



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

Thursday, May 9, 2024

### **COE Child Care Briefing Meetings:**

County Superintendent Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Health Program Specialist, COE School Based Health Manager and 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:

- Creating Equitable Early Learning Environments for Young Boys (Girls) of Color in March/April 2024. The training sessions were facilitated by Gelacio Gonzalez, Awindo Consulting, attended by a total of **79** early educators and administrators.
- The WDP RFP was submitted in April for FY 24/25.

End of year preparations include distributing WDP educational award applications and W-9 forms to ELCs participating in professional learning January - June 2024. In addition to distributing WDP Higher Ed. applications to ELC for completing college courses Spring 2024.

### **Joint QCC-QI Application:**

In collaboration with the First 5 QCSCC (Quality Counts Santa Cruz County) team, the COE community organizer and educational consultant participated in developing a unified QCSCC QCC Q-QI joint application that includes the QCC Workforce Pathway and QRIS CSPP Block Grant and QCC Quality Improvement Grant. The collaboration and ongoing support between the two organizations allows for greater impact and efficiencies managing the funds allocated to our county. We appreciate the partnership and ongoing support.

### **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. The COE community organizer and educational consultant submitted the IEEEP Round 2 grant in April 2024. Grant notification will be released mid May 2024. The IEEEP grant Round 2 will provide funding for a PT mental health consultant that will support 8 state funded early care programs, professional learning w focus on children with disabilities, social emotional development, observation and assessment skill development. adaptive equipment for early care

programs to create inclusive classrooms and expand their ability to serve children in the least restrictive environment as possible.

### **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 UPK Mixed Delivery community organizer and educational consultant submitted the UPK Round 2 RFD in April 2024.

The next UPK Mixed Delivery Workgroup meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at First 5 Santa Cruz County, 4450 Capitola Rd. Capitola, CA.**



### **Committee's/Meetings attended by the Community Organizer:**

- Every other week COE Child Care Briefings with Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent and Child Development Programs Team
- Brion Economics Inc. Mtgs.
- Regional Bay Area LPC Coordinators Mtg.
- QCCSCC Leadership Team Mtg.
- COE Child Care Data Leadership Team Mtg.
- Team of Horses Mtgs. (Website design and maintenance)
- COE Budget Development and Budget Actuals Mtgs.
- QCC CSPP Block Grant
- 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.
- COE All Staff Mtg.
- IEEEP Leadership Mtgs. (COE and CDE)
- PVUSD Early Literacy Collaborative
- ELCD/QCC Workforce Development Pathway Webinars
- Prenatal to Five Strategies