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Planning Council Staff:

LaWanda Wesley

ECE Quality Manager
LPC Program Coordinator
Phone: 510-208-9651
lawanda.wesley@acgov.org

Ellen Dektar

Senior Management Analyst
Phone: 510-208-9578
ellen.dektar@acgov.org

**Michael Panori
Program Support**

Phone: 510-208-9620
michael.panori@acgov.org



1401 Lakeside Drive, #1116
Oakland, CA 94612
Phone: 510-208-9620
Fax: 510-208-9579
www.acgov.org/childcare

November 21, 2016

Quality Expenditure Budget Coordinator
Early Education and Support Division
California Department of Education
1430 N Street, Suite 3410
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: CDBG and Quality Improvement Plan Comments

Dear CDE Staff:

The Alameda County Early Care and Education Planning Council (LPC) represents a County with three resource and referral agencies, five child care payment agencies, 2,000 child care programs and a new state subsidy pilot. The goal of the Planning Council is to expand access to quality early care and education for all Alameda County families. We have the following recommendations as you revise the State Plan for federal Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) expenditures.

1. Increase attention to quality in State Plan but not to the detriment of retaining and increasing early childhood education (ECE) spaces. We still have at least 9,300 infants through preschoolers who qualify but cannot access subsidies in our County.
 - Continue \$25 million in Infant/Toddler Block Grant to support quality programs
2. Comply with CCDBG, including:
 - Permit 12 month eligibility redetermination (AB 833 plan allows 24 month redetermination)
 - Annual licensing visits
 - Increase State Median Income exit threshold (AB 833 Plan allows parents to remain eligible up to 85% of the State Median Income)
3. Permit statewide opt in for Individualized Child Care Subsidy Pilot (including AB 833) provisions.

Thank you for considering our feedback.

Sincerely,

Renee Herzfeld
Chair

