



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

**Subsidized Programs Consortium Agenda**  
**September 5, 2007, 9:00-11:00 AM**  
**County Office of Education Ocean/Pacific Room**

**Consortium Chairs:** Diane Oyler (Child Development Resource Center Coordinator) and Ellen Ortiz (Child Care Consultant)

**Members in Attendance:** Sandy Pavia (Head Start Family Literacy), Tricia Pastor-Cross, Lisa Dilles and Ellyn Diskin (Live Oak School District), Larry Drury, Cyndi Torres-Rica and Karen Hamman (Go Kids) Marilyn Moore (Community Bridges), Elaine Henning (Voucher Project), Barbara Griffin (Campus Kid Connection) and Wesley Van Camp (Parent).

**Staff in Attendance:** Diane Oyler (standing in for Hiranya Brewer) and Sita Moon.

**I. Welcome and Introductions. Additions to Agenda**

Chair Ellen Ortiz called the meeting to order at 9:00am. All present were welcomed and introduced themselves. No additions to the agenda were made.

**II. CEL Update**

Ellen shared announcements on CEL: brochures are coming, they are at the printers. Survey results: By and large most respondents were satisfied with the CEL. They felt they had access, positive comments for the staff, Elaine, Tina from Voucher Project. Opinions were freely expressed and felt they were being heard. There is an understanding of state constraints. There was confusion on logging in to check information. Some haven't used the CEL for all of their enrollments this past year. There was some confusion about documentation on the self reporting to the state. Understating that is it an under funded mandate. Many liked email as a form of communication. Many needed brochures, training was requested by many and tutorials. There needs to be a stronger link between those using the CEL. Everyone except Cabrillo and UCSC are mandated to use the CEL just a reminder. Ellen thanked all for submitting the survey, if anyone has any further comments call her.

**Elaine has a few concerns about enrollment** some agencies are experiencing a large number of phone calls, please check the families enrolled in your program and compare them to the CEL and un-enroll them from the CEL.

Not all agencies are not enrolling by rank, a few agencies are going above rank. You need to enroll according to rank. This is not the purpose of CEL. Sibling enrollment does have a higher priority.

Work with partners when you are enrolling to make sure there isn't too much competition which may make things easier. Too many phone calls from parents and provider's. It is confusing for parents who don't know who is calling them to enroll where?

Signing In – Voucher Project will soon be evaluated they need every agency sign – in on the CEL. If you don't know how call Voucher Project to sign in. This is one way to document that you have participated in the CEL.

### **III. Developer Fee Loan Program Update**

Ellen announced the mandatory workshops and passed out fliers to group. Cindy Torres Rica requested flier via email. Diane will send to her.

Priority for loans age groups is pockets of poverty, infants, afterschool programs, and leveraging other monies.

### **IV. AB212 Program Update**

STARS Sita presented overview of STARS to group. Will trainings have to be local? May be possible for teachers to take trainings out of county.

### **IV. CDD Update/Mini-training**

Don't have on for this meeting, we would like to get ideas from the group. One thought could be a follow up to Steev S. training. Ellen asked group if they had ideas on future trainings. No response. Eligibility requirement review was one idea. Larry budget question policy procedures from CDPI. Fraud prevention and enrollment procedures, forms that show your compliance with the state. This was voted number one priority. Call Larry for more information.

### **V. Public Policy Update**

Ellen referred to attachment on the LPC web site for public policy update. Jim Hopper use to be our analyst ombudsmen.

### **VI. Discussion: Late Budget - Fiscal Lessons Learned**

Ellen shared that they have learned form the late budget, to call your colleagues if you are in trouble call the agencies who release checks to you – Voucher Project and possibly, CalWORKS. Voucher knew that many needed a live of credit to make it through the time of no budget.

Carole asked about the interest short term loan. The agency, Voucher Project will pay the interest back to financial agencies.

Elaine shared that information was given out that they had a pay out payment. She was told that they get your payment she went higher and did receive the close out payment in two weeks. This kind of information that you need to continue to go higher in the chain to get results and payments. This was something new that she learned through this process.

Ellen asked if everyone received their checks – everyone did.

### **VII. Discussion: Open Subsidized Child Care Slots - Strategies to Fill Them**

Ellen explained why we had this item on the agenda. She explained that each subsidized slot is important to our county, and we don't want to send any money back to the state. This is the time to share status of state funded contracts. This time is a safe room to get help from your peers.

- How is your enrollment? Is everyone feeling safe, it happens to us all large and small agencies.
- Larry shared that they over enrolled last year and they called Elaine and they transferred 68 kids to Voucher. It happens to the best of agencies.
- The other think to it is just September so we are fine, if you run in the red the third year they will take you money away. Larry said that it is important to be creative.

- Elaine said that there is a contingency plan. Where to get money and juggle children and money for any period time.
- Ellen asked the group to share what is going on in each program
- Community Bridges: Over enrolled by three kids. All center are full, has state preschool slots 3-6
- Voucher Project is under enrolled by xxx children for county of Santa Cruz.
- Campus Kids Latchkey if full, Confident that she will fill her other programs this year
- Go Kids general center has Lion Cubs has 4 slots available Via Del Mar, has 7 slots available
- Live Oak:
  - Subsidized general center based funded for 28 kids – full school age kids
  - Community bridges – sub contracted for 8 – full
  - Capacity – 20 full C kids that we need to help cover payroll. State funded for 230 we have 200 we are doing something different. She can't always get 230
  - ACES program - challenge is we do not have the staff. We have children but no staff.
  - Need staff. Have to pass aid qualifications test for Live Oak District.
  - The other challenge is the more Voucher we take the ratios are not in compliance are out of whack. This puts her at risk of sending money back.
  - We can't maintain our contracts if you don't have staff.
  - The message is the need is here we don't have the paraprofessionals.
- YWCA, is doing very well challenge is the fairgrounds center and they are heavily marketing.
- Head Start Startlight, Mintie White Schools. Can only enroll those students that are enrolled in the schools but Jerri W. does think that they will be full soon.
- Post jobs on child care related web site, LPC, CDRC, Voucher Project etc.

#### **VIII. Announcements**

Legislative Forum Sept 28, 2007 in Milpitas, CA Go Kids.com and register.  
Go Kids fundraiser Fortino Winery October 6, 2007.

#### **IX. Support groups to discuss challenges and brainstorm solutions.**

##### **Topics: Support group items to discuss after meeting.**

A multiple of subsidized agencies working with families. It becomes an issue for state. Elaine will be pursuing this issue with the state  
Contingency fund for training. Sita stayed for this period to meet with any directors interested in asking more questions/getting clarification on the new AB212 program plan.

#### **XI. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

**Next regular meeting:** November 7, 2007, 9-11AM @ COE Ocean/Pacific Room

**Reminder:** Special meeting with Steev Schmidt on September 13, 2007, 9:00 to 11:30 am, SCCOE Board Room. Topic: Advanced Contract Management. Financial staff and grants managers are invited to attend.