



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

Subsidized Programs Consortium Agenda
April 4, 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)

Subsidized Programs Representatives Present: Wilma Gold (UCSC Early Care and Education Services), Elaine Henning (Voucher Project), Kathy Lathrop (CalSAFE and PVUSD), Cathy Lusk (Walnut Ave. Women's Center), Kathy Mello (HRA), Diane Oyler (CDRC), Jim Hopper (Community Care Licensing), Ellen Ortiz (Voucher Project, HRA Developer Fee).

I. Welcome and Introductions. Additions to Agenda

All present were welcomed and introduced themselves. There were no additions to the agenda.

II. Special presentation: CEL Web Portal

The Web Portal was shared by Ellen and how it relates to the CEL. There is a need for more education around how to use the CEL Portal. Ellen shared that they are really worried that as they look at the CEL there are many partners that haven't signed on to the CEL yet. In the upcoming CMR Voucher Project will have to explain why many agencies haven't used the CEL yet.

- Kathy Lusk mentioned her difficulties, building report options are not compatible to her server.
- Elaine offered to go over to help her learn how to build a report and speak to Kathy's IT staff person.
- Kathy suggested to give Elaine the report information and Elaine can develop the report for Kathy.
- There are 15 agencies are mandated to use the CEL and only 5 have logged in as of yet.
- Kathy Lathrop suggested, the usefulness of the CEL is cyclical according to the need of child care. Parents are being turned away by agency staff persons when ever any parent comes to each agency. Each parent should be served by each agency when ever any parent requests child care, whether the agency can serve that parent or not.
- Staff training needs to be done by participating agencies.
- Kathy suggested that a letter be sent to participating agencies to remind them that they are required to log into the CEL.
- Elaine mentioned that there maybe a possibility of issuing laptops to each participating agency dedicated to serve CEL clients only.
- Elaine suggested that there is a need for further training to participating agencies and staff.
- Kathy L suggested that it's important to let agencies know about various options on how to use the CEL.
- Ellen asked if it would be proper to remind CEL agency requirements.
- Connie Lester, will follow Wilma Gold, her email is clester@ucsc.edu.
- Kathy L. is planning on purchasing Kinder Center to support centralized child care enrollment in PVUSD. Software for center management.
- Ellen requested if we could get some indication if Control Tech and NACCRA Ware can ultimately be compatible for the use of the CEL.

III. Developer Fee Loan Program changes

- Ellen shared that the program is closed for the year all applications are being processed. Gearing up for site visits to those who received loans in past years. To insure that loans have been spent according to what was stated in the grants.
- Kahty L. who is eligible for the grants? Ellen was surprised that no after-school programs applied.
- Approved priorities, new programs etc. Ellen will email the list of priorities. The program will begin earlier this year applications will be distributed in September 2007. These loans are forgivable if grantees follow through there set plan. Ellen suggested that child care provider's start planning for applying for the Developer Fee Loans. Provider's need to begin to think about how to make these fees a small part of an improvement plan. Capital improvement plans etc. Provider's need to get two estimates from contractor's Ellen is hoping to include an article in the CDRC newsletter to get the word out.

IV. Public Policy Update

Jim Hopper shared that this is the start of the Legislative session for 2007. It's a two year cycle, many bills may change in the process. There are many spot bills on the dockets. You can go to the CA State Senate's website, write in the bill number and you can subscribe and continue to receive updates on the bill. Jim has shared the update of bills on the docket with Hiranya.

AB313 Child Care Rating System based on health and safety. It's an A,B,C rating. Rating will be on the web. It's in the Human Services Committee

A = Clear record, B= Some visits by licensing, C= Have had TSO etc.

AB468 Shaken Baby Syndrome, develop and distribution materials.

AB881 Child Passenger Restraining Law, children under 8 years need to be in a restraining seat and in the back seat.

AB975 Resource and Referral Programs, licensed exempt program

AB978 Community Care Licensing regeneration this bill triggers and increase in visits. Also allows agency authority to immediately fine child care provider's. Also allows civil penalties of \$25.00 and up. This would rebuild the child care advocate program. It's recognizing the technical support that is required and needed by the agency. This bill is in response to the audit that was created in the past year.

AB1028 Spot bill for low income families

AB1236 Kindergarten Readiness Program, step towards Preschool For All readiness program. COE and school districts would receive funding to deliver services. Would require the 5 year olds part of compulsory attendance. Day is 3 hours a day it does encourage wrap around to offer full day programs.

SB7 No Smoking in Vehicles

Deadline to introduce new bills was February 23, 2007

V. CDD regulations Update

None at this time.

VI. AB212 Program Update

- a. Training needs (eg. DRDP-R, ELL, Preschool Foundations, Special Needs, Other)
- b. Discuss coordinating calendars for pd trainings next year

Tabled until next meeting

VII. Discuss open subsidized child care slots in the County and strategies to fill them.

UCSC has decided not to subcontract their dollars to Cabrillo College. These are full day state preschool dollars. State has agreed to continue the contract at the same level for next year. Still have questions about standing open child care slots. Suggested to send out an email requesting who has openings.

VIII. Announcements

- Kathy Lusk announced that Walnut Ave. Women's Center is moving they are waiting to move for about 2-3 months before moving to Santa Cruz High School. This move will allow them to double their capacity.
- Kathy Lathrop, announced that the First 5 New Parent Kit is out and available. Call Barbara First 5 who is placing orders.
- No news on AB172 grant yet but maybe announced sometime this week as mentioned by Kathy Lathrop.

V. Support groups to discuss challenges and brainstorm solutions.

To include activities that would bring more people to the meeting. Check the list and include them in planning for the next meeting. Hiranya and Diane will review list and include them in the next meeting.

VI. Adjournment

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 6, 9:00-10:30, COE