



Subsidized Programs Consortium Agenda Wednesday, October 8th, 2025 9:00-10:30 am

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://santacruzcoe-org.zoom.us/j/81300513833>

Consortium Chair: Lisa Hindman Holbert (Community Bridges)

In attendance: Jackie Buzel, Meghan Reilly, Alison Steinberg, Vicki Boriack, Christina Valentin, Lisa Hindman Holbert, Sonia Diego Martinez, Patricia Pastor

Facilitator: Meghan Reilly (Childhood Advisory Council, Community Organizer)

Welcome and Meeting Purpose

- **Allison Steinberg** stated she attends as a way to connect with others in the county.
- **Vicki Boriack** highlighted the group's past accomplishments and its value as a source of wisdom for new directors of subsidized programs.
- **Christina Valentin** and **Vicki Boriack** noted that participation has declined, potentially due to the high number of meetings required by other grants.
- **Lisa Hindman Holbert** emphasized her vision for the group as a vital space for advocacy, networking, and sharing to combat the isolation many feel in their work.
- **Sonia Diego Martinez**, a new attendee, expressed a desire to better understand the purpose of the various meetings. Has requested a visual that lists the meetings that she needs to attend.
- A general desire was expressed for more visual aids during meetings. To better address current needs, it was announced that professional development planning would be paused pending the results of the professional development survey.

Department Updates & Communication

Meghan Reilly requested feedback on her weekly email roundup. While **Allison Steinberg** finds the emails useful, **Lisa Hindman Holbert** noted they can create clutter. The group agreed that a centralized resource would be beneficial.

- A decision was made to create a shared Google Sheet for tracking email distribution lists and resources. **Jackie Buzel** will create the document for members to populate.
 - The [Monarch Link](#) website was mentioned as a valuable paid resource for state-funded programs, and the group may review its resources at the next meeting.
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Legislative & Advocacy Updates

Lisa Hindman Holbert identified [ECE Voices, Every Child California](#), as a key resource for legislative information and stressed the need to elevate the voices of both private and subsidized centers in Sacramento.

Key challenges discussed:

- **ECE Credentialing:** The new PK-3 credential requirements pose a significant roadblock. **Lisa Hindman Holbert** and **Allison Steinberg** raised concerns about the high cost and time commitment, which could prevent experienced, working teachers from pursuing further education and draw educators away from the ECE field, potentially threatening centers with closure.
- **Funding & Contracts:** **Tricia Pastor** and **Vicki Boriack** provided funding updates. The CCTR hold harmless (SB120) has been extended. Members also recently received a quarterly disbursement for (cost of care plus for CSPP) and a contract amendment to offset the costs of serving younger three-year-olds.
- **Administrative Burden:** **Tricia Pastor** noted the difficulty of juggling multiple contracts (CCTR, CSPP), which have different eligibility requirements, reimbursement rates, and data collection methods.
- **Staffing & Facilities:** **Tricia Pastor** raised the concern for the potential loss of the Baskin's Head Start site (located on Cabrillo's campus) and the potential aftermath of continuing that lease. **Vicki Boriack** raised concerns about Encompass giving notice on the Baskin Center lease, which will end in October, creating staffing challenges and potential implications for Head Start and Cabrillo's funding.

Child Development Resource Center (CDRC) Updates

Christina Valentin provided the following updates:

- **CPR & First Aid:** Classes are now offered on request for agencies with a minimum of 10 participants (programs can collaborate to meet the minimum). Classes are available in English and Spanish, cost \$90, and can be held at the County Office of Education (COE) or a program's site. Narcan training is included. Health and safety reimbursements are still available. Please reach out to CDRC for assistance in planning CPR and First Aid for your programs.
- **New Watsonville Office:** A new office (119 Beach St.) is available in Watsonville for professional development activities.
- **Program Vacancies:** Brenda will send a mass email to programs requesting updated information on available slots for the CDRC database.

Program Highlights & Announcements

- **Dolly Parton Imagination Library:** This program allows families to sign up to receive one free book per month for children from birth to age five. Books are available in English or bilingual versions. It may take 6-8 weeks for the first book to arrive.
- **Professional Development:** The group discussed a potential collaboration with Lakeshore for spring training. **Jackie Buzel** also reminded everyone to complete the PD survey and participate in an upcoming eco-literacy training.

Action Items

- **Jackie Buzel:** Create a Google Sheet for members to populate with email lists and resources.
- **Jackie Buzel:** Send out a Doodle Poll about preferred meeting times to increase participation.
- **Meghan Reilly:** Look into having RAFT (Resource Area for Teaching) come to provide a training session.
- **Lisa Hindman Holbert:** Share ECE News and ECE Cafe resources with Meghan Reilly for distribution.
- **Lisa Hindman Holbert:** Send her the combined PDF of the licensing manual to Meghan Reilly to share with directors.
- **Vicki Boriack:** Share information about the Dolly Parton Imagination Library with Meghan Reilly for distribution.
- **Vicki Boriack:** Inform David about the financial impact of Head Start's lease termination at the Baskin Center.
- **Christina Valentin:** Coordinate CPR/First Aid classes for programs as requested.
- **Brenda:** Send out emails requesting updated program vacancy information for the CDRC database.
- **All:** Complete the professional development survey by Friday.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **November 12, 2025**.