

Mono County Child Care Council



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Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2020 1:30PM-3:00PM

The meeting can be accessed through

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/94888830806?pwd=bERqMm1UdjhTN0pOYnVnNEpLclJkdz09>

Meeting ID: 948 8883 0806 Passcode: MCCCC, Phone: +16699009128

As authorized by Governor Newsom's Executive Order, N-29-20, dated March 17, 2020, the meeting will be held via teleconferencing with members of the Board attending from separate remote locations. The meeting can be accessed through Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/94888830806?pwd=bERqMm1UdjhTN0pOYnVnNEpLclJkdz09> Meeting ID: 948 8883 0806 Passcode: MCCCC, Phone: +16699009128 where members of the public shall have the right to observe/listen. If you are interested in submitting public comment on any item on the agenda, or not on the agenda over which the board has jurisdiction, please send the written comment to the following email address 24 hours prior to the meeting cpowell@monocoe.org. Email sent and received in real time during the meeting will be read and addressed during the meeting, but it is highly encouraged that comments be sent in advance of the meeting to ensure they are received and read. This altered format is in observance of recent recommendations by state and local officials that certain precautions be taken, including social distancing, to address the threat of COVID-19.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact cpowell@monocoe.org Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Board to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (See 42 USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130)

1. Call to Order: Molly DesBaillets, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM

1) Establish Quorum:

MCCCC Members Present (8 of 10 members):

- i. Molly DesBaillets, First 5 (*Chair*)
- ii. Annaliesa Calhoun, First 5 (*Secretary*)
- iii. Brittany Nelson, IMACA Staff
- iv. Pam Heays, Consumer of Child Care
- v. Sofia Flores, Behavioral Health (*Vice-Chair*)
- vi. Danielle Dublino, IMACA Preschool Teacher
- vii. Kelly Conboy, IMACA CCC Director
- viii. Julie Winslow, Kids Corner

MCCCC Members Absent (1 of 10 members):

- i. Brooke Bien, MUSD
- ii. Jacinda Croissant, Health Department

LPC Coordinator: Courtney Powell, Mono County Office of Education

Public: Stacey Adler, Mono County Superintendent of Schools

2) Public Comment: Members of the public are given the opportunity to address the Council on items of interest within the jurisdiction of the Council. **No Public Comment.**

3) Membership Updates: Review Jacinda Croissant for a two-year membership (9.30.20-9.30.22) in the membership category Public Agency to be appointed by the Superintendent of schools. (**Information**)

4) Strategic Plan: The Coordinator will provide progress on the 2017-2022 Strategic Plan and Council Members will consider adoption (**Action**). The Council continued with the review of the last two objectives along with

Mono County Child Care Council



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their strategies and action plans. Objective two of the 2017-2022 MCCCC Strategic Plan is to; By, June 30, 2022, ensure that a minimum of 50% of 0-12 with parents in the workforce have a child care slot. Molly shared that to her knowledge when this plan was originally created, we were being ambitious to indicate that the council is ambitious and wanted to create more slots. According to the Childcare Quality System Strategic plan in 2017 we were at 25% of children having a child care slot. Molly also shared that to her knowledge this data is no longer being collected. Courtney the LPC Coordinator asked if Molly knew where this data was being collected from. To Molly's knowledge the data was coming from the reports that the Resource and Referral agencies submit to the CDE. Molly continued to share that from 2017-2019 there was not a lot of shift in child care and it is safe to assume that it is still hovering around 25% of the parents in the workforce that need a child care slot have a spot for their child. Pam shared that she likes the idea of the objective but would like to expand on it and read something like this, that by June 30, 2022 increase the number of existing child slots to at least 50%. Pam shared that her hope is to make this known to other parents. She elaborated that she as a consumer was not aware of the slot percentages. Another suggestion was to maybe add the beginning and or current 24% in 2017 to increase that percentage to 50%. Suggested edit was; By, June 30, 2022, increase the number of existing childcare slots available to parents in the workforce to at least 50% from 24% in 2017. The council then moved on to reviewing the strategies for objective two. The first strategy is to expand child care availability for working parents to include weekends, school holidays and during school summer breaks. Molly shared that from KidsData.org in 2019 there was 22% of child care centers and 50% of family child care homes were able to offer evening, weekends and overnight care. There is a significant increase to weekend and evening care from family child care homes. It is unknown if there was an increase or decrease from when this strategy was developed. The second strategy is to Develop a Child Care Peer Support Program. Danielle asked for there to be clarification as to whom the peer support is for, parents or providers? Molly shared that she believes that strategy align with the second bullet under the actions plan for objective number two. She also shared her insight that although we have not created a peer support group program, we have developed capacity with the LPC Coordinator to support individual providers with attaining or advancing on the Child Development Permit matrix. Molly believes we have met this objective but in a different way. This strategy has been reworded to read as; Develop support for permit attainment and advancement. Danielle asked about the strategy from objective one that was specific to support bonds/taxes that finance child care and it being moved under objective two. It had been reworded to read; Research and support local bonds, taxes and grants that finances child care and child care slots.

Mono County Child Care Council



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Strategy three of objective two is to communicate with community care licensing to offer a “Steps to Becoming a Licensing Child Care Provider” training. This strategy is currently being met and will stay on as it supports increasing child care slots through family child care homes. Pam added that she has a few more ideas for strategies specific to this objective. Some ideas were; utilize multiple types of child care to increase slots, identify possible locations for child care facilities and identify existing providers that would be willing to work in a center if there was a facility. Danielle elaborated on Pam’s ideas. She shared that she loves that this objective included school age children as well and would like for the bullets of strategies to expand to include the afterschool programs. Molly added to the conversation by saying she feels that the types of care fall into the first strategy of weekend and school holiday care. Some thoughts on identifying locations is concerning because it seems specific to Mammoth. Pam suggested that the bullet about facilities not be specific to one area but rather the county as a whole. Pam restated her idea as; Identify potential locations for possible child care facilities within Mono County. Molly has some concerns around creating a list of providers interested in working in a center-based program without the program being built. Then Pam shared that there is concern around building a facility and potentially not having anyone to run or work in it. Pam hopes to elaborate on strategy bullet one to include the multiple types of child care. Molly shared that she has some concern around tracking one type of child care which is the Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN). Courtney shared that through Trust Line IMACA currently has five FFN’s this is one way to track those that are being paid through Trust Line. Danielle asked a clarifying question about these providers being presented the opportunity to become licensed? Kelly shared that yes, they do present them with the idea but does not push it because they do not want to lose the provider. Kelly shared that FFN’s can care for approximately two additional children along with their own. There was no further discussion. After finishing the discussion of strategies, the council moved on to the action plan of objective two. The first bullet was to maintain a list of babysitters/nannies, however, there became some privacy issues and a class was offered that no one took advantage of. Molly’s suggestion was to remove this action from the list because it became too challenging for the council to keep a list going and the privacy issues. Pam asked a question about whether IMACA still kept a list of childcare providers in Mono County. Kelly answered yes, but that it is more for center-based, school-based, family child care homes and the subsidized after school care. Serval members (Pam, Annaliesa and Danielle) agreed to have this action bullet removed. The next bullet was to; create a list of providers who want to advise, map out eligibility, tier stipends based on education. This should change since the corresponding strategy bullet changed to Develop support for permit attainment and advancement. The action plan would be to increase capacity of the LPC coordinator to provide permit guidance to child care providers in Mono County. Courtney shared that we can expand to mentors within that action and not just the LPC Coordinator. Molly said that Courtney can reword that bullet and the council will review once they get the updated version of the strategic plan. The last action bullet was to hold quarterly “steps to become a provider”

Mono County Child Care Council



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training (CC College, North Mono County). Molly has some ideas about this bullet but wanted to allow Kelly the opportunity to elaborate on this first. Kelly shared that due to the lack of interest they are only offering it once a year. The suggested edit was to reword it to read; Hold an annual “Steps to Becoming a Child Care Provider” trainings (North Mono County) and omit Cerro Coso Community College. The council looped back to the strategy about financing child care slots and discuss the action that aligns with that bullet. Molly suggestion is that the strategy would actually be to; better understand and support local financing for child care and slots. And the action is to research potential sources of funding including bonds, taxes and grants. Pam liked the idea but suggested that we add additional bullet about actively research or seek out grants that could fund child care slots or facilities. Danielle suggested that we change the word support in the statement because it seems vague. The suggestion was to work around the following ideas; research and apply for grants, consider promoting taxes and bonds when it is appropriate and that it would be a few different bullets. Advocate should be a part of the action. Danielle added that she liked the verb identify for the strategy discussed above. No further discussion. The third object is to; by June 30, 2022 increase both home-based and center-based options that provide an age-appropriate learning environment as defined by “Quality Counts California”. Pam made a point that all of the actions tied back to Kindergarten readiness, however, the objective does not. Therefore, there is a disconnect between the two items. Danielle suggested adding in some of the work that Courtney the LPC Coordinator does with AB212 and the new Workforce Pathways Grant into the other strategies or actions. She said that this has been a huge part of increasing quality in Mono County. Danielle also mentioned that she sees this objective as something that has already happened and should continue. Pam suggestion is that the objective should possibly read as increasing Quality Counts California child care space for ages 0-5 to prepare for kindergarten readiness. Annaliesa suggestion was to look at the objective its self in addition to adding more action items. She went on to share that we are adding clarity because Quality Counts California has very specific objectives and actions that go along with it. Her suggestion is that we do something similar to our second objective where we name a percentage. It could be something specific to participation in the local Quality Counts California program for our home-based, center-based and school-based sites. She went on to share that we have one of the highest rates of participation within the state, she doesn’t think we are after increasing rather we are trying to maintain participation in the Quality Counts California program so we are increasing quality within existing sites. Molly’s suggestion was to reword it something along the lines of; Support childcare quality to ensure children enter school kindergarten ready. She shared that in her thought process, the whole outcome of the childcare quality work is that children get to school, school ready. Danielle asked a clarifying question about a document that First 5 releases at the end of each year specific to kindergarten readiness and the Brigance scores. Molly shared that she does have that statistic each year for 90% of the kindergarten cohort. Annaliesa shared that she thinks those are two separate things that we are looking at. This objective is looking at increasing the number

Mono County Child Care Council



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of slots and or sites that are apart of Quality Counts California and a way to measure that is through Kindergarten Readiness. Molly came up with a suggestion for the objective; to maintain 70% participation rate of licensed and licensed exempt providers in Mono County in the Childcare Quality system. There was discussion of making this objective into two items one about Kindergarten readiness and one about participation. Molly suggested we think about as the child care council and how this objective relates to the council's goals. An think about Childcare Quality System objectives specific to child care quality. The way they relate is that in the planning council we want as many providers as possible to participate in the Childcare Quality System but all of the Childcare Quality System actions and objectives are in its own strategic plan. Danielle added to the discission with that she feels the whole purpose of increasing quality is to ensure kindergarten readiness. Annaliesa added to the conversation by disagreeing that she doesn't believe that is the intention of quality child care. We are not looking to create students we are looking to create people. That is a larger goal than just being kindergarten ready. Molly restated the suggested objective with a few additions; by June 30, 2022, levels of participation in the childcare quality system also known as "Quality Counts California" will remain at 70% or greater. There were no objections to the suggested objective. The council moved on to review the strategies. The first strategy is to increase the number of sites rated as high quality using the "Quality Counts California" standard. Pam made a suggestion to remove this bullet as it has been met and sounds similar to our reworded objective. Molly explained that it is different because it is specifically related to rating the sites. However, they all decided that it could be removed since it no longer aligns with the goal and has been met. The next strategy is to include family engagement activities and transition to kindergarten activities. This strategy has been met and will stay as a strategy. There was discussion around creating new strategies for this objective. Annaliesa suggested we think about all of the things we offer that support the participation; advising, coaching, mentoring, high quality no cost to providers trainings, and the workforce pathways also known as (AB212). The council decided to keep the last three strategies and make one edit to the last bullet to include the new workforce grant. There were no other suggestions made. The council moved into reviewing the action plan for objective three. Danielle suggested adding the provider appreciation activities at the end of the year be added to the actions. This helps to show our appreciation and increase morale. Pam asked if there is some kind of announcement about the extra work the providers put into getting these ratings. Molly shared that Resource and Referral shares the rating whenever a family is seeking care suggestions. Danielle suggested that First 5 try to get the ratings into the newspapers. Due to technology issues within the meeting, Molly suggested that Courtney goes back and makes an amended plan and brings it back to the council. Pam mentioned that she would like for Courtney to make all of the edits between the last two meetings before they take any action on this item. **No Action was taken. Item has been tabled for a future meeting.**

Mono County Child Care Council



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- 5) **Childcare Quality System (CQS):** Childcare Quality Strategic Plan. Molly shared that the reason this plan comes to the council is because it is written into the plan and she hopes to get high level of input from the council on this plan.
(Action) No Action was taken. Item has been tabled for a future meeting.
- 6) **Covid-19 Child Care Update:** Kelly Conboy shared an update from the Resource and Referral agency about Child Care and Covid-19. There are eight providers that are open but they are not operating at full capacity. They are working with a new provider to try and get her license to open which would help to support slots. Courtney added that the LPC Coordinator and IMACA worked with the Palmdale Regional Center to provide a COVID-19 and Licensing update along with Mono County Public Health. If a provider needs Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) they can contact IMACA for more information. **(Informational)**
- 7) **Meeting Schedule 2020-21 FY:** 2020-21 Fiscal Year Meeting Schedule
10.22.20; 11.19.20; 12.10.20; 1.21.21; 2.11.21; 3.18.21; 4.22.21; 5.13.21; 6.17.21 (Information)
- 8) **Agency Round Table:** No updates at this time. **(Information)**
- 9) **Meeting Adjourned** at 2:58 PM