



**Alameda County Child Care Planning Council**  
**Public Policy Committee**  
**November 7, 2018**  
**MINUTES**

*“The mission of the Public Policy Committee is to support the mission of the Planning Council by monitoring and developing early care and education legislation, policies and regulations that impact children, families and child care providers and recommending appropriate action to the Early Care and Education Planning Council.”*

*Attendees:*

Tara Bartholomew	BANANAS, Incoming Steering Committee	Michele Stilwell Parvensky	Kidango, Incoming Steering Committee
Neva Bandelow	ACOE	Rosemary Obeid	4Cs of Alameda County
		Jennifer Caban	SSA, Incoming Steering Committee

*Ellen Dektar, Lorita Riga staff*

*Action Items:*

- Clarify if applications will be needed for Quality Rating System Committee
- Request that Steering Committee approve submitting comments to federal government on proposed Public Charge rule changes.

**I. Introductions/Announcements:**

- Bananas is hiring a provider services manager and resource and referral counselor
- 4Cs is hiring a navigator for their Foster Care Bridge program
- Jennifer announced the Social Service Agency’s Town Hall on Public Charge on November 8th
- The County Office of Education Prek-8 Alignment Group will meet on Thursday

**II. Report Out from ECE Planning Council Committees**

- State Contractors reviewed several provisions they will be able to take advantage of through the signature of AB 2626, such as two days of paid staff training; also, children who turn 3 before 12/2 can now be enrolled in state preschool programs. At their November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting they will have a presentation on how to promote the Census while protecting immigrant families.
- The Quality Committee will merge with the Quality Rating System (QRIS) committee that is co-chaired by First 5 and the Planning Council. It will be publicly noticed via the Planning Council and First 5. *Clarify if application process still needed.*

**III. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal, State and Local Budget and Legislation**

CA State Bill Discussion and Review

- Updates on 2018 bills and budget implementation
  - 1) Inclusion:

- Structure of \$166 million for inclusion related training and capital improvements will mirror Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) structure; grant comes through County Offices of Education (COE) and then to school districts; applications at that level may require the funds be made available to the mixed ECE delivery system
- 2) Mental Health Consultation
  - Michele reported that the California Department of Education (CDE) is working with a national expert, Walter Gilliam, and Kidango, to finalize what staffing qualifications for mental health consultants will be included in state regulations. The law takes effect January 1 but it is unclear when guidelines will be out.
    - The Committee suggested targeting implementation assistance to areas of California where there are pilot counties, contract underearning, and interest.
    - Locally, involve Family Paths, Jewish Family and Community Services (JFCS), Through the Looking Glass and possibly School of Imagination/Sean Bryant.
    - Trauma training for staff should be considered reimbursable.
- 3) Center Testing for Lead in Water
  - ECE Program Staff will track and ideally shape implementation of this new law
  - Sometimes changing water faucets is all that needs to be done to remediate, as demonstrated recently by an Oakland school
  - Fruitvale centers are likely going to have lead contaminated water challenges
- 4) Annual Community Care Licensing (CCL) Inspections
  - Resource and Referral Agencies are holding monthly get to know your (Community Care Licensing) analyst meetings to cultivate relationships for annual visits
  - New California State Preschool (CSPP) funds will be made available through Alameda COE
  - \$10 million will be available for the QRIS for infant toddlers through First 5
  - The infant toddler reimbursement rate has doubled in the past few years; Kidango is looking at Early Head Start expansion in Santa Clara.
- Prospective 2019 Budget and Legislative Proposals
  - Rate reform for state voucher and center reimbursements
  - Quality Guidelines—may not turn into legislation
  - McCarty—preschool bill may be reintroduced because that’s his ongoing priority
  - Early Edge may introduce workforce and dual language learner related bills
  - State budget may support mostly access and rates; the Legislative Women’s Caucus will wait until after the new Governor’s proposal to assess their ECE priorities
  - Kidango—will sponsor legislation for infants and toddlers
  - First 5 will work with Assemblyman Bonta on legislation to define kindergarten readiness
    - Neva shared Santa Clara and San Mateo kindergarten readiness guides with Alameda First 5
    - Bananas created a toolkit and definition of kindergarten readiness that will also be on the CAPP website
      - We need to develop statewide guidance for parents—so parents understand the importance of social emotional development as a precursor for learning academics later
- Federal Policy
  - The Committee approved submitting the draft letter with comments on public charge to the federal government, pending Steering Committee approval. They discussed local effects of the federal government’s recent hostile approach to immigrants:
    - Bananas has fewer Latino families calling for eligibility list than previously



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- Local playgroups report a decrease in people coming to libraries—they think ICE would be allowed to enter them
- Hayward Promise Neighborhood home visitors are finding it more challenging for residents to open their doors for outreach staff trying to increase access to resources
- Steering Committee options for taking action:
  - Individuals can submit individualized comments to the Office of Homeland Security so that the bureaucracy is required to respond

**IV. Foster Care Bridge and Homeless Child Care Program Updates**

- SSA is planning to convene a meeting in February for various County staff who provide service navigation from foster care bridge, Oakland CARE pilot, Eastmont, Hayward Promise Neighborhood
- Foster Care Bridge:
  - Lauren Barranco with SSA is managing the contract and recently convened a productive meeting with all three resource and referral agencies implementing the program
  - They are aligned with navigator responsibilities, who they are, and what trauma training is being provided for child care programs
    - Child Care Links: Director Kelly Dulka will provide the monthly training and follow up (45 providers attending)
    - Bananas: Debbie is navigator and she has a UCSF fellowship w Benioff to train families on trauma informed practices; they also provided through West Ed a series of 5 workshops with more than 100 participants. This was provided outside of the foster care bridge program.
    - Foster Care Bridge will offer a training in the Spring with West Ed at First 5; targeted outreach to homeless, foster care bridge placements; Bananas is seeking to incentivize trauma training by expanding their data base to note whether a provider is willing to take kids from foster care bridge and will offer a certificate as incentive. They are developing database capacity to track training as well as workforce registry
    - 4Cs-using West Ed; June training with Julie Kurtz well attended; menu of trainings;
- IV-E waiver sunsetting in September 2019
- Child care vouchers are six months except non minor dependents; the rate is the Regional Market Rate vs. \$700 a month (foster care rate); can be extended
- Oakland Homeless Pilot Update
  - Bananas recently received 150 new voucher (CAP) slots and homeless moved to top of eligibility list; they may be extended beyond their initial two years. Results include:
    - Better relationships with Head Start/staff now taking applications through Bananas vs. requiring parents go down to see them 1/1
    - R and R regulations require them to be “in their seats” making referral 240 days a year/FYI/which interferes with offering services in the community. The CARE program enables more flexibility.

- Bananas sees the need for OUSD child development programs to eliminate their parent interview requirements to increase homeless family access.
- CDE agencies don't have additional priority for homeless

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 5, 2018 9:30—11:30 am \*\*4Cs of Alameda**



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