



**SAN MATEO COUNTY CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL  
LEADERSHIP AND IMPACT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 20, 2022  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**CCPC Members Present:** Michelle Blakely, Julie Cates, Heather Cleary, David Fleishman, Heather Hopkins, Jennifer Pifeleti, Liz Scully, Tal Tamir, Christine Thorsteinson, Guillermo Vasquez

**Members of the Public:** Meg Aminto, Kristen Anderson, Angel Barrios, Dayna Chung, Stephanie Coy, Sean Gallagher, Margot Grant Gould, Diana Harlick, Susan Jeong, JoJo Rubio, Lisa Shaanan, Alyson Suzuki, Randy Torrijos, Linda Wolin

**Staff/Minutes:** Sarah Kinahan

**1. Call to Order**

Michelle Blakely called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

**2. Action to adopt a resolution finding that, as a result of continuing COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency, meeting in person for the Child Care Partnership Council's Leadership and Impact Committee would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees (Attachments #1A and #1B)**

- Moved by: Heather Hopkins    Seconded by: Julie Cates
- Vote: All voted in favor

**3. Approval of Leadership-Impact Committee Meeting Minutes from November 15, 2021, and Agenda for January 20, 2022 Meeting**

- Moved by: Jennifer Pifeleti    Seconded by: Julie Cates
- Vote: All voted in favor

**4. Leadership and Impact Committee Updates and Check-in (Michelle Blakely)**

Michelle had everyone introduce themselves because many new people were able to attend the committee due to meeting at a new time.

**5. COVID-19 Updates (Michelle Blakely)**

The *Child Care Response Team* (CCRT) wound down in December 2021 with the expectation that COVID-19 response efforts would transition to the Child Care Partnership Council and other standing collaboratives. Sarah shared a slideshow recapping the work of the CCRT between March 2020 and December 2021.

Alyson and David shared updates on the approach the getting *rapid antigen tests* to child care providers. Alyson shared that the San Mateo County Office of Education is getting an allotment of kits from County Health that are intended for low-income families and the staff working in child care programs serving this population. Kits will be distributed to all Title V and Head Start centers, as well as providers serving children ages 0-5 and being paid



through 4Cs subsidy vouchers. David shared that 4Cs put in a request to the State for test kits and masks, but does not yet know when those supplies will arrive. These supplies are intended for the whole child care community.

Margot presented an overview of the *County's pandemic response and recovery efforts*, highlighting how the County has allocated federal relief funds. In total, the County will receive \$84.5 million from the *American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)*. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) will soon be considering recommendations for how to allocate the remaining ARPA funds that have not yet been allocated. \$10 million from the first tranche of ARPA is still available; on February 8, the BOS will hear a recommendation to use \$900,000 for Build Up family child care expansion grants paired with \$100,000 for a facilities consultant. Support for summer learning, \$3 million, is also being recommended for tranche 1. From the second tranche, it is being recommended that 16% of the funds be directed to a "Children" portfolio of child care and extended learning (\$13.5 million). In addition, the recommendation is to allocate 8% to Workforce Development that will include careers in child care and extended learning. Of the funding being recommended for child care, \$6 million would go toward operating support grants to support the recovery of our existing child care providers. Margot reviewed and took feedback on the framework for these grants. Some of the feedback included: 1) keep grants simple; 2) base grant size on licensed capacity, not current enrollment; 3) set an eligibility date that allows for programs that have opened since start of pandemic to be eligible. The group emphasized the need to support the early learning and care workforce as much as possible. The BOS will hear recommendations for tranche 2 in the Spring.

#### **6. Governor's January Budget Proposal (Sarah Kinahan)**

Sarah presented an overview of the Governor's January Budget Proposal for 2022-23. Sarah praised the emphasis on child and family supports in the budget, but suggested that we still need further investments in child care specifically. We will be tracking the evolution of the federal "Build Back Better" plan – this is seen as having significant potential to support shortfalls in child care.

Providers reported that they are starting to see the impact of the rate reform that was implemented in January 2022. Heather reported that Peninsula Family Service has been able to use the new funds to raise wages. Continuing rate reform in 22-23 and including a 5.33% COLA are greatly appreciated.

The group brainstormed recommendations for advocacy around what is missing from the budget:

- Include a Hold harmless for 22-23
- Add more CSPP funds for community-based providers, not just LEAs
- Consider supporting bill being developed by Senator Becker to support child nutrition in child care programs
- Address the shortage of qualified early childhood mental health consultants and home visitors
- Include additional funding for facilities

#### **7. Prepare for New Legislative Session (Sarah Kinahan)**

Sarah is starting to prepare our 2022 legislation tracker. We will review bills at our next meeting.

#### **8. Discuss Emerging Hot Topics (Michelle Blakely)**

Liz shared the need for a specific pathway for family child care providers pursuing higher education at the San Mateo County Community College District.



Michelle shared that we will be changing the time of the Leadership and Impact Committee moving forward to allow for greater participation.

**9. Adjournment**

Michelle Blakely adjourned the meeting at 2:30 pm.