



Childhood Advisory Council Staff Report, by Diane Munoz Thursday, April 8, 2021

Coronavirus Crisis Response

Since the onset of the Coronavirus the CAC Community Organizer joined Superintendent Sabbah and Child Development Programs team to inform the early care community about breaking news bulletins, county and state health directives, licensing updates, financial assistance programs and resources available.

Community Organizer shared resources, professional development events, health and safety guidelines, new child care group size and back to licensing regulations information, economic recovery updates, coordinated resources and support for listeners and answered questions.

Now that our county has moved to the COVID-19 orange tier, the Community Organizer informs early educators about the availability of COVID testing and vaccines. Recently assisted CDRC to distribute PPE supplies, distributed clarifying information about child group sizes and assisted in getting the word out about the availability of vaccines to education, all child care providers and 65+ population.

Quality Counts California Workforce Development Pathway Program (QCCWDP)

The County Office of Education, Childhood Advisory Council received grant allocation to launch a new program - QCC Workforce Development Pathway. The program's objectives are to offer support to early care and learning staff participating in state funded child care programs through 3 targeted activities: Workforce Advising, Professional Development and Higher Education.

Professional development has been scheduled that will meet targeted outcomes for the grant in the coming months.

Inclusive Early Education and Expansion Program Grant (IEEEP) The County Office of Education - Childhood Advisory Council received the IEEEP funding. The CAC Community Organizer is in the process of launching this program. There are seven state funded child care sites participating in the program. This program will focus on offering professional development on inclusive practices, coaching supports and materials to assist programs serving young children with exceptional needs. In addition, all professional development will be recorded and saved in a virtual library for future use by the early care community. Professional development will be scheduled in the next three months to reach targeted goals.

Economic Recovery Council (ERC) of Santa Cruz County

The CAC Community Organizer attends weekly ERC meetings to receive COVID-19 updates from the County Health Director. The updates and discussion following the updates are focused on the county moving to the orange tier and added flexibility that are allowed to child care programs and other industries. The community organizer asks questions on behalf of the ECE field, supplies child care data, COVID-19 stories from the early education field. The ERC Blueprint Tier Reports in Spanish and English and other safety reports, handouts etc. are forward to the child care community.

Committee's/Meetings attended by the Community Organizer:

- Weekly COE Child Care Briefings with Superintendent Sabbah
- California Child Care Coordinators Quarterly Mtg.
- Economic Recovery Council mtg.
- Met with Assembly Member Stone: COVID-19 & child care industry
- COEPACD mtg.
- South County COVID-19 Support System Triage mtg.
- CDE/Early Learning and Care Division Guidance mtg.
- CAC Subsidized Programs Consortium mtg.
- First 5 QCSCC Leadership team mtg.
- COE All Staff mtg.
- Central Coast Early Care Advocacy Network mtg.
- PVUSD Early Literacy Collaborative
- CAC Executive Committee mtg.
- CDE/ELCD Child Care Transition All Stakeholders mtg.
- CDE/IEEEP Grant mtg.
- ELCD/QCC Workforce Development Pathway mtg.
- Santa Cruz County ACEs Network of Care - The Pair of ACEs in Practice