

Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD) Collaborative (California Department of Education)

July 8, 2021

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

Notes

Present: Nayeli Zamudo, Jaya Lopez, Teresa Bernabe, Wendy Adams, Nicole Fassold, Cindy Springer, Marianella Ruffinelli, Maleese Warner, Lara Magnusdottir, Jason Riggs, Amy McIntyre, Ana, Soledad Figueroa, Melissa Nelson.

Staff Present: Susy Marron, Erica Hurtado

Susy Marron started the meeting at 9:06 am.

News, Announcements

*Lara Magnusdottir: Champions for Children nominations are open on the 4Cs Website.

*Nicole Fassold: 4Cs is hiring a new HR Director and Bilingual Administrative Assistant. interested applicants should visit the 4Cs website at www.sonoma4cs.org.

*Maleese Warner: SRJC now has a Job Board for students seeking employment based on their education. Job Board matches students. Employers can send job posts to the SRJC Job Board. Link shared in the chat: <https://srjc.jobspeaker.com/#/hire>

*Susy Marron: CCPC Enews can post job announcements as well. Please email information to ehurtado@scoe.org

*Susy Marron/Maleese Warner: Early Learners Conference is coming up. It will be held virtually via Zoom on August 28. The call for Presenters is still open.

*Susy Marron: SCOE building will be opening to the public beginning August 1. Also, Brown Act COVID-19 flexibilities will end September 30; the CCPC will resume in-person meetings starting in October.

Updated COVID -19 Industry Guidance for Child Care Settings

Replaces the old guidance: Shared a brief from CQEL that was shared in the chat:

- No masks are required for children and staff outdoors, regardless of vaccination status. Masks are recommended but not required for unvaccinated staff that cannot maintain 6' social distance outdoors per Cal/OSHA. Masks come back on if you have an outbreak and can't maintain social distance.
- Masks are required for children over 2 years of age indoors, with exceptions for sleeping, eating, heat, medical reasons, and hearing impairment.
- Masks are required for staff regardless of vaccination status indoors.
- No more child physical distancing or stable group requirements, but a recommendation to keep groups small and stable where possible. Default to Title 22 group size and ratio if you cannot follow stable group best practices.
- No more July 2020 cleaning, disinfection, and handwashing and hygiene guidance. Follow the Title 22 guidance.

*Amy asked about Temperature taking requirements; are temp checks still required? No one has heard of anything yet. Reaching out to licensing.

Updated Testing Guidance

Susy shared CA Public Health Department guidance. An updated agenda will be sent with live links after today's meeting.

State/Federal Budget Report

Lara Magnusdottir shared Highlights for the Budget:

*Summary: Bills are still being amended. The Budget was planned to be signed by June 30. The Union agreement, for the first time, is impacting things.

*There will be a rate increase beginning January 1, 2022. Programs will get a single rate which will be the 75th percent of the 2018 survey. 50% increase for family child care providers. The increase will last for 24 months.

*There will no longer be a part-time rate for childcare providers. Providers will only receive a single 75% child care rate. Good news for license-exempt child care providers (FFNs).

*Budget does create TK by 2026. Bill is moving through legislation. This Bill defines the details of TK. Right now, effective for all 4-year-olds by 2026 increase of 2 months of age. TK eligible children will be able to be served in state preschool. Families will be able to choose vouchers as well. *An Impact Study is also being proposed to show how TK will impact the field and families.

*Increase in alternative payment slots 120,000 additional spaces, and there will be additional general spots for a total of 200,000 additional spaces. Restores \$250 million for infrastructure and \$250 million for Workforce Development

*Waives all family fees through June 30, 2021, with a possibility of an extended timeframe.

* Additional 16 non-operation days for this year.

*Hold providers harmless for this next year. (Based on pre-COVID enrollment)

*Restoring state funding for the food program

*Direct Deposit to Contractors.

*Ongoing funding for resource and referral

*Funding to help recruit Family care providers

*Hearing was held on July 7, 2021 for the TK Bill with the amendments of the Impact study and Vouchers

Stakeholder meetings or any other updates

Susy: shared that DSS has a transition website that is the place for updates and funding terms and conditions, FAQs, etc. [Click here to access the transition website.](#)

Other Announcements

*Nicole: Asked the Group about the new Title 5 regulations and the child care subsidy pilot. She is wondering if there has been any conversation about implementing the child subsidy pilot.

Susy shared that there have not been any conversations among the pilot counties.

*Lara: Asked how the group feels about the rate reform. The rate is now going to be based on the county. It may be possible that the pilot is not needed.

*Cindy Springer asked about the possibility of FCCH needing to use napping charts for children 24 months and younger. Have to go in the room every 15 minutes while sleeping. This will impact the provider's willingness to work with children under two years old. Cindy has been hearing from licensing analysts that this new requirement is coming. Lara will ask for a contact in Sacramento and share concerns.

Next Meeting August 12, 2021, 9:00 am to 10:30 am

No objections to meeting time. Group discussion concluded that the virtual platform will work for now. It was suggested that we think about longer meetings every six months where others can be invited and possibly meet in person for the future.

Adjourn at 10:01 am

Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD) Collaborative (California Department of Education)

August 19, 2021

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

Notes

Present: Jaya Lopez, Soledad Figueroa, Jason Riggs, Nathan Murray, Lara Magnusdottir, Brulene Zanutto, Maleese Warner, Cindy Springer, Jenny Copeland, Wendy Adams, Amy McIntyre, Ana Morales, Teresa Bernabe, Julie Swanstrom, Sonya Valiente, Kristina Sisseck, Nicole Fassold, Ana Diego

Staff Present: Susy Marron, Erica Hurtado, Elizabeth DePrimo

Susy Marron began the meeting at 9:03. Introductions were shared in the chat.

News & Announcements

- Nathan Murray: Sonoma County Dept of Public Health is holding COVID Coordinators collaborative meetings every other week. Essentially these meetings are for school district representatives, but after-school care was advocated to be included, and it was granted. Jenny Straight, a well-known child care school COVID team member, facilitates these meetings. Participation is recommended since it will cover changes and guidance. Nathan can share what he learns at future ELCD meetings. If anyone is interested in joining, the invitation was shared in the chat. If interested in attending these meetings, please use the link below to sign up and complete the survey questions on the form to help us choose a meeting time that works best for the majority of the group. You may forward the link below to any other liaisons who wish to attend the meetings so that they may sign up. Meeting sign-up form and survey:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VTZBDCB>
- Susy Marron: Virtual Early Learners Conference is August 28, 2021. You can reach out to CCPC if you have any questions or would like more information. Here is the link to Register:
https://santarosa-edu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Oovj5XRWRve86moLmcKaCg?fbclid=IwAR1DANPfJssxwdzBvosBWE8lpU229Fe7IyJXJaxKsfpCQWOTAlr4W29Admk
- Amy McIntyre: 4Cs has opened their newest Preschool program, 4Cs Mark West. This program offers morning and part-time afternoon programs, looking for more kids to enroll. There are about 19 slots still available, and they are subsidies and tuition. Amy can send flyers.

New Title 5 Regulations Effective July 1, 2021

- Julie Swanstrom: 4Cs has read through the regulations related to fiscal and case management. She shared that most changes happened in 2017 with 12-month eligibility—waiting on guidance, not comfortable changing policies without written guidance first. 4Cs is in the planning phase, researching what changes may need to be made—wanting more clarity on certifying families two months prior. A highlight is that bonuses or overtime are now included in income calculations for families. Another

highlight is a misunderstanding of Vocational training for employees: it is not clear in the training timeline in regulations.

FY 2021/2022 Budget

- Susy Marron gave some highlights and a link to legislation to track bills link shared in the chat: <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>.
- Susy Marron shared the following highlights from the budget:
 - Expanding access to APP, General Child Care, and migrant care by 200 slots over five years,
 - Raising the reimbursement rates to the 75th percentile of the 2018 survey and will be effective Jan 1, 2022, pending rate reform.
 - 4.06 COLA
 - appropriates \$250 million for facility development, focusing on communities with significant gaps through September 20, 2024.
 - Will waive family fees for state subsidies and early education services through June 30, 2023
 - Appropriate \$4.8 million for the design of the child care data system
 - includes pandemic relief package \$579 million in federal funds for subsidized child care and state preschool. All licensed early care and education facilities will have specific funding allocations.
 - County Office of Ed will be receiving 15% of Professional Development funds based on the number of TK enrollees in the district.
- Lara Magnusdottir: There is no funding for Workforce development like in the previous year in this budget. There is some for TK and Family Child Care funding but not much for Centers.
- Julie Swanstrom: There are new income ceilings; we should soon receive a new family fee chart: CDSS released their Family Fee Chart without directives while CDE has not released as they are waiting to release with their directives.

Child Care Subsidy Pilot and Rates

Susy Marron: Whatever the pilot rate was set through the process a few years ago, we are still entitled to any of the increases like before becoming a pilot county.

Stakeholder Meetings or any other Updates

No updates

Other Announcements

None shared.

Next Meeting, September 9, 2021, via Zoom: please send agenda items to Susy Marron at smarron@scoe.org.

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



CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County ELCD Contractors Collaborative

Thursday, January 13, 2022

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

Present: Sonya Valiente, Bernadette Sroul, Nathan Murray, Nicole Fassold, Jynx Lopez, Lara Magnusdottir, Jenny Copeland, Sheryl Wesley, Nayeli Zamudio, Julie Swanstrom, Rebecca Hachmyer, Cindy Clark Springer, Kristina Sisseck, Liliana Sanchez

Staff Present: Erica Hurtado. Elizabeth Deprimo

Erica called meeting to order at 9:04 am

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions :Introduce yourself using the Chat Box by sharing your name, organization, and how you are feeling this morning.
- News, Announcements
 - Nathab Murray Shared update in reporting COVID cases. From licensing, a Report is only needed when 3 cases occur at one site.
- COVID 19 Testing Guidance
 - Erica shared CA Public Health released a website with new guidance concerning isolation and quarantine when an exposure or positive case occurs. Also shared CDSS holding webinars: Testing supplies for the Child Care Community . One more at 6 pm today 1/13/21
 - Lara shared info about testing supplies being available around February and will be distributed by Resource and Referral Agencies. Testing supplies are meant for the ECE community, including providers, children and families. Tests should not be done at program sites, but rather at home.
 - Nathan also shared the webinar discussed different scenarios.
- Any Non COVID Related Closures
 - No information
- Regional Market Rate Ceilings -RMR updates that will be effective 1/1/2021.
 - Are sites allowing rate change to those that already submitted a change this fiscal year?
 - 4Cs is still giving 30 days notices
 - Nicole shared in the chat: <https://rcscc.adm.dss.ca.gov/>
- UPK Update
 - Erica shared SCOE has put together a workgroup to meet about TK.
 - Erica shared the announcement of the Early Education Teacher Development Grant that will help ready the workforce to prepare teachers for TK. SCOE does have an interest in applying.
 - Sheryl shared directors are holding a work group to see how this will work.
- Other Announcements
 - Lara gave a summary of the latest budget proposal
 - Early care and education aspect of Build Back Better may still be alive
 - Emphasized the importance of a work group and advocacy to help determine what this will look like.
 - Facility space was brought up. Some preschools are located on school campuses, it is likely the schools will need those spaces.
 - Funding for additional staff in TK classrooms in order to shift to a 1:12 ratio.

- Proposed CSPP shift so that there is an increased adjustment factor for children with disabilities and Dual language learners. Children with IEPs will be eligible for CSPP. CSPP will be able to accept 2 year olds if space is available after 3 and 4 year olds have been enrolled.
 - 5.33% COLA for CSPP. Unclear if this will be extended to other child care programs.
 - Many are advocating for true parent choice which would include community based programs (FCC, private preschool) which are currently not included in “family choice”.
- Next Meeting February 10, 2022. To be held virtually.



CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County EED Contractors Collaborative

Thursday, February 10, 2022

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

Present: Sonya Valiente, Nicole Fassold, Lara Magnusdottir, Sheryl Wesley, Nayeli Zamudio, Julie Swanstrom, Rebecca Hachmyer, Malese Warner, Brulene Zanutto, Wendy Adams, Irma Mendoza, Chaira Bacigalupa, Diana Avila, Teresa Bernabe

Staff Present: Susy Marron, Erica Hurtado, Elizabeth Deprimo

Susy called the meeting to order at 9:07 am

- **Welcome and Introductions:** Introduce yourself using the Chat Box by sharing your name, organization, and one thing you are thankful for.
- **News, Announcements**
 - Sonya: Sonya shared that licensing came to visit her center and that it was great. The analyst suggested Sonoma County health phone numbers be added to the bulletin board for families. She also shared the analyst was looking more into admin records, and everything went well.
 - Julie: Julie shared that the 4Cs will be doing a mass enrollment. She shared that they anticipate calling every family on the eligibility list. Julie asked for contractors to contact 4Cs if they see a child that is pending. The goal is to enroll about 500 children based on funding availability.
 - Lara: Lara asked for contractors to let families know to get in touch with 4Cs to get on the eligibility list.
- **COVID 19 Check-in**
 - Rebecca: Rebecca shared that Old Adobe experienced a big surge and struggled with communication while working within a school district. They pivoted to doing everything possible outdoors and are in the midst of changing policy now that mask mandates are changing. They have moved to making less/ sending less close contact letters.
- **Budget Conversation-What is Missing in the Governor's 22-23 Budget Proposal?**
 - Susy shared the state budget summary from Early Edge. She highlighted the proposed investments.
 - Susy shared she is hearing from the field that eliminating family fees and that hold harmless should continue. These are the two most important in our county.
 - Lara: Lara shared that we need for continuing to focus on the rates and rate increases. ECE coalition budget asks for a 20% increase in the rates and it's important to do a lot of advocacy about that, get elected officials involved as they are thinking that increasing rates is done. The 2018 RMR survey data was used to establish current rates and the 2020 survey has not been helpful with the pandemic going on. It was pointed out that the rates have been regionalized. In rural counties like Sonoma, we see lower rates while neighboring counties like Marin and San Francisco we see higher rates. Maybe we will lose Sonoma staff if our neighbors have higher rates. We have gone from one rate across the state to a regional rate..
 - Lara: Bill fact sheet for UPK, including community-based providers. Lara will email a fact sheet when it is released.
 - Lara: ECPC is asking for funding for workforce development and facilities funding.

- Lara: Cautioned to be on the lookout; the ECE staffer who was focused on early care is now gone, with no plan to fill that position. AND Surgeon General who was focused on Early Education and ACES has resigned as well.
- **Child Care Subsidy Pilot**
 - Susy shared it is now in Ed code for state contractors to use the RMR instead of the SRR to establish pilot rates.
 - Julie: Asked if the pilot may be extended? Susy: confirmed that the pilot goes until 2023 and that pilot counties are exploring if renewal should happen. Fairly certain can't pass a bill to make pilots permanent, but maybe there is a chance the Pilot can be re-authorized. She shared that we are in the midst of a pilot modification window, but that nothing will be submitted. She proposed submitting modifications in June. Modifications will be brought at the next meeting.
 - Lara: if we do not renew, the greatest impact will be losing 24-month eligibility. Lara commented on family fees and how that can be included in pilots considering there would be a fiscal impact. Where that money is going to come from?
 - Susy shared that she is waiting to see what happens with the permanent pilots who are submitting modifications now.
- UPK presented by Brulene Zanutto
 - Shared updated terms and Expanded TK Code that clarifies age eligibility for TK.
 - Grant opportunities for LEAs: planning costs, hiring, staff training, classroom materials
 - LEA Plan due June 30, 2022: Plan will be presented to their Board but it is a work in progress.
 - SCOE: will be establishing a UPK leadership collaborative. Offering technical support to LEAs. The parent guide is now renamed a family guide; the guide shares different options for 4-year-olds. Working on web pages and newsletters (improving communication about UPK throughout the county)
 - Sonya: Meetings with districts? Brulene has been meeting individually.
 - Lara: 4Cs be included as they have the data to look at the entire child care field and how UPK affects the child care field. The LEAs and Office of Ed got funding for this planning, while R and Rs have not received funding to do any of this planning and outreach.
 - Lara: concerned about facility needs as some programs are being dismissed from campuses because the campus needs to make room for TK classrooms.
 - Julie: shared in the chat to ask to be updated about changes and to call on Brulene as a resource.
- Other Announcements
 - None
- Next Meeting March 10, 2022. To be held virtually.



CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County EED/CDSS Contractors Collaborative

Thursday, March 10, 2022

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

Present: Wendy Adams, Diana Avila, Lara Magnusdotir, nicole fassold , jaya Lopez, Melissa Nelson, Julie Swanstrom, Rebecca Hachmyer, Teresa Bernabe, Cindy Clark Pringer, Laura Wasson, Maltese Warner, Soledad Figueroa, Sonya Valiente

Staff Present: Susy Marrón, Erica Hurtado. Elizabeth Deprimo

Susy called the meeting to order at 9:02 am

- **Welcome and Introductions:**
 - Introductions using the Chat Box were made (name, organization, and one thing you are thankful for)
- **News, Announcements**
 - Diana Shared River to Coast Children Services is hiring! Looking for Outreach Coordinator (Bilingual required). The position is Full Time.
 - Nicole shared Evening of Honor is happening in person! April 8th at 5:30 pm, link to invite shared in the chat. Accepting nominations. The link was given in the Chat Box: <https://eoh2022.eventbrite.com/>.
- **Child Care and Development Infrastructure Grant Program**
 - Susy shared a summary of the application. The application is due March 25. Susy will share links after the meeting. A second grant will be released soon for Major repairs. Build up CA has shared many resources. It has been determined that this is an intensive application process with many requirements. It was determined that providers are coming across some barriers, and support is needed. Agencies are working to provide support.
 - Susy shared CCPC and partners will be scheduling a local Q and A next Tuesday, March 15th.
 - Laura shared Extended Child Care(ECC) is interested in applying.
 - Susy requested anyone interested in joining or being part of this grant presentation to email her.
- **New Guidance for Child Care and Providers**
 - Susy shared COVID guidelines updates
 - Lara shared ECC initials thoughts to follow each district but will be following county guidelines.
 - Susy highlighted new rules for Visitors and Isolation for illness.
- **[CSPP Expansion Funds \(MB22-02\)](#)**
 - Susy shared the CSPP exemption funds are available to local education agencies. Good for those who are interested in expanding to provide a full-day program. Good to partner with LEAs or existing community-based organizations operating CSPP programs.
- **SCOE ECE Classrooms at El Colegio School**
 - Susy shared two classrooms will be available for inclusive preschools; SCOE is hoping to partner with anyone interested in opening a program focused on inclusion. Reach out to Susy if interested.
 - Lara shared 4Cs is looking for Cotati as a potential place for a site.

- Susy shared CCPC is updating the Zip Code priorities, and it does look like there is a need for services in the Rohnert Park/Cotati area.
- **Sonoma County Pilot Handbook**
 - Susy shared the current copy of the Pilot Handbook is outdated. Asking this group to identify who is utilizing the handbook.
 - Julie shared 4Cs is using the handbook on an “as needed” basis.
 - Susy shared there is interest in updating the language. Susy suggested forming a workgroup. Susy reported that the handbook has now been shared with the group and invited contractors to add comments to anything that needs revising.
 - Julie asked how practical would the handbook would be with the sunset coming up.
 - Susy shared that CCSESA is interested in proposing legislation.
 - Julie shared the pilot has been impactful in giving families access to child care and housing.
 - Nicole shared it also gives 24 months certification.
 - The group discussed further, and Cindy shared it would be good to at least do updates, start with what is out of date and then decide if group members were not sent an email with commenting rights, email Susy.
 - Please provide comments by March 24th and then revisit in May or June.
 - Susy asked how the group was feeling about moving forward with reauthorization.
 - Lara: hearing that is worth reviewing for those two pieces seeking housing and 24 months for AP.
 - Maleese: it would be nice to have 2-year continuity of care. Tina from the SRJC has worked on the handbook. Maleese will reach out to her to provide comments/updates. Asking for all those in favor of submitting comments and revisiting in April or May: Majority said yes
 - Feel free to reach out to Susy if you do not want this to move forward
- **Other Announcements**
 - Asking monthly is still working; the majority said yes
 - Lara shared a concern about the ECE credential for TK. There are efforts to take this away or change that. To take the ECE requirements away.
 - Susy shared there are valuable focus groups, and a survey is being sent by email.
 - Susy shared concerns about permit credentialing and how teachers with teaching credentials could obtain an ECE permit without 24 ECE units under option 2.
 - Bernadette asked if there is any possibility to recap the first part would be appreciated to connect about the pilot. Susy will reach out.
 - Susy: ECE Coalition recently released recommendations for the budget. Susy shared the proposed draft recommendations. Susy will share by email.
- **Next Meeting April 14, 2022. To be held virtually.**





CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County EED/CDSS Contractors Collaborative

Thursday, April 14, 2022

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

Present: Jynx Lopez, Rebecca Hachmyer, Liliانا Sanchez, Jenny Copeland, Sonya Valiente, Andrea Estupinan, Diana Avila, Irma Mendoza, Malleese Warner, Soledad Figueroa, Lara Magnusdottir, Cindy Clark Springer, Jessica Borland, Bernadette Sproul, Teresa Bernabe, Julie Swanstrom, Milissa Nelson, Paige Newton

Staff Present: Susy Marrón, Erica Hurtado. Elizabeth Deprimo

Susy called the meeting to order at 9:05 am

- **Welcome and Introductions:**
 - Introductions using the Chat Box were made (name, organization, and favorite ice cream)
- **News, Announcements**
 - Susy asked if anyone attended the Evening of Honor event. A few did attend and it was lovely.
 - Susy shared restoration of funding will be restored for Local Planning Councils (LPC). It was lessened by 50% a few years ago. After years of advocacy, funding will be reinstated and ongoing. Effective July 1st.
- **Voluntary Temporary Transfer (VTT)**
 - Susy shared that she hopes emails have been received. She has received a few programs asking for more funds this year due to over earning their contracts. No one was reported under-earning at this time. This was for both CCTR and CSPP. Received inquiries of other counties who have over earned their contracts. We are not able to do the VTT this year. CDE has moved up the deadline without much notice. This has brought frustration as numbers are not well known in April. May would have been better. Malleese agreed that had it been May, we would have better numbers. If your organization is under earning, please contact Susy; she would be willing to take requests and submit by the deadline tomorrow.
- **Common Data File/ April 18-April 22**
 - Susy shared the Common Data File has started. You can anticipate receiving an email to complete the data needed for your Agency/ Site. This is for CSPP programs. For this fiscal year, even though there are no ratings we will do Honorary grant awards. Erica will be contacting the same leads as last year to complete the CDF. It will be done through Hubbe. Rolling this out by tomorrow. And give next week to enter data. Once data is complete, we will be able to issue block grant awards. We are anticipating the amount to be \$8 to \$10 thousand. Please get data in and we begin issuing those checks as soon as possible.
 - Sonya asked is this how we spend the money? Susy and Erica answered this data will be fields that have to do with the site. For reporting we will be asking for information about the spending of the prior year's award. This will be the breakdown to how the money was spent.
- **PPE Distribution (date/time)**
 - Susy shared an email that was distributed about SCOE having an abundance of supplies that can be given to CSSP sites. Pick up will be at the Amorosa school. Asking to those

who would like to pick up what the preferred day or time would be. Possibly a morning pick up and maybe an afternoon pick up. Thinking of the first week of May.

- Bernadette shared afternoons would be best.
- Melissa shared daytime would be better
- Jenny shared they are flexible
- Susy suggested a Friday and early afternoon. Majority of the group are in favor.
- If that exact day does not work, please reach out and we can attempt to arrange pick up at SCOE or delivery if staff will be visiting a site soon.

- **Sonoma County Pilot Handbook**

- Susy shared that there is an opportunity to update the books. Thankful for all the edits and comments made. The Plan for next steps is to share the updates with the group in May and June.
- Bernadette asked about the state of the Pilot. Susy answered that we are going through an evaluation process, but we will be good for another fiscal year. We are set until June 2023

- **Other Announcements**

- Cindy shared she encountered a problem this year when renewing professional liability. Using the same company for years and now they want a much more comprehensive abuse policy for staff. Reaching out to others, to see what is included in other handbooks. They did renew insurance with the caveat that something will be in place by November, but Cindy does not feel qualified to write this policy as her agency doesn't really work directly with children. It seems that the insurance company does not understand how they operate, but the insurance company did share they settled quite a few child abuse cases, so it is inferred maybe that is why they are asking for more of a detailed policy.
- Cindy can report back if this comes up again for other people
- Bernadette shared: Cal chamber may have some training or documents you can use. There is the mandated reporter requirement set for ECC.
- Cindy shared her email in the chat in case anyone has more to share.
- Lara shared a challenge with the budget is the use of the additional revenue that is coming in. It talks of a gas rebate, and depending on how that goes through or ends up, that could take up the lion share of the funding that everyone is fighting for. The Governor wants to give money to everyone and the legislator is saying to wait because not everyone needs a rebate. Meeting with a Senator soon to speak about what the ECE coalition is asking for. Asking for increase in pay rates and continued family fee waivers and infrastructure grants. Asking for more opportunity and letting R and R's be of more help with the infrastructure grant applications. Major repair grant is supposed to come out late Spring.
- Susy shared the Early Educator Teacher Development Grant, the RFA is now available and the due date has been extended.
- Jessica shared she received an email that SCOE was applying and would support, asking HR if the Windsor district should be part of a collaborative. Susy met with Jennie, and learned the allocation for Sonoma is about \$950,000 for Sonoma County. As a county we submitted 14 letters of intent. Not discouraging those who submitted a letter, but have seen more strength in applying as a consortium. This way a network of support can be built. Windsor is interested in being part of a consortium. Districts who applied will be hearing from someone soon.





CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

- Call for agenda items. Please feel free to contact Susy.
- **Next Meeting May 12, 2022. To be held virtually.**



CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County EED/CDSS Contractors Collaborative

Thursday, May 12, 2022

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

Present: Maleese Warner, Jssica Borland, Kristina Sisseck, Sonya Valiente, Wndy Adams, Rebecca Hachmyer, Melissa Nelson, Jynx Lopez

Staff Present: Susy Marrón, Erica Hurtado. Elizabeth Deprimo

Susy called the meeting to order at 9:01 am

- **Welcome and Introductions:**
 - Introductions using the Chat Box were made (name, organization, and favorite ice cream)
 - Proposed time to have another meeting next Thursday for a May revise discussion.
 - Calendar invite for next thursday to see if works and then send a doodle if needed
- **News, Announcements**
 - Susy asked how sites were doing in the wake of COVID surges.
 - Jessica Borland shared a Covid surge being seen among students and staff.
 - Rebecca: deep clean of the preschool and shed.
 - Bernadette shared PPE appreciation. Happy to get supplies and test kits. They are needed!
 - Susy shared that her staff will coordinate a round 2 for PPE distribution.
- **Voluntary Temporary Transfer (VTT) due May 15th**
 - Susy shared that an email was sent in April if programs were under or over earning any contracts. Two contracts said they will over earn, but didn't find anyone under earning so not able to do a match at the time. Seems there is a round two of VTT. If any sites are one of the previous sites that are over earning, please email Susy confirming over earning, and if under, please let know as well. Send a notification by the 12th, and paperwork is due May 15h. For those over earning, Susy can find a match with another county by letting CDE and CDSS know.
- **Common Data File**
 - **Block Awards**
 - Big Thank you to the staff who got this done. The process is complete. Requisitiontons are being submitted and by next or week after at the latest a check will be mailed to Agencies. Award per site will be \$7267.58.
- **PPE Distribution (check in)**
 - Checked in occurred during the Intro time
 - Thankful to all who took part to pick up and help distribute.
 - If opportunity for round two, we will let you know
- **May Revise**
 - Not yet released
 - Susy shared there is still a push to family fee waivers and hold harmless. Also want to see investing in infrastructure and the workforce. The Senate and Assembly have put aside a certain amount for each. Hope both will be seen in the revised version of the budget. Also want to see support for CA Preschools, increase access for low income children, and provide planning funds for long term investments in the Education system. 1

billion dollar request to increase provider reimbursement rates to 90 percentile of RMR. Also looking to see funding restoration.

- **Other Announcements**

- Rebecca shared that as she is new to leading a state preschool with an LEA, and knows there are restrictions on staff wages, but asked since it seems like one time funds are coming how are others spending the money.
 - Kristina shared NBCC tackled multiple ways. \$200 appreciation bonus / pay, paid in June for employees. One time contribution for employees 403B plan. Changed medical provider with some funds. Also, updated the dental plan, but I have to figure out how to sustain that. There was also a signing bonuses for new employees \$200. Also, there was a referral bonus for employees referring children to NBCC sites/programs
 - Rebecca shared she is trying to make a child development stipend for those who complete units or PD. Special note that unions may affect flexibility, but are looking for ways to benefit families and employees.
 - Sonya Valiente shared that her program, which also has an LEA, asked for bonuses for teachers, but must be aware that taxes are taken out.
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- **Next Official Meeting June 9, 2022. To be held virtually.**

- **Another special May Revise for May 19th**
- **Working to invite Lara Magnusdottir**





CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County EED/CDSS Contractors Collaborative

Thursday, June 9, 2022

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

Present: Maleese Warner, Wendy Adams, Jynx Lopez, Lara Magnusdottir, Julie Swanstrom, Soledad Figueroa, Liliana Sanchez, Jaya Lopez,

Staff Present: Susy Marrón, Erica Hurtado. Elizabeth Deprimo

Susy called the meeting to order at 9:01 am

- **Welcome and Introductions:**
 - Introductions were made using the Chat Box (name, organization, and what worked well this week)
- **News, Announcements**
 - None shared
- **Voluntary Temporary Transfer (VTT)**
 - \$123K
 - We were able to transfer funds for contractors projecting to over earn temporarily.
- **Common Data File Complete**
 - Checks will be mailed this week!
 - Please reach out if you do not receive your check.
 - For those with districts, please request a letter from us to make it easier to get the money to you.
- **Guidance for Family Fees**
 - Hold on billing family fee billing for CSPP until July 2022 once the budget is signed or CDE/CDSS provides additional guidance.
- **CSPP Implementation Guidance of Ratings**
 - Susy shared that we will return to rating sites again in the Fall for the CSPP Block Grant.
 - A soft relaunch is being planned. Internally we will be looking at everyone last rated in 2018/19.
 - The plan will be to start rating sites that are due.
 - Ratings will be done in cycles
 - A revised Matrix will be coming
 - We went from rating annually to every five years (for Tiers 4 & 5), but those things have not changed.
 - CLASS: everything will remain the same for the most part..3 pt option will be informal.
 - CLASS will require a reliable observer to receive the most points.
 - For ERS, we are unsure if the assessment has to be completed by a reliable observer. BUT can grandfather most reliable scores.
 - More planning will be done when guidance is released.
- **Pay Scale**
 - Susy: would center programs be willing to share pay scales?
 - Offering share or google form to collect
 - Lara shared a google form would be best.
 - Soledad shared that 4Cs did a project for this for family child care providers.

- A Google Form will be shared.
- Asking for any other points/ or topics to know about
 - Retirement/Is there a Match for 403 B
 - Benefits: are they offered?
 - Permit Levels
-
- A summary of the results will be shared.

Budget

- Lara has shared that the Governor has come out with his proposal, which has everything but a rate increase or includes a hike for head start and the food program. I would have liked it to be kept at Tier 1
- Joint Budget proposal: rate increase but also includes the COLA for those on the RMR. Increase for serving three-year-olds.
- Now negotiating and are expecting will be done today or tomorrow so that it will be available for review before putting into print and due by the 15th
- Details will be figured out afterward. News should be coming soon.
- Workforce development is not in the budget.

Other Announcements

- Jynx shared: She has relinquished her contract for the Stars preschool, and YWCA has been awarded the contract so that they will be serving STARS and a special place. Jynx will be the director to oversee the programs.
- Jynx asked: lower to 2 to serve three year olds.
 - Lara responded: not sure where we stand on that. No management until the budget is finalized.
 - Bill from last year, Lara will look into it.
- Ana asked to confirm family fee guidance from the CDE?For Preschools only?
 - Susy responded. Yes, it is for preschools. I believe it is for all contracts, but that will be researched and confirmed.
 - Julie: CDSS has not issued official guidance but hoping it will be released soon.
 - Lara: Family fees will be waived for all programs.
- Susy shared that CDSS released contract allocations for FY 2022/23.
- Liliana asked if we should wait until the budget is signed to notify parents about family fees.
 - Susy shared: hold off on any fees because they should be waived.
 - Julie shared: that she agreed to programs holding billing as directed. Not telling parents but stating to new parents, "we expect this to be waived but not signed yet." Waiting for state guidance.
- Lara shared a podcast about child care and issues around child care. Includes legislation and experience. "No one is coming to save us." Great for new hires or new to the field as it provides history.
- **Next Meeting August 11, 2022.** To be held virtually. (No July meeting)
 - Agenda items? Email smarron@scoe.org

