

Alameda County Early Care & Education Planning Council

State Contractor's Meeting

Thursday, November 19, 2020

Location: via ZOOM

MINUTES



Attendance: Recorded by Lorita Riga

ECE Program Staff: Lorita Riga, Ellen Dektar, Mara Goby, Angela Cabrera

ACTION ITEMS:

- Reach out to Ellen Dektar (ellen.dektar@acgov.org) if your program is in need of recycling or trash bins.
- Sign up for the Alameda County Health Heroes for Child Care Program 2021 sessions [here](#).

I. Welcome, Roll Call, Announcements

- Yesenia Chavez began the meeting at 1:05 pm.
- Announcements from Lisa York (CDE):
 - i. The CDE office has closed – if a document cannot be sent electronically, scan and email it to Lisa for now as she will not be able to receive mail.
 - ii. It is a very busy time for the ELCD team – if no response from Lisa in 48 hours, send a reminder and copy Lorita so she can support.
- Ellen Dektar shared that the County's ECE Program has recycling and trash bins for providers – email Ellen at ellen.dektar@acgov.org if interested.
- The Alameda County Health Heroes for Child Care Program in partnership with Samuel Merritt University will be continuing in 2021 and is looking for more providers to participate. More information [here](#).

II. State and County Updates

- 2021 State Budget: While recent State revenues have surpassed projections, there are likely to be many competing priorities in the upcoming budget year. The Governor will be releasing his budget proposal in January.
- Title 5 move to DSS update: Recent meetings on the transition of ECE programs to CDSS have emphasized the transition as an opportunity to better coordinate services for families. A transition plan will be released in January.
- County COVID-19 Update: Alameda County has moved to the most restrictive, purple tier. K-12 schools that have already opened can remain open, but new openings will be put on pause. No new restrictions for child care have been announced.
- Election update: With a Biden presidency, there could be more attention to ECE, including his proposal for universal Pre-K and investments in the workforce and facilities.
- Other policy updates:
 - i. [Alameda County CARES Act funding for child care](#): Board of Supervisors approved \$4 million from CARES Act funding for child care and related needs, including:
 1. \$3 million for family child care home operational grants (with a priority for those who served children with subsidies in the past year) administered by First 5
 2. \$1 million to provide supplies for families and child care programs through First 5 and Supply Bank – further details are forthcoming.
 - ii. The County also has two small business grant opportunities, although Title 5 center-based programs would not be eligible.

III. California Department of Social Services / Community Care Licensing: Safety Notice & PIN

- Lorita highlighted recent PINs, webinars, and program announcements from CDSS, including:
 - i. Resources for Spanish speakers [on Facebook](#).

- ii. CCL call regarding COVID-19 for Oakland on November 30th at 2pm – registration is required.
- iii. Annual immunization reports are still due – the online reporting system will be open by Jan 29th.

IV. ELCD Updates: Management Bulletins and other announcements

— Lorita highlighted recent CDE/ELCD/CDNFS webinars and resources, including:

- i. Weekly CDE/ELCD/CDNFS webinars:
 - 1. CDE has updated its FAQ with additional questions and answers.
 - 2. Regarding the \$110 million for waived family fees and school-age costs, CDE has said this funding will help with waived fees from September through June for those receiving remote learning. July and August fees were already covered.
 - a. Waiting on more information on how and when funding will be disbursed.
 - 3. Applications for the food program still must be completed.
- ii. July & Aug 2020 Waived Family Fees Allocations for Direct-Service Contractors
 - 1. Important that fees are posted in reports for direct-service contractors.
- iii. CDE Meeting on Implementing TK Training Requirements: CDE used this as an opportunity to gather input from stakeholders.
- iv. Fiscal Year 2020-21 Child Care & Development Contract Changes (sent on November 4th)
- v. Recent Meetings of the Early Childhood Policy Council (ECPC)
 - 1. Recent meetings have focused on the ECPC annual report, updates on the transition of programs to CDSS, an update on the master plan, and sharing insight from the field.
- vi. Wednesday CDE ELCD Webinars: CDE will be holding Wednesday webinars on a variety of topics. The first focused on CMR (Contract Monitoring Review) and FPM (Federal Program Monitoring).
- vii. MB 20-20 – Non Emergency Closure Requests for 2021
 - 1. This only applies to Fiscal Year 2021.
 - 2. If a program has multiple sites and only one of them has to close, this may not need to be reported as a closure due to how the reimbursement process is working for this Fiscal Year.
- viii. Update on Audit Report Due Date
 - 1. Audit report due date for agencies with a fiscal year end of June 30, 2020 was extended to February 15, 2021 due to COVID-19. More information can be found in MB 20-08a COVID-19 Guidance on Procurement and Audits.

V. Other Questions, Comments, Concerns:

— Question: Which programs are subject to an MRA decrease?

- i. Scenario #1: If you are an LEA or a CBO operating on a school district site, and the school district is not allowing you to open, you are not subject to an MRA decrease as long as you are providing distance learning opportunities.
- ii. Scenario #2: If not an LEA and you opened on September 8th for in person services (even if just one classroom, for one child), you will not be subject to an MRA decrease.
- iii. Scenario #3: If not an LEA and you opened after September 8th, you would have to submit a calendar revision and program narrative change and you may be subject to an MRA decrease.

VI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Erica Harrell at 2:00 pm.

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- **Next Meeting:** December 17, 2020 from 1-3pm via Zoom (*please note that since the 4th Thursday of December is Christmas Eve, for this month we will hold the meeting on the 3rd Thursday)