

Early Care and Education Planning Council

Mission:

El Dorado Early Care and Education Planning Council provides leadership and advocacy for development of quality, accessible, affordable early care and education services for children and families in El Dorado County.





Early Care and Education Planning Council Membership

- ▶ The council consists of fifteen volunteers appointed jointly by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors and the El Dorado County Superintendent of Schools. Council members equally represent the following categories:
- ▶ Early Care and Education Providers
- ▶ Consumers
- ▶ Public Agency Representatives
- ▶ Community Agency Representatives
- ▶ Discretionary Appointments



History of Local Planning Councils

- ▶ Local decision-making for child care and development programs began in 1991 with the passage of AB 2141 and the inception of the Federal Child Care and Development Block Grant.
- ▶ In 1997, AB 1542 mandated planning councils in each county, requiring the involvement of both the Board of Supervisors and the County Office of Education. Councils were given more responsibilities and mandates as part of the legislation creating California's response to federal welfare reform.
- ▶ The El Dorado County Early Care and Education Planning Council has become an important part of the local infrastructure, developing comprehensive, community based strategies to serve children and families.





Council Objectives and Mandates



Needs Assessment Key Findings

- ▶ Child Care Costs for families are high, often 20% of income in El Dorado County
- ▶ Lack of infant care impacts the decision to return to the workforce
- ▶ Recruitment and retention of early learning staff restricts expansion of programs
- ▶ Our licensed capacity for care is shrinking
 - ▶ Loss of 30% of child care spaces in the last 5 years.
 - ▶ Fewer family child care homes
 - ▶ No new centers

El Dorado County	Amount	
Type of Facility	Infant	Preschooler
Child Care Center	\$13,423	\$9,473
Family Child Care Home	\$8,818	\$8,293



Needs Assessment Key Findings

- ▶ 2,650 child care spaces are needed for children age birth to three with working parents
 - ▶ 357 **subsidized** infant care spaces are needed with low income working families
 - ▶ 1,201 **subsidized** full time preschool spaces are needed to support low income working families
 - ▶ 2,367 **subsidized** care spaces are needed for school age (6-12) children with working families
- ✓ Critical shortage of infant care
 - ✓ Subsidized care for school age children



Strategic Plan

GOALS	Quality El Dorado County families have access to high quality infant, toddler, preschool and after school care	Advocacy Elected leaders are informed of critical issues facing early care and education	Workforce Early Care and Education Programs have sufficient numbers of highly trained and well educated staff to support quality programming.
Strategies	<p>Educate consumers about how to find and select quality child care</p> <p>Increase number of licensed sites, FFNS and Alternative Sites engaged in Quality Rating and Improvement</p> <p>Increase quality of sites through coaching, TA, incentives and supports</p> <p>Leverage all Quality Improvement funding to support QRIS</p>	<p>Gather Data and present data to elected leaders</p> <p>Meet with elected leaders</p> <p>Track Legislation and inform leaders of local and system impacts</p> <p>Schedule early learning site visits for legislators and elected leaders</p>	<p>Support recruitment efforts across the county including job fairs, high school career fairs and Job One</p> <p>Support staff retention efforts including stipend programs and recognition events</p> <p>Support ECE training opportunities</p> <p>Research funding streams to support workforce</p> <p>Gather data on turnover rate in High 5 for Quality sites</p>
Outcomes	<p>85% of children are served in high quality settings</p> <p>85% of licensed sites are high quality as evidenced by advancement on CA QRIS Matrix</p>	<p>Elected leaders are informed and advocate on behalf of the early care and education system</p>	<p>El Dorado licensed child care sites turnover rates decrease*</p>





Strategic Plan Focus: Workforce

- ▶ Collecting current data on turnover and wages
- ▶ Recruitment Fairs at colleges, high schools and community events
- ▶ Coaching and mentoring programs to support retention and development of current workforce
- ▶ Scholarships and stipends for academic and professional development
 - ▶ Provided 144 teachers a scholarship or stipend in 2018



Strategic Plan Focus: Quality



- ▶ High 5 for Quality - El Dorado's Quality Rating and Improvement System
 - ▶ Partnered with First 5 El Dorado, First 5 California, California Department of Education, El Dorado County Office of Education Head Start and Early Head Start, Choices for Children, El Dorado County Library, Folsom Lake College faculty and early care providers to develop strategies to support quality improvement in both family child care and center programs
 - ▶ Provided 144 early learning staff stipends and scholarships
 - ▶ Braided five funding streams to QRIS serving 90 sites with 1500 children
 - ▶ Improved quality of sites as rated by the state QRIS rating system
 - ▶ Educated parents on how to choose a quality program



Advocacy : Child Care Capacity

- ▶ Child Care, infant care and preschool are critical for economic development.
 - ▶ Parents working and children learning
- ▶ Work collaboratively with economic development and planning department to reduce barriers to expansion of family child care homes and siting of new centers
 - ▶ Child Care as an essential infrastructure element in county planning



Zip Code Priorities for Subsidized Care

Process:

- 1) Analyze data on # of children eligible for subsidized care as compared to the # of currently enrolled children by zip code
- 2) Determine if there is a sufficient number of eligible children unserved
- 3) Apply local knowledge and public input
- 4) Determine the zip codes that are highest priority for placing a subsidized center based program
- 5) Priority zip codes are provided by care for Infants, Preschool and School Age Care settings.

Questions



Child Care keeps parents earning and children learning!

