



CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County EED/CDSS Contractors Collaborative

Thursday, October 13, 2022

9:00 am – 10:30 am
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

Present: Sonya Valiente, Andrea Estupinan, Liliana Sanchez, Kristina Sisseck, Jessica Borland, Julie Swanstrom, Jenny Copeland, Maleese Warner
Staff Present: Susy Marrón, Erica Hurtado, Elizabeth DePrimo

Susy called the meeting to order at 9:03 am

- **Welcome and Introductions:**
 - Introductions were placed in the Chat (Name, Agency, and favorite soup)
- **SB 1047**
 - Susy shared that SB 1047 extends eligibility to families enrolled in CCTR and CAPP programs for 24 months. It was recently signed into law.
 - CDSS guidance states If a family is enrolled before July 1, 2022, when they are up for renewal, that is when the 24 months would apply.
 - To reduce the burden of applying to multiple services: If families are enrolled in a government program, including CalFresh, Medical, WIC, or head start, providing direct certification for families, they will be eligible for the 24 months.
 - A quick group poll: few had heard and seen of it.
 - Unfortunately, it is not for all subsidy programs, but at least a nice alignment with CCTR and CAPP.
 - Nicole expressed interest and learning more and wondered when this would begin. Susy shared the best estimate would be January 1, 2023.
 - Jessica shared that families you certified for this current school year can certify for the 24 months.
- **Child Care Subsidy Pilot**
 - Susy shared an overview/ brief history of the pilot. What it is: The Child Care Subsidy Pilot allows us to work with CDSS to apply local flexibilities to state law by modifying regulations and making our own policy changes.
 - It allows us to test and pilot policy changes that will benefit children and families receiving subsidized child care, and then it's possible these policies can become state law.
 - What the Pilot is against now is that it is sunseting. It was a five-year pilot and is set to sunset on June 30, 2023.
 - Couple of options have been presented to try to keep this pilot going
 - wanted emergency bill
 - wanted a lobbyist to carry a bill
 - One meeting gave a few options. It does feel that there is no support from the state to continue with this Pilot. At the local level, we are not funded; it's been a work of love.
 - No lobbyists are available to the Local Planning Council, and the pilot's ending is not being seen as not an emergency. Since it looks like this is not an emergency and will likely not pass, that is another reason someone will not carry this bill.





CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

- Another option is the *Kitchen Sink bill*, where we would be completely moving away from the pilot bill idea. The Pilot would end and maybe just propose/write a bill that states everything/ ideas that we want to implement statewide.
- Group thoughts
 - Susy shared wanting to give all, maximum effort.
 - We can still make policy changes from now until June; unfortunately, due to recent changes in law, permanent pilots like Marin and San Francisco can no longer make policy changes after June.
 - Kristina asked if CSPP contracts would continue the age requirement policy change. Susy replied that we, as a county and other counties, have a matrix with policy changes and are reviewing to ensure that those policy changes are included in the Kitchen Sink bill that we want to pass at the state level.
 - Nicole mentioned including changes that benefitted families in our pilot. She would like to grandfather families with what they have until they recertify. It would be great to include certain things that were more beneficial to families. Susy shared that families' eligibility should remain, for now, until the pilot sunsets.
 - Hoping for some sort of directive from the state on what this will look like on the local level.
- **CSPP Block Grant Ratings**
 - Susy shared that we applaud those who have responded and are ready to be assessed and rated!
 - Susy shared there is a link to the adapted Matrix on the Quality Counts California website. There is also access to the revised implementation guide. It is recommended to begin looking at these resources to prepare for rating.
 - Reminder, this is a hold-harmless year.
 - Overview of the Matrix
 - Different elements and point structure: 1 is lowest, 5 is highest.
 - If you do an external CLASS assessor, you can get more points.
 - For ERS assessments as a county, we do not have the capacity to do ERS assessments. The guideline from the state is to use the most current ERS for ratings.
 - Sonya asked if her site would be ok to use DRDP online, not DRDP Tech. Also, her site uses Essential, not full. Susy will make a note and will check the implementation guide to see if there is a difference. As long as it is seen that DRDP is done twice a year and uploaded twice per year, that is 5 points eligible.
 - Kristina asked if sites want a full ERS for a program, is that a possibility? Susy answered that the state has zero capacity to do so. All Assessors are out of compliance with their certification. The State has not brought back the capacity. There are no certified Assessors.
 - Kristina shared she was on a call with the state analyst, FPMs and CMRs are coming to her sites in the Spring and will do ECERS R or ECERS 3, the shortened version of the ECERS. Hoping to get QRIS completed through local QRIS to complete so that it is not done with the ECERS 3 in the spring. Susy shared that we can reach out to the state to ask if we can utilize Assessors for ERS who are expired.
 - Susy shared that funding is available for Assessments, so we will try to help sites as much as possible.
 - Susy wanted to acknowledge Coaching support is now missing. New sites will receive coaching, but others previously rated at tiers 4 and 5 will not. Susy offered that she is





CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

here for support and tech assistance. Phone, email, and zoom appointments will be available. Unfortunately, we can't be or offer to be on-site support.

- Susy shared for CLASS there is a CLASS 2nd Edition
 - We are in the process of putting together resources
 - The transition to CLASS 2 should be seamless. From our understanding, there is only one component that is different, and that involves using an equity lens.
 - Hoping to offer a CLASS Refresher training. Reached out to local R & Rs . Hoping to be available soon.
 - If programs are feeling stressed and there is interest from a site lead to be trained or go deeper with CLASS 2, we can work out a way to do that. Reach out to Susy if you are interested.
 - Melissa shared that her site has a lot of new staff who have not received CLASS training; she is interested in some kind of training for those staff.
 - The HUB Region 1 is also going to put on training soon. A notification email will be sent to the group when available.
- **Announcements**
 - Susy shared that a Track for Family, Friend, Neighbor (FFN) providers is now available through the Sonoma Pathways program. Qualifying FFNs receiving a subsidy for payment can earn a stipend if 10 hours of PD are completed during this fiscal year for a \$500 stipend. The training completed is flexible.
 - Susy shared that the Early Care and Education Facilities Grant announcement was sent through First 5 Sonoma. They are giving a range of \$20 to \$300 thousand grants. Encourage all eligible to apply.
 - Susy shared that the Champions for Children Event is coming up on November 4th.
 - Susy shared that Evening of Honor has begun planning. contact Susy to be connected if you want to be involved.
 - Susy shared the Early Learners Conference has also begun planning. Contact Susy to be connected if you want to be involved.
 - Liz asked if the Facilities Grant is only for programs in Santa Rosa. Susy shared that ARPA funds from Santa Rosa will be used but she can double check. Some one also brought up the concern that not all programs would be eligible. Kristina shared that she found that CCTR and CSPP programs do qualify, but it doesn't cover 100% of the project's cost. It only covers 75%. You will need 25% of your own funding committed as well, and a plan for your portion will have to be drawn up. LEAs can apply as well for TK classrooms.
 - Jenny shared that she found on the CDSS website that the New Construction and Major Renovations Facilities Grant will be released in November. She shared the following website in the chat:
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-and-development/infrastructure-grant-program/major-construction>
 - Kristina shared the link to the First 5 facilities grant in the chat:
<https://first5sonomacounty.org/funding-opportunities/>
- **The next meeting will be held virtually on November 10, 2022, from 9:00 am to 10:30 am.**
 - Please reach out if you have any questions or wish to ask to switch to in-person meetings.
 - Email Susy to add agenda items.





CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY



Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County •SCOE
5340 Skylane Boulevard • Santa Rosa, CA 95403 • Phone: (707) 524-2639 •
ccpc@scoe.org • <http://www.scoe.org/ccpc>