



Action Items for the 3/15/13 Planning Council Meeting

Consent Item #2: Co-sponsor Mills College's Center for Urban Schools and Partnerships Presentation "The Public Assault on America's Children: Inequalities in Early Childhood and What Needs to Change"
Recommended by Executive Committee

Background: Mills College has requested our co-sponsorship of the event described below. The Council often co-sponsors events in order to lend our name and help conduct outreach. There is no financial commitment. The Council will be listed on the flyer and in return we are being asked to disseminate the flyer and encourage people to attend. This is the first ECE related Center for Urban School Partnerships talk that we have had (most are K-12 oriented) so Mills would like to ensure that there is good attendance and support from the community. Below is a link to Ms. Polakow's webpage and a brief description of her talk that will be on the upcoming flyer.

<https://sites.google.com/site/valeriepolakow/>

CUSP: The Center for Urban Schools and Partnerships Presents: The Public Assault on America's Children: Inequalities in Early Childhood and What Needs to Change

Valerie Polakow, Professor of Education at Eastern Michigan University, has dedicated her professional career to advocacy on behalf of women and children in poverty. Lack of access to affordable high-quality child care frequently catapults a family into poverty, joblessness, and homelessness. Polakow's research follows low-income women from diverse backgrounds, and provides an incisive critique of US public policy on child care. Drawing on historical and international perspectives, Polakow argues that child care should be a fundamental human right extended to every family and child in the nation.

Wednesday, May 1 5-6:30pm

Lokey Graduate School of Business, Room 101, Mills College, 5000 Macarthur Blvd., Oakland

Pros: The event will have the Council's support and we can help disseminate the information. There is no financial obligation.

Cons: We may be asked by too many other agencies to co-sponsor their events.

Next Steps: With Council approval staff will send out the flyer and Council members are encouraged to attend and tell others.

Action Item #1: Approve AB212 Plan for Fiscal Year 2013-14
Recommended by State Contractors and Early Care and Education Committee

Background: The Planning Council has administered the AB212 contract since it was signed into law over 11 years ago. The Legislature has made funding available for child development staff retention activities to improve the retention of qualified child development employees that work directly with children in state-subsidized, Title 5, child development programs. This funding is allocated to Councils based on the percentage of state-subsidized, center-



based child care funds in the County. Last year we received just under \$700,000 to implement this program. Each year we are required to submit a plan to the state for how we will use AB212 funds for the following year.

Proposal:

- Continue to further align centralized trainings to other Countywide quality improvement efforts (i.e. more CLASS, ERS, DRDP, etc.);
- Continue to offer CLASS coaching and learning communities;
- Continue to Provide CalSAC Trainer and Trainings specializing in School Age population;
- Continue to incentivize professional development continuum of learning;
- Designate a small percentage of funding to enable six to eight centers to participate in the QRIS pilot for 2013;
- Continue to provide flexible use of a (smaller) portion of training funds to meet individual agency needs.

Pros: Aligning our efforts will create a more seamless system for providers. Using more of our funds to support evidence-based tools and practices is more likely to lead to improved quality and better child outcomes.

Cons: AB212 agencies will have less flexibility in designing training that meets their individual agency needs.

Next Steps: With Council approval staff will complete the plan and submit to the State by the end of March.

Action Item #2: Approve Zip Code Priorities for Fiscal Year 2013-14 (first reading no action requested)

Recommended by the Executive Committee

Background: Each year the Planning Council is required to submit a priorities report which indicates by zip code and age the areas of the County with the least access to subsidized ECE. For the last two years we have submitted the same priorities because we did not anticipate any new ECE funding would be available. Please see the attached summary sheets that describe our new priorities.

Proposal: Accept the zip code priorities as indicated on the attached sheets. Today we will learn more about the methodology for collecting the data and the process for reviewing and accepting the zip code priorities.

Pros: Accepting these priorities will enable us to comply with one of our state mandates and it will give us new data about ECE in Alameda County.

Cons: We will put this item May retreat agenda in order to review our numbers and analysis. They are due to the state by the end of May.

Action Item #3a: Support AB260 Individual County Subsidy Plans

Recommended by the Public Policy Committee

Background on AB260: San Mateo and San Francisco counties have previously secured state waivers via legislation to use their Title 5 contracts more flexibly—“to develop and implement individualized county child care subsidy plans for the purpose of ensuring that child care subsidies received in those counties are used to address local needs, conditions, and priorities of working families.” The low reimbursement rates to providers for care coupled with the high cost of living in these counties catalyzed their request to the state. Alameda County has a



similarly high cost of living as these two Bay Area counties. The provisions authorizing those pilot programs are similar, but not identical. Existing law repeals the provisions relating to the City and County of San Francisco pilot project on January 1, 2017, and repeals the provisions relating to the San Mateo pilot program on January 1, 2016.

Proposal: Through this bill they are seeking to make their pilots permanent. This bill would make pilot provisions inoperative on July 1, 2014, and as of that date, would authorize those individualized county child care plans to continue in accordance with specified requirements. The bill would require the Child Development Division of the State Department of Education to review and approve or disapprove modifications to the plans. The bill would require each county to annually prepare and submit to the Legislature, the State Department of Social Services, and the State Department of Education a report that contains specified information relating to the success of the county's plan.

Pros: Alameda County contractors would also benefit from this flexibility and can hope that making the pilots permanent adds momentum to our County being able to obtain the same flexibility in the future.

Cons: This bill doesn't directly benefit Alameda County programs and for no reason other than initiative and timing gives them significant tools that other counties would benefit from yet cannot access.

**Action Item #3b: Support AB 290 Nutrition Training
Recommended by the Public Policy Committee**

Background on AB290: Existing law, the California Child Day Care Act, requires that, as a condition of licensure and in addition to any other required training, at least one director or teacher at each day care center, and each family day care home licensee who provides care, have at least 15 hours of health and safety training, covering specified components, including preventative health practices courses.

Proposal: This bill would provide that for licenses issued on or after January 1, 2015, a director or teacher who receives the health and safety training shall also have at least one hour of childhood nutrition training as part of the preventive health practices course or courses. The bill would require the childhood nutrition training to include content on age-appropriate meal patterns, as specified, and information about participation in the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Pros: Obesity is a significant public health concern in our population.

Cons: One hour of training is not enough to adequately address the topic, and there are other child care health and safety topics that are significant and do not have designated time.

**Action Item #5: Consider Changing the Planning Council's Name (first reading no action requested)
Recommended by the Executive Committee**

Background: Since the Council was formed over 20 years ago, we have been called the Child Care Planning Council. Currently to the public at large and to many decisionmakers, the term "child care signifies" a more narrow view of the services we consider part of our scope of work.



Proposal: Today we would like to have an initial discussion on the possibility of changing our name, and propose a process for making a final decision.

Pros: Changing our name may help the public and decisionmakers more easily understand our work and the importance of all forms of care and education for children.

Cons: There will be a transition to adopting a new name that might take a while. Forms, letterhead and documents will need to be changed as well.