

**San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council
Leadership and Impact Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Monday, January 23, 2022

Hybrid Meeting via Zoom

CCPC Members Present (in-person): Michelle Blakely (chair), Heather Cleary, David Fleishman (late), Karen Haas-Foletta, Christine Thorsteinson, Guillermo Vasquez

Members of the Public Present (in-person): Kristen Anderson, Diana Harlick, Marchelle Moten

Members of the Public Present (Via Zoom): Dayna Chung, Heather Hopkins, Lisa Shaanan

Staff/Minutes: Sarah Kinahan, Ian Johnson

1. Call to Order

Michelle Blakely

Michelle Blakely called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. Approval of Leadership-Impact Committee Meeting Minutes from November 14, 2022, and Agenda for January 23, 2023

Michelle Blakely

MOTION: THORSTEINSON / SECOND: VASQUEZ

AYES: UNANIMOUS

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

3. Welcome & Check-in

Michelle Blakely

Michelle Blakely welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked people to please introduce themselves.

4. Update Leadership and Impact Committee Work Plan

Michelle Blakely / Sarah Kinahan

Michelle Blakely and Sarah Kinahan led the group through a discussion and review of the San Mateo County Child Care Planning Council Strategic Implementation Plan (2019-2024) in preparation for the CCPC’s retreat in March. The intention of this review was to review and refresh the committee’s workplan. Priorities and advocacy efforts should be focused on deliverables achievable within the next eighteen months, reflecting findings of the San Mateo County 2022 Child Care Needs Assessment.

Discussion of Strategic Priority 1: Advocate for an increase in dedicated local funding

- The CCPC was very successful in advocating, along with partners, that the County dedicated COVID relief funds for child care and extended learning in 2021 and 2022.
- Christine Thorsteinson shared that she is pulling together a list of different types of funding mechanisms that might be possible for raising local dollars.
- Christine is also attending a statewide learning community organized by Margaret Brodtkin on child care-related ballot initiatives for 2024.
- Michelle Blakely is tracking Contra Costa’s new sales tax that can be put toward early childhood services.
- Sarah will present the needs assessment to First 5 in February; this is an opportunity to talk about the need for dedicated funding and a centralized coordinating entity to address issues highlighted in the needs assessment.
- Need to research the requirements for a “Citizens Ballot Initiative.”
- The Committee strongly supports continued advocacy for a countywide funding initiative for child care/ECE.

Discussion of Strategic Priority 2: Build CCPC organizational capacity

- **Restored Funding** - Local Planning Council funding that was cut during the Great Recession has been restored which doubled our contract amount for this year. This restored funding will be ongoing.
- **New Funding** – CCPC will be receiving the CA Department of Education’s new Universal Pre-kindergarten Mixed Delivery Planning Grant.
- **Action Item:** Continue to have these retreats, the strategic plan refresh and continue to work on strengthening the organizational structure of the CCPC.
- **Action Item:** Update resources and partners list in the plan.

Discussion of Strategic Priority 3: Fulfill State and local mandates of the CCPC

- The Needs Assessment has been completed.
- Zip Code Priorities will be updated in May 2023.
- A self-assessment survey will be distributed to the CCPC. Findings will be reviewed during the CCPC’s retreat in March.

Discussion of Strategic Priority 4: Build CCPC member capacity

- The CCPC New Member Orientation was updated in 2020 and has been used successfully.
- Future topics for professional development for existing CCPC Members:
 - Brown Act Training
 - Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion-focused Professional Development – a workgroup started to brainstorm ideas for this PD – need to revisit.
- Need to review the CCPC Equity Statement at the March retreat to ignite and inspire aligned thinking.

Discussion of Strategic Priority 5: Develop and implement a robust policy and advocacy framework with input from the committees

- The group agreed that the Leadership and Impact Committee will continue to monitor, review, and update the legislation tracker; and continue to bring legislation forward to the greater CCPC during general meetings.
- The CCPC has a Public Policy Platform in place that has guided our advocacy. It can be reviewed at the retreat in March to discuss when/if CCPC takes positions on local rather than County, State or Federal issues.
- The group discussed ensuring that we advocate for policies such as the EITC and Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative that are important to our population and whole-child focused.

Discussion of Strategic Priority 6: Develop communications and outreach framework with input from the committees

- The CCPC contracted with the Community Equity Collaborative who completed a Communications framework and communications materials for CCPC.

Discussion of Strategic Priority 7: Align CCPC’s efforts with existing countywide efforts impacting children and families (e.g. Build Up, The Big Lift, Close the Gap, Home for All, Help Me Grow)

- Continue existing efforts and narrow in on the next 18 months.

5. Update on Governor’s Budget and State Legislation

Sarah Kinahan

Sarah Kinahan led the group in a discussion reviewing the Governor’s January Budget Proposal and newly introduced bills.

A brief recap of the Governor’s Budget Proposal:

The Governor is projecting a \$20-25 billion dollar deficit going into 2023-2024. The governor addresses that by delaying some programs. New child care slots added in previous year are sustained, but additional new child care slots have been delayed until 2024-2025. The proposal also delays PreK-TK-K facilities funding, and a Preschool Inclusion Grants. The Governor’s office is negotiating with the Child Care Providers Union on a single rate structure. An 8.13% COLA is included in the proposal; however, we are not certain if it will apply to all our contracts in San Mateo County because our local reimbursement rate is already higher than the standard reimbursement rate. Family fees are proposed to resume July 1st, and there would no longer be the “hold harmless” policy to reimburse programs based on their expenses and contract amount, rather than attendance.

Highlights from Newly Introduced Bills:

- **AB 51 (Bonta)** - Universal Early Care. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to create a universal early care and education system, utilizing the existing mixed-delivery system, that promotes equity and access for all families.
- **AB 14 (Davies)** - Income Tax: Childcare Savings and Investment Accounts. This bill would state the intention of the Legislature to enact legislation that would establish tax-preferred savings and investment accounts for childcare expenses.
- **SB 28 (Glazer)** - Education finance: school facilities: Public Preschool, K–12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2024.

Sarah shared that Assemblymember Bonta is sponsoring a bill to institutionalize and innovate on the Child Care Subsidy Pilots. Sarah hopes that CCPC will support once the bill has been introduced.

Sarah asked if there were ideas for legislation that could be shared with Senator Becker. Kristen raised an issue with the use of recycled water in child care facilities. She will share more details with Sarah. Christine mentioned that there are challenges for family child care providers to complete the ECE practicum course.

6. Discuss Emerging “Hot Topics”

Michelle Blakely

The group identified the following priorities for 2023:

- Advocate for a single rate structure that is based in recommendations of Rate and Quality Workgroup.
- Research if other counties are seeing the new rate translate into higher staff wages.
- Advocate to continue keeping Parent Fees at zero.
- Understand underutilized capacity at child care programs due to lack of staff.
- Connect the narrative of child care to other key issues affecting children and families (i.e. Housing, Traffic, Transportation, etc.)
- When sharing the needs assessment, start by grounding in “how are the kids.”
- Understand why Becker’s bill that would have guaranteed free meals in child care failed.
- Understand the process for appointing a new Supervisor to co-chair the CCPC once Supervisor Pine terms out.

9. Adjournment

Michelle Blakely

Michelle Blakely adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.