



**SAN MATEO COUNTY CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, March 20, 2023
Redwood City Woman's Club (149 Clinton St, Redwood City, CA 94062)

CCPC Members Present: Karen Alden, Michelle Blakely, Katy Bradford Arvey, Heather Cleary, David Fleishman, Elizabeth Foster, Karen Haas-Foletta, Cheryl Oku, Karen Pace, Christine Padilla, Jennifer Pifeleti (late), Liz Scully, Tal Tamir, Christine Thorsteinson, Guillermo Vasquez, Tina Watts, Amy Wooliever, Lisa Zimiga

CCPC Members Absent: Alice Kuo

CCPC Co-chair(s) Present: Superintendent Nancy Magee, Supervisor Dave Pine

Staff: Sarah Kinahan/Ian Johnson/Michelle Lee

Facilitator: Debbie Schechter

Minutes: Ian Johnson

1. Call to Order

A quorum was present. Superintendent Nancy Magee called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

2. Action to Set Agenda for the March 20, 2023

MOTION: FLEISHMAN/ SECOND: WATTS

AYES: Karen Alden, Michelle Blakely, Katy Bradford Arvey, Heather Cleary, David Fleishman, Elizabeth Foster, Karen Haas-Foletta, Nancy Magee, Cheryl Oku, Karen Pace, Christine Padilla, Dave Pine, Liz Scully, Christine Thorsteinson, Guillermo Vasquez, Tina Watts, Amy Wooliever, Lisa Zimiga

NOES: NONE.

ABSTAIN: NONE.

MOTION APPROVED.

3. Facilitator Introduction and review of Retreat Goals, Agenda, and Group Agreements

Facilitator Debbie Schechter greeted attendees, introduced herself, and reviewed the purpose and objectives of today's retreat.

Retreat Purpose: Review strategic plan accomplishments and identify CCPC priorities for 2023-24 based on the Child Care Needs Assessment.

Retreat Objectives:

- Discuss findings of Child Care Needs Assessment
- Review accomplishments and identify updates needed for Strategic Plan and Public Policy Platform
- Identify priorities for 2023 and 2024
- Build on existing relationships to enhance collaboration and teamwork

Ms. Schechter also presented the following group agreements:

- Listen for understanding
- Share the air
- Lift as you climb
- Let the facilitator guide the process
- Technology on silent

4. Attendee Activity: Attendee Introductions

Attendees were asked to connect with someone they may not know; and introduce them to the group. Attendees were given the following prompts: 1) What motivates you to serve on the CCPC? 2) What is one thing you're looking forward to doing on the CCPC? . Responses were as follows:

Motivations

- Passion for working with children and families
√√√√
- Bringing nannies into the conversation
- Participate in community aspects of ECE, increased policy and advocacy
- Support ECE teachers
- Voice and advocate for family child care
- Learn what CCPC, community agencies and providers are doing and collaborate √√√√√
- Contributing ideas √
- Close shortage gap
- Learn what higher education can do to help √
- Intersection of health and ECE
- Improved system that eliminates inequities
- Voice for special needs

Looking Forward to

- County-wide revenue measure for children √
- Pathways for education and career support for nannies
- Bring universal access to quality ECE with public funds and well-compensated workforce √√√
- Getting what we need for children and providers
- System-level improvements √√
- Doing my job
- What I can dig into—key ideas √√
- Bridge public/private childcare partnership
- Support CCPC work
- Align priorities, collaboration
- Support educators: pay and benefits

5. Review and Discussion: The Child Care Needs Assessment

Sarah Kinahan presented high level results of the Child Care Needs Assessment. The group discussed the key findings and how they might inform CCPC priorities. Retreat participants shared the following reflections on the findings:

- Survey results may not reflect reality, especially regarding staff shortage. This may be due to survey bias where very short-staffed child care providers may not have had time to complete the survey.
- Infant/toddler shortage is significant.
- We are in a crisis in terms of the low numbers of providers in the workforce.
- The return on investment is significant: we can reframe some of our arguments in terms of the economic benefits that child care provides.
- Loss of family child care providers impacts the ability to meet needs for infant, toddler, and preschool care.
- The needs assessment does not indicate what parents do to fill gaps—it would be helpful to find out.

6. CCPC Self- Assessment and Accomplishments

Debbie Schechter presented the results of the pre-retreat survey which was conducted in January 2023. Thirteen CCPC members responded.

The group had the following additional suggestions for improving the effectiveness of the CCPC:

- Set priorities and then identify data needs.
- Need more data on what people need to enter field and advance in their careers and need to look at it differently—who needs what? e.g., permits.
- Improve information sharing and resources with CCPC, parents, providers.
- Meetings and information should be accessible beyond people who attend CCPC meetings; disseminate information outward and get feedback. Consider recording meetings and posting the videos.
- Integrate the work of the Committees; be less siloed.

Committee chairs presented progress and accomplishments of their committees based on their workplans and the goals and priorities in the CCPC strategic plan.

Accomplishments	Remaining Priorities
Goal 1: Leadership and Impact (Michelle Blakeley)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build CCPC organization capacity – State restored funding for LPCs that was cut in 2008 - Fulfill state and local mandates of the CCPC - Develop communications and outreach framework and a Public Policy Platform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate for an increase in dedicated local funding - Gaps in CCPC membership? - Advocacy: go deeper on DEIB work - Align CCPC’s efforts with exiting efforts impacting children and families
Goal 2: Access (Christine Padilla)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have supported advocacy for reimbursement rate reform and provided TA to programs when rates increased in 2022 - Managed Voluntary Temporary Transfer of Funds process to maximize use of state funds - Coordinated with Build Up to increase facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate for increases in State and Federal funding and reimbursement rates - Support UPK plans - Maximize use of state subsidy dollars to serve more children - Share <i>Inclusive Spaces</i> brief - Share needs assessment findings
Goal 3: Quality (Edirle Menezes and Liz Scully)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build a robust Quality Counts system - Supported the piloting of the Inclusion Matrix 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborate with Access Committee to increase access to ECE for children with special needs - Revise and scale the Inclusion Matrix
Goal 4: Workforce (Heather Cleary)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secured funding and support for new Career Pathways lead at County Office of Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate for an increase in dedicated local funding - Increase ECE professional wages and benefits - Increase the number of qualified ECE professionals

CCPC members shared the following reflections regarding the accomplishments:

- Consider whole child/family/provider and intersections with other issues (housing, transportation, etc.)
- Self-care is important: this includes funding for providers and other things.
- We need and want leaders to step up and do something, with an equity lens; families and the public have to be informed.
- Consider what we can learn from others: San Francisco, Oakland, Santa Clara County, Alameda County, Sonoma County.
- San Mateo County has the most income inequality in the state and we need to address this; consider what kind of County we want to be.

7. Public Comment

- Sarah Kinahan shared that there is a vacancy in the CCPC Membership in the category of discretionary appointee. Please apply at <https://www.smcoe.org/about/child-care-partnership-council/>.
- Need other ways to engage other City Planning and Business communities.
- Dayna Chung recognized Sarah Kinahan for organizing the Thriving Families Symposium: The Next Decade held at Skyline College on March 10, 2023.
- Dayna Chung also shared that the next Rainbow Kids webinar will be held on April 19, 2023 from 4-5 p.m. This free webinar (in English) is returning for parents, caregivers, and anyone who wants a more expansive, welcoming world for young children. It will be facilitated by Azisa Todd (Lead Trainer for the San Mateo

County Pride Center) and Nathanael Flynn (Early Childhood Educator and co-author of Supporting Gender Diversity in Early Childhood Classrooms). Closed captioning will be available.

- Superintendent Nancy Magee shared that former Congresswoman Speier is creating a new foundation focusing on eliminating child poverty in the county. They are having an event in May and CCPC could potentially partner with their foundation.
- Alyce Desrosiers shared that The Institute for Families and Nannies is partnering with the Atherton library to conduct child development workshops for nannies and other license-exempt providers.

8. Update Goals, Priorities, Activities and Timing

CCPC members identified an overall goal of a publicly funded ECE system with universal access to all children, families, and providers, provided by a well-compensated workforce. They developed three main priorities and some specific tasks for focus over the next 18 months in support of this goal:

1. County ballot measure to fund gaps in early learning and child care

- Understand the needs for funding
 - Gaps include funding in the County for quality child care, spaces, and compensation for providers
- Identify the priorities among age groups
- Learn from others' successes
- Identify what the funding will be used for: supply? quality? etc.
- Define what we mean by quality—leverage existing Quality Counts San Mateo

2. Advocacy and outreach for the goal and for a ballot measure

- Bottom-up advocacy and outreach
- Elevate parents' voices
- Engage leaders
- State advocacy for equitable funding
- Develop a child care awareness campaign to educate people about the issue

3. Increase the number of providers by X%

- Look at increasing slots
- Look at numbers of people coming into the field
- Need to look at short-term funding to support providers, not just longer-term funding via a ballot measure

The following ideas were shared about how to structure and begin the work on these three priorities:

- Need to work on the ballot measure and workforce development in tandem
- Explore forming an ad hoc committee of the CCPC to work on the ballot measure
- Identify what aspects of the work fit within the CCPC and what can partner agencies do
- Identify what the updated goal and three priorities mean for ongoing work. What other priorities can shift?

9. Summary and Next Steps, Meeting Evaluation and Closing Activity

Debbie Schechter reviewed the discussions and information covered during the meeting and led the group in determining next step action items:



- At the next CCPC meeting:
 - Discuss ballot measure
 - Discuss how to structure the work on priorities:
 - Ad hoc committee?
 - How to align work of Committees to support these new priorities
 - Identify what work can shift and what can be de-prioritized
- Clarify the roles of agencies in ballot measure effort
- Christine Thorsteinson from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation offered to host an initial planning meeting regarding the ballot measure.
 - Christine is participating in Funding the Next Generation's Learning Community for 2024 Ballot Measures. Their next meeting is Friday, March 24.

Participants briefly evaluated the meeting, noting that people did a good job listening and that they arrived at a common goal.

10. Adjournment

Superintendent Nancy Magee adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

The next CCPC meeting will be held on May 15 at 10:30 a.m.