



**Alameda County Child Care Planning Council
Public Policy Committee
May 5, 2014
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:

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|--------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Judy Kriege | BANANAS | Jenna Churchman | Co-Chair, Steering Committee Member |
| Gayle Larson | Assemblywoman Buchanan | Jennifer Greppi | 4Cs of Alameda County |
| Malia Ramler | First Five | | |

Ellen Dektar, Angie Garling, ECEPC Staff

I. Announcements

- Stand For Children, a parent rally in Sacramento sponsored by Parent Voices, is on Wednesday.
- The OUSD School Board will have an ece focused meeting on May 28th.
- Jennifer Greppi is on the PLAN board; they received a Kellogg grant to support parent engagement, including with ece parents; Tracey Black (an ECEPC Steering Committee member) is on the board as well. *ECEPC staff should meet with them to discuss coordinating LCFE outreach plans.*

II. Committee Updates

LINCC met and discussed Child Care Fund capital development and possible new child care facilities need survey, Crowdsourcing/Crowdfunding, and the \$2-\$5 billion that is expected through new state revenues from Cap and Trade which could result in increased local funding for transit, Transit Oriented Development, and community development in disadvantaged communities. Crowdfunding for all causes, organizations, etc. internationally expected to raise \$5.1 billion in 2015, and there were 536 Crowdfunding sites in 2012.

III. Review, Discuss, and Possibly Take Action on Local, State and/or Federal Legislation and Budget including:

Reportedly there is some discussion in the Capitol about \$500 million in restored ece funding in the budget which would including increasing rates so parents can access higher quality care and also “defrosting” the State Median Income cap on care so parents don’t lose eligibility while they still are in need. 5/23 is deadline for legislation to be released by the Appropriations Committees to continue through the legislative process.

AB 144/Buchanan/Mandatory Kindergarten

The group present decided “the domino effect” on ece is really the most salient element of this proposal that we should focus on when reviewing it.

Pro: Common Core has pushed curriculum down. More and longer kindergarten has been an evaluated, successful strategy in Montgomery County Maryland to raise third grade and other achievement, which



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is a focus of other groups in the County.

Con: Supervisor Chan is concerned about punitive impact on families who do not comply the way the language is currently written; one member expressed concern about “institutionalizing” children—other countries start at age 7.

Therefore: wait and watch, fix preschool funding bills to allow them to stay for entire kindergarten year. A parent should decide state preschool or k.

AB 1719/ Longer k day

This would have a large domino effect on school age care providers; parents would support this legislation because of the full day; cost might not be markedly higher for schools because some kids currently have half day and that just would be doubled. Significant part of state already has full day kindergarten. *Staff should research Alameda County kindergarten duration.*

Pros: It provides more free care and education for parents, and longer days proved to be successful in increasing academic performance in Montgomery County Maryland. Not going to cost more; there is an out if pinched for facilities;

Cons: is it better for children?

AB 2302/Child care facilities

Pro: need to increase use of fund beyond portables; probably in our purview

Cons-regulations take many years to develop.

Committee voted to support this bill.

AB 2125/ Rate reform

Removes current Standard Reimbursement Rate (SRR) and Regional Market Rate (RMR) and links Title 5 reimbursement to regional market rate and requires it to be updated; might show up in budget;

Pros:

Would be gradually restored over years: *let’s support it; if it’s in our platform we don’t need to take a position;*

Con: license exempt only getting \$2 an hour. Some are concerned about disadvantaging them. This needs to be worth the person’s while. About 40% of vouchers go to license exempt providers. Also, via regulations, the Federal government may increase standards for license exempt providers.

Legislative Analyst’s Office Restructuring Proposal

People like how it portrayed the problem with current subsidized child care systems but not the solutions; a central problem the author cited was inequity between non Calworks families and non Calworks families.

Positives

- Reinstating Centralized Eligibility List (CEL)
- More equity with CalWORKs and non CalWORKS
- Roadmap framework for how changes would be phased in



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Concerns

- Eliminating school age care;
- Voucherizing everything but school based Title 5; this means the state would lose many longstanding child care facilities.
- Time limits—LAO recommends family lifetime limit of 6-8 years to give more families access; Pauline at 4Cs thinks that they start to stabilize themselves at 6-8 years; some children in families would not be eligible at all, potentially.
- Social Services administering Stage 1 and Stage 2, keep Stage 3 in education, and
- Regional system to serve children age birth to 4 (would they monitor education piece?); this is because the California Department of Education Title 5 monitoring unit would be disbanded
- 3 rate regions
- Increased rate not being sufficient to reimburse quality
- Education requirement should align with QRIS and expert sanctioned frameworks and curricula
- Possibly unfunded Regional monitoring system

IV. Take Action on Plan for School District Outreach to Promote ECE Expenditures in Local School Funding Formula Plans

Many school districts are finalizing the first round of approved expenditures. However, in many of Alameda County's districts with high need students the increased revenue per student will more than double in the next several years so there could be a payoff for future outreach about ece investments.

V. June Agenda: Will definitely include May Revise discussion.

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| Next Meeting: Monday, June 2, 2014 6:30pm **4Cs Hayward** |
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