

Tulare County Council on Child & Youth Development Minutes

Thursday September 9, 2021 3:00pm-4:30pm

Zoom

Members Present: Stephanie Caldera, Cheri Doria, Amanda Ergo, Sherri Glenn, Jessica Hernandez, Brenda Larson, Maribel Magana, Barbara Newman, Rebecca Ortega, Michele Palermo, Monica Pilkinton, Melissa Prado, Timberly Romero, Christina Saucedo, Amy Sullivan, Samantha Terry (Staff), Dianne Young. Members Not Present: Elvira Barron, Lorena Castillo, Amanda Guajardo, Zeina Rousan, Tiffany Stark. Guests: Anthony Carillo, Cynthia.

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 3:01pm by Mrs. Romero.
2. Public Comments: No public comments were made.
3. Updates
 - a. Legislation/ Budget Update: No updates were given at this time.
 - b. Public Health: No updates were given at this time.
 - c. Early Stars Program: Mr. Carrillo shared that the California Department of Education (CDE) has issued updated guidance around ratings for CSPP programs. As they continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic, the CDE's requirement of rating for CSPP QRIS Block grantees has been suspended until January 2022, when the progress of the virus can be reassessed to determine whether ratings can be safely conducted. Programs will be held harmless for ratings until it is safe to resume. This guidance applies also to participating sites in QCC and IMPACT Block Grants. Tulare County Early Stars is partnering with TCOE Play Program and Save Our Children Home Visiting program to provide West Ed Home Visiting Professional Development Training. The training will include a Fall and Spring cohort and target 80 home educators. The following topics will be addressed during these three days sessions: Reflective Practice, Self-Awareness and Self Care, Risk and Resilience in the Community, Family, and Child and Early Brain Development and Responsive Relationships. Tulare County Resource and Referral completed a Quality Improvement and Support Services brochure to highlighting the comprehensive services provided to the community. The brochure highlights the following programs: Resource and Referral, Child Care Initiative Project, Tulare County Early Stars and Quality Counts California No updates were provided.
 - d. QCC Workforce Pathway Grant Update: Mrs. Terry shared that four advising sessions are taking place; two this week in English and two next week in Spanish. This will be the advising that is required as part of their participation in the grant. The next step would be to complete their professional development plan, create and complete a Workforce Registry Profile, work toward their goal and then submit a stipend application. There will be two cohorts; Fall (July 1, 2021-December 31, 2021) and Spring (January 1, 2022-April 30, 2022). The stipends will be determined after all stipends are submitted after the Spring cohort. Over 200 participants have been approved to participate.
 - e. Other: Mrs. Terry shared that Tulare County Office of Education Early Childhood Education Program (TCOE ECE) received round two of the IEEEP Grant (Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program Grant). It is a three year grant that includes professional development trainings and expansion of playground structures and adaptive materials with the goal of ensuring children with disabilities, including children with severe disabilities, have greater rates of enrollment in inclusive subsidized early learning and care programs. In addition, another goal is to increase and building capacity for inclusive ELC programs. Mrs. Terry shared that the council is going to be support to Mrs. Valdez,

the IEEEP Coordinator by allowing her to share updates at the council meetings and allowing an opportunity for collaboration with TCOE ECE and the IEEEP Grant. Mrs. Sullivan, Director of Preschools for Visalia Unified School District, shared that she also received the grant, and her goal is to provide a new modular classroom at one of her sites, provide a new playground, revisions for three current playgrounds, purchasing materials and supplies for some programs. In addition, she is providing professional development trainings for the entire staff with the goal of creating sustainability in all her locations to service children with disabilities and ensure inclusive programs are being provided. Mrs. Doria, Director of Preschools for Lindsay Unified School District, also received the grant and her goal is to build a new modular classroom, building a new learning environment for one of her sites that is developmentally appropriate for that program and building a new playground as well

4. Consent Items: Mrs. Young motioned to approve the August Minutes. Mrs. Saucedo second the motion to approve the August Minutes. No objections and no abstentions. Minutes are approved.
 - a. August Meeting Minutes

5. Council Discussions
 - a. LPC Strategic Action Reports: Mrs. Terry shared that the LPC report is almost complete. She has been working with Dr. Roussos and the report that he created will be the first segment of the upcoming Needs Assessment that the council will begin in July 2022. From the LPC report, his colleague is working to create one pager to help advertise what the LPC is about and to be eye catching to the community. This will help raise awareness of the council in the county and continue to be a conduit between our local communities and the California Department of Social Services as well as be a resource to local agencies regarding the unmet early learning and care needs of Tulare County.
 - b. Legislative Event: Mrs. Glenn shared that the event is scheduled to take place Wednesday October 13, 2021 from 9:30am-11:30am via zoom. The invitation was sent out and as of Wednesday September 8, 2021 there were 70 have registered for the event. Mrs. Glenn asked that the council members help to share the invitation to spread the word so more people can attend to learn about the changes that are happening in the early learning and care field. Mrs. Glenn informed the council that Mr. Hire will be conducting the welcome for the event. The keynote speakers will be Eric Sonnenfeld, Assistant Administrator of the Early Childhood Education Program of Tulare County Office of Education. The second Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Lupe Jaime Milhem, Deputy Director Child Care and Development Division California Department of Social Services who will provide information regarding the transition, budget information that pertain to the shift in programs that were original under the supervision of California Department of Education, which include LPC and the QCC Workforce Pathway Grant, that are now under the supervision of California Department of Social Services. The event will also include a time for a Breakout session after her presentation to debrief about the event and allow a time for virtual networking. The event will close with a Call to Action to educate the participants that they all play a role in support the early learning and care field in some way. The event will also include time for asking the participants questions about the ELC field to help educate them on the importance of ELC in the lives of children and families. A draft agenda is below:
 - a. 9:30 welcome
 - b. 9:45-Dr. Lupe Jaime 20-30 minutes
 - c. Polling 5 minutes
 - d. Eric 20-30
 - e. Breakout Session 10 minutes

- f. Call to Action 10-15 minutes
 - g. Closing- 2 minutes
- c. Inclusion Collaborative Event: Ms. Newman shared that the event is scheduled to take place in person (at this moment in time but will switch to virtual if necessary) April 22, 2022 at TCOE Doe Ave and the goal is to have a full day conference with keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and panel. The focus of the event is around expulsion/ suspension of preschool age children, the difference between sensory and behavioral content. She shared that Mrs. Terry talked to Dr. Johnson (a recommendation from Mrs. Caldera) and she will be the keynote speaker for our event. She will tailor it to the council's theme and she is conducting the presentation for free! A big thanks to Mrs. Caldera again for her assistance to secure two breakout session presenters; Bethany Guerra, M.A., BCBA and Kendall Leonard, MA OTR/L will provide a breakout session on the Relationship between Behavior and Sensory Needs. More event details will be discussed at future council meetings.
- 6. Announcements: No announcements were shared.
 - 7. Next Scheduled Council Meeting: October 14, 2021 from 3:00pm-4:30pm via Zoom.
 - 8. Adjournment: 3:38pm