

# EL DORADO COUNTY EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PLANNING COUNCIL

2009-2010 MEMBERSHIP

SHERRI SPRINGER, CHAIR HAPPY KIDS CHILD CARE

JULINE AGUILAR CONSUMER

LISA DALY FOLSOM LAKE COLLEGE

JENNIFER LAWRENCE CHOICES FOR CHILDREN

MYRA LOWDER DESIGNEE

NOELLE MATTOCK DESIGNEE

KAYE MEDELLIN EDC OFFICE OF EDUCATION

ALOHA MONTGOMERY DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES

BARBARA RAINES
DESIGNEE

ELLEN VAUGHN EDC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WENDY WOOD
FAMILY CONNECTIONS

JUDI HARKINS, LIAISON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CATHY BEAN, LIAISON, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

ELIZABETH BLAKEMORE COORDINATOR WWW.EDCARES.ORG Norma Santiago, District V El Dorado County Board of Supervisors 330 Fair Lane Placerville, CA 95667

November 13, 2009

Dear Supervisor Santiago,

The Early Care and Education Planning Council respectfully submits the attached 2008-2009 Annual Report of activities of the planning council and requests the approval and adoption of the attached Early Care and Education Public Policy Platform for 2009-2010. The platform was formally approved by the Early Care and Education Planning Council in September 2009 and expresses the council's policy positions to guide responses to legislation in the coming legislative year. It is our hope that the Board will accept and adopt this document and then use it as a guide for advocacy around legislation which benefits El Dorado County's children and families.

Early care and education services keep El Dorado County working and high quality services prepare our community's children for success in school and life. Ongoing commitment to quality, accessible and affordable services is an investment in human capital development which will provide deep and lasting returns for El Dorado County's citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elizabeth Blakemore, Coordinator

Early Care and Education Planning Council



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## Public Policy Platform for 2009-2010

## Workforce

We support public and private efforts and systems that recruit, retain and support a well trained, educated, and compensated early childhood and after school workforce the workforce must have access to coordinated educational and professional development systems including entry level to degree attainment; with the resources and infrastructure to support that education.

We support additional resources and incentives to promote linguistically and culturally sensitive programs.

## Systems, Finance, and Administration

We support efforts to create efficient administration of early childhood and after school programs. These programs shall include coordinated regulatory and contracting procedures and sufficiently funded reimbursement processes without unfunded mandates, to ensure sustainability of high quality programs for children. Such a system would include integration of the k-12 systems, early intervention, health and mental health, family supports, food/nutrition and social services.

### Health and Safety

We support efforts to ensure that all children are cared for and educated in safe and healthy environments, including a sufficiently funded community care licensing system, Trustline fingerprinting and basic CPR/First Aid training of all individuals who provide care for children.

## Quality

We support a sufficiently funded system of care that ensures high quality programs for all children age birth to 13, supported by developmentally appropriate curriculum, parental engagement, and culturally and linguistically appropriate environments conducive to learning and development. We support those quality initiatives which support advancing levels of quality for programs serving children.

#### Access

We support efforts to ensure that families have access to high quality programs for all children including those with special needs, linguistic or socio-economic challenges within a diverse delivery system which respects parental choice.