



The Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council

El Consejo de Planeación de Cuidado
Infantil del Condado de Santa Cruz
www.childcareplanning.org

Comprehensive Quality Care Committee Meeting

February 7, 3:00 to 5:00
COE, Ed Services Conference Room

Committee Members Present: Linda Kishlansky, Diane Oyler, Katie LeBaron, Christina Banuelos, Consuelo Espinosa, Elizabeth Chavez.

Minutes

I. Choose a Committee Chair

Linda Kishlansky was voted in Chair of the committee and will serve in this capacity through June, 2006.

II. Child Passenger Safety Update- Diane reported on behalf of Katie LeBaron.

- Car seat safety checkup event in Watsonville on Feb 10 - appointments full
- Car seat safety event in Capitola on Feb 18 - still have appointments open!
- We're in the middle of conducting the 40-hr CPS technician certification course - there are 8 trainees working in Santa Cruz Co agencies, including 2 in Watsonville, our greatest gap area
- CPS Week is next week - several CSS events going on, as well as education sessions with parent groups and WIC staff

III. SB640 Update: details of program plan and funding parameters.

SB640 plan submitted January 20th. Diane gave update on components of plan. Input was gathered from committee members at January meeting and wherever possible, was included in plan. SB 640 provides funding to increase the capacity of state-subsidized and nonstate-subsidized child care providers to serve children with disabilities. Following is an outline of the activities to be undertaken through this project:

Activities:

Activity 1 - Provide enhanced child care referrals to parents seeking child care for their children either with disabilities, or at high risk of being identified as having a disability, and parent support as necessary.

- Convene a training for our Child Development Center Resource and Referral, child care switchboard staff, on how to provide enhanced referrals and the community resources available to parents seeking child care for their children with disabilities or, those who maybe considered high risk of being identified as having a disability.
- Santa Cruz County Office of Education's Special Education Department Coordinator will convene a training for the Child Development Resource Center, Child Care Switchboard staff on the delivery systems and services available from Santa Cruz County School Districts and County Office of Education Special Education Department. The training will provide the means

for child care switchboard staff to refer parents to the appropriate school districts and to those who provide child care in their perspective areas, and refer families to support services in Santa Cruz County.

Activity 2 - Provide or contract for various purposes that may include, but are not limited to, providing training and technical assistance to child care and development providers to increase their capacity to care for children either with disabilities, or at high risk of being identified as having a disability. State the anticipated training topics that may be offered.

- Convene a Santa Cruz County Leadership Team to attend “All Of Us Together” state conference. Leadership team members will increase their understanding of the existing delivery system and services for children with disabilities and other special needs.
- The Leadership Team will develop an action plan and training plan to improve collaboration, understanding of delivery systems and services to better serve the needs of child care providers in Santa Cruz County.
- Create a Quality Child Care committee with the Local Child Care Planning Council that would support the Leadership Team and Inclusion Plan to continue to focus on expanding and improving delivery systems and services to children with disabilities or at high risk of being identified as having a disability.
- The “All Of Us Together” leadership team will develop a needs assessment, and partnership with child care related agencies and Santa Cruz County Office of Education Special Education Department to develop training that will increase child care providers capacity to care for children with disabilities or at high risk of being identified as having a disability.
- Develop a mini conference for child care providers to increase their ability to care for children with disabilities or those who are at high risk of being identified as having a disability. Some trainings that may be offered:
 - The Importance of Partnering with Parents of Children with Disabilities
 - Developmental Red Flags
 - Appreciating Children with Challenging Behaviors
 - Accessing Services for Families of Children with Special Needs
 - Review of Path To Inclusion Resource Binder

Activity 3 - Conduct awareness and outreach to child care and development providers to increase their knowledge and understanding of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to accommodate children either with disabilities, or at high risk of being identified as having a disability, and to increase their awareness of available support services to assist them in meeting the needs of all children.

- Update our (CDRC) Path To Inclusion Resource Binder. The Path To Inclusion Resource Binder was developed in 2002 with funding from SB1703 and First 5. We will distribute the updated version to all State-Subsidized and Non-state Subsidized child care providers.

- Partner with The Child Care Law Center to convene a training on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to accommodate children with disabilities in their child care programs, and to increase their knowledge of available support services to assist them in meeting the needs of all children.
- Distribute outreach materials from the Child Care Law Center on Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) on how to accommodate children with disabilities or at high risk of being identified as having a disability.
- Purchase and distribute Special Parents Information Network (SPIN) Resource Guide to all State-Subsidized and Non-State Subsidized child care providers in Santa Cruz County. This resource guide offers local, state resources and organizational charts on the special education delivery system in Santa Cruz County.

Activity 4 - Conduct awareness and outreach to parents of children either with disabilities, or at high risk of being identified as having a disability, to increase their understanding of their rights to accessible child care and to increase their awareness of available services, provided that the activities contracted for further the purposes of the new law.

- The Child Development Resource Center (CDRC) will collaborate with Special Parents Information Network (SPIN) to increase parent awareness of child care providers listed on the Child Care Switchboard who have received training on how to support and include children with special needs in their programs.
- In collaboration with Special Parents Information Network (SPIN) we will develop a brochure on “Parents Rights and Resources”. This brochure will offer parents vital information on their basic rights to support services for their children who may be at risk of having a disability or may have a disability. There will also be a list of county and state resources available to families who have children with special needs.
- Offer similar trainings presented by Special Parents Information Network in South Santa Cruz area to the entire county at Santa Cruz County Office of Education. This will allow parents across the county to receive like training as those received in the southern portion of Santa Cruz County. Topics may include:
 - Birth to Age 5: Stages of Development What’s Typical and When to be Concerned
 - Appreciating Children with Challenging Behaviors
 - Speech Delay in Young Children

See Diane for details on Child Care Law Center’s upcoming training announcement.

IV. Special Needs Warm Line outreach strategies.

Diane expressed concern over the effectiveness of the Warm Line. She believes providers are less likely to utilize the Warm line than was originally assumed. Linda suggested that perhaps we could discuss other ways to support providers with technical assistance rather than the warm line. The concern was raised that the delay factor in getting back to providers discourages their use. Linda expressed the idea that providers really want on-site technical assistance. She cited Fresno's project in which they follow-up on phone calls with on-site visits. Linda will continue to provide support to anyone who calls. Bookmarks with the Warm Line phone number will continue to be included in all outreach materials through SB640 project activities. No new outreach strategies will be pursued at this time.

V. First 5 RFP

Members discussed the possibility of applying for a First 5 community grant to match SB640 funding for training for parents of children with special needs. Members discussed whether the COE or SPIN would be better suited to apply for such a grant. COE staff will further discuss this option and will report back at our next meeting.

VI. Update of CCIP and PITC programs

CCIP Update

Diane reported on the enrollment in the CCIP program. More people have called than expected. Eight are Spanish speakers, 7 bilingual and 10 English speakers. Each of these providers is located in areas of high need for child care.

PITC Update

Consuelo Espinoza announced the following: The Program for Infant Toddler Care, Partners for Quality special needs partner, Beginning Together, "Caring for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and Special Needs in Inclusive Settings" will be having a Beginning Together Graduate Conference May 9-11 in Scotts Valley. This conference is for only fully certified PITC graduates (all four modules) and those who have attended the Beginning Together training.

Linda and Diane discussed the possibility of requesting the presenter to offer an additional training on one of the evenings adjacent to this training.

PITC staff just returned from a 3-day technical assistance training with Beginning Together. Fortunate to have two exempt trainers and three early intervention partners attend. They will provide technical assistance to providers in field. Training dates to be determined in March. This group plans to meet quarterly to further the goals of this partnership which developed out of the first Beginning Together conference.

VII. Determine items for Next Agenda

- Development of parent rights pamphlet