



The Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council
El Consejo de Planeación de Cuidado Infantil del Condado de Santa Cruz
www.childcareplanning.org

MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, August 9, 2007, 2:30-4:30 P.M.
County Office of Education Board Room
809-H Bay Ave, Capitola CA

Members Present: Naomi Brauner, Maria Castro, Elizabeth Chavez, Sandy Davie, Larry Drury, Irene Freiberg, Jean Gallager-Heil, Barbara Griffin, Elaine Henning, Jim Hopper, Linda Kishlansky, Alma Martinez, Kathy Mello, Michele Mosher, Rob Mullen, Ellen Murtha, Ellen Ortiz, Jody Pemberton, Diane Oyler, Tricia Pastor Cross, Wesley Van Camp, Claudia Vestal, Ann Wise and

Excused Absences: Wilma Gold, Katie LeBaron, Marilyn Moore, Nicole Young

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

Guests Speakers Present: Vicki Boriack, Jeanne O'Grady, Ofelia Garcia, Jennifer Robinson,

Members of the Public Present: Barbara Best, Lisa Dilles, Christine Furlanic, Jane Heisey

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-Chair Sandy Davie called meeting to order at 2:36 pm. All present were welcomed and introduced themselves.

II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Changes were made in the order of the agenda. The presentation on ELF was moved to an earlier time slot. Committee action planning time was reduced.

III. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Quorum was established.

IV. APPROVAL OF JUNE MEETING MINUTES

- Naomi requested that results of Executive Committee be included in the June minutes.
- Linda Kishlansky asked that Special Needs be added to the CCPC Other Projects list.
- Larry Drury moved to approve the minutes for the June, 2007 Annual Retreat.
- Ellen Murtha seconded. Wesley Van Camp abstained. Motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Tricia Pastor Cross shared that Kelly Sherlock of the Child Development Division asked her to announce a new RFA that will be released by the state in the near future for all contract types.
- Carole Mulford mentioned the Sentinel's recent article on the lack of a State budget.
- Ellen Ortiz announced that representatives of CDD programs have received information about linking to the Centralized Eligibility List. The deadline has been extended for another week.

VI. LETTERS OF SUPPORT

No letters of support were requested.

VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

- This year, the CCPC will be holding regular meetings at different locations around the county. Members were invited to offer their sites for meetings and were reminded to look at the agenda for each meeting so they can be aware of the location for each

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month. Sandy Davie also explained the changes in the times of certain meetings, informing members that several of the meetings will end at 4:00 so that the Executive Committee can meet with all the committee chairs between 4:00 and 5:00 pm.

- Sandy announced the next CCPC member social gathering at Michael's on Main scheduled for Friday, August 24th from 4:00-6:00pm. It's a great opportunity for Council members to get to know each other and network with one another.

VIII. STAFF REPORT

Hiranya presented the 2007-2008 Planning Council committee members and goals that were decided at the annual retreat in June. She also highlighted other projects of the Council including the new AB212 program plans and various other countywide planning efforts which staff represents the Council in. The PowerPoint presentation can be viewed on the CCPC website's agendas and minutes page.

IX. PRESENTATION: First 5 Santa Cruz County's Early Literacy Foundations

Project First 5 Santa Cruz County's Program Officer Vicki Boriack and School Readiness Director Alma Martinez, along with ELF Project Partner Agency Representatives Ofelia Garcia (Cabrillo College), Jeannie O'Grady (Santa Cruz Public Libraries), Jennifer Robinson (Raising a Reader) and Diane Oyler (County Office of Education) presented on recent efforts of the ELF project.

First 5 Santa Cruz County:

Vicki Boriack explained the reasoning behind the different countywide initiatives supported by First 5. The ELF Initiative, Early Literacy Foundations, is designed to ensure that children in our community receive sufficient exposure to intentional early literacy activities such as language and vocabulary development, book reading, etc. Research shows that focusing on early literacy development supports success in school as well as increasing success later in life. The ELF Initiative is receiving a state match in funding from First 5 California's CARES program, and must therefore operate according to the CARES program guidelines. The SEEDS of Early Literacy program, a curriculum developed in Minnesota, was used to train the coaches for the ELF program and the SEEDS class was then offered to 50 students at Cabrillo College. This program is funded for 3 years, through the end of 2008, and will. Each participant will create a Professional Development Plan as part of the requirements of the program, as well as using the ELLCO, an environmental rating scale that focuses on literacy, to evaluate their programs. Each student will work with a coach who will visit their sites and mentor them as they learn to incorporate SEEDS of Early Literacy into their daily programs. Vicki's PowerPoint presentation can be viewed at the CPCC website Agendas and Minutes page.

Cabrillo College:

The SEEDS class which was offered at Cabrillo, was developed by Kate Horst from Minnesota. Kate visited Santa Cruz to provide many hours of training for coaches as well as Cabrillo instructor, Luz Marina Cardona, who teaches the class. Alma Martinez shared some key points of the SEEDS curriculum and philosophy. Ofelia Garcia talked more about the students' experiences and the role of the coaches during the first SEEDS course. She described the method for getting courses considered as "permanent" at Cabrillo and said that now the SEEDS class was approved and will have degree applicable status. The Child Care Planning Council developed the Professional Development Tool Kit in collaboration with community members, and the tool kit was

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used extensively with the ELF Project participants. There are plans for offering the SEEDS class with a special emphasis for teachers of infants and toddlers in the Spring. Alma Martinez will be hosting the continuing education aspect of the SEEDS class for coaches and students who want to continue networking and attending the literacy labs. Students who have completed PLLF (Preschool Language and Literacy Foundations) classes at Cabrillo may also attend.

Santa Cruz Public Libraries:

Jeanne O'Grady talked about the programs offered by the public library and the techniques used in story times and parent groups. The First 5 funded program "Family Place" called Together at the Library is for families with children birth to three years of age and offers opportunities for the parents to gather at the library with other parents and children. Here they can meet and speak with experts in the community on topics of interest to parents. Each series runs for five weeks and parents have been very pleased with the program. They felt a void when the sessions ended so they have been forming groups on their own and inviting the librarians to come for reunion meetings. View a slideshow of photos depicting the program at: www.flickr.com/photos/librarywildrumpus

Raising a Reader:

Jennifer Robinson reported on the process used for preschools and family child care programs to participate in this program. Through Raising a Reader, books are circulated in book bags that the teachers or providers organize and "check out" to the families in their programs on a weekly basis. The rotation system makes over 1,000 different books available to the families to read with their children during the school year. The new Infant/Toddler bags have board books and materials appropriate for the very young. As children get older they are encouraged to get their own library cards and continue the concept of the book exchange. Jennifer described the benefits of reading and "book cuddling" and explained how this program helps children be more school ready. Currently this program has only been available in Watsonville, but after students complete the SEEDS classes their programs can also become eligible to participate in the Raising a Reader program.

County Office of Education:

Diane Oyler described the Growing, Learning and Caring Project, a program funded through the Child Development Division of CDE and developed by the California Resource and Referral Network. The Santa Cruz County Child Development Resource Center, housed at the County Office of Education, was able to partner with First 5 Santa Cruz County to expand this program and provide trainings for Family, Friend and Neighbor providers through the ELF Initiative. GLC provides workshops and resources for license-exempt child care providers on such topics as "The Role of the Caring Provider," "Health and Safety", "Positive Guidance and Discipline", "Playing is Learning" and "Family Literacy." Participants received useful incentives and numerous resources. Each GLC training sponsored by First 5 included enhanced literacy training and special literacy incentives as well. The California Resource and Referral Network was very impressed with Santa Cruz County's program and the participants loved it.

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X. COMMITTEE ACTION PLANNING

Hiranya used the time remaining to review the next meeting times and locations of all the committees and encouraged those members who had not had a chance to join a committee yet to do so at this time.

Next meetings

Afterschool Programs Consortium: Tuesday, September 18, 10:00am-12:00pm at COE

ECE Conference Planning Committee: Thursday, September 27, 3:00-5:00 pm at COE

Executive/Membership Committee: Friday, August 24, 9:00-10:30am at COE

Master Plan Committee: Tuesday, August 21, 3:00-5:00pm at COE

Policy and Local Planning Committee: Tuesday, September 25, 2:30-4:30pm at COE

Subsidized Programs Consortium: Wednesday, September 5, 9:00-11:00am at COE

XI. PATH TO INCLUSION COLLABORATIVE

PTIC Chair Linda Kishlansky reported on the recent efforts of the Path to Inclusion Collaborative. She mentioned that at their last meeting Janice Battaglia from Santa Clara County's Special Needs consortium was a guest speaker and had much to share. The committee has not met during the summer, but will meet again on August 29th.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Hiranya will be attending two conferences in October and invited others to consider attending them:
 - the Child Development Policy Institute's Fall Public Policy Forum on October 2nd and 3rd in Sacramento (visit www.cdpi.net for more info) and
 - the California Child Development Administrators Association conference on October 4th and 5th in Sacramento (visit www.ccdaa.org)
- Tricia announced that her afterschool program is in desperate need of new staff, mainly assistant positions, due to receiving new ASES funding. Please announce these job openings.
- Larry announced that September 28 is the date for the Seven County Legislative Forum. It will be from 8:30 to 11:30am at the Milpitas Community Center. Hiranya will email the save-the-date flyer out and will post it to the CCPC website.
- Larry also announced the GoKids fundraiser for the scholarship fund which helps families who are no longer eligible for subsidized child care through their program. The event is October 6th. They'll have a band, silent auction and a raffle. The raffle prize is \$1000 in cash. Visit www.gokids.org for more information.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 20, 2007, 2:30-4:30 (note alternate date)
Location TBD