

Sacramento County Local Child Care & Development Planning Council



Quality/CARES Committee Meeting Minutes

March 9, 009 | 1:30 p.m.
9961 Horn Road, Sacramento, CA

Meeting Attendance

Members		Staff		Guests	
Elizabeth Uda	X	Loretta Smith		Marianne Knoy	X
Anne Kress	X	Theresa Roberts		Tracey Slater	X
Kathleen Tibbals	X	Tracee Lewis		Jaclyn P. White	X
Kayla Olvera	X	Mary Breeding	E	Donna Sneeringer	
LS-Out of State; TR-Out of State; TL-Personal; MB-Work Related					

Issue	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.	
Agenda Item II - Approval of Agenda and Minutes	Minutes of the 02/09/09 meeting were submitted for approval. The minutes were approved. The agenda for the 03/09/09 meeting was submitted for approval.	M/S – Anne Kress / Kathleen Tibbals. APPROVED
Agenda Item III – Update on CARES	Members were apprised of administrative guidelines that were implemented to address applicants whose situations are not typically covered by existing procedures. Members were in agreement with the developed guidelines. (Guidelines attached)	
Agenda Item IV – CARES Appeals	Members reviewed one appeal and approved staff's recommendation to move the appellant from Track 3 to Track 2B. The appellant had applied for Track 3 and was appealing notice she did not qualify for Track 3. While the appellant had completed six units of GE coursework, she did not have the necessary ECE coursework or degree objective required to qualify for Track 3. By moving the appellant to Track 2 she is able to remain in the CARES program. Members discussed the application of another CARES participant employed with a private faith-based school. When a copy of the program's license was requested, the applicant responded the program was exempt and provided what she believed to be documentation. Staff was directed to verify if the program met license exempt status, and if so, the applicant's documentation review would move forward. If the program is required to be licensed, the applicant would be considered ineligible unless she was able to provide proof of licensure.	M/S – Kathleen Tibbals / Kayla Olvera. APPROVED
Agenda Item V – Public Policy	Members reviewed a child care supply comparison between 2006 and 2008 data. In the two year period between 2006 and 2008, Sacramento County experienced a loss of 474 (17%) licensed family child care homes and ten licensed child care centers for a total loss of 4391 licensed child care spaces. The decreases are attributed to declining child care enrollment based on the current economy, homes lost to foreclosure and the retirement of a large percentage of child care workers. (Data based on 2006 and 2008 child care supply information from Child Action, Inc.) Jaclyn P. White, Director Community Services, Child Action, Inc., and manager of the CARES program funds, provided details on the pending ballot measure affecting First 5 funding. The measure would eliminate the First 5 state	

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	<p>commission and cut the funding for the local commissions by 50% for the next five years beginning July 1, 2009. Encumbered funds would not be affected, but what is not clear is what is meant by encumbered: is it funds through the 08/09 fiscal year, or funds obligated through contract through 09/10? Child Action, Inc. has requested a clarification from the local First 5 Commission on funding commitments, since loss of First 5 funds could have a significant impact on Child Action, Inc.'s services to support quality improvement of child care programs and program development for child care providers. It would also impact the CARES program.</p>	
Agenda Item VI – Information Article	<p>Members reviewed a draft of the information article submitted by the Business & PR Committee for input. The first in a series, the article addresses child care concerns and issues from a parent’s perspective. Committee members recommended changes to terminology and suggested resources. Staff will note the changes and take back to the Business & PR Committee.</p>	
Agenda Item VII – Work Plan Review	<p>Due to time constraints this agenda item was tabled until the April meeting.</p>	
Agenda Item VIII – Round Table Discussion Wrap-Up	<p>Due to time constraints this agenda item was tabled until the April meeting.</p>	
Agenda Item IX – Staff Report / Other Business	<p>Members discussed the inconsistency of skills demonstrated by students completing the Environmental Rating System course taught through the Los Rios Community College District. While some students come prepared and trained to conduct assessments as CARES Track 5b participants, other students are not. Child Action, Inc. staff must retrain these participants, and in some cases, the participants drop out of the CARES program because they lack the skills necessary to complete the required work. Committee members discussed the need for consistency in instruction for students taking the ERS course to ensure they are prepared to step into the role as ECERS assessors and that they not only understand the ERS system, but how to score and conduct assessments. Members suggested a meeting of faculty members who teach the course to discuss expectations, guidelines, resources and ideas for course consistency. Jaclyn P. White will coordinate this meeting.</p>	
Agenda Item X – Adjournment	<p>The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.</p>	