



# 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)

Thursday August 11, 2005, 2:30-4:30 P.M.  
Santa Cruz County Office of Education, Tech Center  
809-H Bay Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010

## MEETING MINUTES

**Members Present:** Christina Banuelos, Maria Castro, Elizabeth Chavez, Sandy Davie, Larry Drury, Pam Elders, , David Foster, Irene Freiberg, Wilma Gold, Carmen Kubas, Elizabeth Lopez, Guadalupe Mendoza, Diane Oyler, Claudia Vestal, Cynthia Wells and Ann Wise.

**Members Absent:** Katie LeBaron, Ellen Ortiz, Marilyn Moore, Linda Kishlansky, Ed Nadolski, Laura Gallardo, Julie Edwards, Elaine Henning, Tricia Pastor

**Staff Present:** Hiranya Brewer, Ceylida Lopez and Sita Moon.

**Staff Absent:** Carole Mulford, Cathy Potts-Sales

**Members of the Public Present:** Kathy Lathrop (standing in for Laura Gallardo), Rebecca Daniel-Burke from PACEAPP, Consuelo Espinosa with WEST-ED, Robert Lungaro in for Carole Clark of Migrant Head Start.

### I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Wilma Gold called the meeting to order at 2:39 p.m. All present introduced themselves by describing their role in the community, their work and their relationship to the Council.

### II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

### III. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Quorum was established.

### IV. APPROVAL OF JUNE RETREAT MINUTES

Council voted to approve June Retreat Minutes with one correction: Katie LeBaron is a member of the Quality Comprehensive Care committee.

*Larry Drury moved*

*Lupe Mendoza seconded*

*Motion passed unanimously*

### V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

- David Foster gave a brief explanation about what is happening with the evaluation of the Program Developer Fee Loan Program. Their use was postponed last year so now there are two years of fees to use. Developer fees are monies gained from fees charged to new

## **Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council Meeting Minutes, August 11, 2005**

development projects in the residential areas of unincorporated Santa Cruz County. These fees account for approx. \$100,000 per year which is added to the general fund and used to help fund capacity building projects for licensed child care in SC County. There is talk of using it for exempt care such as after school programs as well, which would make these programs compete for this small pool of dollars. The LPC Policy and Local Planning committee requested that the workgroup convened to review the Developer Fee Loan Program allow our committee to review their recommendations prior to submitting them to the Human Services Commission. However, this request was denied.

- Ann Wise shared that she had a successful meeting with Diane Siri to discuss the role of the Child Care Planning Council, how members would like to be of assistance to her, and ways the council could be helpful when she has decisions to make regarding childcare in Santa Cruz County.
- Wilma Gold welcomed our newest Planning Council member, Cynthia Wells who is the new director for Santa Cruz County Head Start.
- Hiranya announced that Carole Mulford is the Chair for the CalSAFE project, which will be conducting its annual review next month. Hiranya will be attending these meetings and members were invited to participate as well. Those interested should contact Carole Mulford at 479-5336.

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

Wilma reminded all present that letters of support must be submitted approximately 2 weeks before regular council meetings so that they can be reviewed by the Executive Committee before the Planning Council meeting.

Sandy Davie requested a letter of support for Measure X, which is being voted on in a special election with a mail in ballot that must be mailed by the end of August. It addresses the issue of a Franchise Tax levied on utilities for residents of the City of Santa Cruz. This money has been an important source of revenue for the general fund and has a direct impact on the local dollars available to child care programs. Sandy suggested that this letter would be sent out via the Planning Council's mailing list, to encourage people to vote for this measure, including a fact sheet and things one can do to be an advocate.

*Larry Drury moved to support the letter with a caveat to review the wording of the letter.*

*Ann Wise seconded.*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council  
Meeting Minutes, August 11, 2005**

Hiranya presented the Council with a draft letter regarding AB1246, which would enact the new Preschool Learning Standards. The letter addressed the fact that Social/Emotional development and Physical Development were left out of the learning standards that this proposed to enact. It is requested that this letter be sent to Assembly member Wolk signed by the Planning Council chair. Discussion included rewording certain language to be less inflammatory.

*Pam Elders moved to support the letter with the described changes*

*Diane Oyler seconded*

*Motion passed unanimously*

**VII. STAFF REPORT**

- Hiranya Brewer announced that the Legislative Forum will take place on Sept. 30, 2005. Registration is now available online at [gokids.org](http://gokids.org)
- Hiranya put together a matrix of committee members using names from committees formed during the June retreat. It was passed around for corrections/additions. Dates for committees were discussed. It is hoped that all committees will be able to meet before the Executive Committee meets on the last Friday of each month.
- Hiranya will be unable to attend the November Planning Council meeting as scheduled. The Council decided to hold the meeting at the usual time and Hiranya will prepare the Executive Committee with all pertinent materials.
- Hiranya requested a quick evaluation of the June retreat in terms of location and date. Council members agreed that the location and facility were great, that the date (end of June) seems fine. Hiranya suggested June 30, 2006 as a possible date for the next retreat (this would allow all committees to have their June meeting before the retreat).

**VIII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Wilma Gold described the proposed new structure of the monthly LPC agenda. Due to the fact that committee reports tend to get cut short because they are placed at the end of the agenda, we will try moving them to a time before the guest speaker with only 3 committees giving full reports at each meeting. Committees should submit a brief written report to Hiranya ahead of time so the Executive Committee can review the information and decide which committees would report at the Council meeting. In addition to the three full committee reports, there will be an opportunity for committees to make announcements at each meeting.

At the retreat it was decided that instead of having a membership committee, the Executive committee would handle the membership duties. The Executive Committee has since met to discuss potential new members. Proposed members that were discussed include: Beatrice Novelo

**Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council  
Meeting Minutes, August 11, 2005**

(South County Family Child Care Association President), Pola Espinosa (PVUSD Migrant Education), Jennifer Sherry (Director of Loving and Learning Child Care Center), Erika Forbes (Child Development Incorporated) and Susun Gallery (Family Child Care Provider). Currently the openings are limited and placements will be made according to the interest of these potential recruits and whether or not they fit into the Categories with current openings.

**IX. COMMITTEE ORAL REPORTS**

**Preschool For All Taskforce**

Hiranya reported that at the October Planning Council meeting we will host a panel of speakers from various Bay Area Counties to discuss Preschool For All planning efforts and developing programs in their counties. County Superintendent Diane Siri and First 5 Executive Director Susan True are planning to attend. The intended result is to launch a larger, tri-agency taskforce including the Planning Council, First 5 and the COE. Members of the committee also intend to extend a special invitation all District Superintendents and the County Board of Supervisors. Details on the event to follow.

**Needs Assessment**

The committee is working to complete the final draft by the end of August and plans to bring the final draft to the Council for review at its next meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**CARES Oversight**

- Ceylida reported on the CARES Health and Safety Program. Cohort 3 participants have completed their trainings and home visits. Cohort 4 has just completed its orientation. Outreach is being done for the next Cohort by contacting local low-income housing developments as well as Cabrillo College and Family Resource Centers.
- Sita reported on the CARES Main track Program. 325 applications were received by the August 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. A preliminary review of all applications has been completed and applicants have been contacted regarding additional documentation and information needed.
- Hiranya reported on the First 5 California RFF and the future of the CARES program. She explained the impact of the changes that would occur with the new program guidelines as well as the plan for a period of preparation time before Round 5 begins (if the program is funded). Hiranya and Carole also submitted a federal Early Learning Opportunities Act grant proposal in part to fund augmentation of the CARES Program.

**X. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Policy and Local Planning -- meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 3:30 to 5:00pm
- Subsidized Programs and Resources Consortium will meet on the first Wednesday of September (7<sup>th</sup>) and will discuss possibly changing the regular meeting time to the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.
- Inclusion/Special Needs has not met yet. A regular meeting time to be determined. Consuelo Espinosa mentioned that two very successful courses on Special Needs were given at Cabrillo during the summer and utilized the Path to Inclusion Binder.
- The Workforce Development Committee has not met yet.

**Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council  
Meeting Minutes, August 11, 2005**

- The Comprehensive Quality Care committee has not met yet. Carmen Kubas discussed the Wellness Mandate that will apply to subsidized programs. She will prepare a report to the Council as she gathers more information on the initiative.

**XI. CENTRALIZED SERVICES REPORT**

Sandy Davie reported on current efforts and activities of the Centralized Services project. The group is still trying to set up a system for group purchasing of supplies, redirecting the spending to local businesses in Santa Cruz County rather than Costco and Staples.

**XII. CENTRALIZED ELIGIBILITY LIST (CEL) DISCUSSION**

Hiranya presented the latest information on CEL funding. Elaine, Diane, Carole and Hiranya met to discuss a possible collaboration between the Voucher Project and Child Development Resource Center. Diane and Elaine plan to visit other counties that have implemented a successful CEL to get ideas and suggestions for implementation in Santa Cruz County. Although funding will most likely be low, software that has been developed and used by other counties will soon be made available at no cost, which would greatly reduce our start up costs. Hiranya suggested that the Planning Council could create an advisory committee to the CEL project.

**XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Kathy Lathrop announced that the First 5 sponsored Literacy Development series offered through Cabrillo College will be offered again this year in the Spring and the Fall semesters. College credit is available for these classes.
- Diane Oyler announced that there has been a telephone scam happening across the state targeting family child care providers. The callers state that they are from a CDRC or Childcare Switchboard and ask for credit card numbers to pay for being listed in a directory. She has been receiving calls from concerned providers. Anyone receiving such a call should contact Diane Oyler at the Child Development Resource Center at 479-5284.
- Consuelo announced that participants taking PITC trainings can earn college units through Pacific Oaks College.
- Hiranya announced dates for several upcoming meetings on PFA and child care Policy: August 25<sup>th</sup>- PFA Facilities and Financing Workshop in San Francisco, August 31<sup>st</sup>- Preschool Day in Sacramento and October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>- CDPI Public Policy Forum in Sacramento. Contact Hiranya for more information at: 477-5521.

**Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council  
Meeting Minutes, August 11, 2005**

- David Foster announced that Child Care Ventures has been working for a long time to put together a guide book including all child care ordinances for all the jurisdictions in the county, with charts and recommendations for navigating this system. The book is now available. Contact David Foster for a copy at 460-2338.

XIV. **ADJOURNMENT-** Meeting was adjourned at 4:30

Next Meeting Date: September 8, 2005. *Location Ocean Pacific Room of the COE.*