



**Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council**  
**Minutes April 12, 2023 – 9:00 - 11:00 am**  
**Mission Santa Ynez, 1760 Mission Drive, Solvang CA**

**Attendance: Members Present:** Jacqui Banta, Jennifer Bergquist, Artesia Carlon, Yvon Frazier, Michelle Graham, Shelley Grand, Beth Hassenplug, Eileen Monahan, Robin Palmerston, Michelle Robertson, Serineh Vartani, Ralph Ybarra

**Members Excused:** Grigor Arzumanyan, Supervisor Laura Capps, Donna B. Fisher, Holly Harvan, Jennifer Macdonald, Annette Muse, Daisy Ochoa, Jacqueline Ryan, Raquel Valdez, Susan Walsh, Janelle Willis

**Members Absent:** None

**Alternates Present:** Maggie Flores (SBUSD), Marina Nolte (USCB)

**Guests Present:** Sarah Diaz, Jeanette Hatfield (SBCEO), Amer Rousan (Lakeshore Learning), Susy Del Toro (St Vincent's Preschool), Monica Thorpe (SBCEO)

**Staff Present:** Christian Patterson, Shelley Trost, Carolina Ayala

**I. Call to Order and Welcome**

Chair Elect, Jacqui Banta, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**II. Public Comment Period**

None.

**III. Approval of the Minutes of March 8, 2023**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2023, by Michelle Robertson. Shelley Grand seconded the motion. No opposition or abstentions. **MSC.**

**IV. Grant Updates**

**Local Planning Council Grant**

CPIN materials have been disbursed for those that attended the two-part training series.

Teacher Appreciation journals are being received at SBCEO this week. We will be preparing them for mail and delivery the first week in May.

**Santa Barbara Foundation's ECE Leadership Grant** - The final leadership training was held on April 1<sup>st</sup> with Dr. Keena Mosley. We had approximately 40 in attendance. This was a good training.

**Workforce Pathways Grant** - Proof of completion is due from applicants on May 15<sup>th</sup>. We will begin processing applications on May 16<sup>th</sup> with an expected payment date on all stipends by the first or second week in June.

**Childcare Sector Pandemic Recovery and Resilience (ARPA) Grant** - We are working on plans for this grant. More to share soon.

**UPK Mixed Delivery Planning Grant** - We met on April 6<sup>th</sup> for planning stages of this grant. We will discuss more about this later in the meeting.

**V. New Membership Discussion and Introduction**

Yvon Frazier from Allan Hancock College has applied for a new membership. We would like to welcome Yvon as our newest member. Yvon shared a few words about herself. We are thankful to have a member on council that represents higher education.



**VI. Vote to Approve the Slate of Officers**

Introduction of the slate of officers included: Chair - Jacqui Banta; Chair Elect – vacant; Past Chair – Michelle Graham; Vice Chair – Jennifer Macdonald; Secretary/Treasurer – Holly Harvan; Nominating Chair – Janelle Willis.

A motion was made to approve the 2023-24 slate of officers by Robin Palmerston. Jennifer Bergquist seconded the motion. **MSC.**

**VII. Alpha Resource – Family Empowerment Center**

Megan Davy was unable to present today. Christian shared that Alpha Resource Center received grant funding to officially announce themselves as a family empowerment center. This will allow them to expand resources for families. Megan may speak at our meeting next month.

**VIII. Committee Updates and Outreach**

**Strategic Plan – Jennifer Bergquist**

The Strategic Plan is being finalized. In years past this was presented to Steering and to Council. This is a living document and needs to be approved by the Board of Supervisors and Santa Barbara County Ed. If we can be listed on the agenda for approval from these Boards, we can then disburse it into the community for feedback. Final approval will then go to Steering and CCPC. It can then be distributed throughout the county. The next meeting is Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> if you would like a sneak peek at what we're working on it. In the past, Strategic Plans have been 10-year plans as a long-term vision. Discussion.

**COAT – Communications, Outreach, Advocacy Team – Robin Palmerston**

We appreciate the feedback we received on the Call-to-Action brochure last month. The committee worked to submit the Week of the Young Child proclamation to the Board of Supervisors. We are currently looking for ways to support the community. We are looking at the possibility of a website dashboard with real-time data that is accessible for grant writing. We are pleased to announce that Michelle Robertson has joined COAT. Our next meeting is on May 8<sup>th</sup> if you would like to join us.

**Facilities Committee – Eileen Monahan**

Facilities are focused on making sure there are enough facilities in our county. We had guest speaker Shoghig Khadarian from Community Care Licensing. She discussed the Closer to Home Act that was passed. This act allows for family childcare to take place in any setting without becoming a business. This was very helpful to assist the CRR team navigate FCCs. CRR will develop advocacy and has plans to meet with local representatives regarding FCCs. We have a long way to go and our work is important. Discussion. CRR will share a summary they created with council.

**ICCAT – Inclusive Child Care Action Team – Sarah Diaz**

We are working on a system to integrate inclusive practices in childcare settings. We may be connecting it to DRDP in the future. We are determining how inclusion can best fit into the young child population.

**WALDO – Workforce & Leadership Development Opportunities – Christian Patterson**

We will give an update on the RFD we are currently writing when we have more to share.

Introductions took place around the table at this time.



## **IX. Coordinator's Report**

- **Senator Monique Limón- State of Child Care in South County**  
Christian attended a panel discussion Save The Child with Senator Monique Limon. Issues discussed were the need for more IT care, wages for teachers, support Early Care, and Rate Reform. The panel recording is on Monique's website.
- **2023 Directors Retreat – Audacious Foundation** will be hosting again this year. More spaces will be available so there may be an opportunity to bring a lead teacher. There may also be spaces reserved for TK teachers. Audacious Foundation will be joining the Director's Collaboration tomorrow online.
- **Farewell to Shelley Trost**  
Christian thanked Shelley for her years of service over the years.
- **Discussion: 2023-24 CCPC**  
CCPC calendar for 2023-24 was discussed and included in each packet. Dates were agreed upon. Christian was asked to send placeholders for Steering and CCPC to all involved.
- **WALDO Committee – processes are flowing** for the Workforce Pathways grant and the Santa Barbara Foundation grants. We would like to create a committee that will focus on deliverables for the UPK Mixed Delivery grant. We discussed a name change if the focus changes on this committee. Discussion on why the name change might be beneficial. Note from Jennifer B – If a committee is called an Ad Hoc, we do not have to post agendas or take minutes, we simply do the work. WALDO has done its work over the years and now it may be time to sunset WALDO and create a new committee in its place. Discussion about a new committee and a new name. Christian will start workshopping the names and have something to present by the retreat in September.

## **X. SBCEO Programmatic Updates**

### **QCC (Quality Counts CA) – Monica Thorpe**

We just finished two 12-week series for CLASS Infant Toddler and Pre-K trainings. Both were very well attended. We are creating a survey to learn what teachers want for next year. We may have a focus on CLASS. We want to look at the needs in professional development post pandemic.

### **IEEEP (Inclusion Early Education Expansion Program) – Sarah Diaz**

We are currently working with the California Association of Education for Young Children.

### **CSPP (CA State Preschool Program) – Tisha Carlon**

We are preparing for the coming year and all it will require. We've started with ECERs assessments. We are hoping that we can retain some of our students next year with the new transitional kindergarten programs starting. Exceptional needs students will be required to increase from 5% to 7% by the state. We are making some changes to accommodate parents' needs. We are hopeful that our enrollment will increase.

### **CAI (CA Apprenticeship Initiative) – Jeanette Hatfield**

We have been reaching out to partners to identify programs to support apprentices. We are connected to ongoing webinars with ECE apprenticeships specifically. We have been attending these webinars to attain needed information. Equity focus is at forefront. Employers may not be ready to

help apprentices be successful, so we want to support both employers and apprentices keeping communication open. There has been discussion about creating a Community of Practice in the future for employers, to make sure they have ongoing support. SBCEO is going to be our launch



place. We would love to hear from everyone and include other programs as well.

**XI. Public Policy Review – Governors Proposed Budget**

SB 596 – On February 9<sup>th</sup> Monique Limon introduced this bill. It is currently in the Senate. This bill would revise the sliding scale for parents.

**XII. UPK/UTK Update (Universal Pre-K and Transitional Kindergarten) – Christian Patterson**

Christian gave a description on the UPK/UTK mixed delivery grant. We are required to partner with the County Office of Education, which we are already doing. We are in the planning stages only. Implementation will come later.

- Some plans discussed include increasing space for inclusion where needed, outreach services and activities partnering with tribes. Final approval will come from county ed.
- Transitional kindergarten funding has come through for LEAs and most organizations have someone representing UPK/UTK.
- At this time, we can assess, establish partnerships, pay salaries, coordinate, and plan. We can work with Local Planning Councils, County Office of Education, school districts, charter schools offering TK, Children’s Resource & Referral agencies, alternative payment programs, First 5 County Commissions, contracted state preschool programs, general childcare programs serving preschoolers, and tribal preschool programs. The goal is to have all programs at the table together. The guidance is to engage individuals we do not normally work with. Some people will fill more than one category required.
- We are working with Cristina Ortega at Santa Barbara County Education Office to develop community resources. We have discussed the possibility of family focus groups working with an outside contractor to facilitate these. We would also like to create a study/survey on the impact UPK will have on CSPP private providers vs providers as well as one for LEAs.
- We will be combining Local Planning Council, Workforce Pathways, and some UPK dollars to achieve the goals. Discussion.

**XIII. Other Business/Announcements**

Jacqui discussed the BRAVE Conference held April 1<sup>st</sup> with 366 in attendance. CRR contracted with Bridging Voices and 90 people were served with the interpreters. Workshops were either in Spanish or in English. This conference was a success. There were approximately 35 to 40 workshops offered. We had an opening keynote speaker, a panel, and a closing keynote speaker. On the panel, we discussed a personal vs. professional perspective. Also discussed was inclusion, how to support a safe space for children, empowering yourself with knowledge, and including positivity in your life.

CRR is moving their Santa Maria offices. Our move date is April 24<sup>th</sup>. We will be on the top floor of the Mind Body Building on Airpark Drive in Santa Maria.

Licensing is scheduled on April 18<sup>th</sup> for our WINGS childcare. We are hoping for approval to open.

**XIV. Adjournment**

Chair Elect, Jacqui Banta, adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.