



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

**May 17 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

CCPC Members Present: Christine Padilla, Sarah Poulain

Members of the Public: Samuel Arellano, Pamela Campos, Timothy Carmona, Charlie Cervantes, Hana Ma, Karla Rodriguez, Alyson Suzuki

Staff/Minutes: Sarah Kinahan

1. Call to Order

Christine Padilla called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Sarah Kinahan welcomed the group to the re-launch of the Access Committee, which has not met since late 2019, and had everyone introduce themselves and share why they were interested in the committee.

3. Approval of May 17, 2021, Access Committee Meeting Agenda

Christine asked for approval of the meeting agenda.

M (S. Poulain) /S (K. Rodriguez) /C (Unanimous)

4. Review Access Committee Workplan and Strategic Plan

Christine and Sarah walked the group through the Access Committee's Workplan and talked about how it fits with the overall CCPC Strategic Plan which runs through 2023.

Some of the Committee's workplan overlaps with the activities of Build Up for San Mateo County. For example, Build Up SMC is conducting a Land Use Survey, in partnership with CCPC, that was sent to all the cities in San Mateo County.

5. Discuss Cross-Committee Work

The group discussed the following ideas for working with the Quality Committee:

- Development of the Dual Language Learner Specialization that will align with the QRIS matrix.
- Issues related to Inclusion of children with special needs.
- Make sure programs are understanding parents' needs for transportation as part of program quality.

6. Discuss and Prioritize Areas of Focus through June 2022

The group brainstormed the following potential areas of focus over the next 12 months:

- **Track programs that have closed** (temporarily or permanently) to see if they come back online or if facilities can be preserved for child care.
- Work on Access issues related to **transportation** and parents having to juggle multiple pick up/drop off now that work and school is returning to in-person.
 - Address parents' need for a clear directory of where programs are located so they can more easily see programs that are in neighborhoods near home, school, and work. Would also be helpful to know which transportation routes are near the child care programs.
 - Potential opportunity to partner with Safe-Routes-to-Schools initiatives at school districts/COE.

- Explore Head Start model which requires the program to understand parents' needs for transportation.
- Look into partnerships with local employers who have buses (i.e. Google, Genentech, etc.) to see if they could be used to transport children when not in use by company.
- Look into partnerships with Uber and Lyft for ride-share options.
- Look into funding that may be available to help after school programs purchase vans or hire drivers.
- **Understand what information is available for parents on mychildcare.ca.gov and what is missing.** For example, does it show school-age options? Is there a way to meet parents' needs for information about informal/license-exempt care?
- Explore whether there will be **corporate campuses that are underutilized** if people continue to work from home that could be repurposed for child care.
- Looks at models for **Inclusion**, such as Family Connections' partnership with Open Mind School, to understand the resources, professional development, and other supports that are needed to offer a truly inclusive program that wraps families with comprehensive supports (inclusive of all economic status, ethnicities, languages, abilities, etc.)
 - Work on the issue of children with special needs who have to see multiple specialists every day – how can these services be centralized at the child care?
 - Promote a directory of child care providers with expertise in working with children with special needs. This is the goal of the Inclusion Specialization that is being piloted by SMCOE.
 - SMCOE is working with partners on creating infographics that will help parents with children with special needs access services – share these infographics when ready.
 - Assist programs in adapting facilities to meet the needs of children with different abilities.
 - Assist programs in articulating their Inclusion philosophy.
 - Conduct a Parent Survey to understand access issues for parents with children with special needs.
- Understand opportunities for **advocacy** and work on cultivating parents to provide public comment.
- Connect with **First 5 San Mateo's Systems Change** group.

The next step will be to review this list at the June 21, 2021 committee meeting to define action steps.

The group also identified a need to recruit a 4Cs staff person to be on the committee, as well as someone from First 5 San Mateo.

7. Adjournment

Christine adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

*The next scheduled Access Committee meeting is
Monday, June 21, 2021: 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.*