alternative Payment Program Association           | CWDA     | County Welfare Directors' Association                    |
| CAEYC   | California Association for the Education of Young Children   | DDS      | Department of Developmental Services                     |
| CAFB    | California Association of Food Banks                         | DHS      | Department of Health Services                            |
| CCCCA   | California Child Care Coordinators Association               | DMH      | Department of Mental Health                              |
| CCRNR   | California Child Care Resource and Referral Network          | First 5  | First 5 Commission of California                         |
| CCDAA:  | California Child Development Administrators Association      | HHSA     | Health and Human Services Agency                         |
| CDA     | California Dental Association                                | LCC      | League of California Cities                              |
| CDE     | California Department of Education                           | LAC CPSS | Los Angeles County Commission for Public Social Services |
| CDSS    | California Department of Social Services                     | LACOE    | Los Angeles County Office of Education                   |
| CFT     | California Federation of Teachers                            | LAUSD    | Los Angeles Unified School District                      |
| CFPA    | California Food Policy Advocates                             | MALDEF   | Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund        |
| CHAC    | California Hunger Action Coalition                           | NASW     | National Association of Social Workers                   |
| CIWC    | California Immigrant Welfare Collaborative                   | NCYL     | National Center for Youth Law                            |
| CSAC    | California School-Age Consortium                             | PG&E     | Pacific Gas and Electric Company                         |
| CSAC    | California State Association of Counties                     | SEIU     | Service Employees International Union                    |
| CTA     | California Teachers Association                              | SPI      | Superintendent of Public Instruction                     |
| CCLC    | Child Care Law Center  | TCI      | The Children's Initiative                                |
| CDPI    | Child Development Policy Institute                           | US DHHS  | US Department of Health and Human Services               |

**DEFINITIONS:<sup>2</sup>**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Committee on Rules    | Bills are assigned to a Committee for hearing from here.   |
| Consent Calendar      | A set of non-controversial bills, grouped together and voted out of a committee or on the floor as a package.  |
| First Reading         | Each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage. The first reading of a bill occurs when it is introduced.  |
| Held in Committee     | Status of a bill that fails to receive sufficient affirmative votes to pass out of committee.  |
| Held under Submission | Action taken by a committee when a bill is heard and there is an indication that the author and the committee members want to work on or discuss the bill further, but there is no motion for the bill to progress out of committee.   |
| Inactive File         | The portion of the Daily File containing legislation that is ready for floor consideration, but, for a variety of reasons, is dead or dormant. An author may move a bill to the inactive file, and move it off the inactive file at a later date. During the final weeks of the legislative session, measures may be moved there by the leadership as a method of encouraging authors to take up their bills promptly. |
| On File               | A bill on the second or third reading file of the Assembly or Senate Daily File.   |
| Second Reading        | Each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage. Second reading occurs after a bill has been reported to the floor from committee.  |
| Spot Bill             | A bill that proposes nonsubstantive amendments to a code section in a particular subject; introduced to assure that a bill will be available, subsequent to the deadline to introduce bills, for revision by amendments that are germane to the subject of the bill.   |
| Third Reading         | Each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage. Third reading occurs when the measure is about to be taken up on the floor of either house for final passage.  |
| Third Reading File    | That portion of the Daily File listing the bills that is ready to be taken up for final passage.   |
| Urgency Measure       | A bill affecting the public peace, health, or safety, containing an urgency clause, and requiring a two-thirds vote for passage. An urgency bill becomes effective immediately upon enactment.   |
| Urgency Clause        | Section of bill stating that bill will take effect immediately upon enactment. A vote on the urgency clause, requiring a two-thirds vote in each house, must precede a vote on bill.   |
| Enrollment            | Bill has passed both Houses, House of origin has concurred with amendments (as needed), and bill is now on its way to the Governor's desk.   |

<sup>2</sup> Definitions are taken from the official site for California legislative information, Your Legislature, Glossary of Legislative Terms at [www.leginfo.ca.gov/guide.html#Appendix\\_B](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/guide.html#Appendix_B).

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR 2014 (Tentative)

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Jan. 1, 2014       | Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).   |
| Jan. 7, 2014       | Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(1)).  |
| Jan. 10, 2014      | Budget Bill must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12(a)).   |
| Jan. 17, 2014      | Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills introduced in their house in 2013 for referral to fiscal committees (J.R. 61(b)(1)).   |
| Jan. 20, 2014      | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed.  |
| Jan. 24, 2014      | Last day to submit bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel. Last day for any committee to meet and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house in 2013 (J.R. 61(b)(2)).   |
| Jan. 31, 2014      | Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in their house in 2013 (Art. IV, Sec. 10(c)) (J.R. 61(b)(3)).   |
| Feb. 17, 2014      | Presidents' Day observed.  |
| Feb. 21, 2014      | Last day for bills to be introduced (J.R. 61(a)(1), J.R. 54(a)).   |
| March 31, 2014     | Cesar Chavez Day observed.   |
| April 10, 2014     | Spring Recess begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(a)(2)).   |
| April 21, 2014     | Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess (J.R. 51(a)(2)).   |
| May 2, 2014        | Last day for policy committees to meet and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(2)).   |
| May 9, 2014        | Last day for policy committees to meet and report to the floor nonfiscal bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(3)).  |
| May 15, 2014       | Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 2 (J.R. 61(a)(4)).  |
| May 23, 2014       | Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report to the floor bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(5)). Last day for fiscal committees to meet prior to June 3 (J.R. 61(a)(6)).  |
| May 26, 2013       | Memorial Day observed.   |
| May 27-30, 2014    | Floor session only. No committee may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(a)(7)). This deadline APPLIES TO ALL bills, constitutional amendments and bills which would go into immediate effect pursuant to Section 8 of Article IV of the Constitution (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c); J.R. 61(i)).  |
| May 30, 2014       | Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house (J.R. 61(a)(8)).  |
| June 2, 2014       | Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(a)(9)).   |
| June 15, 2014      | Budget Bill must be passed by midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)(3)).   |
| June 26, 2014      | Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the Nov. 4 General Election ballot (Elections Code Sec. 9040).   |
| June 27, 2014      | Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(a)(10)).  |
| July 3, 2014       | Summer recess begins at the end of this day's session, provided the Budget Bill has been passed (J.R. 51(a)(3)).   |
| July 4, 2013       | Independence Day observed.   |
| August 4, 2014     | Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess (J.R. 51(a)(3)).   |
| August 15, 2014    | Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(a)(11)).  |
| Sep. 2, 2013       | Labor Day observed.  |
| August 18-31, 2014 | Floor session only. No committees, other than conference committees and Rules Committee, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(a)(12)). This deadline APPLIES TO ALL bills, constitutional amendments and bills which would go into immediate effect pursuant to Section 8 of Article IV of the Constitution (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c); J.R. 61(i)). |
| August 22, 2014    | Last day to amend bills on the floor (J.R. 61(a)(13)).   |
| August 31, 2014    | Last day for each house to pass bills (Art. IV, Sec. 10(c), J.R. 61(b)(17)). Final Recess begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(b)(3)).   |
| Sept. 30, 2014     | Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature on or before Sept. 1, 2014 and in the Governor's possession after Sept. 1 (Art. IV, Sec. 10(b)(1)).  |

## 2015

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Jan. 1 | Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)). |
| Jan. 5 | Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51 (a)(4)).   |

This page intentionally blank



**Supporting Infants and Toddlers in Los Angeles**

[www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)

Copyright © 2013 ZERO TO THREE. All rights reserved.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**INFANT & TODDLER POLICY FRAMEWORK**

**Health:**

- Physical Health
- Social & Emotional Health
- Developmental Screening

**Family Strengthening:**

- Basic Needs
- Family Support
- Home Visiting
- Child Welfare
- Paid Family Leave

**Early Learning:**

- Child Care
- Early Head Start
- Early Intervention

**Good Health**

**Strong Families**

**Positive Early Learning Experiences**

www.zerotothree.org Copyright © 2013 ZERO TO THREE. All rights reserved. 2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**Supporting Babies Wherever They Are.**

**Family, Friend, Neighbor**

- Home visiting

**Childcare**

- Quality
- Rates
- Slots

**Community**

- Cross-sector core competencies
- Trauma-informed care (ACR 155)

www.zerotothree.org Copyright © 2013 ZERO TO THREE. All rights reserved. 3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

This page intentionally blank

# Supporting Systems of High Quality Infant & Toddler Care in California



As California works to increase access to high quality early care and education settings it is important for stakeholders and policymakers to consider the unique developmental needs of infants and toddlers.

1

**Promote Relationships:** High-quality infant and toddler care boils down to the quality of the relationship between the child and the child care provider. **Stable, responsive and sensitive caregivers are able to meet the needs of the child who is then free to explore and interact in ways that promote healthy development across all domains (cognitive, physical, social, and emotional).** A growing body of literature supports the following evidence-based practices that promote the development of nurturing relationships:

- **Continuity of Care:** Disruptions in relationships can make it very difficult for infants and toddlers to bond with future caregivers. Rather than moving infants and toddlers through separate rooms and caregivers as they grow older, high-quality programs keep children with the same caregivers from the time they enter care at least until they are 2 years old.
- **Primary Caregiving:** Assigning each child to one caregiver promotes the development of an intimate and secure relationship. The caregiver learns about the unique needs of the children she is assigned to and the children learn that the caregiver is responsive and dependable.
- **Engaging Families:** Families provide the primary nurturing relationships for infants and toddlers, and early care providers have the unique opportunity to support these relationships. High-quality programs are culturally responsive, promote relationships with families, provide parenting programs, and connect families to resources in the community.

2

**Whole-Systems Thinking:** Supporting high-quality infant and toddler care requires a systems-thinking approach.

- **Consider the Cost:** In order to support the development of high-quality relationships, California requires a low caregiver-child ratio of 1 caregiver for every 3 infants. This means that care for very young children is more expensive than for 3- and 4-year-olds, who can have higher ratios. Without help, the cost would likely be too high for most families to afford, which is why infant and toddler spaces have diminished over the last 6 years of state funding cuts. Many child care programs lighten this burden for families by distributing funds brought in by 3- and 4-year-olds to their whole program. Infants and toddlers rely on 3- and 4-year-olds in order to access high quality care. **If 4-year-olds leave the child care system, the state must set aside funds to keep infant and toddler child care spaces available.** Strategies include increased reimbursement rates and cost of living adjustments (COLA).
- **Align Standards Across Systems:** Ensuring that all children have access to high-quality programs means aligning standards across local, state, and federal systems. Alignment not only ensures a baseline of quality for children regardless of funding streams, it also means setting California up to receive federal dollars. California policymakers and stakeholders should consider:
  - Early Head Start Standards
  - Encouraging the use of the California Infant Toddler Guidelines and Foundations
  - Standards used by the local Quality Rating and Improvement Consortia, funded by the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant.

- **Licensing Checks:** Current law requires licensing checks once every 5 years, a rate that fails to maintain health and safety standards for infants and toddlers. Policymakers should legislate annual unannounced visits to all licensed child care programs.

**3** **Prioritize the Most Vulnerable Babies, Support Them Wherever They Are:** Vulnerable infants and toddlers are those for whom the relationship between the child and his or her parent or guardian is in jeopardy. High levels of stress (often associated with poverty) and big disruptions (such as military deployment) can impact the ability of the parent to provide stable and nurturing interactions. Decades of research has demonstrated that vulnerable children have the most to gain from high-quality infant and toddler care. These children are also most likely to be cared for in alternative child care placements including family, friend, and neighbor care (FFN). In fact, in California, very few CalWORKS families choose child care subsidies because they need care that is conveniently located and available during nontraditional hours (including evenings and weekends). **Policy makers must allocate funds to support caregivers who work with children and families during nontraditional hours and in a variety of settings.**

**4** **Preparation and Ongoing Technical Assistance:** Caring for infants and toddlers in group settings requires a unique set of skills and professional development. Preparation should include training and education in attachment, cultural competence, brain development, and child development across all domains including social, emotional, and cognitive development. These courses should lay the foundation for a teaching credential that includes on-site experiences in high-quality programs. California should foster the development of articulation agreements among higher education institutions.

Maintaining high-quality care requires ongoing on-site technical assistance and support for caregivers. There are a variety of ways that caregivers can receive this support including mentorships, coaching, participating in a community of practice, and reflective supervision. Meeting the needs of infants and toddlers requires expertise from a variety of fields including child development, mental health, family support, and health. Therefore a robust system of professional development should include cross-sector collaboration and coordination of services for very young children and their families. Professionals tend to work in isolation from one another and rely on parents to share information between providers. Systemized collaboration across sectors and in practice help professionals better meet the needs of expectant parents, infants, toddlers, and their families. **Policy makers should increase opportunities for cross-sector knowledge building, collaboration, and learning.**

**5** **Support Research and Evaluation:** The early years of life are too important to leave to chance. The state should allocate funds to support research on assessing quality, supply, and demand. **Stakeholders and policymakers should use this information to make targeted improvement measures and investments to make the biggest difference for infants, toddlers, and families.**

---

Adapted from ZERO TO THREE Policy Brief *Seizing the Potential: Quality Infant-Toddler Child Care*

**Contact:** Senior Policy Analyst Carolyn Brennan at the ZERO TO THREE Western Office.

*ZERO TO THREE is a national nonprofit organization that provides parents, professionals, and policymakers the knowledge and know-how to nurture early development. Our mission is to ensure that all babies and toddlers have a strong start in life. Our nonpartisan research-based policy agenda is simple: **good health, strong families, and positive early learning experiences** for all infants and toddlers, with special emphasis on those who are the most vulnerable and in need.*

March 2014

# Preventing the Word Gap:

## OUR WORDS MATTER



By the time they are 3 years old, children from low-income households will have heard 30 million fewer words than their more affluent peers<sup>1</sup>. This early disparity has the potential for lasting impacts and puts children from low-income households on a path toward reduced academic success. Access to high-quality preschool is an important intervention before children enter kindergarten, **but the best solution is to prevent the gap from ever occurring**.

Preventing the word gap is not difficult, but it takes targeted and intentional actions by parents and caregivers. The following ideas help promote development across all domains including cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development, as well as non-cognitive areas such as motivation to read and persistence in learning<sup>2</sup>.

- 1. Vary your vocabulary.** Whether you are describing the things you see on a walk, or are helping to explain an emotion, babies benefit from exposure to a wide variety of words. Although it may be a long time before they begin to use the words they hear, a broad vocabulary contributes to their learning from a very early age. So go ahead—talk, chat, comment, discuss, communicate, and have a conversation.
- 2. Put words into context.** Just like adults, babies learn best when the words they hear are put into context and connected to things they are interested in. Talk to very young children about what they are experiencing and engage in back and forth exchanges. Ask open-ended questions, pause and wait for the infant or toddler to answer, respond to cues and signals, make eye contact, and follow the child's lead.
- 3. Engage with books.** Literacy starts long before a young child begins to sound out her first word. Reading time is not only a great bedtime activity; it exposes children to important literacy skills. Pointing at words and letters promotes text awareness and early phonetics, asking questions about what might happen next builds cognitive skills, and spending some quality time together promotes a love of reading and learning.
- 4. Words heard through television do not have the same impact on development.** Although the action on the screen might hold a toddler's attention, research has demonstrated that words heard through the TV do not help to expand vocabulary or cognitive development. Learning happens in the context of relationships and direct interaction with real people. Enhance the experience of using interactive technology and media by pointing and talking about what you see, asking questions, and singing along.

### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Hart, B., & Risley, T. (1995). *Meaningful differences in the everyday experiences of young American children*. Baltimore, MD: Brookes.

<sup>2</sup> ZERO TO THREE. (2011). *A window to the world: Early language and literacy development*. [www.zerotothree.org/public-policy/policy-toolkit/early-literacywebmarch1-6.pdf](http://www.zerotothree.org/public-policy/policy-toolkit/early-literacywebmarch1-6.pdf)

Authors: Carolyn Brennan, Senior Policy Analyst and Christina Nigrelli, Senior Director of Programs at the ZERO TO THREE Western Office, (213) 481-7279

June 2014

ZERO TO THREE is a national nonprofit organization that provides parents, professionals, and policymakers the knowledge and know-how to nurture early development. Our mission is to ensure that all babies and toddlers have a strong start in life. Our nonpartisan research-based policy agenda is simple: **good health, strong families, and positive early learning experiences** for all infants and toddlers, with special emphasis on those who are the most vulnerable and in need.

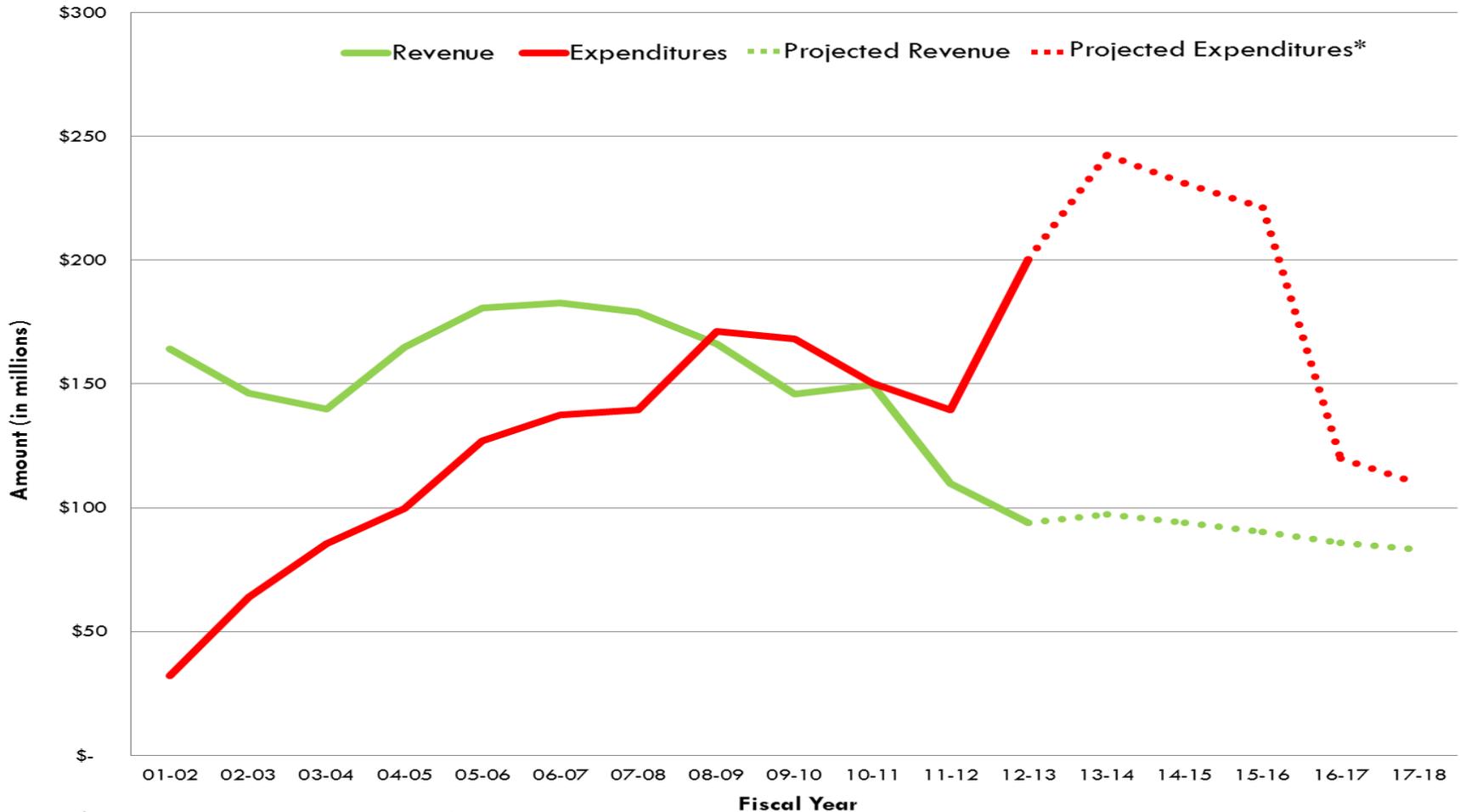
Copyright ©2014 by ZERO TO THREE. All rights reserved.

This page intentionally blank

# Long-Term Financial Projection

Revenue vs. Expenditures: FY 2001-02 through FY 2017-18

Approved February 12, 2014



\* Assumes programs scheduled to expire are not extended.

Note: The sharp decline in projected expenditures from FY 2015-16 to FY 16-17 is primarily due to LAUP, which is scheduled to end June 2016.

# First 5 LA Strategic Imperative

Endorsed April 10, 2014

- ➔ Maximize return on the Commission's future investments to achieve mission and greatest possible impact for children 0-5 and their families
- ➔ Determine a clearer focus for First 5 LA than has been in place to date
- ➔ Align strategic goals to long-term financial projections and strategy

# First 5 LA Home Positions for the Six Levers for Impact

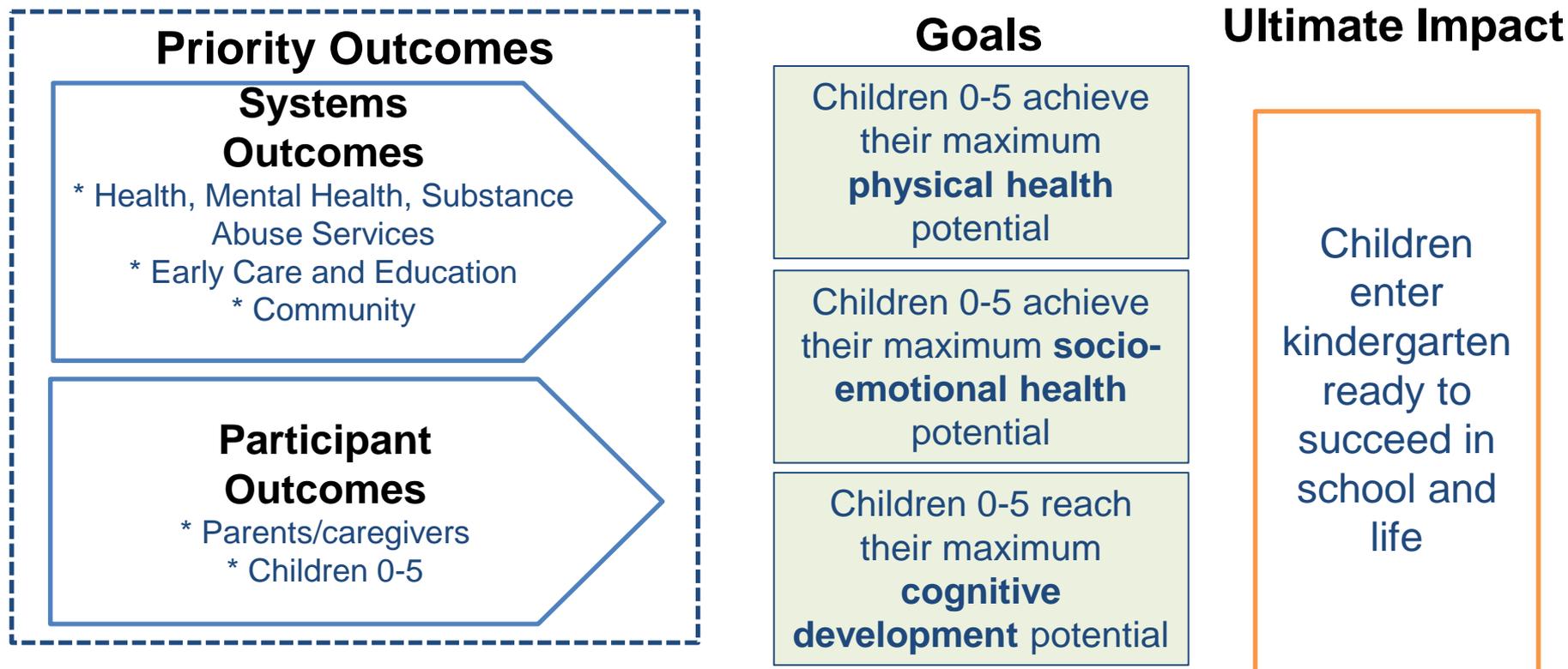
Approved May 8, 2014

| Lever   | Home Position   |
|---|---|
| Upstream (Prevention) ↔ Downstream (Intervention)       | The activities First 5 LA supports will generally fall on the upstream side of the continuum  |
| Systems and Policy Change ↔ Direct Services             | The activities First 5 LA supports will primarily fall on the systems and policy change side of the continuum   |
| Going Broad ↔ Going Deep                                | The activities First 5 LA supports will generally seek to have a broad impact, affecting large numbers of people  |
| Family/Community Focus ↔ Individual Focus               | Activities that First 5 LA supports must always include components to strengthen families and, whenever possible, should include components to improve community capacity |
| Supporting Evidence-Based Models ↔ Growing Local Models | First 5 LA will identify and scale evidence-based practices to achieve its strategic goals and outcomes   |
| Start with Partnership ↔ Go It Alone                    | First 5 LA will engage partners in sustainability and scale at the earliest possible stage of designing and engaging in any given approach to impact                      |

# First 5 LA's Emerging Framework for Impact

## Vision

Throughout Los Angeles' diverse communities, all children are born healthy and raised in a safe, loving, and nurturing environment so that they grow up healthy in mind, body, and spirit, are eager to learn, with opportunities to reach their full potential.



## Target Population

First 5 LA will work on behalf of all children 0-5 and their families in Los Angeles County, but will focus on those who face significant risks and challenges to achieving their maximum physical and socio-emotional health and learning potential.

**Priority Outcomes**

**Health, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Systems**

Improved capacity of health, mental health, and substance abuse services systems to meet the needs of children 0-5 and their families

- Improved capacity of health, mental health and substance abuse services providers to deliver patient-centered and trauma-informed care to children 0-5 and their families
- Increased coordination and collaboration/partnership between and across systems at the county, local and community levels
- Improved capacity of health, mental health and substance abuse services providers to engage parents/caregivers in managing their own and their child's health and safety

**Early Care and Education Systems**

Increased access to high quality early care and education

- Policies and practices are in place to enhance the ECE systems' ability to maximize access to affordable and sustainable early care and education, particularly among high-risk populations
- Improved quality of ECE services through increased provider capacity
- Improved capacity of ECE providers to engage parents/caregivers in their children's learning

**Community Systems**

Increased community capacity to support and promote the safety, healthy development, and well-being of children 0-5 and their families

- Communities have physical places and spaces that promote healthy living and encourage interaction
- Communities have a system of services and supports that meet family needs
- Community members have a shared vision and act collectively to improve the policies, services and environments that impact families

**Families**

Increased family protective factors

- Increased parent/caregiver resiliency
- Increased parent/caregiver social connections
- Increased parent/caregiver knowledge of parenting and child development
- Access to concrete supports in times of need
- Increased parent/caregiver capacity to provide enriching, structured, and nurturing environments for their children

**Focus Areas**

# ECE Landscape: Overview of Gaps and Needs

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Access</b>    | ➤ <b>Need for additional center and family child care programs throughout Los Angeles County</b>  |
|                  | ➤ <b>Significant gaps in ECE services for different age groups under five - especially for children ages 0-2</b>  |
|                  | ➤ <b>High need for ECE services for children living in low-income communities of color</b>  |
|                  | ➤ <b>Lack of centralized and improved data systems for licensed centers and family child care homes</b>   |
| <b>Workforce</b> | ➤ <b>An inadequate system of compensation exists that does not reward attainment of higher educational levels, and is not an incentive to participate in training and formal professional development</b> |
|                  | ➤ <b>Lack of a centralized source of data on individuals in the ECE workforce</b>   |
|                  | ➤ <b>Lack of alignment across qualifications, competencies and workforce preparation</b>  |
| <b>Quality</b>   | ➤ <b>LA County lacks countywide QRIS coverage and the QRIS efforts that exist are not highly saturated within the county</b>  |
|                  | ➤ <b>QRIS efforts that exist are not funded highly enough for sustained, long term quality improvement and 43% of current QRIS rated sites have not yet achieved a 4 or a 5 rating</b>                    |
|                  | ➤ <b>Infants and toddlers are not widely served by QRIS rated programs</b>  |



## Strategic Plan for Child Care and Development in Los Angeles County – 2013-18

### Overview

#### Introduction

The Strategic Plan for Child Care and Development in Los Angeles County – 2013-18 (Strategic Plan) was developed over an 18 month period and involved the participation of the entire Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) and other community stakeholders. Planning resulted in four overarching goal areas: quality, access, workforce and planning council role. The Strategic Plan emphasizes strategy over fixed objectives in order to provide a fluid approach given the changing policy and fiscal climates.

Implementation of the Strategic Plan will require the efforts of the Planning Committee along with the actions, support and initiatives of other local and statewide stakeholders. The strategies presented in the Strategic Plan assume effective coordination between the Planning Committee, the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development, and specific programs such as the Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (Steps to Excellence Project and Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge), as well as with local stakeholder organizations and County departments.

#### Quality

**Desired Impact:** High quality early care and education is available throughout Los Angeles County.

**Outcome:** There is a common definition of quality as articulated by an agreed upon quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for both centers and family child care homes that addresses the comprehensive needs of children.

**Goal:** QRIS implemented in Los Angeles County is accessible and understandable to parents, providers and the public.

**Strategies include:** 1) Promoting alignment of QRIS standards, 2) supporting development of a QRIS operational structure that is effective, efficient and informative, 3) supporting development of educational/informative materials for providers and parents that explain the QRIS and the ratings, and 4) facilitating support for and information to programs and providers to assist with incorporating health, mental health, family support and other relevant community services.

#### Access

**Desired Impact:** There is a sufficient distribution and effective use of resources to meet the early care and education needs of children, families and communities.

**Outcome:** Access to quality early care and education is increased through the effective use of all public and private investments from federal, state and local entities.

**Goal:** Increase the supply of and access to appropriate early care and education options by maximizing the use of existing state and federal funds and ensuring connections between early care and education providers and other support services to address all children's needs and abilities.

**Strategies include:** 1) Facilitating intentional connections between County departments serving children and families and early care and education services, 2) enhancing the capacity of early care and education providers to utilize other services and supports and to make appropriate referrals to meet children’s needs, 3) engaging with community partners to facilitate technical assistance in fiscal and program management for early care and education programs and providers, and 4) sharing broadly the results of an annual needs assessment and priorities for future funding with community partners and policymakers.

## Workforce

---

**Desired Impact:** Los Angeles County children have high quality early care and education experiences that prepare them as lifelong learners and productive citizens of the world.

**Outcome:** Early care and education educators have the competencies necessary to provide high quality experiences for children inclusive of all abilities.

**Goal:** Early care and education educators implement best practices effectively in serving children and families of diverse backgrounds and abilities.

**Strategies include:** 1) Advocating for enhanced licensing standards regarding teacher preparation and education, 2) promoting early care and education professional development efforts and opportunities across the County, 3) establishing new, continuing partnerships with other organizations to disseminate information on best practices using various distribution methods including social media, and 4) promoting the development of leadership in the field of early care and education.

## Planning Council Role

---

**Desired Impact:** There is a more unified voice in early care and education for Los Angeles County.

**Outcome:** The Planning Committee is a forum where early care and education issues and ideas are presented and discussed to build consensus that supports the efforts of many groups to improve the early care and education infrastructure in the County.

**Goal:** Participation in the Planning Committee is expanded to include more stakeholders.

**Strategies include:** 1) Outreaching to other groups with early care and education policy agendas, 2) using the Joint Committee on Legislation to engage stakeholders, 3) planning for facilitated discussion sessions at Planning Committee meetings, 4) developing a tiered process that incorporates big issues, local policies and administrative issues in discussions and in making policy recommendations, and 5) exploring the use of social media for Planning Committee purposes and to act on policy recommendations.

## More Information

---

The entire Strategic Plan is available for download from the Office of Child Care website at [www.childcare.lacounty.gov](http://www.childcare.lacounty.gov) – click on “About Us” and then “Child Care Planning Committee” to access the link or contact Michele Sartell by e-mail at [msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov](mailto:msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov) or by telephone at (213) 974-5187.

### **CHILD CARE PLANNING COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT**

*The mission of the Child Care Planning Committee is to engage parents, child care providers, allied organizations, community, and public agencies in collaborative planning efforts to improve the overall child care infrastructure of Los Angeles County, including the quality and continuity, affordability, and accessibility of child care and development services for all families.*



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012  
(213) 974-1101  
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

July 15, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

## CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR 2014-2016 (ALL DISTRICTS AFFECTED) (3 VOTES)

### SUBJECT

The Child Care and Development Policy Framework (Framework) for 2014-2016 provides a road map for County departments and community stakeholders to work collaboratively to expand the supply of and access to high quality child care and development services for children and families in Los Angeles County. Developed by the Policy Roundtable for Child Care the Framework recognizes that many families receiving County services are among the most vulnerable. Access to high quality child care and development service could result in long term benefits to their children and communities.

The five goals of the Framework are: 1) Restore and Expand Funding, 2) Strengthen Policies on Eligibility and Access, 3) Maximize Access to Available Services, 4) Prioritize Quality Services, and 5) Expand Family and Community Engagement.

### **A JOINT RECOMMENDATION WITH THE POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT THAT THE BOARD:**

- Endorse the Child Care Policy Framework for 2014-2016

### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

California is emerging from a severe economic crisis which took a toll on child care and development services. Between fiscal years 2007-08 and 2012-2013, funding for subsidized child care in California was reduced over \$1 billion or 40 percent. Those reductions impacted thousands of children and families in Los Angeles County. Fortunately, economic conditions are improving locally, within the State, and across the nation. In addition, the federal government has launched new and significant investments in early care and education services. While restoring funds to California's subsidized child care and development sector is critically important, there is also an opportunity to weigh-in on how to improve the administration of those

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

funds. Los Angeles County is home to over 26 percent of California's children, birth through five years old, and 31 percent of that age group, live in poverty. The Framework offers a strategy whereby Los Angeles County, working collaboratively with families and community stakeholders, could exert a significant impact on the supply, access, and quality of child care and development services in California, including but not limited to, subsidized services.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The child care and development sector is a unique arena to implement the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan, Goal 3: Integrated Services Delivery: Maximize opportunities to measurably improve client and community outcomes and leverage resources through the continuous integration of health, community, and public safety services.

Families with young children, who are accessing County services, frequently have a need for affordable child care. Similarly, young families using child care frequently need one or more County administered services. Navigating across service sectors is challenging. The Framework promotes integrated services delivery by engaging County departments, community stakeholders and others in expanding access to high quality services for vulnerable populations, and facilitating family and community connections.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable) will oversee the implementation of the Framework. With the exception of the proposal to be submitted to the Productivity Investment Fund, the Framework can be implemented without additional funding.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS**

There is a growing body of evidence that high quality child development programs can mitigate the negative and long lasting impacts of poverty, trauma, and abuse. In addition to minimizing these harmful impacts to individuals, high quality child development programs can generate significant benefits to society that exceed program costs. Economic analysis of various early care and education programs have documented returns ranging from \$4 to \$17 per dollar invested. These returns were based on reduced crime, welfare, and educational remediation costs, and on increased tax revenue, resulting from the higher incomes of these program participants upon reaching adulthood.

James Heckman, Nobel Laureate in Economics, goes even further, stating:

“The highest rate of return in early childhood development comes from investing as early as possible, from birth through age five, in disadvantaged families. Starting at age three or four is too little too late, as it fails to recognize that skills beget skills in a complementary and dynamic way. Efforts should focus on the first three years for the greatest efficiency and effectiveness. The best investment is in quality early childhood development from birth to five for disadvantaged children and their families.

*(Invest in early childhood development: Reduce deficits, Strengthen the Economy, 12/7/2012, [www.heckmanequation.org](http://www.heckmanequation.org) )*

However, to fully realize these benefits, investments must be made in effective programs that are evaluated regularly and demonstrate an ongoing commitment to improvement.

Low cost services that have little impact are a waste of money. Responsible investments focus on effective programs that are well implemented and improved continuously. *(A Science- Based Framework for Early Childhood Policy, [www.developingchild.harvard.edu](http://www.developingchild.harvard.edu).)*

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

The Framework has identified both challenges and opportunities confronting the child care and development sector. Los Angeles County and its departments could substantially impact the supply, quality, and access to child care and development services. In the process of developing the Framework, the Roundtable identified community stakeholders to work with County departments to restore funding, integrate services, and improve the quality of child care and development services. This section presents the five goals of the Framework, including the challenges to be addressed and corresponding proposed actions.

#### **Goal 1. Restore and Expand Funding**

**Current Challenge:** Funding for subsidized child care and development services was reduced by over \$1 billion between 2008 and 2012.

**Action:** The Framework offers a strategy and has identified partners to work with Los Angeles County as it engages in the State legislative process to pursue the restoration of funding to subsidized child care and development services in Los Angeles County and across the state.

#### **Goal 2. Strengthen Policies on Eligibility and Access**

**Current Challenge:** A combination of State and Federal dollars fund subsidize child care services in California and Los Angeles County. Each funding source is governed by its particular eligibility criteria and regulations which results in a fragmented and difficult to navigate "system" of services. Both the families in need of these services and the County departments that assist the families have difficulty navigating the "system".

It is critical that subsidized child development program operators are guided by accurate and consistent interpretations of regulations. Further, that the community stakeholders also understand the regulations and their interpretations thereby assuring that appropriate referrals can be made and that vulnerable families are able to access needed services.

**Action:** The Framework calls for clarifying the eligibility criteria for various child development programs, particularly for children who are at risk of or involved with the child welfare system, or in families experiencing homelessness. Once the interpretation of various regulations are clarified, Roundtable members and community partners are prepared to share this information

at the local level with subsidized program contractors and with County departments to ensure that high risk families are able to access needed child development services.

### **Goal 3. Maximizing Access to Available Services**

**Current Challenge:** 134 organizations in Los Angeles County hold contracts with the California Department of Education to operate one or more subsidized child care programs. Many of these organizations also administer federally funded Head Start and/or Early Head Start contracts. While there continues to be a serious unmet demand for subsidized child care, many programs operate with a limited number of openings. The challenge is matching an eligible child to a specific vacancy.

**Action:** The Framework calls for the development of a multi-department proposal which will be submitted to the Productivity Investment Fund. The proposal will be developed by the Roundtable and will request support to develop and pilot an electronic application **to track vacancies in subsidized child development programs**, connect eligible families to those vacancies, and inform the referring department if the child was enrolled.

### **Goal 4. Prioritize Quality Services**

**Current Challenge:** In a *Child Care Aware* survey of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense, California's child care licensing system was ranked 50<sup>th</sup>. California's practice of conducting on-site monitoring of child care centers and family child care homes only once every five years contributed to this very poor rating.

This inadequate schedule of on-site monitoring of child care and development programs also undermines local efforts to operate child care quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS). QRIS are designed to build upon – not replace – the health and safety assurances which are to be provided by Community Care Licensing, and to provide parents with objective and reliable information on how well programs support the social, emotional and cognitive development of young children.

**Action** Consistent with adopted County policies, the Framework recommends supporting legislation which would increase the on-site monitoring of child care and development programs by the California Department of Social Services once per year. Annual inspections increase the likelihood that programs will be in compliance with health and safety standards and provide an appropriate foundation for child care QRIS.

**Action:** Recognizing that accurate and objective information on child care program quality is not readily available, the Framework calls for promoting parent awareness of the local child QRIS. The QRIS goes beyond the health and safety standards of licensing, and provides objective and reliable information on the quality individual programs. This information can help parents compare rated programs, while also making parents aware of the programmatic components which contribute to quality.

## **Goal 5. Expand Family and Community Engagement**

**Current Challenge:** While clients across many County departments would benefit from high quality and affordable child development services, these services are frequently deemed ancillary. As a result, clients are left to navigate a complex system without support.

**Action:** The Framework recommends that members of the Roundtable outreach to County commissions and stakeholder groups focused on children, youth and families to share information on the benefits of high quality child care and development services, to explore opportunities to coordinate services and engage in cross-sector professional development opportunities.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Policy Framework establishes a set of goals which, with the support of the Board of Supervisors, will position this County to maximize the growing interest and potential investments in child care and development services. Working in conjunction with the CEO, the Roundtable ensured that the strategies of the Framework support the County's efforts to integrate critical services for children and families. The goals of the Policy Framework hold promise for our youngest citizens, their families and for our County.

Research on the developing brain shows us that early childhood experiences build the foundation for a skilled workforce, a responsible community and a thriving economy. (Executive Function: Skills for Life and Learning, [www.developingchild.harvard.edu](http://www.developingchild.harvard.edu))

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer



DORA JACILDO, CHAIR  
Policy Roundtable for Child Care

WTF:AJ:CT  
KMS:km

Attachments (1)

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel

## **Child Care and Development Policy Framework for 2014-2016**

### ***Restore – Integrate – Improve***

The first Child Care Policy Framework was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on January 6, 2009, just as California was sliding into a severe fiscal crisis and the country recognized it was in a recession. Over the next four years, funding for subsidized child care and development services in California was reduced by \$1.2 billion. This translated to a loss of nearly \$200,000,000 of subsidy dollars to low-income families in Los Angeles County. Also during this period, the number of licensed family child care homes in Los Angeles County declined by 14 percent, dropping from over 9,000 to 7,623, furthering limiting an inadequate supply of child care and development programs available to infants and toddlers.

Given this context, we are thankful for the strategic focus that the two previous Child Care Policy Frameworks have provided County departments and our community partners. Despite this period of serious budget reductions, Los Angeles County has made incremental progress to closing the gap between “what we know” and “what we do” that contributes to the overall well-being of young children, families and communities. There is, however, still much to do.

#### **Momentum for Change Is Building**

For the first time in many years, there is a sense of optimism and urgency that now is the time to improve and expand access to child care and development services. Consider the following facts:

- Economic conditions are improving in Los Angeles County, California and the country.
- Economist and Nobel Laureate James Heckman, Ph.D. has weighed in on early care and education, “We cannot afford to postpone investing in children until they become adults, nor can we wait until they reach school age - a time when it may be too late to intervene. Learning is a dynamic process and is more effective when it begins at a young age and continues through adulthood.”
- A report released by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in January 2014 identifies three goals to improve the health of the nation. The first goal calls for prioritizing investments in America’s youngest children and urges the creation of stronger quality standards for early childhood development programs, linking funding to program quality and guaranteeing access for all low-income children under five years old by 2025.
- The Los Angeles Area Chamber Commerce has identified early education as a priority issue, recognizing “that an investment in quality early education programs will increase achievement, reduce drop-out rates and create pathways for success throughout K-12 education. This type of investment will enhance educational outcomes and result in a knowledgeable workforce that will lead our nation’s economy.”
- On January 7, 2014, California Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg introduced SB 837, *The Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2014*, which would make transitional kindergarten available to every four-year old child in California. Senator Carol Liu will be introducing a companion bill to expand and improve early care and education services available to children from birth through three years of age.

- The FY 2014 Omnibus Appropriation Bill arrived on the President's desk with bipartisan support and was signed by President Obama on January 17, 2014. This bill not only restored the reductions imposed by sequestration on Head Start, Early Head Start and the Child Care and Development Block Grant, but actually increased funding for these programs. In addition, it will support states and local communities in expanding high quality early learning for infants and toddlers through Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships and fund Preschool Development Grants available to states on a competitive basis.
- Federal legislation, the *Strong Start for America's Children Act* (H.R. 3461 and S. 1697) has been introduced in Congress. This legislation would significantly expand access to high quality early care and education services.

### **Goals for 2014-2016**

Given this momentum, the time to improve and expand child care and development services is now. We are aware that even with this momentum, the legislation cited above could dramatically change the child care and development sector in our county; that family, business, and operator interests in child care and development do not always align seamlessly; and that to achieve the changes needed in the child care and development sector will require vision, commitment, and hard work. The Child Care and Development Policy Framework for 2014 – 2016 is intended to focus County departments and community stakeholders on areas where a unified voice from Los Angeles County can best support the optimum development of our children, families, and communities. As such, the Child Care Policy Framework for 2014-2016 will focus on the following goals:

1. Restore and Expand Funding
2. Strengthen Policies on Eligibility and Access
3. Maximize Access to Available Services
4. Prioritize Quality Services
5. Expand Family and Community Engagement

## **GOAL 1 – RESTORE AND EXPAND FUNDING**

**Objective:** Pursue the restoration and expansion of funding for subsidized child care and development and related services

### **A. How are we going to do it:**

1. Working within the adopted Legislative Platform and with the Chief Executive Office - Intergovernmental Relations and External Affairs (CEO-IGEA), promote the restoration and expansion of federal and State funding for:
  - a. The full range of child care and development services for children from pre-natal through five years of age, with an emphasis on services for children birth to three, and
  - b. Increased on-site inspections of child care and development programs by the California Department of Social Services/Community Care Licensing Division (CDSS/CCLD).
2. Promote efficiencies that optimize the administration of subsidized child care and development services and afford families access to stable arrangements, including but not limited to the annual determination of eligibility and the elimination of parent fees for State Preschool.
3. Work with First 5 LA, First 5 California and other philanthropic sources to increase, coordinate, and integrate investments in child care and development. In this process, the critical need for additional services for infants and toddlers will be emphasized.

### **B. Benchmarks for success**

1. CEO-IGEA, working in conjunction with the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development (Roundtable) and the Office of Child Care, will provide the Board of Supervisors with information on State and Federal proposals and their impact on local families and programs.
2. The Roundtable will work with local stakeholders to develop collaborative approaches to integrate and maximize available funding.
3. The Roundtable, in conjunction with the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee), will promote the effective utilization of existing data to inform policy, practice and decision-making relating to the restoration, expansion, and geographic allocation of funding for subsidized child care and development services.

### **C. Our partners**

- Board of Supervisors, County departments, business, philanthropy, education, families, child care and development, and community stakeholders.

## **GOAL 2 – STRENGTHEN POLICIES ON ELIGIBILITY AND ACCESS**

**Objective:** Engage State and local partners to change eligibility policies and administrative guidelines that deter vulnerable families from accessing subsidized child care and development services.

### **A. How we are going to do it:**

1. Working in conjunction with CEO-IGEA, engage the California Department of Education (CDE), CDSS/CCLD, First 5 California and First 5 LA in a dialogue regarding:
  - a. The impact of trauma on young children and the current definition of “at risk” as it applies to eligibility for subsidized child care and development services, and
  - b. The vulnerability of teen parents involved with the child protective services and juvenile justice systems as it impacts their ability to access subsidized child care and development services for their young children.

### **B. Benchmarks for success**

1. By September 2014
  - a. Communication channels will be established with State agencies regarding the unique needs of children and families who have experienced trauma and the role of high quality child care and development services in promoting the optimal development of children strengthening families.
2. By January 2015
  - a. Policies and guidelines, or the interpretation of policies and guidelines, will be changed or clarified to facilitate access of vulnerable families to subsidized child care and development services.
  - b. The County Departments of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Public Social Services (DPSS), Probation and Mental Health (DMH) will work collaboratively with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), local school districts and community-based organizations to ensure that eligible children and their families have access to needed health and social services.

### **C. Our partners**

- CDSS, CDE, First 5 California, First Five Los Angeles, the Child Care Planning Committee, DCFS, DMH, Probation Department, DPSS, LACOE, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and other local school districts, the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles and community-based child development programs.

### **GOAL 3 – MAXIMIZE ACCESS TO AVAILABLE SERVICES**

**Objective:** Facilitate access to subsidized child care and development and supportive family services by providing County departments working directly with families, access to information on vacancies in Early Head Start, Head Start, and CDE-contracted subsidized child care and development programs by developing an electronic vacancy tracking system.

#### **A. How we are going to do it:**

1. Coordinate a joint proposal to the Productivity Investment Fund (PIF) in partnership with DCFS, the Family Solution Centers and targeted child care and development programs. The purpose of this proposal will be to develop and pilot an electronic application to track vacancies in subsidized child care and development programs in order to increase the utilization of available funds.
2. Build on the experiences of the DCFS Foster Care Search Engine and the two-click system as well as the former Centralized Eligibility List. The intention is to develop an application where child care and development programs can easily report vacancies, Children's Social Workers can access that information quickly, and a feedback loop provides information on children who are actually enrolled in and receive child care and development services.
3. Convene DMH, DCFS, the Department of Public Health (DPH), and other County partners to develop strategies for coordinating early childhood mental health consultation, family support and other services to support families and to build the capacity of child care and development program staff to promote young children's healthy social-emotional development and address challenging behaviors.
4. Pursue additional funding to build and sustain the vacancy tracking system.

#### **B. Benchmarks for success:**

1. By July 2015
  - a. A collaborative application will be successful in securing funding.
  - b. A pilot project will be in place and initial evaluation data will be available.
2. By July 2016
  - a. The system will be used by the intended audiences including Children's Social Workers and child care and development programs.
  - b. Data will be available to inform refinements and expansion beyond the pilot phase. The system will provide feedback information showing that children are actually enrolled in programs.

#### **C. Our partners:**

- Proposal development and pilot testing: DCFS, LACOE-Head Start, LAUSD, the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles and Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP).
- DMH, DPH and other County departments will provide consultation to program staff to ensure the successful participation of children and families in

## **GOAL 4 – PRIORITIZE QUALITY SERVICES**

**Objective:** Support efforts to establish and sustain a single, validated child care quality rating and improvement system serving all of Los Angeles County.

### **A. How we are going to do it:**

1. Promote parent awareness and use of current quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS). This includes promotion among County employees, clients and residents.
2. Monitor and support the Office of Child Care's expedited merging of the Steps to Excellence Program (STEP) into the Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) QRIS.
3. Analyze progress in aligning QRIS systems with the following functions:
  - Home visitation programs
  - Early identification and screening of all enrolled children
  - Reducing obesity in young children
  - Encouraging innovative approaches to aligning services, including support for continued pilot testing of LAUSD Saturday Clinics
4. Support efforts to increase on-site inspections of all child care and development programs by the CDSS/CCLD.

### **B. Benchmarks for success**

1. By April 2015
  - a. STEP will be merged into the Office of Child Care administered RTT-ELC QRIS.
  - b. Child development centers and family child care homes will be participating in the Office of Child Care administered QRIS.
2. By April 2016
  - a. Los Angeles County will have a single, unified QRIS.
  - b. Parents will use the QRIS to make decisions when choosing child care and development services.
  - c. Participating programs will have demonstrated quality improvements.
  - d. Participating programs will be connecting families to ancillary service systems including behavioral health, public benefit programs and other services provided by County departments and community-based organizations.

### **C. Our Partners**

1. Merging STEP and RTT-ELC: LAUP, First 5 LA, CDE, the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles, UCLA- Center for Improving Child Care Quality
2. Alignment of QRIS to other service sectors: County departments and community-based agencies
3. Promotion of QRIS to families: County departments and community-based agencies.

## **GOAL 5 – EXPAND FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**Objective:** Engage a wide range of County departments, Commissions and community stakeholders as advocates for integrating child care and development services into efforts aimed at fostering the optimal development of children, strengthening families and promoting community well-being.

### **A. How we are going to do it:**

1. Roundtable members will outreach to other affiliated Commissions and stakeholder groups focused on children, youth and families to share information on the benefits of high quality child care and development services and provide information on the local child care and development landscape.
2. Roundtable members will engage representatives of the commissions and stakeholder groups in discussions on:
  - a. Joint opportunities for cross-sector professional development and data linkages to facilitate the effective integration of services, and
  - b. Opportunities to create a technology infrastructure to provide families with information on child care and development options, parent support and education and other resources.

### **B. Benchmarks for success**

1. By January 2015
  - Communication channels will be established among partners, using traditional and technology-based vehicles to share information.
2. By April 2016
  - Cross-departmental training and professional development opportunities will be available and participants will report increased competency in ensuring access to high-quality child care and development programs for vulnerable children and families.
3. By December 2016
  - The Roundtable, in collaboration with 211 LA County and community stakeholders, will report on how technology is connecting families with resources and supports throughout Los Angeles County.

### **C. Our Partners**

- Roundtable members will engage the Child Care Planning Committee, First 5 LA, the Commission for Children and Families, the Probation Commission, and the Interagency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect and the regional Child Abuse and Neglect Councils.



**Los Angeles County  
Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**I. BACKGROUND**

We cannot stand idly by and wait for another child to meet the fate of Gabriel Fernandez.

Sparked by his and other tragic child fatalities, community outrage, and a series of unsuccessful attempts at reforming the County’s child protection system, the Board of Supervisors agreed that action is necessary. Stating that “the current system does not serve the best interest of the child, the family, or the community at large,” the Board of Supervisors (Board) established the Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection and charged it with reviewing child protection failures; highlighting organizational barriers to child-safety; and providing “recommendations for a feasible plan of action to expeditiously implement needed reforms.”

As part of its review, the Commission conducted 15 public hearings, interviewed more than 300 stakeholders across all program areas related to child-safety, examined 28 child fatality cases, and researched promising practices across the country. Over the course of eight months, we heard stories of resilience, heroism, and commitment of youth, parents, social workers, and other first responders. We also heard from County leaders describing ideas and efforts to improve the current system.

At the same time, we heard testimony that some infants spend hours on the desks of social workers due to a shortage of foster homes and an inefficient placement process. Many children do not receive the minimally required monthly visits by caseworkers or have trusting relationships with them. Social workers testified that they were unable to perform essential functions because of overwhelming caseloads and insufficient support, supervision, and training. Similarly, judges confirmed that the judicial system operates under the burden of too many cases and, at times, incomplete or inaccurate information.

Repeatedly, the Commission heard testimony regarding inequitable funding systems and lack of support services for essential relative caregivers. A recurring theme in our hearings was that children, youth, parents, relatives, foster parents, and community groups, who should be at the center of planning, feel devalued and unheard.

**The Commission unanimously concluded that a State of Emergency exists, which requires a fundamental transformation of the current child protection system.** The greatest obstacle to reform is the County system itself. Key entities too often operate in silos, rather than as an integrated network with a shared commitment and vision. These include the Departments of Public Health, Mental Health, Health Services, Children and Family Services, Public Social Services, Housing, the Sheriff's Department, and Probation, as well as the Los Angeles County Office of Education, First 5 LA, and various commissions. Along with the Dependency Court, they should approach child protection in partnership, driven by an over-arching mission.

In its Final Report, the Commission seeks to give the Board of Supervisors a roadmap for creating an integrated, effective child safety system. It is a plan that includes prevention, collaboration, integration, measurement, oversight, and accountability. Most importantly, it calls for immediate system-wide transformation *and* a mechanism to ensure its implementation. Successful system-wide reforms have been accomplished in other jurisdictions with similar challenges, and it can be done in Los Angeles.

This Executive Summary provides a brief summary of the Commission's Final Report, along with highlights of some of our key recommendations. The importance of the recommendations, however, cannot fully be appreciated without a thorough reading of the Final Report itself.

## **II. IMMEDIATE ACTION BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

The basic tenets of the Commission's reform plan can be summarized in five essential actions by the Board: (1) articulate a county-wide mission to improve child-safety; (2) establish an entity to oversee one unified child protection system; (3) define measures of success and oversee the reform process; (4) adopt the Commission's Interim and Final Report recommendations; and (5) establish an Oversight Team to ensure their implementation.

### **1. Articulate a County-Wide Mission to Prioritize and Improve Child-Safety**

Notwithstanding its commitment to addressing this problem, the Board has not expressly articulated a County-wide mission or philosophy with regard to the welfare of children. County entities that should collaborate in planning, funding programs, and providing services to effectively serve children generally fail to adequately communicate and coordinate efforts. In the absence of this common mission, the County, too often, has forfeited its ability to benefit from the sum of its parts.

The Board should mandate that child safety is a top priority and articulate a child-centered, family-focused, County-wide Mission that calls for:

- All relevant County entities to work together and with the community;
- Joint strategic planning and blended funding streams;
- Data-driven programs and evaluations;
- A comprehensive service delivery system, including prevention programs that stop child maltreatment before it starts; and

- An annual overview of the state of the field of child welfare, presented to the Board by external experts.

This mission should pave the way for a new system that values transparency in its practices, finances, and outcomes. It should ensure that the County is keenly attuned to the voices of those whom it is designed to serve. Participation from youth and from culturally diverse communities is essential. Department directors, as well as the CEO, should be selected and evaluated on their ability to achieve goals emanating from this mission. In short, there must be greater and clearer accountability.

## **2. Establish an Entity to Oversee One Unified Child Protection System**

Previous attempts at sustainable child welfare reform have failed because no single entity is charged with and empowered to ensure an integrated approach to child protection. The absence of one leader overseeing a County-wide child welfare entity is a major impediment. Others have reached similar conclusions in the past. **It is critical that one entity be responsible and accountable for the well-being of the child as a whole and that this entity have no other competing responsibilities. This entity must have the authority to recommend to the Board movement of resources and staff across relevant County departments.**

The Board should establish a Los Angeles County Office of Child Protection (OCP), with County-wide authority to coordinate, plan, and implement one unified child protection system. The director of the entity would report directly to the Board and be held accountable for achieving agreed upon outcomes. The director must be vested with over-all responsibility for child protection in the County and, in part, should:

- Oversee a Joint Strategic Planning Process to create a comprehensive, child-centered strategic plan that is data driven, informed by best practices, connects all child welfare services in the County, and articulates measurable goals and time frames.
- Have clear oversight and authority over financial and staffing resources from all relevant departments, as delegated by the Board.
- Institute an annual County-wide budget review process that examines all proposed, present, and past resource allocations and align them with the goals of the County-wide strategic plan, as well as coordinate relevant funding streams from various departments.
- Serve as the repository of and review all recommendations related to the protection of children. Oversee implementation of appropriate recommendations, including those contained in the Final Report.
- Review existing County commissions and, with the Board, streamline them, as appropriate.
- Establish and evaluate measurable outcomes as part of the annual planning and budget allocation process to facilitate constant improvement, generalize successful and discontinue unsatisfactory practices.
- Oversee County-wide prevention efforts.

The director of this entity must have experience in leading change in complex organizations and have a passion for protecting children.

The Commission unanimously endorsed these goals and the requisite qualities of the director. The majority of the Commissioners voted to establish a Los Angeles County Office of Child Protection, which would report directly to the Board, as the best vehicle to bring about sustained comprehensive reform. The Commission recognizes that the Board may want to explore other approaches to accomplish this objective.

### **3. Define Measures of Success and Oversee the Reform Process**

The Board should have a clear and consistent process of review. It should adopt clear outcome measures and ensure accountability by regular assessment of whether goals are being attained. Assessments should measure outcomes, such as the overall incidence of abuse, severe abuse, and neglect per capita by a geographic area; the recurrence of maltreatment within six months; and the number of child fatalities due to abuse or neglect.

### **4. Adopt the Commission's Interim Report Recommendations**

On December 30, 2013, the Commission provided the Board with an Interim Report, comprised of ten recommendations capable of immediate implementation. These included strengthening the responses of law enforcement agencies and oversight by the District Attorney's Office; targeting more resources to children age five and under who are at highest risk of abuse; and strategically utilizing health services. Since the Interim Report was issued four months ago, another 5,000 referrals of child abuse and neglect have been investigated without the benefit of systemic reform. Each day we wait for reform, 40 more infants are reported as possible victims of abuse or neglect. The Final Report restates the Interim Report recommendations for law enforcement and health services, and adds new ones that are intrinsically related. The Commission recommends that these Interim Report and related recommendations be immediately adopted.

### **5. Establish an Oversight Team to Ensure Implementation of Recommendations**

A critical missing component in previous attempts at child safety reform has been the absence of an empowered team capable of overseeing implementation of reforms. The Commission believes that the immediate establishment of an Oversight Team is essential to ensuring implementation of our recommendations while the broader structural changes are put in place. The importance of this team cannot be overstated. It will help the Board to fully realize its directives.

## **III. ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS THE STATE OF EMERGENCY**

While the Commission has concluded that articulating a County-wide mission and creating an Office of Child Protection are the linchpins of successful systemic reform, other recommendations, when implemented, will immediately enhance child safety and well-being. The recommendations in the Final Report cover a wide range of departments and agencies, as well as issues including kinship care, education, social workers, and mental health. The Final

Report also considers the current case management crisis and asks the Board to oversee a process that ensures appropriate support and management of social workers. The Commission's recommendations include:

- **Focus on Prevention:** To reduce the overall incidence of child abuse and neglect, the Board should direct the Department of Public Health and First 5 LA to jointly develop a comprehensive prevention plan.
- **Provide Parity of Funding for Kinship Caregivers:** Given that at least 51% of children removed from their parents are placed with relatives, kinship caretakers should be recognized as invaluable to the child protection process. They should receive parity of funding to that of non-relative foster placements and equal access to services.
- **Initiate a Comprehensive Case Review Process:** The Board should direct the CEO to initiate the case review process proven successful in Florida and other safety-focused industries to help identify risk and protective factors that can improve outcomes for children.
- **Expand Interdisciplinary Training:** Keeping children safe is an interdepartmental problem that demands interdepartmental training. Entities must work together more effectively and better understand one another's roles.
- **Improve Data Sharing:** The County needs to develop a single, coordinated system to facilitate and encourage the sharing of information, at a minimum, among DCFS, DPSS, DMH, DPH, Probation, LACOE, other school districts, and the Dependency Court, prioritizing the best interests of the child.
- **Increase Transparency:** The Commission heard repeatedly that it was virtually impossible for the public, including advocacy groups, to understand the planning process or how diverse funding streams were allocated for services to children and families. Sustainable accountability and reform require greater disclosure, clarity, and inclusion.
- **Improve Educational Stability:** Coordinated efforts among DCFS, probation, school systems, Dependency Courts and community partners should be enhanced to increase educational continuity, school stability, and academic success.
- **Expand Mental Health Services:** The County must ensure access to high quality and consistent mental health services for all those involved in the child welfare system, including the prioritization of non-pharmacological interventions for children.
- **Expand Performance-based Contracting:** The DCFS contracting process should focus on outcomes rather than compliance with contractual provisions.
- **Include the Voices of Stakeholders in Decision-making:** Stakeholders should be at the center of the decision-making process, rather than on the outside looking in.

**The Board should adopt the recommendations set forth in the Commission's Final Report.**

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

The Commission believes that implementation of its proposals will dramatically improve the safety, health, well-being, and life success of the children of Los Angeles County.

Consistent with our critique of the County's siloed approach, our recommendations should not be reviewed quickly or in isolation. Their transformative power is directly related to understanding them as an interdependent set of reforms. They reflect sound business principles that are foundational to any successful organization.

The systemic obstacles we have described have taken a toll on all the participants of the system. It is the Commission's hope that with a clearly defined County vision for the safety and well-being of its children, structural reform, meaningful partnerships with the community, and shared-responsibility across departments, all involved with our child protection system will see that change is possible and have a renewed sense of purpose.

The children for whom this report was written deserve to grow up free from abuse and neglect and to realize their full potential. It is our responsibility to make this possible, *now*.

## BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON CHILD PROTECTION APRIL 2014 FINAL REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHILDREN AGES BIRTH-5 YEARS OLD

The following are recommendations included in the April 2014 Blue Ribbon Commission Report, *The Road to Safety for Our Children*, related to young children in the child welfare system:

- **The County can measurably and immediately improve child safety by requiring all departments to target resources and high quality services, including prevention services, toward children under the age of five**
- **The County should increase access to early intervention services for foster children at high risk of abuse and neglect. All children under the supervision of DCFS between 0-5 should be prioritized for access to Early Childhood Education learning programs, including Head Start, Early Head Start and Home Visitation. These programs should be funded and well marketed. Once placed in a program, children should be permitted to remain enrolled until they start kindergarten.**
- **Children age five and under in the child welfare system must have access to age-appropriate mental health services**

This page intentionally blank

## **Transition Team for the Office of Child Protection**

*Approved by the Board of Supervisors on July 1, 2014*

1. Dr. Andrea L. Rich, appointment by Supervisor Molina
2. Dr. Mitchell Katz, appointment by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas
3. Leslie Gilbert-Lurie, appointment by Supervisor Yaroslavsky
4. Janet Teague, appointment by Supervisor Knabe
5. Dr. David Sanders, appointment by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection
6. Judge Margaret Henry, appointment by the Juvenile Court
7. Antonia Jiménez, appointment by the Chief Executive Office
8. Patricia Curry, appointment by the Commission for Children and Families