



Childhood Advisory Council Committee Reports Thursday, September 9, 2021

Subsidized Programs Consortium Committee:

The committee continues to meet to discuss and strategize the side effects of reopening their programs this fall. Our county is currently experiencing an upward trend in the new COVID-19 Delta variant. Resulting in a countywide movement to vaccinate more community members and TK-12 students. Subsidized programs are offering in-person care at their centers and family child care homes. They continue to adhere to strict health and safety protocols to keep children, families and staff safe.

However, many program administrators are experiencing workforce shortages which impacts the number of children they can enroll in their programs. In addition, workforce shortages have prevented larger early education programs from opening all their centers thereby reducing their capacity to serve all eligible children in the community.

SPC early educators continue to actively participate in two programs launched by COE/CAC, the Workforce Development Pathway and the Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program. Professional development and coaching sessions are provided to support full implementation of new quality improvement curriculum concepts.

Childhood Advisory Council – Executive Committee:

Members meet periodically to develop the quarterly CAC meetings, discuss public policy issues and the impact of COVID-19 on the child care industry. Members quickly respond when action is needed with recommendations to local and state officials. Members stay in touch on a continuous basis to strategize reopening programs, facilities available to operate programs and city/county responses to economic recovery of the child care industry. There is continued focus on equity, inclusion and diversity to assist ECE stakeholders and members evaluate the services they provide to young children, families, staff and the community.

Early Care and Education Conference:

Due to the Coronavirus crisis, the conference has been postponed this year.