

2000-2003 STRATEGIC PLAN

Quality Child Care and Development Programs:

Strategy 1: Support the professional development of child care and development providers by developing opportunities for education, accreditation, training and staff development.

Strategy 2: Support professional growth incentives including stipends, increased wages or benefits for provider's increased education or years of experience.

Strategy 3: Improve data collection to support working conditions of child care and development providers.

Affordable Child Care and Development Programs:

Strategy 1: Educate employers as to the advantages of offering child care options to their employees including subsidies and on-site child care.

Strategy 2: Educate local and state policy makers about the value of child care and development programs including the need for more subsidies.

Strategy 3: Improve the data collection for unserved and underserved children and geographic locations in the county.

Accessible Child Care and Development Programs:

Strategy 1: Develop a system in the county to provide services to families and child care providers serving children with special needs or children at risk of abuse or neglect.

Strategy 2: Increase the number of providers who serve special needs children and children at risk of abuse and neglect.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Child Care and Development Planning Council of El Dorado County is a public-private partnership of business, education, community and government. The mission is to serve as the focal point for the planning and development of accessible, affordable, quality child care and development programs for children and families in El Dorado County.

HISTORY

In 1991, the US Congress established a federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). Each state was allocated funds to assist low-income families with child care and development services. In California Assembly Bill (AB) 2141 was passed, providing suggested structure for Local Child Care and Development Planning Councils.

In 1997, AB 1542 was passed establishing welfare reform legislation (Cal WORKS) revising the membership and responsibilities of Local planning councils.

MEMBERSHIP

AB 1542 encourages diverse representation on local child care and development planning councils while maintaining a balance of different interests. Membership is grouped into the following categories:

20% child care consumers
20% child care providers
20% community representatives
20% public agency representatives

20% discretionary appointments made by the County Board of Supervisors and the Superintendent of Schools.

AUTHORITY

The Board of Supervisors and the Superintendent of Schools appoint members of the Child Care and Development Planning Council, establish the terms of appointments, and review and approve needs assessments and local priorities for funding. The Superintendent of Schools has the responsibility as fiscal agent for funds received on behalf of the local planning council.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Council's Major Responsibilities are to:

- Assess the child care needs in El Dorado County and develop a long-term plan to meet those needs.
- Advise the Board of Supervisors and Superintendent of Schools on the need for child care and development Services.
- Facilitate the exchange of information among part-day programs, including State Preschool and Head Start, with other child care to provide full-day child care.
- Assist the state in the development of a single application and intake form for all federal and state subsidized child care and development programs.
- Participate in discussions to consolidate local child care waiting lists.

Recommend priorities for child care funding from the California Department of Education, Child Development Division (CDD), when appropriate and requested.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

CARES: Compensation and Retention Encourages Stability

The El Dorado County CARES Program utilizes three funding streams in the amount of \$740,000 over two years. The program invites child care and development providers to work with Advisors who have been trained and certified as Professional Growth Advisors by the Child Development Training Consortium. The providers will develop an education plan with the goal of completing at least 12 college units in two years. Once enrolled, providers will be given a stipend of \$900 every six months for successful progress on their plan. The goal of the educational plan is to assist each provider in obtaining or increasing the level of their child development permit from the California Commission for Teacher Credentialing.

Economic Development

The Coordinator represents the Council on both the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce, Education Council and the Economic Development Advisory Team. As a result, child care has been recognized as integral to the County's economic growth.

Utilizing the methodology of the National Economic Development Law Center, child care and development services in El Dorado County generated approximately \$29.8 million dollars in gross receipts and employed an estimated 813 workers as of September 2001.

El Dorado Hills Child Care Consortia

In October 2001, the Child Care and Development Planning Council (CCDPC) was awarded an \$8,000 grant from the Children and Families Commission to develop a community child care plan increasing the supply of affordable, quality child care in El Dorado Hills. The planning body consists of public, private and business partners referred to as the El Dorado Hills Child Care Consortia.

With the assistance of CCDPC staff, the Consortia will assess employee early care and education needs from employers in El Dorado Hills, assess the capacity of the early care and education providers to meet those needs, and develop a collaborative plan to bridge the gap between supply and demand for child care services.

El Dorado County
Child Care and Development Planning Council
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2002 Council Mandates and Activities

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