

Tulare County Council on Child & Youth Development  
Minutes  
Thursday April 8, 2021 3:00pm-4:00pm via Zoom

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**Members Present:** Elvira Barron, Stephanie Caldera, Lorena Castillo, Cheri Doria, Amanda Ergo, Sherri Glenn, Amanda Guajardo, Jessica Hernandez, Barbara Newman, Rebecca Ortega, Michele Palermo, Timberly Romero, Zeina Rousan, Christina Saucedo, Deep Srivastava, Tiffany Stark, Amy Sullivan, Samantha Terry (staff), and Dianne Young

**Members Not Present:** Brenda Larson, Krissie Leach, Maribel Magana, Monica Pilkinton, Melissa Prado, and Teresa Ramos

**Guests:** Phil Anderson, Cynthia Brannon, Anthony Carrillo, Alice Juarez, Jennifer Lang, Julissa Leyva, Araceli Pizano, Erika Rosique, Alissa Savior, Rebecca Varela

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 3:01 pm by Mrs. Terry and introductions were conducted.
  
- I. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No public comments were made.
  
- II. **UPDATES**
  - a. Narrative Change: No narrative changes have been submitted at this time,
  - b. Voluntary Temporary Transfer of Funds: The next opportunity for contractors to take part in this opportunity is by May 15, 2021. The information was already sent to contractors.
  - c. Public Health: Ms. Pizano informed the council that Public Health is encouraging everyone to receive the COVID vaccine and the age eligibility has been extended to anyone ages 16-50 with no underlying conditions. The number of participants receiving vaccines in Tulare County are decreasing so it is highly encouraged that the people who are interested in the vaccine, make an appointment to receive the vaccine. Anyone who wants to make an appointment can do so at <https://myturn.ca.gov/>. Ms. Pizano also informed the council that the Johnson and Johnson vaccine is also available which is a vaccine for COVID that is only one dose. Tulare County is now in the orange tier which means certain businesses such as restaurants, movie theaters, etc. can fill 50% capacity in their facilities. Public Health is still encouraging everyone to practice social distancing and to wear masks. The governor's goal is for a full reopening by June 15, 2021 if possible.
  - d. Legislation: Mrs. Castillo shared that CDE Program Self-Evaluation Webinar is coming up and that legislation is still going through the process to get approved. There were not many updates currently. Mrs. Castillo encouraged everyone to advocate for and hold harmless for contractors for the upcoming fiscal year. The impact of COVID will continue to have an influence on the contractors and the number of children that they serve in the new fiscal year.
  - e. Early Stars Program: Mr. Carrillo shared an update: Resource and Referral is in the process of issuing Health and Safety Reimbursements for Infant CPR, Child

Care First Aid and Health and Safety preventive practice training for early learning care professionals in Tulare County. Each eligible participant may receive up to \$120 for completed classes. We also created an early learning care reference guide for families who may be seeking child care options or need child care assistance. R&R is also gearing up for another drive thru event for CCIP participants who completed program requirements. Eligible participants will receive quality improvement materials to support their quality improvement efforts. Early Stars recently issued one time stipend payments to participating early learning care programs enrolled in QCC, IMPACT, and QRIS. Our training specialist continues to engage license exempt providers who are interested in becoming licensed child care providers through monthly orientations and training opportunities. FFN participants also received start up quality improvement materials to support their journey in becoming a licensed provider. In the coming weeks we will be engaging participating programs to collect demographic information for our common data file management system. Coaches continue to provide coaching support and technical assistance to participating programs. Our program also recently completed 7 weeks of virtual reptile show presentations with Eric Johnson for early learning care programs in Tulare County.

- f. EveryChild California: Mrs. Doria shared professional learning opportunities and some of those are; Brown Lunch Meetings-April 13, 2021, Efficiently Managing Eligibility and Need May 21-23, 2021, Brown Lunch Meeting May 11, 2021.
- g. Other: Mrs. Terry informed the council that the council is contracting with Dr. Roussos to provide a few Strategic Action Reports, utilizing the remaining funds of LOC, to help advocate for the council and early care and education in Tulare County. The next meeting is to be determined but all council members are encouraged to attend to contribute toward this effort.
  - i. Mrs. Terry also informed that Mrs. Contreras, Family Community Partnership manager of Tulare County Office of Education Early Childhood Education, is in the process of creating a Family Resource Guide for all parents to provide them with services that are available in Tulare County. The document will be available for all to view, and Mrs. Terry asked the council to send her any resources that are available to parents that they are aware so it can be included in the document.

**III. CONSENT ITEMS:** Mrs. Glenn motioned to approve all the consent items. Mrs. Castillo second the motion. No objections, and no abstentions. Consent items are approved.

- a. LPC March Minutes
- b. LPC March Special Meeting Minutes
- c. Council Elections
  - i. Chair: Timberly Romero
  - ii. Vice Chair: Rebecca Ortega
  - iii. Secretary: Cheri Doria
- d. LPC Local Funding Priorities Report

**IV. Council Discussions**

- a. QCC Workforce Pathways Grant Update: Mrs. Terry informed the council that there were around one hundred participants that completed Cohort 1 stipend application and cohort 2 stipend application will be due in May. The participants are a mixture of Family Child Care Providers, FFN's, Head Start Staff, and

State Preschool Staff. Mrs. Terry informed the council that the grant will be renewed in the new fiscal year, but the allocations are not yet determined.

- b. LPC Strategic Action Reports: This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.
- c. Legislative Event:
  - i. Debrief of December event-the council reviewed the the
  - ii. Tentative date for 2021- October 14, 2021 and discussed the possibility of hybrid model if possible, or completely virtual again this year. More will be determined at the next council meeting.
  - iii. Discuss theme: Some of the possible themes for the 2021 event is: positive perspective of COVID-what are things we are doing now, or can take a health and nutrition approach to highlight the increased number of obese children and how that makes them more susceptible for future illness. Can also incorporate funding in regard to meals children receive in care. It was suggested we also talk to Mr. Sonnenfeld about what trend is coming up to align the event with the trend, equity is also coming and is a hot topic that we may want to address, DLL, include stuff from Dr. Roussos and the findings from his reports he creates for the council. An important aspect that was identified is that at the event we need to talk more about the LPC and what we do to share that information. Be sure to include how we can partner and help others and partner with others toward the same shared goal.
- d. Inclusion Collaborative Event
  - i. Date: April 16, 2021
  - ii. Theme: Social Emotional and the impact of COVID-19
  - iii. Agenda/ flow of event: Mrs. Terry reviewed the flow of the event and no changes were suggested.
  - iv. Other

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Ms. Newman with Central Valley Regional Center shared that they are hosting a major vaccination clinic in Fresno on April 12, 2021 and it will be the Johnson and Johnson Vaccine and anyone is invited to take part in this opportunity. Ms. Guajardo shared that April is National Child Abuse Prevention month and Tulare County Child Abuse Prevention Council has activities each day. Please contact [info@tularecountycapc.org](mailto:info@tularecountycapc.org) for more information or visit <https://tularecountycapc.org/> to access the daily activities.

**VI. NEXT SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING:** May 13, 2021 from 3:00pm-4:30pm via zoom.

**VII. ADJOURNED: 4:00pm**