



CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County EED/CDSS Contractors Collaborative

Thursday, August 11, 2022

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

Present: Maleese Warner, Sonya Valiente, Melissa Nelson, Jynx Lopez, Julie Swanstrom, Ana Morales, Lara Magnusdottir, Nayeli Zamudio, Jason Riggs, Laura Wasson, Rebecca Hachmyer

Staff Present: Susy Marrón, Erica Hurtado, Elizabeth DePrimo

Susy called the meeting to order at 9:05 am

- **Welcome and Introductions:**
 - Introductions were made in the chat box.
 - Name, agency, and one thing you are looking forward to was shared.
- **2022-2023 Budget Update (Lara)**
 - Lara shared a summary of 2022/2023 Budget
 - Family fee waivers were extended by one more year. Advocates are trying to approve AB92 to eliminate family fees, which has passed through the legislature. Unfortunately, the Governor is making it seem that he will veto it if it gets to his desk. However, a group is working on rate reform for the long term. The Governor will likely say it's up to that group or the union. The union only represents a small number of child care providers.
 - Slot increases
 - No rate increase for Sonoma County
 - 6.56% cola for all child care programs is considerably more than received before.
 - Infrastructure grants: \$100 million will be set to fund grants most have applied for, known as the Minor and Major grants. Due to the high number of submitted applications, the processing is still taking place for those who applied for the minor renovations grant. Many FCCHs have a barrier because house repairs will not be funded; this comes from the rule that no shared space repairs will be funded. Funds can only be applied to space used for business only.
 - Major Construction Grant open period is said to be coming out late fall.
 - Alternative Payment Programs (APP) to increase spaces, but because of how funding is, the most cost is upfront for enrollment—trying to change this since it is difficult to do these enrollments due to understaffing.
 - Concerning TK funding and state preschool, no rate increases, but a toddler adjustment was given for serving 3-year-olds.
 - Increase funding for serving children with disabilities. 5% in 2022/23 and then 7.5% in 2023/24 and 10% in 2024/2025. Includes kids with IEPs and IFSPs.
 - CSPP: Income ceiling is 100% of SMI. 24-month eligibility for CSPP only
 - Did not get additional closure days. No Covid closure days.
 - Different eligibility for CCTR and CSPP is raising concerns across the state.
 - Funding for UPK planning: A bill is being worked on that includes community-based programs. There is funding for planning but most likely coming to Local Planning Councils. Advocates will continue to try for the next cycle if the bill does not pass.
 - The inflation reduction act passed, but no child care funding happened there.
 - Susy shared she has a slide show with details of budget highlights that she will share after the meeting.





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Child Care Subsidy Pilot

- Susy shared a CSPP implementation slide deck attached to the calendar invite.
- 24-month eligibility: We must shift eligibility for seeking employment to 24 months not to be more limiting than the law.
- 100% SMI Income Ceiling chart helpful to have in writing
- Enrolling children with exceptional needs; examples provided.
- Julie asked for clarification on 24-month eligibility. If certified before July 1, what happens?
 - No management bulletin has been released yet.
 - It will be unfortunate for some families to have to recertify again.
- San Mateo and San Francisco will continue to be pilots with no sunset date.
- All other Pilots, including Sonoma's, will sunset in 2023.
- Sonoma has missed the time window to carry a bill before June 30, 2023. The earliest Sonoma could pass a bill to reinstate the pilot is January 2024.
 - A 6-month lap would happen.
- There is one option to try and pursue no lapse. After things settle in Sacramento, the next step would be finding a legislature to carry an urgency bill. More information to come.
 - We need to make a case as to why this bill is urgent, and it is possible if we state the importance of creating child care access and reducing barriers for children and families.
 - Most likely, a legislator won't carry the bill unless they are confident it will pass.
 - Lara shared we have great legislators, but none of our legislators are child care focused.
 - Lara suggested reaching out to Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
 - Julie asked for the original bill number. It is AB 435.
 - Questions: Are there other counties that have lost their pilot?
 - No. Santa Clara's pilot was going to expire, but they did extend it to align with all the other Pilot counties, including Sonoma, in 2023.
 - CSPP Contractor's Daily Reimbursement Rates
 - Confusion around the daily reimbursement rates
 - Napa and Marin's rates are a lot higher than Sonoma's.
 - CDE Guidance released regarding 24-month.
- **COVID Updates**
 - The new guidance will be released in the fall to align with K-12 guidance.
 - Resources are included in the agenda.
 - Distribution of COVID tests to child care programs will start back in November.
 - A new round of PPE is coming
 - FAQ resources hold some guidance as well
- **CSPP Assessments and Ratings**
 - All CSPP sites are due for assessments and ratings!
 - Quality Counts CSPP Block Grant: Rating will only be for CSPP programs.
 - The state is moving to kick off assessments and rating
 - CCPC took over ratings right before COVID hit, so there have not been ratings completed with this change of management.
 - CCPC will begin re-rating sites this program year.
 - Even with the state modification of not needing to be re-rated if rated at a 4 or 5 every five years, it still looks like all sites are expired and will need to be rated—a total of 34 sites.
 - Questions, comments, and concerns?
 - Sonya asked if ECERS and CLASS would be included for ratings.





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- Yes, for CLASS; not sure about ECERS. We are waiting for guidance from the state.
- A revised matrix with more guidance will be released soon.
- More points if an independent Assessor completes assessments
- Plan for CLASS and ECERS if wanting to reach a Tier 4 or 5
- Would this be this year?
 - Yes!
 - Priority will be given to the sites that have already expired.
 - CCPC will let everyone know when they are due.
 - CCPC will be looking for more guidance to ensure that sites are ready.
- **News, Announcements**
 - Julie asked about the Pilot end date
 - Initially scheduled to end in January 2023, but due to legislation passed, it was extended through June 30, 2023.
 - Susy will find written confirmation and share.
 - Melissa shared that SSU preschool now has a low population of 4-year-olds, no one turning 5. They are modifying their age groups to enroll two years and 9-month-olds.
 - Do children have to be three before entering CSPP?
 - Julie shared the window of when children need to turn three to be eligible for CSPP (children who have their 3rd birthday on or before December 1st).
 - Susy shared that 100% of our partners are now operating as a pilot county.
- **The next meeting will be held virtually on September 8, 2022.**
 - Please reach out if you have any questions or wish to ask to switch to in person.
 - Email Susy to add agenda items

