



**Alameda County Child Care Planning Council
Public Policy Committee
October 7, 2020
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 Child Care Planning Council.”

Attendees:

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Jennifer Cabán	SSA	Neva Bandelow	ACOE
Kym Johnson	Bananas	Trisha Barua	Oakland Starting Smart and Strong
Pamm Shaw	YMCA of the East Bay	Makinya Ward	Kids Konnect
Kristina Adams	Hayward Unified School District	Michelle Stillwell-Parvensky	Kidango
Ana Del Aguila	Los Positas College	Nanette Gray	Tri-Valley SELPA
Ana Rasquiza	First 5 Alameda County	Shruti Agarwal	Shruti’s Family Daycare & Valley Family Child Care Association
LaWanda Wesley	Oakland Unified School District	Noni Galloway	Parent Voices of Oakland
Linda Olivenbaum	East Bay Association for Education of Young Children	Nancy Harvey	Lil Nancy’s Primary Schoolhouse
Lisa Forti	First 5 Alameda County		

ECE Program Staff: Ellen Dektar, Mara Goby, Sujatha Ganesasankar

Action Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECE Program staff will draft a state advocacy letter on the issue of family fees for Executive Committee review & approval. • ECE Program staff will follow up with the County regarding continued advocacy on the need for federal emergency child care relief.

I. Welcome/Introductions/Announcements

- LaWanda Wesley shared that OUSD recently applied for an End Hate Grant from the State and is waiting to hear back. Maximum award is \$20,000.
- On October 29th, CDSS will be holding a listening session on the transition of ECE programs from CDE to CDSS.
- Update on Alameda County ECE Emergency Response Team Effort:
 - Jennifer Cabán provided an update on the team’s recent focus areas, including aligning data across the County, developing parent videos, and continuing to manage the Health Heroes for Child Care Program.

II. Report Out from State Contractors & Quality Committees



- State Contractors Meeting: the most recent meeting focused on recent CDE Management Bulletins, CCL Public Information Notices, and family fee waiver issues.
- Quality Committee: the next meeting will focus on anti-racist policies and practices and implications of the new DRDP measures.
 - Committee is also developing a one-page policy document.

III. Local, State, & Federal Legislation and Budget Updates and Action

Local:

- Update on County Needs Assessment & Next Steps
 - ECE Program staff are working with First 5 Alameda County to develop a Local Planning Council needs assessment, which will include data on the child population, child care supply and demand, and the child care workforce, among other data points.
 - Stakeholder input opportunities will be held over the next three months and the needs assessment will be completed in December. Stakeholder input meeting dates include 11/12 and 12/10 from 10 to 11:30 am.
- Update on Measure C
 - Kym Johnson shared an update that while Measure C was certified by the Board of Supervisors, it is still facing a lawsuit.
 - A similar measure in SF was recently upheld and there is another similar case in the Central Valley that is awaiting a decision, both of which impact what will happen in Alameda County's case.
 - It is still to be determined how and when the Measure C Committee will be formed and when the County can begin collecting the tax.

State:

- Discuss SB 820 Budget Trailer Bill
 - Discussion and Possible Action from State Contractor's Committee on Lack of State Funding for Waived Family Fees
 - SB 820 waived family fees for September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020 but the State did not allocate funds to cover this cost for APs and providers, raising significant financial concerns.
 - The group discussed the consequences of this approach to family fees and the need to engage in advocacy at the state and federal levels to ensure that the costs would not fall on providers/APs or negatively impact families.
 - ECE Program staff will draft a letter for the LPC Executive Committee to review and approve.
- Update on State ECE Master Plan
 - The State ECE Master Plan has been delayed until December.
 - Past ECPC meetings have indicated that the master plan will have a focus on equity, rate reform, compensation, and making the system work better for families.

Federal:

- Discussion and Possible Action on Federal Relief for Child Care
 - Mara Goby provided an overview of recent Congressional action on a second federal COVID-19 relief package – negotiations have largely stalled, but past proposals have ranged from \$15 to \$50 million in emergency child care funding.



- ECE Program staff will follow up with the County regarding continued federal advocacy on this issue.
- Review and Discuss Highlights of Alliance for Early Success Recommendations and Strategies for Local and State Response
 - Ellen Dektar shared highlights from the report, including recommendations on business supports for child care providers.
 - The group discussed the need to provide funding to providers who do not serve subsidized children and to undocumented providers, as well as the need to develop an incubator program for child care businesses, with CCIP as a possible funding source.

IV. Discuss School-Age Child Care During COVID-19 Policy Issues

- Alameda County schools K-6th grade can begin opening as early as October 13th. Elementary schools may begin to reopen but will likely provide a hybrid model and there will still be a need to figure out how to support school-aged child care now and in the future.
- The group discussed challenges facing school-age child care providers, including:
 - Financial implications of upgrading internet connection and technology and providing additional school supplies;
 - Caring for younger children while helping older children with virtual classes;
 - Redesigning child care space & format to support children's virtual learning.
- The group also raised the need to make it more clear to families that child care is safe, even while schools are closed.
- While this transition occurs, providers continue to experience challenges with supporting distance learning, including costs associated with increasing bandwidth, supplies, laptops, hotspots, etc.

V. Adjournment – Propose Agenda items for Next Meeting — November 4th, 10 am - 11:30 am

- The Chair adjourned the meeting.
- Members can propose agenda items for the next meeting to Jenn, Ellen, or Mara.