



## CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 9, 2021 1:30 – 3:30 PM

**Members present:** Vicki Boriack, First 5 Santa Cruz County, Yvette Brooks, City of Capitola Mayor & Your Future is Our Business, Maria Cortes, PVUSD Migrant Head Start, Larry Drury, CDP/COE, Barbara Griffin, CKC Retd., Erendira Guerrero, Head Start, Jean Gallagher Heil, Cabrillo College, Sita Moon, CDRC, and Tricia Pastor, Cabrillo College.

**Guest:** David Brody, First 5 Santa Cruz County, Debbie Banuelos, Walnut Ave. Family and Women's Center, Kendra Bobsin, Go Kids Inc., Julie Macecevic, Walnut Family and Children's Center, Meghan Reilly, First 5 Santa Cruz County, Barbara Mason, Economic Development Coordinator, Santa Cruz County and Katy Chevalier, Santa Cruz County Workforce Development Board & CalWORKs.

### I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

- E. Guerrero welcomed everyone to the meeting. Acknowledged the seasons and recent activities in our community. Many are showing up in our hearts for the children in our community.

### II. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - **ACTION ITEM**

- Y. Brooks motioned to accept the consent agenda items and E. Guerrero, second the motion and all members approved the motion.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- There were no public announcements.

### IV. SANTA CRUZ COUNTY 2021 CHILD CARE NEEDS ASSESSMENT - **ACTION ITEM**

- D. Munoz, Childhood Advisory Council, Community Organizer presented the Santa Cruz County 2021 Child Care Needs Assessment PowerPoint to members and guests.
- An historical overview of the report and salient data points were highlighted.
- There was particular focus on serious issues addressing the child care industry, such as, the impact of COVID19 pandemic on the early care industry and facilities and workforce shortages.
- Followed by solutions based efforts to support the early care community through local and state means.
- Y. Brooks motioned to approve the Santa Cruz County Needs Assessment and T. Pastor second the motion and all members approved the motion.



V. AB 22 (Mc CARTY) UNIVERSAL TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN & AB 378 (LIMON) BUILDING A BETTER EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION SYSTEM ACT, GUEST SPEAKER: ERIC SONNENFELD, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR - EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, TULARE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

- Guest speaker, E Sonnenfeld presented an overview of AB 22 Universal Transitional Kindergarten and AB 37 Building A Better Early Care and Education system legislation.
- E. Sonnenfeld presented the intent of the legislation in connection with funding that will be allocated to ensure implementation.
- The movement toward the Whole Child philosophy to address gaps in learning, retention and added social and emotional support for the entire family.
- There was discussion of the Universal Kindergarten timeline to full implementation.
- Early educators are concerned about moving all 4 year olds to the school district.
- There was discussion about the “family choice” clause in the legislation and whether families will choose to send their children to UTK in the fall of 2022.
- Discussion about auxiliary child care service that will be needed for after school care.
- This year is the planning year for implementation in fall 2022 and full implementation will be in fall 2025.

VI. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING UPDATE

- L. Drury presented an update on the efforts taken by the CAC Executive Committee in response to the ARP funding available in the County.
- Members of the CAC and early learning and care community participated in a meeting to discuss how to best support small businesses should ARP funding be available.
- L. Drury will continue to stay in touch with County Economic Development staff and offer support and recommendations upon request.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- No announcements were reported.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT - 3:30

***Our Mission*** is to present a unified voice for an early care and education system that meets the needs of all children and families in Santa Cruz County

***Our Vision*** is that every child in Santa Cruz County has access to quality affordable early care education and after-school programs