

Tulare County Council on Child & Youth Development Meeting Minutes  
Thursday June 9, 2022 3:00pm-4:30pm  
TCOE DOE Ave, Elderwood Conference Room

Members Present: Lorena Castillo, Cheri Doria, Sherri Glenn, Timberly Romero, Christina Saucedo, and Samantha Terry (Staff). Members Not Present: Elvira Barron, Stephanie Caldera, Amanda Guajardo, Jessica Hernandez, Brenda Larson, Barbara Newman, Rebecca Ortega, Monica Pilkinton, Melissa Prado, Zeina Rousan, Tiffany Stark, Amy Sullivan. Guests: Joe Iniguez

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Romero at 3:04pm.
2. Action Item: Resolution based on AB 361: The council members voted to move the meetings to a hybrid model. Mrs. Terry will provide a physical location for anyone that can attend in person and will provide virtual access to the members and the public that cannot attend in person. The council members that attend virtually will need to post the council agenda outside their door for public display. The change in the meetings will be sent to the council members and this will begin at the meeting scheduled in August. This meeting style is subject to change at any point in time.
3. Public Comments: No public comments were made.
4. Consent Items: Minutes were not reviewed at this meeting.
5. Updates:
  - a. Legislation/ Budget Update: Mrs. Terry informed the council that California Department of Education (CDSS) is seeking to use one-time funds to restore LPCs to their original contracted amount prior to the recession. The LPC budget was cut by 50% in 2009 due to the recession and has been required to maintain the same mandates as well as additional mandates have been added to the LPC requirement since 2009 without any increased funding allocated to LPC. CDSS supports the roll of LPC and wants to help to restore the funding. The one-time funding would be utilized for the 2022/2023 fiscal year, and they would work to seek permanent changes to the LPC budget that would provide 100% funding annually. CDSS hopes to have an answer within the next few weeks to determine if the one-time funds can be utilized for the new fiscal year.
  - b. Public Health: No updates were provided.
  - c. Early Stars Program: Mr. Carrillo provided the following update: Tulare County Early Stars completed their distribution of stipends for participating sites enrolled in IMPACT, Quality Counts California, Preschool Development Grant-Renewal, and the CSPP QRIS programs. In addition, QCC and IMPACT participating sites received a laptop and/or an iPad as a means of accessing trainings and promoting technical skills development. Tulare County Early Stars recently conducted an ASQ-SE parent training for the Woodlake FRC discussing the importance of early childhood screening. Tulare County Early Stars coaches are finalizing their coaching logs and end of the year reports before heading off to summer break. Tulare County Resource & Referral received two grants from California Department of Social Services in support of child care providers. The Instructional Materials and Supplies grant in which they purchased program/instructional supplies that are developmentally appropriate and that are aligned with quality tools such as the ECERS and ITERS. These instructional supplies and materials included art exploration, dramatic and pretend play, development of fine motor skills, manipulatives to enhance thinking and reasoning, and in support of language and literacy. The Personal Protective Equipment grant supports purchasing PPE supplies and materials

and the cost to distribute these materials to all child care types. To that end, Tulare County Resource & Referral assessed the PPE supply needs of the child care community and purchased PPE supplies and materials accordingly. Furthermore, Tulare County Resource & Referral recently held a Child Care Initiative Project ceremony for all participating providers in honor of completing program requirements. Participants received a stipend, Lakeshore and Kaplan gift card, and a laptop in support of opening their child care business.

- a. EveryChild California: Mrs. Doria shared that EveryChild California has multiple in person meetings coming up that she encourages everyone to attend. The Central Section is hosting an in-person meeting *Discussing the Governor's Budget and Celebrating our Successes* on June 17, 2022, in Pismo, CA. *The Great Administrators Seminar* is scheduled for July 27-July 28, 2022, in Santa Barbara, CA. *The Annual Fall Technical Assistance Conference* is October 26, 2022-October 28, 2022, in Long Beach, CA. There will also be additional events and meetings scheduled for the new fiscal year.
  - b. QCC Workforce Pathways Grant: Mrs. Terry informed the council that 209 participants were awarded stipends for the 2021/2022 fiscal year for achieving their professional goal that was established through their participation in the grant. The participants that are eligible for the grant are site supervisors, teachers, teacher aides/teacher assistants, Family Child Care Providers, Private Centers, and Licensed Exempt Providers that receive some form of subsidy payment for at least one child in their program. A total of \$249,000 was issued for stipends to the 209 participants. The grant is being renewed for the 2022/2023 fiscal year and the renewal application was submitted in April.
  - c. Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program (IEEEP) Update: Mrs. Terry informed the council that Tulare County Office of Education Early Childhood Education Program received the IEEEP grant, and Josie Valdez is the grant coordinator. She finished all the required and recommended trainings, she is providing coaching to the Head Start sites to support inclusive learning environments, adaptive equipment will be purchased for the sites and repairs, renovations and new construction will take place at some of the sites to ensure the program is equipped to serve children with disabilities.
  - d. Other
6. Council Discussions:
- a. Council Bylaws: Mrs. Romero informed the council the Bylaw revisions were sent to the members prior to the meeting. The information that was added is highlighted in yellow, and the information that is requesting to be removed is lined out. The Bylaw Revisions will be voted on at the August meeting so if there is any changes or suggestions, or feedback the members are instructed to contact Mrs. Terry. Mrs. Romero informed the council the Bylaws are submitted for approval to the Council, Superintendent of Schools and Board of Supervisors to acknowledge the changes and finally submitted to California Department of Social Services (CDSS).
  - b. Needs Assessment: Mrs. Romero informed the Council one of the mandates that the council must complete is a Countywide Needs Assessment once every five years. The Needs Assessment is a snapshot in time of the Early Learning and Care needs of our county that is submitted to CDSS as well as shared among the community to utilize for grant writing purposes, etc. The council is contracted with Dr. Roussos, who conducted the previous comprehensive needs assessment, and he will conduct another comprehensive Needs Assessment to better understand the true needs of the children and families in our county. With the legislative shift to UPK (Universal Pre-Kindergarten), the field is changing, and the council must provide a snapshot in time of the true needs of children and families. Mrs. Romero shared that the Head Start Program will be funding most of the cost for this report and the council is very thankful for their continual

support. Mrs. Romero shared that the council will have an Ad Hoc Needs Assessment Committee and Mrs. Terry will send out an email to the council members to ask for volunteers to participate on the committee. This committee will review the multiple drafts of the Needs Assessment to ensure it is an accurate reflection of the needs of the county.

- c. LPC Reports/ projects: Nothing was shared at this time.
  - d. Legislative Event: Mrs. Terry shared her idea with the council about contracting with Elizabeth Huntley as the Keynote Speaker and possibly present on the return of investments of ECE as well as how to change the life of a child in any single moment. Then possibly have Eric Sonnenfeld bring it all together and how it is impacting our county now. The council agreed that they would like to host Mrs. Huntley for the event, and it was recommended that Mrs. Terry apply for additional funding to support the event due to the limitations of the LPC fundings that cannot be utilized for food. The council agreed to host the event at TCOE on Mooney and suggested that the event takes place in the morning. The date for the event is October 20, 2022, and the council recommends that the Save the Date is sent out in June even though we may not have the time finalized. More information can follow on the invitation.
  - e. Inclusion Collaborative Event: Nothing was discussed at this time.
  - f. Other
7. Announcements: No announcements were made.
8. Next Scheduled Council Meeting: August 18, 2022, 3:00pm-4:30pm and it will be a hybrid model. A conference room at TCOE Doe Ave will be reserved for the members that are able to attend in person and a panelist link for the webinar will be provided to each individual member that attends virtually. The public will be able to join as well via a webinar link.
9. Adjournment: Meeting is adjourned at 4:20pm.