

Parents Earning Children Learning

Sacramento County
Local Child Care Plan

May 1997

Sacramento County Local
Child Care and Development
Planning Council

“Parents Earning - Children Learning”

Sacramento County Local Child Care Plan, 1997

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Executive Summary
Sacramento County Local Child Care Plan, 1997

COUNTY WIDE DATA AND ESTIMATES

- According to July 1996 State of California Population Projections of 1,216,048 residents of Sacramento County, 260,952 or 21% are under age 14.

AFDC/TANF RELATED DATA

- As of February 1997, the Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance reported that there were 91,840 children, birth through age 12 living with parent(s) receiving AFDC/TANF on their behalf.
- The number of children on AFDC enrolled in school increased by 12,290 from October 1991 to October 1995, according to information provided by the Sacramento County Office of Education.
- The Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance reports that of 47,061 families receiving AFDC/TANF 9,456 or 20.09% are two parent families as of February 1997.
- According to the California AFDC characteristics study in 1995, 19.6% of AFDC/TANF families are already in the work force.

CHILD CARE INFORMATION

- As of January 1997, 31,242 children birth through 12 are enrolled in licensed child care in Sacramento County according to data collected by Child Action, Inc.
- The current licensed and license exempt center child care capacity is 39,179 according to the information compiled by Child Action, Inc.
- We estimate that 65,969 children birth through 12, of whom 8,683 are AFDC/TANF recipients, have parents who will join the work force and will need licensed child care by 2002.
- We project a shortfall of 26,790 child care spaces by 2002.

ESTIMATED REQUIREMENTS TO MEET 2002 NEED

- Recruit and license an additional 1,500 family child care homes to provide care for 9,000 children.
- Recruit and train 125 new teachers and teacher aides to staff expanded child care centers for 1,500 children.
- Develop 200 START or before and after school recreational program sites on school campuses for 20,000 school age children.
- Develop additional adult education opportunities resulting in an increase in the number of parent participation nursery schools.

TREND HIGHLIGHTS

- Minimum wage increases and reductions in the child care food program will increase the cost of child care.
- Continued reduction in classroom size will create stiff competition for and a probable scarcity of trained child care professionals and physical space for child care and child development programs on school sites.
- Changes in the licensing of family child care homes requiring landlord/owner notification and/or permission may reduce the ability of individuals to establish new family child care homes as needed
- The freeze in hiring and probable reduction in county staff may delay the licensing process for new family child care homes.
- The emphasis on the transition from welfare to work has the potential to displace children of the working poor from their existing subsidized child care slots thus creating a cyclically interrupted path to self-sufficiency.
- The need to create a large number of spaces for child care may result in the utilization of providers whose health and criminal history background have not been cleared, causing further health and safety concerns on the part of parents.
- The recent research findings on the importance of the developmental opportunities in very young children and the significance of physical abuse and /or emotional deprivation and its lasting effects on later brain development argue for the best child care and nurturance at the earliest stages to promote productive citizens in later life.

CONCERNS

- Those currently receiving assistance are afraid that they and their children will be displaced before achieving their educational or career preparation goals.
- The high cost of infant care will negate any savings of the transition from welfare to work or force parents to make choices which are less costly or beneficial to the child.
- The need for a large number of caregivers will create a pressure to reduce existing minimal standards of education for providers.
- Those already employed at low wages are concerned that the child care subsidies for their children will be “claimed” by those transitioning to work.
- Parents need a centralized location to access information on services available including child care, transportation, access to support services and stress reduction.
- The development of working collaborations between employers, providers, schools, agencies and parents is necessary to promote increased access to affordable, quality child care services.
- A pool of qualified substitutes for both child care centers and family day care homes does not exist in Sacramento, which could support opportunities for continuing education of existing staff or cover illness, injuries or other provider related emergencies which can result in no alternate child care for parents.
- Typical workforce entry techniques and opportunities do not qualify for child care subsidies, e.g., on call, internships, volunteer work, etc.
- There is a lack of off hour care. (weekends, shift)
- Provision for mildly ill or other special need child care is currently very scarce and no increase is planned in the immediate future.

RECOMMENDATIONS

FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT

- Continue the approval process for five planning areas for distribution of Federal Block Grant funds as described in Attachment A.
- Approve the use of the certificate (Alternative Payment) program countywide, regardless of Local Plan Area to assure continuity of care.
- Delete the priority for Direct Service for Homeless Children, as they tend to be considered Children at Risk and have first priority call on Federal Block Grant Funds, as at risk children.

SUPPLY EXPANSION:

- Recruit and train 125 new teachers and teacher aides to staff expanded child care centers for 1,500 additional children
- Recruit, train and license 1,500 new Family Child Care homes to provide care for 9,000 children.
- Expand existing part-time (Head Start/ State Preschools) programs to serve 2,000 full time preschool children.
- Increase the abilities of 200 area schools to operate from 6 AM to 6 PM in recreational/academic models for 20,000 plus school-age children.
- Increase number of facilities offering off hour (swing, overnight, evening and weekend) child care.
- Develop a workable model for parent cooperatives for TANF recipients
- Use City of Sacramento Child Care Fund to expand child care services in downtown/midtown.
- Increase the adult education opportunities to provide additional parent participation nursery school spaces.

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT

- Support legislation for child care facility bonds
- Work collaboratively to develop community based child care facilities
- Obtain local redevelopment funds for construction and/or renovation of child care facilities
- Develop family child care satellite systems for school and center based programs
- Promote employer sponsored on-site child care facilities

QUALITY ENHANCEMENT:

- Train child care professionals in child development, business practices, health procedures, cultural competence, and violence prevention.
- Promote quality assessments and accreditation
- Provide training to expand abilities of child care professionals to care for children with special needs
- Promote recruitment and training of child care professionals to work in child care centers as substitutes, teachers and assistants.
- Expand consumer education and parent education opportunities and services.
- Promote access to the new Child Development Permit.
- Support Head Start and child care collaborative projects to enhance and improve quality of child care services.

FUNDING:

- Assure availability of subsidies for low income families without regard to public assistance linkages.
- Advocate for increased state funding for child care to all low income families
- Promote usage of dependent care as an integral part of cafeteria benefit plans for local employers, both public and private
- Promote utilization of the Earned Income Tax Credit for Dependent Care
- Support AB 326 which provides funds for the Expansion of START Program on a pilot basis.

INFORMATION SOURCES 1997 SACRAMENTO LOCAL CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL DATA

AFDC Data: February 1997: Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services

Child Care Data: Child Action, Inc.

Other Data: 1994 Source Book; Community Services Planning Council Inc.; Human Services Information Systems; 1990 United States Census Bureau

**ATTACHMENT A
PROPOSED LOCAL CHILD CARE PLANNING AREAS**

1. NORTH SACRAMENTO

Community Planning Area 1:	95834	North Natomas
	95835	North Natomas
	95836	North Natomas
	95837	North Natomas
Community Planning Area 2:	95626	Elverta
	95673	Rio Linda
Community Planning Area 3:	95660	North Highlands
	95841	Foothill Farms
	95842	Foothill Farms
Community Planning Area 25:	95843	Antelope
Community Planning Area 7:	95833	South Natomas
Community Planning Area 8:	95838	Del Paso Heights
	95815	North Sacramento
Community Planning Area 13:	95814	Downtown
	95816	Downtown

2. NORTH EAST SACRAMENTO

Community Planning Area 4:	95610	Citrus Heights
	95621	Citrus Heights
Community Planning Area 5:	95662	Orangevale
Community Planning Area 9:	95821	Arden Arcade
	95825	Arden Arcade
	95864	Arden Arcade
Community Planning Area 10:	95608	Carmichael
Community Planning Area 11:	95628	Fair Oaks

3. EAST SACRAMENTO

Community Planning Area 6:	95630	Folsom
Community Planning Area 12:	95670	Rancho Cordova
	95827	Bradshaw
	95826	Rosemont
	95655	Mather AFB
Community Planning Area 17:	95829	Vineyard
	95830	Vineyard

4. SOUTH SACRAMENTO

Community Planning Area 14:	95818	Curtis Park
	95822	Land Park
	95831	Greenhaven
	95832	Meadowview

ATTACHMENT A (con't)

Community Planning Area 15:	95817	Oak Park
	95819	Mid Town
	95820	Tahoe Park
Community Planning Area 16:	95823	Parkway
	95824	Fruitridge
	95828	Florin

5. RURAL SOUTH SACRAMENTO

Community Planning Area 18:	95758	Laguna
	95624	Franklin
Community Planning Area 19:	95624	Elk Grove
Community Planning Area 20:	95690	Walnut Grove
	95641	Isleton
	95639	Hood
	95615	Courtland
	95680	Ryde
Community Planning Area 21:	96623	Galt
Community Planning Area 22:	95693	Wilton
	95683	Sloughhouse
	95742	Aerojet
Community Planning Area 23:	95638	Herald
Community Planning Area 24:		Rancho Murieta

History of Local Child Care Planning In Sacramento

Sacramento County has been involved in local child care planning for the past twenty five years.

- **1972**

The Board of Supervisors established the Child Care Commission to provide them with recommendations on the allocation and distribution of Federal Block Grant funds as well as coordinate the varied child care programs in the county: family day care; center based care; private and public sector care.

- **1976**

In December 1976, the Board of Supervisors established the Children's Commission and incorporated the former Child Care Commission into the broader purpose Children's Commission as the Child Care Committee. The Children's Commission purpose was to provide policy guidance and recommendations on a broad spectrum of issues facing children and families in Sacramento including child care services. Also in 1976, Child Action was funded as the Child Care Resource and Referral Agency, providing referrals, technical assistance and financial aid to parents. A member of the staff was a member of the Commission from inception to dissolution in 1994. Under contract with the County until 1994, Child Action conducted an annual child care supply survey.

- **1981**

Beginning in 1981 with a grant from the National Association of Counties, the City and County of Sacramento in conjunction with the United Way, Central Labor Council, Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and the Private Industry Council, established the Child Care Coalition to provide a forum for the planning and development of child care services to meet the diverse needs of Sacramento community. The Coalition sponsored forums on Employer Supported Child Care, School Age Child Care and other emerging child care issues. The coalition discussed legislative, regulatory and local program changes and developed policy recommendations. These were presented to the local legislative bodies for adoption and/ or action.

- **1986**

In 1986 the Mayor's Child Care Task Force was formed in the City of Sacramento. This group explored the efficacy of a City Child Care Commission, developer needs, child care needs of city employees, a methodology for encouraging the development of child care facilities in the downtown area and the barriers to affordable, available, accessible and quality child care .

- **1988**

Both the City and County of Sacramento established Child Care Coordinator positions in 1988. The purpose of these positions was to assess the child care needs of both city and county employees and to develop strategies for meeting those needs, including working with developers, providers and planning departments to streamline planning processes in both entities. Both full time positions have been eliminated in the past several years as a consequence of budget reductions . In Sacramento County the child care coordination responsibility currently rests with the Executive Officer of the Civil Service Commission and represents a resource allocation of approximately 1/10 full time position. According to the City of Sacramento a like amount of staff time is allocated on a "floating" basis. Policies adopted by both the City and County relating to family leave, use of flex time, dependent care benefit plans, use of sick leave for family illnesses, etc. remain in place in both entities.

- **1990**

To address the issue of affordability at the local county level, on February 13,1990, the County Board of Supervisors created and appointed a Child Care Authority Task force consisting of 18 members representing employers, providers, developers, banking and philanthropic foundations. The scope of work included, but was not limited to:

- Examination and analysis of all existing child care authorities in California;
- Examination of other special purpose authorities;
- Development of the structure of a local child care authority;
- Funding strategies; and
- Legislative proposals (local and state), if necessary.

The work of the task force concluded in early 1991, after determining on advice of the County Counsel that there were significant barriers and current legal challenges to the effective establishment of a single purpose authority with general assessment and allocation powers. Members of the Task Force were recruited to serve as members of the Local Child Care Planning Council.

• **1991**

Congress passed the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act in 1990 which created the first national child care services. In California, Assemblywoman Jackie Speier introduced AB 2124 (Chapter 1187, Statutes of 1991) which allowed the County Boards of Supervisors and Education to designate a single child care planning body, with representatives from specific areas. On April 23, 1991, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors designated the Sacramento County Children's Commission as the local child care planning body for purposes of meeting state and federal requirements. On May 21, 1991, the Sacramento County Board of Education made an identical designation. A specific committee of the Commission was established that included representatives from the Child Care Authority Task Force, the Child Care Coalition and the Child Care Committee of the Children's Commission, fulfilling the requirements specified in legislation. That body continues today, having succeeded the dissolution of the Sacramento County Children's Commission as the Council responsible for Local Child Care Planning, with different members, but with the areas of representation intact (See attachment A) and supported since 1995 by annual grants of \$17,000 from the California Department of Education carryover funds which are contracted to Child Action for staff services.

In 1991 the County of Sacramento received \$2,444,000, which was allocated by the State Department of Education utilizing the priorities established by the Local Planning Council and approved by the County Boards of Supervisors and Education. The priorities were established by providing specific information on the child care supply, children in need of care and the cost of care in each of five Local Planning areas aggregated from the twenty-four community plan areas to a large public forum. Data cards were solicited from each participant who stated areas of concern and priorities for service. Key persons in the community who were not present at the forum received individual mailings of the priorities set forth by the larger group and their input was tallied along with those present. This data was compiled and presented to the Local Child Care Planning Council who then refined the priorities and adopted the final recommendations which were forwarded to the elected bodies and approved by them with the final approved plan being forwarded to the California Department of Education on August 20, 1991.

The original allocation of these funds is reflected in Table 1 with specific designations for target populations and areas. Over time priorities developed for very specific ages, populations and locales proved very limiting when it came to administering funds and meeting the needs of children and parents in the community. As a consequence amendments/adjustments in the allocation were made over time, and as of FY 95 the allocations are as shown on Table 1. The amount of the allocation for Sacramento County also increased to \$5,484,793. Additional adjustments were made in 1995-1996, becoming permanent for FY 96-97 and beyond with funds in the amount of \$121,986 being reassigned from the Elk Grove Parks and Recreation District to a contract with the National Human Development Foundation. The full allocation information from the California Department of Education is not available for FY 96-97.

Table 1

Comparison of 1991/1995 CCDBG Funds					
	1991		1995		Change
	Amount	%	Amount	%	
Special Populations					
Children of Teen	\$366,600	15%	\$876,406	16%	1%
Homeless Children	\$122,200	5%	\$179,980	3%	-2%
Children at Risk	\$122,200	5%	\$323,500	6%	1%
Planning Areas					
North Sacramento	\$562,120	23%	\$1,156,299	21%	-2%
N.E. Sacramento	\$122,200	5%	\$820,481	15%	10%
East Sacramento	\$195,520	8%	\$329,590	6%	-2%
South Sacramento	\$830,960	34%	\$1,535,123	28%	-6%
Rural Co. Sacramento	\$122,200	5%	\$221,412	4%	-1%
	\$2,444,000	100%	\$5,442,791	100%	

- **1992**

The Child Care Fund established by the City of Sacramento in 1992, consisting of funds deposited by developers of properties in the downtown area, also remains intact although unallocated. These funds were to be utilized for the establishment of child care facilities for the use of employees in the downtown area. To date, a sum of approximately \$180,000 has been contributed to the fund. It is unknown when the City Council will approve priorities for the use of these funds.

- **1993 - 1996**

The local Child Care Planning Council in conjunction with the Child Care Coalition Steering Committee has reviewed the extent to which the current allocations have met the existing needs in the community and have recommended the reallocations as noted above.

ATTACHMENT B

Membership Roster

Local Child Care Planning & Child Care Coalition
Steering Committee Members
8795 Folsom Blvd., Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95826
(916) #87-0510
Updated 04/8/97

PARENTS

Name	Organization	Address	Phone
Jennifer O'Neal	Parent Voices		

EMPLOYERS

Name	Organization	Address	Phone
Tami Kint	Raley's/Bel Air Stores		

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Name	Organization	Address	Phone
Karen Valech, Co-Chair	SVAEYC - Sacramento Valley Asso. for the Education of Young Children		
Claire Pisor/Elizabeth English	Cal-Learn Program/Sutter Health		
Greg Hess	Inter-Tribal Council		
Margaret Thorton	SHRA		

**ATTACHMENT B (con't)
Local Child Care Planning Membership Roster**

GOVERNMENT

Name	Organization	Address	Phone
Alan Boyd	City of Sacramento		
Shirley Concocino	City of Sacramento-Mayor's Office		
Paul Harling	Sacramento GAIN Program		
Peggy Keefe	Dept. Human Assistance		
Vicky Dean	Sacramento County Board of Education		

CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

Name	Organization	Address	Phone
Cindy Giesen	Lotsa Hugs Child Care Program		
Ed Condon	Montessori Learning Commons		
Diane Cromwell, Co-Chair	American River College		
Norma Johnson/Sharon Neese	SETA Headstart Programs		
Sandra Walden/Carol Milliken	B.J. Jordan Child Care Programs		
Jaci White/Lynn Patten	Child Action, Inc.		
Martha Neill	The Caring Place, Luthern Church of the Master		
Judy Randall/Mary Ann Wallinger	San Juan Unified District - Child Care		
Frances Oda	Sacto. City Unified District - Child Care		

STAFF

Name	Organization	Address	Phone
Faye Kennedy	Child Action, Inc.		
Peter lee	Sacramento County Office of Education		
Marge Tomczak - Spc. Consultant	Child Action, Inc.		

TRENDS

In this section we address the key legislative and other changes in both county and other governmental agencies which have occurred since 1991. Those legislative changes which occurred in fiscal year 1996-1997, or will become effective in FY 1997-1998 have been summarized and we have provided our best thinking, along with that of other child advocacy groups, as to the potential impact in Sacramento and some steps which must be considered in the strategies for the local child care plan. We have also included some research findings which have a direct bearing on the fields of child care and child development and resulting implications for local child care planning.

Welfare Reform:

The Personal Responsibility Act of 1996 was passed by Congress and signed by the President, effecting the greatest change in the manner in which America will or will not provide support to families with dependent children in sixty years. Individuals or families receiving aid (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families {TANF}) are limited to a lifetime total of five year limit of benefits. States are authorized to design their own programs within certain Federal limits.

At this time (April 1997) Governor Wilson has proposed a one year limit of benefits within a 24 month period, requiring all single mothers and two parent families with children over 3 months to be employed, in training or performing community service for 32 hours per week if a single parent or 35 hours per week if a two parent family, as a condition of continuing assistance. Federal guidelines set employment standards to be met by each state. Participation requirements for single parent families in the first year (1997) are 25% and for two parent families are 75%, increasing to 50% and 90% respectively by 2002.

Child Care Information, Sacramento County (page B) projects the number of children receiving AFDC who will need child care in 2002.

Impact

It is anticipated that when this measure is fully implemented and 100% participation is required of both single and two parent households currently receiving assistance, that **26,704 children will need child care**. Of the 91,985 children whose parent(s) currently receive AFDC on their behalf, it is projected that 19.6% are already in care, 20.9% are in two parent families and are assumed to be cared for by one of the parents and of the remaining 51% will find other than licensed care. This will require a child care system which is roughly double that which currently exists in Sacramento County.

In order to increase the supply of child care there is an increased need to train providers, both for center based care and family child care homes. It has been proposed that current recipients could be trained to fill at least a portion of this void and could also become Family Child Care providers.

As providers in centers are required to have 12 Early Childhood Education units, a strategy to provide these units in a more compact and accessible manner is being developed by the local community colleges. There are start up costs of approximately \$2,500 inherent in beginning a Family Child Care home, such as fire extinguishers, accreditation in CPR and First Aid, acquisition of equipment, etc. Renovation costs may increase this amount in order to bring a home into conformance with licensing standards. Funding for such costs can serve as a barrier to a recipient's ability to make that transition. Grants for entrepreneurial start up would be a way of addressing those needs. It is anticipated that this will require an 4.5 FTE increase in child care licensing staff. The increased staff cost for the Department of Health and Human Services is estimated at \$261,000. Current hiring freezes and the anticipated position cuts may serve to delay the availability of the necessary supply of homes.

As parents transition from welfare to work, certain methods for obtaining employment for those not receiving assistance appear to be not available to those who are. For example, volunteer or internship positions or on-call, temporary assignments are not considered sufficient to make an individual eligible for subsidized child care.

As we move to implement Welfare Reform a modification of federal regulations and law are needed to permit the utilization of child care monies to be utilized in conjunction with Head Start funds to provide more full day, wraparound child care services to those families and children eligible for Head Start. Parent cooperatives for the provision of care are also an alternative needing further exploration and model development .

Class Size Reduction:

Class size reduction following passage of SB 1777 and SB 1789 in the 1995-1996 legislative year, provided two options for school districts beginning in FY 1996-1997. It permitted the reduction of class size in grades kindergarten through grade 3 only, allowing class size of twenty or fewer students per *certificated* teacher. The options provide different amounts to school districts who reduce class size for full or half days. The governor's proposed budget for 1997-1998 carries \$304.3 million for additional reductions.

Impact

The California Department of Education, Child Development Division recently surveyed all of its contractors that provide center-based services to determine the impact of class size reduction (CSR) on subsidized child care and development programs. Respondents represented a total of 1,448 classrooms which currently serve 27,231 children. Although a few programs are experiencing the loss of a site, it appears at this time that the major impact CSR is having on child care and development programs is relocation -- temporary or permanent -- into inadequate and/or inappropriate facilities. 85% of respondents indicated that there would be no effect in the current fiscal year and less than 2% of programs and facilities are gone for good.

There was an overwhelming need expressed for modular/relocatable buildings, both to maintain the existing programs and to move programs from poor facilities into more appropriate facilities in which to serve children and their families.

There has also been a incredible impact on staffing needs both for the implementation of CSR and the ripple effect in the child care and development programs whose instructors have been hired away from their programs. The quality of instruction is at question in the new reduced size classrooms given the number of provisional certificates. There is question as to the capacity of the Community Colleges to train sufficient child care providers in the required ECE units. The role of a child care provider is seen as a potential employment opportunity for those transitioning from Welfare to Work provided that this is their career of choice and that they have the aptitude and disposition for child care.

In Sacramento all but the following districts with elementary schools have reduced class size:

Sacramento City Unified
Arcohe (average ADA of 500 - already small class size)

Two districts have not displaced any child care and development programs to date.

In the San Juan School district no resulting reductions have occurred nor classroom spaces been lost in child development or preschool programs. Further, as the district moves to reopen Kenneth Avenue School as an elementary school it has committed to moving its School Age Parent (SAPID) program to Encina High School (including a new nursery for the children). Two, in Folsom Cordova, the school board has adopted a policy of no displacement of preschool programs will occur as a result of class size reduction.

All Local Boards of Education should develop workable strategies which will enable them to open schools from 6 AM to 6 PM in order to provide the needed before and after school opportunities needed for school age children and their siblings.

Licensing:

SB 265 (Chapter 18/Statutes of 1996) effective January 1, 1997 permits Family Child Care Home Licensees, both small (6) and large (12) to care for two (2) additional children over the age of six years (Plus Two Option), only if they meet all the requirements of the new law:

- Signed License Addendum
- Proof of control of property - deed or lease
- Signed consent of landlord, if renting
- Notification to each parent of children in care of change in capacity
- Reduction of number of infants in care by one when any additional schoolage child present

SB 1695 (Chapter 449/Statutes of 1996) also effective January 1, 1997 requires all Family Child Care Home licensees who are leasing or renting their homes to notify the landlord/property owner that they are operating a family child care home. Permission of owner/landlord is **required** for those homes caring for 2 additional school age children.

It is imperative that the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency continue to review the options of child care on all of its projects, including providing permission to its occupants to operate family child care homes on its premises.

AB 1980 (Chapter 881/Statutes of 1996) requires all Family Child Care Home licensees to make available to the public, at their home, licensing reports of inspections and substantiated complaints.

Impact

The potential impact on those Large Family Child Care Homes which choose the Plus Two option is the possible requirement to obtain use permits within the cities of Sacramento, Folsom, Isleton and Galt as well as the unincorporated area of Sacramento County. Currently zoning provisions in the City and County of Sacramento provide that large Family Child Care Homes for 12 or fewer children are permitted and conforming uses in residential zones.

The requirement for providers to reduce the number of infants in care at a one-to-one ratio for each school age child in the "Plus Two" allowance could reduce the existing supply of already scarce infant care. Those attending the Issues and Action Forum of the Local Child Care Planning Council felt that there would be little if any impact of this nature given that infant and toddler care is, for the most part, full time care, and school age is part day care, and as such is less financially viable for the family child care provider.

The ability to license the number of required family child care homes in a timely fashion may be impacted by the recent hiring freezes and/or staff reductions imposed on county departments in conjunction with the required budget reductions for 1997-1998 budget.

Food Program:

The tiering system for meal reimbursement required by welfare reform legislation will cut \$2.2 billion nationally from the Child and Adult Care Food Program over the next six years beginning July 1, 1997. Average weekly reimbursement rates would drop from \$82 to \$40.

Impact

It is expected that the greatest impact in Sacramento will occur in approximately 60 % those homes receiving the food program subsidy through the B. J. Jordan Child Care Program, based on a recent assessment by staff in the program. The projected national impact is an increase of \$7 per week in the rate charged by providers.

Minimum wage:

Effective March 1, 1997 the minimum wage will be increased to \$ 5.00 per hour and again in September 1997 to \$5.15 per hour, and to \$5.75 per hour in September of 1998.

It is anticipated that this will increase rates at a number of child care facilities, although no current projections are available.

Local Child Care Planning Council:

In the Governor's Budget there is a permanent funding base in the amount of \$1 M for Local Child Care Planning Councils to develop local priorities for the distribution of federal and state funds. Several bills pending in the legislature propose a reconfiguration of the membership and responsibilities of the Local Planning Council.

Impact

In keeping with this increased allocation it is expected that each Local Planning Council will become the body to determine the recommended priorities for allocation of child care monies to the County Board of Supervisors and the County Board of Education. This is much like the process utilized for the new Federal Child Development Block Grant funds in 1991. However, it appears that it anticipates a larger responsibility over more funds than those currently designated.

Current Research

In 1995 the Families and Work Institute released a report based upon 6 years of assessment found that for the most part the quality of child care in America is minimal, in 35% - 40% of cases is actually harmful, and called for an upgrade of all types of care to best provide the US with children who are prepared to learn and become productive citizens.

In the spring of 1997 much attention is being paid to a variety of research that addresses the need for recognition of the important development that takes place in a child's brain both prenatally and in the very early years of life from birth to age three. (TIME, February 3,1997)

Impact

If a part of the goal of transitioning parents from welfare to work includes a goal of preparing their children to be ready 1.) for school and 2.) for the work force when they reach the age of majority, it is imperative that parents be educated about the importance of these factors when they select the child care placement for their children. It is also important that those who are providing exempt care be provided with the opportunities to learn those techniques and skills which stimulate a child's brain and further their development. This material needs to be incorporated in the training for all child care providers and parents.

SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE SERVICES IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY SUMMARY

Over \$49,587,912 dollars of state and federal funds are allocated each year for child care and preschool services in Sacramento County. These funds are distributed through a comprehensive state-wide delivery system that has evolved to meet the changing needs of our society since 1945 when the first centers were funded during World War II. Forty-five percent of these funds are designated for Compensatory Education Programs, better known as Head Start or State Preschool Programs. These programs were designed in the 1960's as part of the War On Poverty. They are early intervention programs that provide preschool education and parenting education to low-income children and families. Programs are primarily part-time, 3 1/2 hours a day and not designed to address the needs of a working family for child care. Subsidized Child Development programs, which make up another forty-four percent of Sacramento's subsidized child care funds, began to grow in earnest in the late seventies as women joined the work force in increasingly larger numbers. Most recently welfare reform initiatives have expanded the role of the child care programs in an effort to move people from public assistance to self-sufficiency. Only five million dollars of an unlimited entitlement system remains to support child care for public assistance linked families. Each of these government subsidies were developed for specific and unique purposes and serve families in very different ways. To understand how best Sacramento families can be served by these three major subsidy programs, the differences between these programs must be understood.

I. HEAD START AND STATE PRESCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS:

Part-time programs for three and four year old children, running primarily three and one half hours a day, five days a week. Parent participation is desired and strongly encouraged. Both programs are designed for low-income families. Head Start however, can serve up to 10% families that are over income guidelines. The programs are designed to prepare low-income children for school and provide parent education and support services to the family. Head Start has implemented an infant/toddler pilot project during the last year.

II. CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:

Center-based Child Care: Full day child care programs for children, ages birth to fourteen years, from low-income families who need child care in order to work, attend school or participate in job training programs. Programs are regulated by Title 22 of the Health and Safety Code and Title 5 of the Education Code. Parent participation, educational curriculum components and support services for the family are required. These programs are operated by school districts and not-for-profit organizations. They are usually center based although some family day care home systems exist. They are subsidized totally by contract with the California Department of Education.

Alternative Payment/Certificate Programs: Child Care subsidies are distributed through a voucher mechanism to private child care centers, family day care homes and exempt child care providers. These programs are based on Parent Choice. The parent selects the care that best meets the family's needs and the Alternative Payment Program pays for the child care. Non-profit agencies, school districts and county government typically operate these programs under contract with the California Department of Education.

III. COUNTY GOVERNMENT CHILD CARE SERVICES:

County governments operate a number of child care subsidy programs for families who are linked to public assistance. These programs operate on the concept of parental choice, including choice of in-home or exempt child care providers. These programs include GAIN Child Care for participants in the GAIN Program, Transitional Child Care for working families recently transitioned off of public assistance, NET (Non-Gain Education and Training Program) which provides child care for families in certain education and training programs and CAL-Learn which provides eligible teen parents with assistance while attending high school. Counties also offer the Income Disregard and Supplemental Child Care Programs to working AFDC families, where child care costs are subtracted from income before grant amount is calculated.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

I. HEAD START AND STATE PRESCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Head Start and State Preschool Programs account for \$21,527,404 dollars of federal and state dollars in Sacramento County. Head Start funds are administered by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children, Families and Youth. State Preschool funds are administered by the State Department of Education, Child Development Division. Currently we are seeing expansion of both Head Start and State Preschool Programs.

These programs are seen as preventative services, moving families out of poverty and saving the government from the more expensive social costs of welfare, incarceration, and special education. State Preschool and Head Start programs typically offer a 3-1/2 hour preschool class for 3 and 4 year old children, 5 days a week during the school year. Head Start in Sacramento is currently operating two full day programs, one for infant and toddlers. With some exception for children with disabilities, families must be low-income to be eligible for Head Start and State Preschool Program and their children must be between the ages of 3 and mandatory school age.

Head Start: The Sacramento Employment and Training Agency contracts with local school districts and community based organizations for provision of Head Start Programs. SETA also operates Head Start Programs in areas of the county not served by the school districts. Currently \$16,000,000 dollars is allocated for part-time Head Start Preschool Programs in Sacramento County.

State Preschool: \$5,527,404 dollars in State Preschool funds are currently allocated by the State Department of Education to the major school districts and a few community based organizations.

Agencies Operating Head Start and State Preschool Programs:

B.J. Jordan Child Care Programs, Inc.
Center Joint Unified School District
Del Paso Heights Elementary School District
Delta Community Head Start Center
Elk Grove Unified School District
Folsom-Cordova Unified School District
Galt Unified School District
Los Rios Community College District
Meadowview Community Action
Natomas Elementary School District
North Sacramento Unified School District
Oak Park Preschool
Robla School District
Sacramento City Unified School District
Sacramento Employment and Training Agency
San Juan Unified School District
Women's Civic Improvement Club (Playmate)

II. CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Over \$20,995,170 is allocated to School Districts, Public Municipalities, and Community Based Organizations for the delivery of child care and development services. Lowest-income families 1) who need child care in order to work, attend school, or participate in a job training program; 2) are at risk of child abuse or neglect; or, 3) who have a child or parent incapacitated because of medical or psychiatric needs are eligible. These funds are administered by the State Department of Education, Child Development Division. There are thirteen different program types and two service delivery mechanisms, center/home based care and certificate payments. Many of the programs have the same rules and regulations for program eligibility and reimbursement. However, there are significant differences between the federal and state programs. This creates barriers for continuum of service for families as their needs and eligibility change. Additionally, SETA operates one full-day Head Start Child Care Program.

Center-based Child Care Program Types: \$13,129,555

1. Campus Child Care **Funding: \$122,760**

This program supports child care for low-income parents who are students in the University of California, California State University, and Los Rios Community College systems. Children must be under age fourteen.
Locations: American River College and Sacramento City College.

2. Federal Child Care Block Grant **Funding: \$2,124,943**

Federal Child Care Block Grant was authorized to provide states with child care funding for low-income families who are working, in training, seeking employment or in need of protective services. Programs were funded based on how well their applications met the priorities for funding set by the Local Planning Council. Sacramento Local Child Care Plan designated funds for Children of Teen Parents, Children of Homeless Families, Children At Risk, and Infant and School-age Children.

Locations: B. J. Jordan Child Care Programs, Inc., Elk Grove Unified School District, Los Rios Community College, National Human Development Foundation, Sacramento City College, Sacramento City Parks and Community Services, Sacramento City Unified School District, Sacramento Employment and Training Agency and San Juan Unified School District.

County Authority: County Local Planning Council develop and revise priorities for funding, which must be approved by the County Office of Education and the County Board of Supervisors.

..Federal Block Grant: Development/Family Housing Demonstration Project

This program provides child care in public housing projects. Children must be between the ages of 18 months and 8 years and their families must meet Federal Block Grant eligibility requirements.

Location: Sacramento Employment and Training Agency operates the program in the Norwood Apartment Complex. Continuing Development, Inc. operates the program in Florin Gardens Apartment Complex.

3. General Child Care **Funding: \$6,558,565**

These full-day and Before and After School Programs are operated by public and private non-profit agencies under contract to the State Department of Education. Programs must meet program requirements in Title 5 of the Education Code which monitor staff ratios and education, as well as the educational, health, social service components of the program. Eligibility is based on lowest income.

Locations: Associated Students-CSU, Sacramento, B.J. Jordan Child Care Programs, Inc, Good Neighbors of Del Paso Heights, Inc., Grace Day Home, Los Rios Community College District, National Human Development Foundation, North Sacramento School District, Oak Park Methodist Church, Sacramento City Unified School District, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, Saint Patrick's Child Care Center, Salvation Army, San Juan Unified School District, and Shiloh Arms.

4. Head Start Child Care Program **Funding: \$237,559**

Head Start operates one full-day child care center in Sacramento County for three to five year old children. This program uses the Head Start model, but extends the program to care for children from low-income families who are working, in school, or enrolled in training programs.

Locations: Playmate Child Care Center is administered by the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency.

5. Migrant Child Care**Funding: \$85,823**

Migrant Child Care Programs operate full-day child care programs from May through October for children, ages birth to thirteen, whose families are migrant and seasonal agricultural workers. Centers are typically located in Migrant Housing Projects.

Locations: Family Child Care System operated by East Bay YMCA.

6. School-Age Community Child Care (Latchkey)**Funding: \$767,959**

This program provides funds to local not-for-profits, school districts and municipalities for before and after school child care for children enrolled in kindergarten through the ninth grade. Fifty percent of the families must be low-income working, in training or enrolled in school. The other fifty percent of the families pay equivalent parent fees, providing a match for the subsidy.

Locations: City of Sacramento, Continuing Development, Inc., San Juan Unified School District.

7. School-Age Parenting and Infant Development Programs**Funding: \$833,708**

These programs are designed to provide child care and parenting education to teen-age mothers who are enrolled in secondary education programs. There is no income eligibility. The parent must be enrolled in high school. Programs are operated by school-districts, usually at a continuation high school facilities.

Locations: Elk Grove Unified School District, Grant Unified School District, Sacramento City Unified School District, and San Juan Unified School District. Galt Unified School District provides a similar program, but does not receive state subsidies.

8. Title IV A- At Risk Child Care Program**Funding: \$2,398,238**

This program provides payment for lowest income, working families who are at risk of welfare dependency. Children must be under thirteen years of age. Families who receive AFDC or GAIN services are not eligible.

Location: B.J. Jordan Child Care Programs, Inc., North Sacramento School District, Sacramento City Unified School District, San Juan Unified School District.

Alternative Payment/Certificate Program Types:**\$7,457,368****1. Alternative Payment Program****Funding: \$1,130,035**

This program provides child care payments for children, ages birth to fourteen years, from low-income families who are working, enrolled in school or training programs, or in need of protective services. Parents choose child care of their choice in the private sector and monthly payments are made to providers upon documentation of attendance. Subsidy stays with the family until they are no longer eligible. Parents may pay a portion of the fee, depending upon their income.

Location: Child Action, Inc.

2. Child Protective Services**Funding: \$143,269**

Using the Alternative Payment mechanism, this program pays for child care for children who are at risk of abuse, neglect or sexual molestation. The family must have a professional referral and be enrolled in a treatment program. The program has a six month limit for enrollment.

Location: Child Action, Inc.

3. Federal Block Grant Certificate**Funding: \$4,302,944**

This program provides certificate payments for child care to lowest income families who are working, enrolled in school or training programs, or in need of protective services. Parents have a choice of licensed or exempt child care providers. Children must be under the age of fourteen to receive services. Funds must be expended according the Local Planning Priorities.

Location: Child Action, Inc.

4. Title IV A- At Risk Child Care Program

Funding: \$1,881,120

This program provides payment for lowest income, working families who are at risk of welfare dependency. Children must be under thirteen years of age. Payments are made to licensed and exempt child care providers up on documentation of child attendance. No families who receive AFDC or GAIN services are eligible.

Location: Child Action, Inc.

Child Care Resource and Referral Program Type:

Funding: \$408,246

1. Child Care Resource and Referral

Funding: \$249,317

This program provides child care information and referrals to the community regardless of family income.

2. Federal Block Grant-Quality Improvement

Funding: \$82,929

This program provides quality improvement activities for child care and development programs in the community.

3. GAIN Child Care Support

Funding: \$76,000

This program provides referral services to GAIN clients.

III. COUNTY GOVERNMENT CHILD CARE SERVICES: Funding: \$7,065,338

The County of Sacramento administers child care services for families who are currently receiving public assistance (AFDC) or at risk of welfare dependency. The majority of the funds for these child care support services are federal entitlement programs. Only GAIN and NET Programs have a limit on the amount of funding that is designated for child care assistance. These funds are administered by the county Department of Human Assistance.

1. GAIN Child Care Program Funding: \$2,400,000

This program is funded by federal and state dollars as part of the Family Support Act, which mandates training and education programs for AFDC recipients. The parents chooses licensed or exempt child care and payment is made to the provider based upon child attendance.

Location: County Department of Human Assistance.

2. NET - Non-GAIN Education and Training Program Funding: \$212,538

This program provides payments for licensed and exempt child care services for AFDC recipients enrolled in approved education and training programs, who are not being served by GAIN. Children must be under thirteen years of age. Payment is made upon documentation of child attendance.

Location: County Department of Human Assistance

3. Transitional Child Care Program Funding: \$780,000

This program provides one year of child care payments to working families transitioning off of AFDC. Payments are made to the parent upon verification of payment or incurred costs for child care services.

Location: County Department of Human Assistance

4. Income Disregard Funding: Phasing Out

This program provides assistance with child care expenses for working AFDC families. A portion of the family's child care expenses are deducted from their earnings before the monthly grant is calculated. **The projected loss ranges from \$2,032,800 to \$2,710,400.**

Location: County Department of Human Assistance

County Authority: County administers all welfare services.

5. Child Care Supplemental Program Funding: \$840,000

This program works in conjunction with Income Disregard reimbursing AFDC working parents for child care expenditures that are over the amount (\$175/\$200) used to adjust the monthly grant. This amount is mailed directly to the parents.

6. CAL-Learn Program Funding: \$800,000

This program provides eligible teen parents with assistance while attending high school.

Contractor: Sutter Center for Women's Health

**COMPARISON OF CHILD CARE FUNDING
1992 - 1996**

	1992	1996	Change	Percent
Head Start	7,482,736	16,000,000	8,517,264	214%
State Preschool	3,235,667	5,527,404	2,291,737	171%
			0	
Total Part-time Preschool Programs	10,718,403	21,527,404	10,809,001	201%
			0	
State General Fund Child Development Dollars	10,816,198	13,921,477	3,105,279	129%
Contract Child Development Progs	8,227,663	10,767,053	2,539,390	131%
Certificate Programs	2,588,535	3,154,424	565,889	122%
			0	
Federal Block Grant Funds	2,444,000	6,427,887	3,983,887	263%
Contract Child Development Progs	1,296,108	2,124,943	828,835	164%
Certificate Programs	1,147,892	4,302,944	3,155,052	375%
			0	
County Child Care Programs	5,763,532	5,763,532	0	100%
Programs	5,763,532	5,763,532	0	100%
Entitlements	TCC/Income Disregard	Eliminated		
			0	
Full Day Head Start	237,559	237,559	0	100%
			0	
Total Full Day Programs	19,261,289	26,350,455	7,089,166	137%
			0	
			0	
Total Child Care & Development Funds	29,979,692	47,877,859	17,898,167	160%

Attachment C

Workplan for 1997 - 1998 for Local Child Care Planning Council and Staff

The following is the workplan adopted by the Local Child Care Planning Council on July 9, 1997 to implement the Recommendations as contained in the Local plan submitted to the State Department of Education on June 10, 1997 following adoption by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and the Sacramento County Board of Education on May 20, 1997. The format contains 1.) a restatement of the recommendation, 2.) tasks to be completed, 3.) who is responsible and 4.) date for implementation/completion.

RECOMMENDATIONS

FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT

- Continue the approval process for five planning areas for distribution of Federal Block Grant funds as described in Attachment A1
- Approve the use of the certificate (Alternative Payment) program countywide, regardless of Local Plan Area to assure continuity of care
- Delete the priority for Direct Service for Homeless Children, as they tend to be considered Children at Risk and have first priority call on Federal Block Grant Funds, as at risk children.

The recommendations regarding the allocation of Federal block Grant Funds were forwarded to the State Department of Education, Child Development division in June 1997.

Tasks to be completed - monitor approval of same by CDD - track date of receipt and forward information to: Local Child Care Planning (LCCP) Council, Board of Supervisors and County Board of Education. Others to be notified include Penelope Clarke, Cheryl Davis and Alan Boyd or other designee in the City of Sacramento.

Responsible Local Child Care Planning (LCCP) Coordinator

Date for completion September 1997

SUPPLY EXPANSION:

- Recruit and train 125 new teachers and teacher aides to staff expanded child care centers for 1,500 additional children.

This recommendation is the primary responsibility of the Community Colleges and their collaborators.

- * Develop and set up tracking mechanism(s) to document recruitment and training efforts and the numbers who respond to recruitment; enter training and complete necessary training for both teacher and teacher aide position(s)

Facilitation responsibility - Local Child Care Planning Coordinator -

Date for implementation- September 1997

Date for completion- January 2002

- Recruit, train and license 1,500 new Family Child Care homes to provide care for 9,000 children.

Tasks to be completed

- * Develop and set up recruitment and training strategy and schedule (8/1/97)
- * Develop and submit budget request(s) for additional family child care licensing staff - (10/1/97)
- * Meet with necessary budget and policy staff and, if necessary, elected officials to obtain staff in needed time frames (3/98-8/98)
- * Begin recruitment (10/97)
- * Train and license new providers - Target 300 per year for next five years(97-98 through 01-02)

Responsibility - Family Day Care Licensing staff, Child Action and Local Child Care Planning Coordinator

Date for implementation - August 1997

Date for completion - June 2002

- Expand existing part-time (Head Start/State Preschools) programs to serve 2,000 full time preschool children

Tasks to be completed

- * Determine availability and accessibility of expansion funding for Head Start/ State Preschools
- * Develop letters of support when required, including needs data from local plan
- * Work with Head Start and school district staff in determining who will apply for funds and assist in developing collaborative ventures where and when necessary
- * Set benchmarks for expansion of a certain number of slots by a specific date in keeping with the work participation requirements of TANF and the projected increases of children in need of care in this age bracket over time

Responsibility - Head Start, School district, Local Child Care Planning Coordinators

Date of implementation - April 1997

Date of completion - June 2002

- Increase the abilities of 200 area schools to operate from 6 AM to 6 PM in recreational/academic models for 20,000 plus school-age children.

Tasks to be completed

- * Work for passage of AB 326
- * Obtain resolutions of support from County Boards of Education and Supervisors, City Councils and Schools Districts.
- * Provide needs data to Assembly staff as requested.
- * Arrange for parent testimony when necessary.
- * Identify schools(districts) where need is greatest using capacity and needs data from local plan
- * Meet with district/school staff and develop site specific strategies to assure implementation
- * Develop site specific task, responsibility and outcome benchmarks for each

Responsibility Lead -Local Child Care Planning Coordinator, Child Action staff and Parent Voices

Date for completion Work on AB 326 - February 1997 until passage

Other December 1998

- Increase number of facilities offering off hour (swing, overnight, evening and weekend) child care

Tasks to be completed

- * Assess need for number, location and type and of off hour child care slots
- * Notify provider community of results
- * Develop transition plan for existing providers and start up for new providers
- * Develop business strategy to assure sustainability

Responsibility

Local Child Care Planning Coordinator, provider groups and employers; Child Action (CCIP)

Date for completion

Assessment and information dissemination June 1998
 Begin transition plan/July 1998
 Complete plan and business strategy June 1999

- Develop a workable model for parent cooperatives for TANF recipients

Tasks to be completed

- * Completion of model under development by Child Action

Responsible

Child Action consultant

Date for completion August 1997

- Use City of Sacramento Child Care Fund to expand child care services in downtown/midtown

Tasks to be completed

- * Determine amount and current status of fund
- * Meet with City and council staff to set priority for fund use
- * Receive City Council approval for fund allocation and use

Responsible

Local planning and city staff

Date for completion

Determination September 1997

Priority set March 1998

Allocation approval June 1998

- Increase the adult education opportunities to provide additional parent participation nursery school spaces

Tasks to be completed

- * Determine number of existing opportunities and capacity for expansion
- * Project need for additional expansion and develop strategy to obtain same
- * Set targets for expansion over 5 years

Responsible:

Local Planning and school district staff

Date for completion:

Determination January 1998

Projections March 1998

Targets June 1998

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT

- Support legislation for child care facility bonds

Tasks to be completed

- * Secure resolutions of support from County Board of Education, County Board of Supervisors, City Council.
- * Incorporate into County's Annual Legislative package.

Responsible: Local Child Care Planning Coordinator, County Office of Education, county and city staff.

Date for completion: December 1997

- Work collaboratively to develop community based child care facilities

Tasks to be completed

- * Identify existing group to assume this role and function
- * Identify potential existing funding sources
- * Develop cost estimates and potential site locations based on need and feasibility.

Responsible For facilitation - Local Child Care Planning Coordinator

Date for completion

Identification of and acceptance by group October 1997.

Other June 1998 and ongoing

- Obtain local redevelopment funds for construction and/or renovation of child care facilities

Tasks to be completed

- * Confer with SHRA and determine amount in current set asides for child care facilities and designated areas for use.
- * Determine next steps for additional allocation/designation of funding for same and set up additional task matrix.

Responsible - Local Child Care Planning Coordinator

Date for completion: January 1998

- Develop family child care satellite systems for schools and center based programs

Tasks to be completed

- * Determine areas in which systems to be established; entities, groups, and individuals to be involved in each.
- * Establish ad hoc area specific planning and implementation groups for geographic area.

Responsible: Local Child Care Planning Council and staff with input from County Board of Education and Supervisors.

Date for completion: Groups established February 1998.

All satellites up and running - December 2001.

- Promote employer sponsored on-site child care facilities

Tasks to be completed

- * Recruit participation of local economic development, council and chamber of commerce staff and members.
- * Engage those employers already providing same as pro bono consultants to planning body.
- * Update existing materials on pros and cons for employers.
- * Hold forum for employers on benefits and feasibility, utilizing existing Sacramento area employers as some of the presenters.

Responsible Local Child Care Planning Council and staff, County Board and Office of Education, County Board of Supervisors and County Economic Development staff.

Date for completion

Forum to be presented as Issues and Action forum for Local Child Care Planning Council Spring of 1998

QUALITY ENHANCEMENT:

- Train child care professionals in child development, business practices, health procedures, cultural competence, and violence prevention

Tasks to be completed

- * Identify and inventory existing training opportunities both public and private which are available in the identified subject areas
- * Identify gaps and resources to fill them.
- * Disseminate information on availability and opportunities to all providers both center and family child care.
- * Initiate and develop a training tracking process.

Responsible: Child Action Resource and Referral Staff in conjunction with Community Colleges, School Districts and the Department of Health and Human Services

Date for completion:

Inventory/March 1998

Dissemination/June 1998

Tracking/September 1998

- Promote quality assessments and accreditation

Tasks to be completed

- * Include articles on both in Child Action Newsletters
- * Develop information packets for distribution to local decision and policy makers as well as local press.

Responsible: Child Action, Child Development Consortium, Local Child Care Planning Council

Date for completion: October 1997 and ongoing through 2002

- Provide training to expand abilities of child care professionals to care for children with special needs

Tasks to be completed

- * Identify and inventory the existing offerings in this area
- * Identify gaps and resources available to fill gaps.
- * Identify needs which will be unmet and identify possible resources to fill same.
- * Develop calendar of offerings and disseminate to all providers.

Responsible Child Action Resource and Referral staff in conjunction with community colleges, school districts, Sacramento County Office of Education Special Education and Infant Development Programs, Alta Regional Center, U C Davis, and other health organizations.

Date for completion

Inventory /March 1998
Dissemination June/1998

- Promote recruitment and training of child care professionals to work in child care centers as substitutes, teachers and assistants

Tasks to be completed

- * Develop an overall training and recruitment plan to include high school, community college and university personnel in conjunction with SETA, GAIN and others which include target numbers and benchmarks for various groups.
- * Develop PSA's to promote recruitment of all types of child care professionals, including family child care providers.

Responsible: Local Child Care Planning Coordinator, Child Action, ROP, Community Colleges, SETA, GAIN, DHHS, CSUS

Date for completion

Plan/ February 1998
PSA/ May 1998
Ongoing

- Expand consumer education and parent education opportunities and services

Tasks to be completed

- * Identify funding sources to maintain an increased number of parent and consumer education opportunities and services, including but not limited to the establishment of parent cooperatives.

Responsible Child Action consultant

Date for completion : Fall 1997 and ongoing

- Support Head Start and child care collaborative projects to enhance and improve child care services
See page 25

FUNDING:

- Assure availability of subsidies for low income families without regard to public assistance link-ages
- Advocate for increased state funding for child care to all low income families

Tasks to be completed

- * Develop policy position paper for presentation to Sacramento County Boards of Education and Supervisors,
- * Sacramento City Council and other locally elected bodies for inclusion in their annual legislative agendas.
- * Monitor progress on annual basis.

Responsible: Local Child Care Planning Council and Staff

Date for Completion: December 1997 and renewed annually

- Promote usage of dependent care as an integral part of cafeteria benefit plans for local employers, both public and private

Tasks to be completed

- * Identify entities currently utilizing same and develop vignettes about ease /complications of administration for employee/employer
- * Disseminate information at employer supported child care forum.
- * Develop and disseminate a briefing piece through economic development and chambers of commerce as well as to and through local government organizations including Local School Boards Association.

Responsible: Local Child Care Planning Coordinator

Date for completion

Identification and vignettes/January 1998

Briefing piece/March 1998

Dissemination/June 1998

- Promote utilization of the Earned Income Tax Credit for Dependent Care

Tasks to be completed

- * Update, if necessary, current materials on Earned Income Tax Credits. Develop plan for dissemination to
- * Local Bargaining Units, Employee Associations, Parent groups ,etc.
- * Provide (develop, if necessary) article/materials for news media.

Responsible Child Action staff

Date for completion December 1997

- Support AB 326 which provides funds for the Expansion of START Program on a pilot basis
See page 25