



**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, March 8, 2007, 2:30-4:30 P.M.**  
**County Office of Education, **TECH CENTER****  
809-H Bay Ave, Capitola CA

**Members Present:** Naomi Brauner, Elizabeth Chavez, Sandy Davie, Julie Olsen Edwards, Irene Freiberg, Jean Gardner, Jim Hopper, Linda Kishlansky, Katie LeBaron, Alma Martinez, Michele Mosher, Rob Mullen, Ellen Ortiz, Jody Pemberton, Claudia Vestal, Ann Wise and Nicole Young.

**Excused Absences:** Maria Castro, Larry Drury, Wilma Gold, Barbara Griffin, Elaine Henning, Kathy Mello, Marilyn Moore, Ellen Murtha, Diane Oyler, Tricia Pastor Cross and Wesley Van Camp.

**Guests Present:** Hendrika Sheldon (Family Child Care Provider), Kathy Lathrop (PVUSD CalSAFE), Berenice Johnson (Kids' Klub), Sandy Mast (COE CalSAFE), Consuelo Espinoza (Program for Infant and Toddler Caregivers), Vicki Boriack (First 5 Santa Cruz County) and Barbara Best (Migrant Head Start)

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

Meeting called to order at 2:35 p.m.. All present were welcomed and introduced themselves.

**II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

None

**III. ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Quorum was established

**IV. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES**

Ann moved. Miche seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- Linda Kishlansky brought to the Council's attention a mailing by Bay Federal Credit Union with a photo of a child playing with a clothes dryer. Linda tried to address the health and safety issues of children playing with unsafe equipment with Bay Federal staff and encouraged them to use different pictures. Bay Federal staff responded by offering to include a blurb in their monthly newsletter on children's health and safety. Linda requested the Council's support to pursue this issue. Katie LeBaron of the Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency offered to compose a letter to Bay Federal to be signed by the Safe Kids Chapter and the Child Care Planning Council jointly. Katie also agreed to offer some consultation to Bay Federal for future marketing ideas. Ann suggested sending the letter to the board of Bay Federal. The Council offered their whole hearted support for this effort.
- Carole Mulford announced that next month is the Month of the Child and suggested that perhaps the CCPC would like to write something to submit to local media outlets and/or for the CDRC newsletter.

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**VI. LETTERS OF SUPPORT**

None requested

**VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Wilma Gold shared that the CCPC member social gatherings at Michael's on Main have been fun and successful. Members are encouraged to attend the next gathering which will be on Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 4:00-6:00pm.
- The committee is moving forward with updating the Master Plan. Principals, goals and strategies are being reviewed and revised to be brought to the annual retreat for review by Council members.
- Membership update: there are still two consumer openings to fill.

**VIII. STAFF REPORT**

- Hiranya announced the date of the CCPC's annual retreat, which will take place in lieu of the monthly meeting in June, will be held on Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. It will be a potluck lunch at the Horticulture Center at Cabrillo College. Cathy Toldi will be facilitating the meeting.
- Hiranya gave an update on the AB212 program. A very successful training took place on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at COE for staff and directors of CDE funded child care centers. 135 people attended the training on DRDP-R and Curriculum Planning. Because the program has been so successful, the CCPC will resubmit the current plan as is to be repeated in 2007-2008. There will also most likely be a one-time grant of approximately \$125,000 awarded to Santa Cruz County to increase access by state funded staff to professional development opportunities. More details to follow once the RFA has been released.
- Membership renewal for half the CCPC members will happen in April. Members who need to renew will either receive forms to fill out and return to Hiranya at the next meeting or will receive a letter from the Board of Supervisors that will need to be completed and returned to their office.
- The annual Priorities Report is due on May 30. The Policy Committee will bring that report to the April meeting for review which will serve as a public hearing for the report. The Board of Supervisors will also need to approve the report.
- Ellen Murtha and Marcia Meyer are drafting the Economic Impact Report for Child Care for Santa Cruz County and will be seeking input from CCPC members and other child care stakeholders. Stay tuned for input session dates and times.
- Community Care Licensing had previously decided not to hold any more local orientations. Diane Oyler reminded the agency that they had a former commitment to continue offering orientations here in Santa Cruz County, and she was successful in getting them to overturn that decision.
- Carole Mulford shared a San Francisco Chronicle article that stated that California is ranked very low in overall quality standards for child care. This kind of media attention is concerning in that it does not capture all the wonderful things that are happening in the Early Care and Education field.

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**IX. COMMITTEE ORAL REPORTS**

Due to time constraints, Hiranya gave very brief updates on each of the following committees of the Council:

**a) POLICY AND LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE/LEG. UPDATE**

Policy Committee members met with Scotts Valley City Planning Department staff and are working directly with the planners to help craft a child care friendly ordinance for the establishment of Family Child Care Homes in the city of Scotts Valley. Members will attend the next meeting of the Scotts Valley Planning Commission. More details to follow.

**b) AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS CONSORTIUM**

Hiranya and Vicki Boriack (former CCPC coordinator) were able to locate archived files pertaining to the previous time the CCPC attempted to develop a directory of school age extended learning programs in Santa Cruz County. These files will be helpful in the Council's current efforts to develop such a directory. More details to follow.

**c) ECE CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The preliminary conference program will be mailed out by the end of March. Hiranya has been voted in as an at large board member of the Central Coast Association for the Education of Young Children (CCAAYC). The ECE Conference Planning Committee will now also act as the Local Affiliate Committee to the CCAAYC.

**X. SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

The Council hosted a panel discussion on the state of infant/toddler care in the County. The panel included representatives from for-profit, non-profit, school district, state funded, CalSAFE and family child care programs as well as the Program For Infant and Toddler Caregivers (PITC).

- Hendrika Sheldon, Large Family Child Care owner/operator in La Selva Beach, reported that she is very involved in the CCIP program, which has helped her to improve her understandings of family culture, language and the importance of partnering with families, which are all key to caring for very young children. CCIP has supported her professional development and enjoyment of her work.
- Berenice Johnson, director of Kids Klub, runs a large, for-profit center with an infant/toddler program that feeds into the preschool program. She has negotiated with the owner to maintain small group size, low ratios and responsive care practices. The preschool fees help offset the cost of the infant toddler care.
- Sandy Mast, director of the County Office of Education's Alternative Education Department reported on the CALSAFE program at Watsonville Community School, which serves teen parents attending high school and their children. The program is also able to serve Migrant teenage mothers through home visitation services. Sandy says that it is nearly impossible to make ends meet on the money that is allocated from the ADA for the high school students who attend classes. The program requires a lot of leveraging from grants and other types of funding to provide these services.
- Sandy Davie is administrative director of the Santa Cruz Toddler Care Center, which has been in operation for 31 years as a private non-profit center. The program was founded on the principles of the RIE philosophy. The center also has a program director. Sandy believes the dual directorship allows the center to achieve financial

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stability. The program gets some funding from the County and City of Santa Cruz, which allows them to offer a sliding fee scale to assist lower income families. The program was able to purchase their own building, which is another source of savings. Creating, publishing and promoting the book 1,2,3 The Toddler Years has also helped to provide financial support to the center.

- Kathy Lathrop is coordinator of PVUSD's Child Development Programs, where there are two programs that serve infants and toddlers: the Buena Vista child care center for migrant families and the CALSAFE program for teen parents. CalSAFE is also known as SAPID or TAM. The programs now have a combined total of 80 teen moms on their rosters, but are challenged to find child care of all of those children. The district has been subsidizing these programs for some time. The program is running at a deficit because the money from the state doesn't even cover the cost of salaries. CalSAFE offers a crucial service to the community as teen moms often drop out of school due to lack of child care.
- Jody Pemberton, assistant director of Head Start spoke about the Early Head Start and Family Support Services program components. Head Start does not consider itself a child care agency, but rather a child development agency with a large parenting component including parent education, goal setting and health services. Head Start has been strictly federally funded. If child care becomes part of the program it would happen through partnering with other agencies and/or acquiring state child care funds to expand its services. In the entire county, Early Head Start only serves about 32 families through home visits and opportunities for socialization at a center. The program also includes prenatal services for expectant parents.
- Consuelo Espinoza, trainer for the Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers (PITC) shared components of this program which include trainings specific to infant/toddler care and technical assistance to participating programs. Programs are expected to commit to a two-year professional development and program improvement process. Cabrillo College is a demonstration site for the program (of which there are only 5 in the state). The website is [www.pitc.org](http://www.pitc.org). PITC also helped to develop the state sponsored Infant/Toddler Program Guidelines.

**XI. CHILDREN'S NETWORK REPORT**

Tabled till next month

**XII. PATH TO INCLUSION COLLABORATIVE**

Chair Linda Kishlansky reported on the recent efforts of the Path to Inclusion Collaborative. Linda invited everyone to come to the public launch of the Path to Inclusion Collaborative on <insert date>.

**XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 4:45

**Next Meeting: Thursday, April 12, 2:30-4:30 @ The County Office of Education Board Room**