



## **Childhood Advisory Council Staff Report, by Diane Munoz**

Thursday, February 8, 2024

### **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 continues 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 QCC WDP provided the following professional development opportunities:

- CLASS – Instructional Support training presented by Gelacio Gonzalez, Awindo Consulting, this training was attended by **75** early educators, administrators and support staff. In response to the pending CLASS second edition release in the fall.
- Creating Equitable Early Learning Environments for Young Boys (Girls) of Color this month. This training was facilitated by Gelacio Gonzalez, Awindo Consulting, and was attended by **56** early educators and administrators. This is a three-part series with two trainings scheduled in the coming months.

The WDP coordinator is happy to announce the COE WDP program will receive an additional \$20,000 from the state. The bulk of the funding will be allocated to educational awards for early educators who attend WDP training opportunities.

### **Inclusive Early Education Expansion Leadership Team (IEEEP):**

The Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program is a funded program coordinated by the CAC community organizer and COE educational consultant. Monthly meetings continue to inform the IEEEP Leadership members. Qtr. 2 fiscal and progress reports were submitted. 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.

Last week the state released IEEEP request for applications for the second round of the five-year grant. The COE community organizer and educational consultant will apply for grant funds. Grant workgroup will be developed to discuss the focus of the next grant in the coming week.

### **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 **Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at First 5 Santa Cruz County, 4450 Capitola Rd. Capitola, CA.**



#### **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.
- ECE Voices Mtg.
- QCCSCC Leadership Team Mtg.
- COE Child Care Data Leadership Team Mtg.
- Team of Horses Mtgs. (Website design and maintenance)
- California Child Care Coordinators Annual Conference (January)
- 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
- Semillitas Program meeting
- Prenatal to Five Strategies