

**-Advocacy and Community Involvement-**

**Council Goal:** Early care and education is recognized as an essential element to our social, educational and economic infrastructure and must be considered in all aspects of planning, development and decision making in El Dorado County.

**Desired Outcomes:** El Dorado County government, business, and education effectively support early care and education services and public policy in El Dorado County reflects the needs of all children and families.

- ◆ Council presented the Strategic Plan and Needs Assessment Update to the Board of Supervisors and the El Dorado County Board of Education, highlighting the need for quality child care and support for income eligible families with children of all ages, especially infants.
- ◆ Council presented Strategic Plan and Needs Assessment Update to the Native American community and identified strategies for further collaboration.
- ◆ Council partnered with Economic Development Department to identify opportunities for collaboration to support early care and education services in El Dorado County including zoning issues and development fees.

**Collaborative Community Partnerships** - Council Members and Staff actively participated with numerous community organizations addressing issues related to young children and families, developing collaborative partnerships and providing leadership, facilitation and support.

- ◆ Child Abuse Prevention Council
- ◆ CalSAFE
- ◆ Mental Health Services Act ( MHS) Prevention and Early Intervention Planning
- ◆ First 5 El Dorado School Readiness Committee
- ◆ Lake Tahoe Community College – Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee
- ◆ Job One Board
- ◆ El Dorado Chamber of Commerce Education Council
- ◆ Head Start Policy Advisory Committee
- ◆ Choices for Children’s Kids Expo
- ◆ Western Slope Community Strengthening Coalition Project - a growing collaboration of 48 community based organizations , government, and faith based community representatives



**-Quality -**

**Council Goal:** El Dorado County children are cared for and educated in high quality settings.

**Overall Strategy:** Ensure that early care and education providers have access to training and professional development through collaboration with agencies/programs and services and achieve locally defined Quality standards.

- ◆ Council collaborated with the Early Care and Education/Kindergarten Transition Planning Group.
- ◆ Council supported First 5’s High Five for Quality Initiative assisting early care and education programs to achieve quality standards.
- ◆ Staff represented El Dorado County on the Statewide Strategic Assessment of the Child Care Nutrition Environment Advisory Committee.

**-Workforce Development, Education and Training-**

**Council Goal:** Early care and education programs have highly trained and educated staff to provide quality care.

**Desired Outcomes:** Increased recruitment and retention of early care and education workforce and increased participation in professional development opportunities

**AB 212 Retention and Professional Development Program** - The 2000-2001 Budget Act allocated \$15 million for child care worker retention programs, as specified in Chapter 547 of the Statutes of 2000, AB 212, Aroner. The staff retention program was developed to assist counties in improving the retention of qualified employees who work directly with children who receive state subsidized child care services.

- ◆ Awarded scholarships to 48 staff from State funded, center based programs: forty two scholarships for unit bearing coursework which allows progress on the Child Development Permit Matrix and six professional development grants for eighteen hours of approved professional development. During the 2008-2009 program year, staff earned 371 units, an average of 5.6 units per staff, and participated in 108 professional development hours, increasing the educational level and quality of our Title 5 programs.
- ◆ Launched the CSUS College of Continuing Education -EDCOE on-site Bachelors Degree Program in Early Development, Care and Education with 23 participants, including three participants in South Lake Tahoe. The program participants completed 18 units towards their Bachelors Degree and will continue in the fall of 2009 with the on-site program.
- ◆ Developed the “Careers Options in Child Development” document for workforce recruitment and professional development.
- ◆ Facilitated and supported 54 staff from state funded programs to participated in the following training and professional development opportunities:

PACE Conference  
CAEYC Conference  
“The Difficult Young Child”  
“Maximizing Children’s Potential”

Family Partnerships  
“What is with this Kid”  
How Does Your Engine Run

### **Council Activities**

- ◆ Council conducted ongoing membership recruitment and outreach efforts
- ◆ Council completed the new Annual Self Study process
- ◆ Council developed annual priorities for child care funding for El Dorado County based upon local data and submitted priorities to the California Department of Education, Child Development Division

### **-Reporting-**

Verbal and written reports were submitted to the Council's governing bodies, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors and the El Dorado County Board of Education. In addition, all required documentation and reports were submitted to the California Department of Education, Child Development Division.

### **2008-2009 Council Members**

Sherri Springer, Chair - Happy Kids Child Care  
Juline Aguilar - Consumer  
Lisa Daly - Folsom Lake College  
Jennifer Lawrence - Choices for Children  
Myra Lowder - Provider  
Noelle Mattock - Designee  
Kaye Medellin - EDC Office of Education  
Aloha Montgomery - Department of Human Services  
Ellen Vaughn - EDC Chamber of Commerce  
Wendy Wood - Family Connections  
Leanne Wagoner - South Lake Tahoe Women's Center  
Barbara Raines - Folsom Lake College  
  
Judi Harkins, Liaison, Board of Supervisors  
Cathy Bean, Liaison, Superintendent of Schools

### **Staff**

Elizabeth Blakemore  
530-295-2312  
eblakemore@edcoe.org  
Lori Blackburn  
530-295-2403  
lblackburn@edcoe.org



### **Mission Statement:**

The El Dorado Early Care and Education Planning Council provides leadership for the planning and development of quality, accessible, affordable early care and education programs for children and families in El Dorado County

### **Local Planning:**

The Early Care and Education Planning Council is a public-private partnership of business, education, child care providers and consumers, community and government. The fifteen member council ensures that the county's child care needs are assessed and a strategic plan is developed to meet those needs. In addition, the Council establishes local priorities for child care funding and develops policies to meet the needs identified within these priorities. Mandates include enhancing collaborations and partnerships in the child care community and linking part-day programs to offer full day care. The Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Supervisors serve as authorities to the Council.

# **El Dorado Early Care and Education Planning Council**

## **Annual Report 2008-2009**

