



Childhood Advisory Council Staff Report, by Diane Munoz

Thursday, December 7, 2023

COE Child Care Briefing Meetings:

County Superintendent Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Health Program Specialist, COE School Based Health Manager and the Child Development Programs team continue to inform the early care community and community partners every other week about the latest health, well-being and educational issues facing the community.

Workforce Development Pathway (WDP):

The WDP provided two CLASS Overview training sessions and COVID and Environmental Factors Impacting Behavior and Development presented by Gelacio Gonzalez, Awindo Consulting. The CAC, community organizer completed and submitted first quarter financial and program reporting for the state. Coordination continues on two training sessions in December: Professional Growth Advisors and How to Maintain Your Professional Growth Permit.

Inclusive Early Education Expansion Leadership Team (IEEEP):

The Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program is a funded program coordinated by the CAC community organizer. Professional development is the focus of the IEEEP grant intended to instill knowledge and confidence in early educators so they will effectively support young children with persistent behaviors and disabilities enrolled in early care programs. In November Gelacio Gonzalez presented the ABCs of Autism, which was attended by 58 early educators, Early Start and Special Ed. teachers.

The mental health consultants will continue to support early educators to strengthen their observation, evaluation and referral skills of children needing extra support in their classrooms.

UPK Mixed Delivery Workgroup:

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education, Childhood Advisory Council received state funding to coordinate the UPK Mixed Delivery Workgroup program. The purpose of the UPK Mixed Delivery Workgroup grant is to improve access universally to children ages three- and four-years-old across the state through a mixed-delivery system. The mixed delivery plan will be part of the overall COE UPK plan for the county.

California's mixed-delivery system will offer a variety of early learning and care settings, including Transitional Kindergarten settings that will allow parents and guardians an authentic choice to meet the needs of their families.

The COE received Round 1 2023-2026 funding and there will be an additional Round 2 funding RFA coming out in Spring 2024. Both grants will sunset June 2026.

The next UPK Mixed Delivery Workgroup meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 12th at Cabrillo College ECE Building Room 1508 in Aptos.**



Committee's/Meetings attended by the Community Organizer:

- Weekly COE Child Care Briefings with Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent and Child Development Programs Team
- Brion Economics Inc. Mtgs.
- QCCSCC Leadership Team Mtg.
- COE Child Care Leadership Team Mtg.
- Team of Horses Mtgs. (Website design and maintenance)
- California Child Care Coordinators Annual Conference (September)
- COEPACD Mtgs.
- Thrive by Five Mtgs.
- UPK/TK Mixed Delivery Workgroup Meetings. (COE and CDE)
- CDSS/CCD State Mtgs.
- Applied Survey Research (ASR)
- South County COVID-19 Support System Triage Mtgs.
- CDE/Early Learning and Care Division Guidance Mtgs.
- CAC Subsidized Programs Consortium Mtgs.
- Bay Area LPC Coordinators Mtgs.
- COE All Staff Mtg.
- IEEEP Leadership Mtgs. (COE and CDE)
- PVUSD Early Literacy Collaborative
- ELCD/QCC Workforce Development Pathway Webinars