

Tulare County Council on Child & Youth Development Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 10, 2025, 3:00pm-4:30pm

Tulare County Office of Education Early Childhood Education Program

7000 Doe Ave. Visalia, CA 93291

Aspen Conference Room

Members Present: Stephanie Caldera, Lorena Castillo, Elisa Cortez, Cheri Doria, Terri Gardner-Martinez, Sherri Glenn, Laura Harris, Blanca Luna (staff) Sham Mashael, Martin Nogues, Christina Osorio, Denise Pedregon, Monica Pilkinton, Victoria Rodriguez, Timberly Romero, Christina Saucedo, Amy Sullivan and Samantha Terry (staff). Members Not Present: Elvira Barron, Christine Benevedes, Rebecca Della, Barbara Newman and Bernadette Solorzano. Guests: Denise Benavides, Jenny Mendoza, JC Palermo and Marisa Wright.

Agenda Item	Topic	Presenter	Council Member Prep
1. Call to Order	Introductions	Timberly Romero, Chair	The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Romero at 3:04pm and introductions were conducted.
2. Public Comments		Timberly Romero, Chair	No public comments were made.
3. Action Items a.	Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes	Timberly Romero, Chair	Mrs. Glenn motioned to approve of the minutes, Mrs. Saucedo second the motion. No objections. Abstentions: Christina Osorio, and Monica Pilkinton. Minutes approved.
3. Action Items b.	February Minutes	Timberly Romero, Chair	Mrs. Glenn motioned to approve of the minutes, Mrs. Saucedo second the motion. No objections. No abstentions, Minutes are approved.
3. Action Items c.	LPC County Priorities Report	Sam, Council Coordinator	Mrs. Terry informed the Council that the database that is utilized for this report has not been updated. CDSS is working on a contract with AIR to get updated data hopefully to have for the next fiscal year. Mrs. Terry requested the Council to approve the previous priorities report with the most current data that is available, which is from 2020. Mrs. Glenn motioned to approve of the minutes, Mrs. Saucedo second the motion. No objections. No abstentions. Priorities are approved.
4. Council Discussion a.	Council Binder Review	Group Discussion	Mrs. Terry reviewed the Council binder, and no questions were asked.
4. Council Discussion b.	25/26 Council Meeting Dates	Group Discussion	The Council approved of the proposed meeting dates. The calendar invites will be sent out to the council members to plan for the new fiscal year.
4. Council Discussion c.	Council Goals	Group Discussion	The Council took some time to talk about some goals that they have for the Council. Some of the items that were discussed were educating parents, secretaries/ school districts (the top down). Increase community awareness and utilize advertisements such as videos and possible move theater ads about UPK and the choices that parents have. As well as the important information that children are not required to be independent at toileting to attend TK. Another goal is

			to increase the number of legislators that attend the Annual Legislative Event. The Council will continue to discuss and finalize goals as they need to be evaluated and recreated to be SMART goals to measure the outcomes.
4. Council Discussion d.	Marketing Items	Group Discussion	This item was not discussed.
4. Council Discussion e.	Needs Assessment Update	Sam, Council Coordinator	Mrs. Terry informed the Council that Needs Assessment was approved by the Council in August; however, some narrative changes had to be made to ensure the reader is informed that even though the report shows a high unmet need for school age care, since the date of the data that is utilized, California has invested billions of dollars into the ELOP (Expanded Learning Opportunities Program) to help meet this need. The approving entities wanted to ensure that the report does not exclude that significant investment to help meet that need across the state. The report was approved by Tulare County Superintendent of Schools and is awaiting final approval from Tulare County Board of Supervisors.
5. Council Member Presentations	Save the Children	Victoria Rodriguez	Mrs. Rodriguez presented about Save the Children and the services they provide across Tulare County.
5. Council Member Presentations	Bright Start Parent Infant Program	Stephanie Caldera	Mrs. Caldera presented about Bright Start Infant Program and the Parent Liaison Program services that are available to parents and children in Tulare County.
5. Council Member Presentations	Community Services Employment Training (CSET)	Elisa Cortez	Mrs. Cortez presented about CSET and all the services that they provide to people throughout Tulare County.
6. Subcommittee Updates		Council Co-Chairs	<u>Community Resource Committee:</u> Mrs. Cortez and Ms. Harris informed the Council that the committee met for the first time in March and a lot of discussion took place on the numerous ideas and ambitions that the committee has. The big focus is to finalize the goals of the committee and eventually create a community resource survey for people to complete so the committee can determine what the true needs of families in Tulare County. <u>Events Subcommittee:</u> On behalf of Mrs. Rodriguez, Mrs. Terry informed the Council that the committee is in the process of planning the Annual Legislative Event. It was decided that the event will be hosted on a different day to provide the opportunity to include a different audience to hear the importance of ECE. Mrs. Terry and Mrs. Sullivan are in the process of securing a speaker for this event and more information will be shared later. The speaker that the committee wanted for the Inclusion Event is way out of budget, so they are seeking new speakers for the Spring event.

7. Round Table Announcements		Group Discussion	Mr. Nogues shared that anyone is welcome to join their monthly Smart Referral Network Meeting where professionals from diverse industries come together to build meaningful connections, share opportunities and foster a supportive community. The goal is to facilitate strategic referrals to help track better outcomes for the members of the communities. Mrs. Saucedo informed the Council that First 5 Tulare County is hosting their last Home Visiting professional development training for this fiscal year on May 14, 2025, at the Wyndham. To reserve your spot. Contact Halet Talley. Mrs. Caldera informed the Council that Bright Start is hosting a Parent Resource Fair on May 2, 2025. She welcomes anyone to attend.
8. Council Homework	Council Goals Call to Action		Mrs. Terry informed the Council of the categories of community members that were outlined at the Strategic Planning Meeting to work to provide presentations too. Each group is unique and will require a different Call to Action. The homework for the Council members is to first review Council Goals and brainstorm any changes to discuss in June. In addition, to review the identified categories of community member to determine if any group is missing as well as work to brainstorm what the Call to Action will be for each category.
9. Adjournment		Timberly Romero, Chair	The meeting was adjourned at 4:24pm.

Next Scheduled Council Meeting: Thursday, June 12, 2025, from 3:00pm-4:30pm at TCOE Doe Ave. in the Elderwood Conference Room.