

Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD) / CDSS Collaborative

October 14, 2021

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

Notes

Present: Sonya Valiente, Jaya Lopez, Jenny Copeland, Wendy Adams, Maleese Warner, Marianella Ruffinellie, Liliana Sanchez, Teresa Bernabe, Soledad Figueroa, Diana Avila, Brulene Zanutto, Kristina Sisseck, Melissa Nelson, Lara Magnusdottir, Cindy Clark Springer, Julie Swanstrom

Staff Present: Susy Marron, Erica Hurtado, Elizabeth DePrimo

Susy Marron began the meeting at 9:04 am. Introductions were shared in the chat.

News & Announcements

- None

Child Care Subsidy Pilot Evaluation

- Susy Marron: An email was sent earlier to agencies about the release of the Pilot evaluation. Working with the Indigo Project who are leading this multi county evaluations. High level overview of the pilot of those implementing the policies. Wanting just one response from each organization. This does include AP, children and family circle, all different subsidies are included. Looking for 100 % participation from everyone in the pilot. Hoping for responses by friday Oct 15 or Oct 22 at the latest. This is important for potential reauthorization of the pilot. Looking for authors to rewrite the policies. Trying to make a case for the pilots. Get potential senators who are interested in. Feel free to reach out to Susy if help is needed.

TK and Universal PreK Advocacy Efforts

- Susy Marron: What are partners thinking about with the TK implementation? Any advocacy on the subsidy front? Anything this group could do?
- Soledad Figueroa: More interested in Education for parents as to what this [Universal TK] really means and what options are available with this.
- Brulene Zanutto: Participated in a statewide call with other County Offices of Education [COE]. One thing is clear and important to Sonoma County is that child care field workers are seen as experts and resources in how to implement TK and that TK is a piece of the p-3 program. If the site is on school sites, the desire is that there is a partnership. Be part of the plan moving forward. Contact Brulene if you would like a conversation or share an idea or subject. Email shared in the chat. Document shared in the chat https://www.scoe.org/files/TK_Info_2016_Eng_and_Spanv2.pdf
- Julie Swanstrom: Wrap around care is a concern. Helping parents understand what they are choosing. Concerned with Teacher supply. There may not be enough 3 year olds and would need a program to open up to serving younger children and at the moment the program structure would not work for a younger age group. Needing more teachers to also do TK. Making sure we have a trained workforce. Will the model need to be

changed to serve younger people? As there is a concern that there will not be enough 3 year olds. And serving younger people will cost more, which the way money is coming in would make that impossible.

- Jenny Copeland: It would be great to include k -12 teachers to give information about what is being done in early care. This allows our field to tell k-12 why we do what we do. Susy: will there be a waiver option? Hope that it will not be used
- Marianella Ruffinellie: Something to look at is how contractors will be reimbursed during the transition of tk in 2023. What has been really helpful is the Hold Harmless option for contractors to maintain most of the staff. There needs to be advocacy for what kind of rules will be in place for reimbursement and what kinds of reimbursement will be available.
- Lara Magnusdottir: Creating awareness among legislators about consequences of TK. The Governor's Master Plan calls for universal preschool and TK is not universal preschool. The way California seems to want to implement that is that low income 3 year olds will go to state preschool with the option of continuing as 4 year olds and then 4 year olds would go to TK. There is not state preschool everywhere and it's only 3 hours long. TK is part day, so it does not give parents mixed delivery options, it doesn't meet their needs. This is also making children have multiple caregivers. Cost pressures, where sites will be forced to serve younger and that is more expensive. Causing sites to raise their rates causing distress to families. Current workforce is more qualified than TK teachers. TK teachers currently is not as diverse than ECE teachers. State does not align with the Biden admin plan of mix delivery. State will not align with the federal plan. For TK to happen it needs to be rethought and input from the current force needs to be input. Community based preschools need to be part of the conversation. Call to action: call to meet with legislators for when that new session begins and these concerns can be elevated and discussed. A draft letter is the works, Agencies who are wanting to sign, may send interest and logos to Susy. Contact Lara if interested in speaking to legislators

Other announcements

- Susy Marron: Review of Management bulletins and Child Care Bulletins linked on the Agenda.
- Julie Swanstrom: Stipends. Money on the table hope that anyone who is eligible, will apply. Reference San Diego COE chart also to the ARPA funds. Stipends chart from San Diego COE Available in English and Spanish. Sharing the information through the provider newsletter. Charts shared in the chat.

English:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/17997e59001/156f2c4d-e7fb-42a6-be42-3c6cf1f9156a.pdf>

Spanish:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/17997e59001/60de717a-66db-4f5e-8d2d-4888775d605c.pdf>

Also, Regional market rates are expected to increase in January, so part of that is tied to ARPA funds, so ARPA survey must be completed in order to get these funds.. So information will also be shared in the provider check or newsletter.

- Soledad Figueroa: ARPA survey can be sent to RCC or to CCPC to help distribute to providers.

Next meeting, December 9, 2021, via Zoom (November meeting canceled due to Veterans Day)

please send agenda items to Susy Marron at smarron@scoe.org.

Approved for December meeting.

Adjourn : 9:56 am