

Child Care Advisory Council Meeting
1/18/2024

Call to OrderAndrea Day

The Child Care Advisory Council meeting was duly called by Division of Child Care Director Andrea Day and held virtually via Zoom.

In Attendance

Lynn Baker/GOEC, Bill Buchanan/KDE, Andrea Day, Eamonn FitzGerald, Charlotta Heersche, Amy Hood, Kathryn Mullen, Tom Poland, Patricia Porter, Laura Tipton, Jennifer Washburn, Sandy Woodall, Amber Zambrano

Meeting minutes from the last CCAC meeting are unavailable. The meeting was not recorded, and the note-taker was absent from the office.

Andrea Day shared the importance of consistency in our messages concerning the importance of early childhood education and child care. She will be sharing two presentations with the group during the meeting.

KDE/GOEC Updates Bill Buchanan/Lynn Baker

Bill Buchanan provided an update for the Department of Education (KDE). Last summer, KY became the forty-first Pyramid Model State. As a pyramid state, KY is working with the pyramid consortium and early childhood partners to create a shared vision for addressing the social and emotional needs of children ages birth to five. The next meeting for the state leadership team is Thursday, February 25th. For more information, members can contact Alicia Reeves, Assistant Early Learning Administrator, or members can also contact Bill Buchanan, who will pass along the question.

KDE's consolidated monitoring will begin, and ten districts have been selected.

KDE will soon be releasing a preschool development grant opportunity. The grant supports high-quality, full-day, year-round services for 3- to 4-year-olds. Contact information will soon be released. Bill Buchanan shared these will be collaborative grants. Members expressed their excitement for this new grant opportunity.

Lynn Baker provided an update for the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Education. Lynn Baker serves as the interim Executive Director for GOEC and maintains the Head Start collaboration office. GOEC is moving forward with the preschool development grant.

Rebecca Smith presented on a national level concerning the Director's Apprenticeship Program. GOEC has relaunched the three occupations of the apprenticeship cohort. There are currently over seventy apprenticeship participants and over thirty graduates. GOEC's goal is to have three hundred participants for the next cohort in June.

GOEC has been working with the Ky Chamber of Commerce to create a talent pipeline. Lynn Baker will share this with members when the next meeting is held.

GOEC is in the final stages of completing the needs assessment for the preschool development grant.

DCC Updates Andrea Day

Andrea Day shared a PowerPoint Presentation with members that the secretary (Eric Friedlander) presented to the senate standing committee for families and children.

Numerous investments have been made in child care using federal funds and some state funds. Andrea shared the different avenues through which these funds have been allocated to support child care.

Andrea Day shared the discretionary funds have all been allocated to ARPA initiatives. DCC has tried to be mindful to use all federal funds to support child care.

Mike Hammons shared DCC was direct in allocating the federal funds and did sustain child care. Mike Hammons asked if the funds have all been spent until September of this year; Andrea Day stated that was correct, and DCC has been monitoring this to ensure all funds are spent on initiatives.

Charla Heersche shared the funds have been a blessing, and she is thankful these initiatives were allocated directly to providers.

Andrea Day shared data concerning the number of licensed and certified providers and their capacity with members.

Year	Licensed and Certified Provider
2019	2122
2020	1924
2021	1950
2022	1952
1/8/2024	1985

Year	Licensed and Certified Capacity
2019	166,001
2020	152,142
2021	158,685
2022	160,513
1/8/2024	163,866

KY is slowly growing to pre-covid numbers.

Andrea Day shared CCAP data participation rates.

Date	Number of Families	Number of Children
December 2019	15,785	28,470
December 2020	10,301	19,024
December 2021	11,396	20,699
December 2022	16,026	27,807
January 8, 2024	20,111	34,367

Andrea Day summarized with members the break-down of funds allocated.

Relief Funding

- CARES \$67.7M
- CRRSA \$192.5M
- ARPA \$763M
 - Stabilization \$470M
 - Discretionary \$293M
- State Funds \$76M
 - Family copays \$26M
 - Stabilization \$50M

The market rate survey is required by the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). It is completed prior to each state plan. There is an opportunity for each state to complete an alternate methodology instead of a market rate study. The alternate methodology would measure the true cost to run a child care program. Kentucky is close to being ready to request an alternate methodology, but this state plan year DCC will still be conducting a market rate survey through our partnership with Ky Child Care Aware (CCA). Ky has received federal technical assistance on the provider cost of quality calculator and CCA has participated and launched a pilot. Joann with CCA stated they are gathering data and cost model numbers to compare and prepare for an alternate methodology.

Andrea Day shared with members the how the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funds were allocated.

One-Time CCDBG Fund Usage

- Increased provider reimbursement rate from the 40 percentile of the Market Rate Survey (MRS) to the 80 percentile
- Increased the CCAP eligibility threshold for families
 - January 2022 – 160% FPG to 200% FPG
 - July 2022 – 200% FPG to 85% SMI
- Paying providers based on enrollment versus attendance
- Child Care Income Exclusion
- Transitional Child Care
- Facility Repair Grants
- Child Care Management System
- Technology Grants

Andrea Day shared with members the CCDBG start-up grant recipient numbers. The family child care start-up grant will continue through June 2024. However, hopefully this is an initiative DCC has continue after ARPA funding has ended.

One-Time CCDBG Fund Usage (continued)

- Start-Up Grants
 - Business Partnership 5
 - Child Care Desert 25
 - Community Partnership 5
 - Family Child Care 62
 - Intergenerational Care 5

Andrea Day shared with members the number of scholarships that have been awarded using ARPA funding. DCC is enthusiastic concerning the number of individuals that have perused a higher level of education. This has increased awareness and professionalism in the early childhood sector.

One-Time CCDBG Fund Usage (continued)

- Scholarships
 - 1,405 awards to 800 individual scholars
 - Credentials/Degrees supported
 - 85 certificates
 - 175 CDA
 - 654 Associate’s
 - 378 Bachelor’s
 - 113 Master’s
 - Higher Learning Institutions
 - Community Colleges 692
 - Universities 713

Andrea Day shared information concerning the Employee Child Care Assistance Program (ECCAP). She also shared the number of families that have benefited from the new program. DCC has been working with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss ways to market and bring more awareness to the program. DCC is also working with our technology developers to make the program digital versus working off manual spreadsheets.

Employee Child Care Assistance Partnership

- HB 499 was passed in the 2022 Regular Session.
- \$15 million in General Funds was appropriated to create a public/private partnership between employers and the state to assist families with the cost of high-quality child care.
- The state match is based upon the employee’s household size and income in relation to the state median income (SMI).
- ECCAP helps businesses recruit and retain staff while also supporting a community’s business, education, and family support network.

ECCAP – Year One

Application Status	# of Applicants (Families)	# of Children
Approved	93	133
Denied-Ineligible Employer	80	110
Denied-CCAP	27	32
Denied-Non-Contribution	6	5
Denied-Insufficient Documentation	10	12
Pending	1	1
Terminated	15	21
TOTAL	232	314

Andrea Day shared the Governor’s budget request concerning child care.

Governor’s Budget Request for Child Care

- \$40M each fiscal year to retain provider reimbursement rates at current level
- \$35M over biennium to increase reimbursement rates to child care providers specifically for the care of children ages 0 through 3 not eligible for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- \$172M each fiscal year to finance universal preschool education for all four-year old children

KYOSA Update Stephanie Barker

KYOSA is hosting a virtual conference, March 5-6. This is a professional development opportunity for providers working with school-age children. ECE-TRIS credit will be available.

New resources are available on [KYOSA’s website](#). New data has highlighted the shortages for school-age care.

FCCN Update Amy Hood

The family child care network will now be assisting family child care providers with the Ky ALL STARS program.

FCCN will be hosting their second family child care conference, February 23rd and 24th in Louisville.

Sandy Woodall stated the FCCN will be presenting at the TEACH conference.

Workgroup Update Sandy Woodall

Sandy Woodall shared an update on the workgroup concerning bringing awareness to early childhood education.

During the last meeting, participants shared phrases to describe early childhood education; this included quality, professional, essential, investment, and community. The workgroup has used these terms to guide messaging to target audiences, which are ECE professionals, families, businesses, community partners, and advocates.

The group has worked on identifying channels that they have access to share messaging. This includes social media. Sandy Woodall encouraged all members to follow the Department for Community Based Services' Facebook, Instagram and (X) Twitter.

Adjourn

Andrea Day made a call to adjourn the Child Care Advisory Council meeting.