



**The Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council**  
**El Consejo de Planeación de Cuidado Infantil del Condado de Santa Cruz**  
**[www.childcareplanning.org](http://www.childcareplanning.org)**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, September 14, 2006, 2:30-4:30 P.M.**

County Office of Education, Board Room  
809-H Bay Avenue, Capitola, CA

**Members Present:** Naomi Brauner, Elizabeth Chavez, Sandy Davie, Larry Drury, Wilma Gold, Elaine Henning, Jim Hopper, Katie LeBaron, Kathy Mello, Ellen Ortiz, Diane Oyler, Tricia Pastor and Nicole Young.

**Excused Absences:** Maria Castro, Julie Edwards, Laura Gallardo, Jean Gardner, Rebecca Garcia, Barbara Griffin, Irene Freiberg, Linda Kishlansky, Marilyn Moore, Michele Mosher, Jody Pemberton, Wesley Van Camp and Ann Wise

**Unexcused Absences:** Leslie Cheung and Claudia Vestal.

**Members of the Public Present:** Vicki Boriack (First 5 SCC) and Gary McNeil (SCC HRA)

**Staff Present:** Hiranya Brewer, Sita Moon, and Carole Mulford

### **I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Wilma Gold called meeting to order at 2:45 p.m. Introductions were made. Wilma welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

### **II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

None

### **III. ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Quorum was not established.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF JUNE AND AUGUST MEETING MINUTES**

Unable to approve minutes as there was not a quorum. Tabled until next meeting.

### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Jim Hopper reported that Veronica Bright, the Family Child Care provider who spoke at the last Planning Council meeting has about her attempt to acquire a use permit from the City of Scotts Valley has decided to move her family child care home back to Capitola. The council will continue with its efforts to help Scotts Valley review and revise their city ordinances pertaining to child care.

### **VI. LETTERS OF SUPPORT**

Katie LeBaron discussed her role with the Safe Kids initiative and changes to the current child passenger law which is waiting for revision and signature. AB 2802 would require children under 8 to use booster seats and ride in the back seat. Katie feels this would improve safety for young children and that, in fact, this is the absolute minimum required to keep child passengers safe. This bill is currently on the governor's desk. Katie requested a quick response from the Council to write a letter or sign a form letter asking the governor to sign this bill. Wilma Gold requested that the council allow the executive committee to go forward with approval/writing of support letter. Members approved this action.

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**VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Wilma Gold introduced the new membership grid and member directory. There have been several resignations and appointments. Rebecca Daniel-Burke of PACE APP resigned, leaving a discretionary seat open. Jim Hopper of the Department of Social Services has been appointed to fill this seat. There are current openings in the Consumer and Community Representative categories.
- Wilma mentioned the idea of holding gatherings for members to network, perhaps at each others sites. Members agreed this would be nice. The Executive Committee will plan something for the near future and keep everyone informed.
- Sandy introduced the timeline and scope of work developed by the Executive Committee for updating the County Master Plan for Child Care. Hiranya outlined the action plan for finalizing and presenting the Master Plan to the community. A new concept of creating segments of the Master plan that would be appropriate for presentation to different agencies in the community, rather than asking agencies to become familiar with the entire plan was considered this year. See the detailed action plan posted to the CCPC website under the Executive Committee Heading.

**VIII. STAFF REPORT**

- a) The October CCPC meeting date has been rescheduled. It will be held on the third Thursday of October rather than the second Thursday: October 19, 2006 from 2:30 to 4:30 in the Technology Center of the COE.
- b) Hiranya will be at the statewide CCPC coordinators' conference from October 11<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. This year the conference will take place at Asilomar Conference Center in Monterey and Hiranya will participate in the planning and hosting of the event. She will also facilitate the Afterschool Services workshop at the conference.
- c) Hiranya reported on the activities of the new Afterschool Programs Consortium. The meeting that was organized to help programs apply for the Prop 49 money was a successful networking opportunity for local programs intending to apply for Prop 49 funds. Tricia Pastor, Wilma Gold and Jim Hopper mentioned a number of the barriers that potential grantees may face when using these funds such as the challenge of blending or co-mingling funding streams.
- d) Hiranya gave an update on the purpose and planning of the AB212 program. This program will provide training modules for CDE funded center staff. The Planning Council will work with director advisors and local facilitators to provide training events for staff, who can then carry out implementation and follow up activities and then apply for stipends. This is a pilot program, which will no doubt change and evolve as the year progresses.
- e) Hiranya announced that the First 5 Commission of Santa Cruz County, in support of their Early Literacy Initiative, voted to approve contract negotiations with the COE Child Development Programs Department to fund an early literacy component of the License Exempt Assistance Program (LEAP), a program operated by the Child Development Resource Center serving Family, Friend and Neighbor child care providers.
- f) Hiranya reported on the September 6<sup>th</sup> Children's Network meeting. The Parents Center reported on their family visiting program: a program providing Professional counseling in a confidential atmosphere for parents and children. The program includes parenting skill classes according to a court approved curriculum and education and counseling for prevention of child abuse and to strengthen families.

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Families with children under 18 are eligible for the program. Appointments are required and there is a waiting list process before getting in for services. Call for further information. Only CPS cases are being seen at the present time. Fees are based on a Sliding Scale, MediCal and Victim Witness funds accepted.

David True of Reclaiming Futures also presented a moving documentary made by the Children of Incarcerated Parents Program. Reclaiming Futures Santa Cruz County is engaged in a national effort to change the way our communities respond to teenagers involved with drugs, alcohol, and crime. The Santa Cruz County Juvenile Probation Department is partnering with the courts, alcohol and drug treatment providers, community organizations, and youth and their families to meet the urgent needs of these young people in our juvenile justice system.

**IX. APPROVE CCPC BUDGET FOR FY 2006-2007**

Unable to approve budget due to lack of quorum.

**X. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a) ECE CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Michele Mosher, who has been contracted to be the coordinator of the conference in past years, is willing to continue working as a mentor to the new (soon to be hired) coordinator. The planning council is trying to reestablish a connection with CCAEYC and increase their participation with the conference as well as the Early Childhood Education community of Santa Cruz County in general.

**b) SUBSIDIZED PROGRAMS CONSORTIUM**

The first meeting of the year was very productive. Ellen gave an update on the Centralized Eligibility List. Goals were condensed and finalized and can be viewed on the CCPC website under the Subsidized Programs Consortium heading.

**c) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The committee is planning a second collaborative meeting of Professional Development advisors on October 6th. A matrix of professional development agencies that provide advising services in the County of Santa Cruz is being created and will be finalized and distributed after the upcoming October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. The group is working to create a county wide professional development plan so that all advising agencies can be aware of (and possibly coordinate with) the different agencies and aspects of professional development in the ECE field to consider when advising an individual on their professional development goals.

**XI. CENTRALIZED ELIGIBILITY LIST (CEL) PRESENTATION**

Elaine Henning and Ellen Ortiz of the Voucher Project presented on the status and functions of the CEL. Ellen Ortiz presented on the progress made to date in setting up and refining the CEL. As mandated, the Centralized Eligibility List was opened as a web-based program right on the deadline date of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Subsidized programs can now draw from the same eligibility list and refer families to a central list to wait or look for available, subsidized child care options (based on income eligibility). Currently the Voucher Project has been entering most of the data into the CEL, but other agencies will soon be learning how to use the CEL and enter information correctly.

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**XII. CEL PRESENTATION CONTINUED**

Hiranya noted that while there have certainly been some challenges in getting the CEL up and running, it is a very impressive accomplishment for our county. She thanked Elaine and Ellen for their countless hours and efforts on this project.

**XIII. DEVELOPER FEE LOAN PROGRAM**

Wilma Gold introduced Gary McNeil, the current program manager for the Child Care Developer Fee Loan Program. Gary gave a Power Point presentation highlighting the history of the Child Care Developer Fee Loan Program and the guidelines and priorities of the program. Santa Cruz County has an ordinance that charges a special fee on residential and non-residential development that may impact child care in our county. These fees are saved in a fund that awards forgivable loans to applicants who own child care homes or centers so that child care spaces can be maintained or expanded in our county. Application packets will be available in early October and applications will be due November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006. There is usually a total fund of approximately \$100,000 per year available for grants.

**XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Katie LeBaron distributed flyers on car seat safety inspection events and services in the community. These flyers can be copied and distributed. The goal is to reach as many families as possible.
- Carole Mulford announced a workshop sponsored by Hand in Hand on Tantrums. The cost to participate is \$60 but there is some scholarship money available. Wilma suggested they may be willing to use the scholarship money to reduce the overall cost to all participants. Carole will contact them and suggest postponing the workshop and doing more marketing.
- GoKids does a fundraiser every year. October 7 they will host “Music Under the Stars”, which will raise money to provide a scholarship fund for children who could not otherwise continue to attend.
- Naomi Brauner shared the 2005 Annual Report from Community Bridges and mentioned the programs that are included in that agency.
- Jim Hopper mentioned that there are many policy decisions potentially affecting child care to be aware of right now. He was invited to join the Policy Committee, which will give an policy update at a future CCPC meeting.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, *October 19 (third Thursday)*, 2:30-4:30 @ the COE Board Room**