

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY LOCAL CHILD CARE & DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE LPC REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, January 27, 2026 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Members of the public are invited to address the Riverside County Local Child Care and Development Planning Council regarding items listed on the agenda.

The Riverside County Local Child Care and Development Planning Council recognizes its obligation to provide equal access to individuals with disabilities. For any requests for reasonable accommodations, please contact the Consortium for Early Learning Services at (951) 778-5003.

A. CALL TO ORDER

A1. Call to Order

LPC Coordinator, Kate Hamaker called the Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Local Child Care and Development Planning Council (LPC) to order at 9:37 a.m. at Riverside County Office of Education Conference Center, 4280 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, California, 92501. Mrs. Hamaker facilitated the meeting proceedings prior to the election of a Chair.

A2. Welcome & Roll Call

Kate Hamaker, LPC Coordinator, welcomed LPC members and the public. Roll call was taken by Kate Hamaker. A quorum was determined. As this is a new LPC member term, members introduced themselves. Members of the public were also asked to introduce themselves.

Members Present: Andrea Del Valle, Celeste Etheridge, Jill Johnson, Dominic Morales, Pam Robinson, Trudy Oliver, Jennifer Adcock, Gayle Clark, Eric Ellis, Ansina Green, Ami Paradise, Fred Johnson III, Jocelyn Ramirez, Rheena Riggs, Charna Widby

Members Absent: Dr. Davina Bailey, Noemi Maloy, Shannon Gonzalez, Heidi Maldoon, Stephanie Vazquez

Staff Present: Kate Hamaker, Executive Director, Consortium for Early Learning Services

Community Members Present: Chris Pineda, Regional Sales Representative, C & M School Supply; Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV, First 5 Riverside County; James Moses, Regional Director, Child Care Regional Center

B. SWEARING IN OF LPC MEMBERS FOR THE 2026-2028 TERM

Kate Hamaker announced that this is the first time Riverside County LPC has had swearing in of LPC appointees. Scheduling of the swearing in for this meeting was not possible. LPC members will be sworn in at the March 10, 2026, LPC Regular Meeting by the Clerk of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and a representative from RCOE.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Items not on the agenda, 3 minutes per person, public and LPC Council members.

- Celeste Etheridge announced their February 13, 2026, 16-year anniversary celebration of the school; she will send a flyer to Kate for distribution to members.
- Ami Paradise, Temecula Valley USD, announced TVUSD has opened its first California State Preschool, in collaboration with RCOE, second classroom will open in the Fall.

- Trudy Oliver, Temple Beth El Child Development Center, announced she has been working with CCL and on December 17, 2025, received approval to open a second infant room.
- Fred Johnson, Discovery Source, introduced himself and Discovery Source to the group and made catalogs available.

D. PRESENTATIONS:

D1. Being a Member of LPC

LPC Coordinator, Kate Hamaker, shared the LPC Mission and Vision Statements. Kate introduced the responsibilities of LPC members and the members guide which gives LPC members information on LPC history, governance and other information. The guide is currently a work in progress. Scheduled completion date is for March LPC meeting. Kate provided members with information on the Welfare and Institutions Code, Brown Act, and Roberts Rules. LPC members are expected to attend all meetings. Your attendance is important. If we do not have a quorum, per the Brown Act, we cannot conduct business. If a member misses two meetings, the Executive Committee will discuss how to proceed. Riverside County LPC does not have alternates as other LPC's do. That is for this Council to discuss at a later time.

D2. 2026 Zip Code Priority Report Update

The Zip Code Priorities Report is a LPC mandate per WIC Code. The Zip Code Priorities Committee reviews local data and makes decisions on child care priorities by zip code. That information is presented to the full LPC. Upon LPC approval it is submitted to the Superintendent of Schools and the County Board of Supervisors before sending it to CDSS. For the past five years the information provided by the State, the ELNAT, has aged and become incorrect. Riverside County LPC has been updating the ELNAT data with local data. For 2026, CDSS CCDD data department has used census and program data to develop a priorities report for each county. LPCs have three options:

1. Use CDSS CCDD data with BOS and SOS approval.
2. Reuse 2024/2025 report, a waiver is required, the LPC Chair approves report.
3. Utilized CDSS CCDD data adjusted for local data, waiver required, BOS and SOS approval.

Currently the CDSS data we have received has flaws, most LPCs are opting to use CDSS CCDD data augmented by local data. Report is due May 30. Decisions are going to have to be made soon so we can enter into the approval process with BOS and SOS.

E. ACTION ITEMS

E1. Approval of LPC Chairperson for the term of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

Pam Robinson nominated Jill Johnson for LPC Chairperson. No other persons were nominated.

Motion to approve Jill Johnson as LPC Chair made by Charna Widby.

Motion seconded by Pam Robinson.

*Jill Johnson abstained, all other members approved. *

Motion approved

E2. Approval of LPC Co-Chairperson for the term of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

Jill Johnson nominated Charna Widby for LPC Co-Chairperson. No other persons were nominated.

Motion to approve Jill Charna Widby as LPC Co--Chair made by Pam Robinson.

Motion seconded by Dominic Morales.

Charna Widby abstained, all other members approved.

Motion approved.

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E3. Approval of November 4, 2025 LPC Regular Meeting Minutes.

*Motion to approve November 4, 2025, LPC Regular Meeting Minutes with identified corrections.
made by Charna Widby.*

Motion seconded by Eric Ellis.

Motion approved

F. LPC COMMITTEES UPDATE

F1. Introduction of Committees

Kate Hamaker, LPC Coordinator, gave a general description of committees including standing and ad hoc committees. Committees complete work outside of LPC meetings. Committees accomplish the work set by state mandates. All committees must:

- Relate to LPC vision and mission statements and strategic plan;
- Have a clearly defined charge by LPC;
- Develop clear goals, objectives, assignment and timeline;
- Cannot exceed quorum of LPC minus 1; and
- Can meet on Zoom.

A standing committee is a permanent committee that manages the ongoing responsibilities such as oversight, policy implementation and strategic guidance. Examples: Executive, Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan, Public Policy and Education, Zip Code Priorities

An ad hoc committee is a temporary committee with specific tasks. Examples: Nominating, Bylaws, Event

F2. Committee Selection

Kate Hamaker encouraged LPC members, to commit to at least one committee, per LPC Bylaws, and no more than two. Committee selections follow.

Executive Committee: Jill Johnson (LPC Chair), Charna Widby (LPC Co Chair/First 5 Liaison), Jennifer Adcock (RCOE Liaison), Kate Hamaker (LPC Coordinator)

Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan: Andrea Del Valle, Rheena Riggs, Jocelyn Ramirez

Zip Code Priorities: Andrea Del Valle, Eric Ellis, Celeste Etheridge

Bylaws: Pam Robinson, Dominic Morales, Fred Johnson

Event: Ansina Green, Chris Pineda

Public Policy: Trudy Oliver, Gayle Clark, Jennifer Adcock, Ami Paradise, James, Moses, Andrea Del Valle

Nominating:

Kate Hamaker will facilitate the first meetings.

G. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

G1. LPC Contracts and Financial Update- Kate Hamaker, LPC Coordinator and CELS

Executive Director, presented financial update for the second quarter, the fiscal document is in packet. Dates in Column 1, line 1 and 2 need to be corrected to 07/25-06/26. Kate updated the LPC on the status of contract probation. Year one has passed. All request documents have been submitted to CDSS including fiscal reports being sent on a monthly basis rather than quarterly. Natalie Miller was here to visit informally with CELS staff and LPC. Natalie will return in March 2026, for a program review. Upon a successful review she will recommend that probation status be lifted June 30, 2026. Kate discussed that the LPC Member Guide is in draft form, please contact her for any questions or concerns.

G2. UPK MD Systems Activity, Andre Del Valle-Final budget revisions approved by state. Semi annual report will be sent on time, January 30th. CELS continues to contract with RCOE for trainings, communications and support. Westbound Communication UPK MD parent choice campaign will begin March or April. Economic study underway collecting data from our partners. Mapping of child care facilities and other information is underway and should be on website in the upcoming weeks. Next UPKMD Systems workgroup is scheduled for February 26, 2025, 12:30-2:30 p.m. at Golden Era Golf Club Clubhouse, San Jacinto. Full report in packet.

G3. First 5 Riverside County, Charna Widby- Provided an infographic in packet. Highlights include: the evaluation report on the wage enhancement program via ARPA funds, distributing over \$9,000 to 3,100 providers; information published last week by University of California Berkeley “A Weight Off Our Shoulders” (members received a copy) showed strong retention numbers; Family Resource Center basic needs outreach efforts distributing diapers, wipes and formula; and strategic plan listening and learning sessions. Next listening session is January 29, 2026, in Hemet.

G4. Riverside County Office of Education, Jill Johnson- RCOE Early Care and Education Services includes: Early Care and Education such as Head Start, Migrant Ed, California State Preschool, California General Child Care Center-based. Provided an infographic in packet. Highlights include: number of children enrolled in RCOE programs October-December; children on eligibility list; CAPP enrollment; Resources and Referral referrals; program reimbursements; Domestic Violence Campaign highlight; subsidized care program supports; workforce development support (including Early Education Teacher Development stipends, conference and training session attendance. And continuing education participants. RCOE annual report will be coming out soon and available at next meeting.

G5. Department of Public Social Services, Eric Ellis- Eric will begin giving DPSS updates at March meeting.

G6. Consortium for Early Learning Services- Kate Hamaker submitted to the Council CELS staff activities for the quarter. Document is in the packet. Information includes: QCWSPSP current enrollment 294 English-speaking and 157 Spanish-speaking providers; ECEWA (District 39) from November through December five new and three expanded licenses were issued creating 50 new spaces (stipends given for licensing program \$10,122.32); 58 professional/education development stipends were awarded (\$41,900); CELS supported the Stan and Carolyn Little Conference in Palm Desert, 178 providers attended, Jennifer Haessly Program Development Coordinator provider the keynote “ Cultivating Calm Classroom” CM School Supply was a sponsor providing lunch; CELS is a member of the advisory committee for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library which will soon be launched in Riverside County; and Day of the Young Child days are being planned for Coachella (March 7) and Murrieta (April 11 or 18).

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G7. Future Agenda Items/Member Request- Request members to provide a presentation of their organization/agency/ business.

H. Adjournment-

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Jennifer Adcock.

Motion seconded by Charna Widby.

Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned 11:27 a.m.

Next Meeting: March 10, 2026, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at First 5 Riverside County, 585 Technology Drive, Riverside.

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