



# Board of Supervisors Family & Social Services Cluster Agenda Review Meeting

**DATE:** May 22, 2024

**TIME:** 1:30PM – 3:30PM

**MEETING CHAIRS:** Susan Kim & Lizzie Shuster, 3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisorial District

**CEO MEETING FACILITATOR:** Claudia Alarcon

**This meeting will be held in hybrid format which allows the public to participate virtually, or in-person, as permitted under the Board of Supervisors' March 19, 2024 order**

To participate in the meeting in-person, the meeting location is:

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012  
Room 140

To participate in the meeting virtually, please call teleconference number 1 (323) 776-6996 and enter the following 995 916 944# or

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

**For Spanish Interpretation, the Public should send emails within 48 hours in advance of the meeting to: [ClusterAccommodationRequest@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:ClusterAccommodationRequest@bos.lacounty.gov)**

Members of the Public may address the Family & Social Services Cluster on any agenda item during General Public Comment.

The meeting chair will determine the amount of time allowed for each item.

**THIS TELECONFERENCE WILL BE MUTED FOR ALL CALLERS. PLEASE DIAL \*6 TO UNMUTE YOUR PHONE WHEN IT IS YOUR TIME TO SPEAK.**

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Consent Item(s)** (Any Information Item is subject to discussion and/or presentation at the request of two or more Board offices):  
-- None --
- III. **Presentation/Discussion Items:**
  - a. **Department of Public Health/ Office for the Advancement of Early Care & Education:**  
Blueprint Identifying Immediate and Long-Term Efforts to Fortify the Infant and Toddler Child Care System.
  - b. **Department of Economic Opportunity/ Department of Children and Family Services:**  
Youth@Work Presentation.
- IV. **Public Comment**

- V.** Standing item(s) and those continued from a previous meeting of the Board of Supervisors or from a previous FSS Agenda Review meeting.
- VI.** Adjournment

# Infant/Toddler Early Care and Education System Blueprint

Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education Presenters:  
Director Debra Colman, MSW  
Deputy Director Leanne Drogin, MPA

May 22, 2024



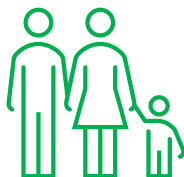
**484,822**

Infants and toddlers  
(ages birth-3)



**9,807**

Licensed infant and  
toddler (ages birth-2)  
child care spaces



**7%**

Licensed capacity to serve  
working parents with children  
under 23 months



Sources:  
2022 Los Angeles County ECE Needs Assessment  
2021 California Resource and Referral Network Child Care Data Tool



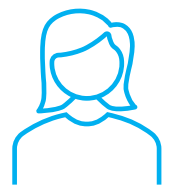
**14%**

Of infants and toddlers (ages birth-3) are eligible for subsidized infant and toddler are utilizing these services



**\$13.43**

Average wage per hour for child care workers



**42%**

Of California family child care providers that participate in public assistance



Sources:  
2022 Los Angeles County ECE Needs Assessment  
2022 "The Forgotten Ones"—The Economic Well-Being of Early Educators During COVID-19.  
Center for the Study of Child Care Employment  
2021 California Resource and Referral Network Child Care Data Tool

- DPH- OAECE was directed to develop blueprint on 09/12/2024
- Met with over 300 stakeholders in 50 meetings
- Report to LA County Board of Supervisors on 03/01/2024
- 20 recommendations to fortify the ECE system for infants and toddlers



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.  
Director

MUNTU DAVIS, M.D., M.P.H.  
Health Officer

PRIYA BATRA, M.D., M.S.  
Deputy Director for Health Promotion

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Director, Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education

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[www.childcare.lacounty.org](http://www.childcare.lacounty.org)



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March 1st, 2024

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.  
Director

SUBJECT: BLUEPRINT IDENTIFYING IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM EFFORTS TO FORTIFY THE INFANT AND TODDLER CARE SYSTEM (ITEM 36, BOARD AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2023)

This report is in response to the September 12, 2023 motion by the Board of Supervisors instructing the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) in the Department of Public Health (Public Health), in collaboration with the Department for Economic Opportunity (DEO) and in partnership with early care and education stakeholders, to develop a blueprint identifying immediate and long-term efforts to fortify the infant and toddler child care system.

The period between birth and age three is critical for child development. During this time, 80 percent of brain development occurs and the foundations for lifelong health, well-being, and success during a child's life are established. The quality of experiences and relationships in the first three years of life has a deep and lasting impact on how the brain develops. Although a parent is a child's first and most important teacher, families often need additional support from early care and education (ECE) providers during these critical years. According to the 2022 Los Angeles County ECE Needs Assessment, Los Angeles County is home to more than 484,000 infants and toddlers and only has licensed capacity through centers and family child care homes to serve 4 percent of children under 24 months. The lack of access to affordable, quality infant and toddler ECE in Los Angeles County has been a crisis for decades. Los Angeles County's low capacity to serve infants and toddlers is caused by multiple interlinked systemic factors. The strain on these factors is increasing dramatically, and if not addressed, may result in infant/toddler ECE program closures. The ECE Infant/Toddler Blueprint (Blueprint) provides a roadmap to fortify Los Angeles County's infant/toddler child care system.

## 20 Recommendations to Strengthen the Child Care System for LA County's Youngest Children

### Priority Area 1: Capacity and Infrastructure

1



**Issue:** There are not enough licensed early care and education spaces available for infants and toddlers.

### Priority Area 2: Access to Affordable Care

2



**Issue:** Infant and toddler child care is difficult to locate and expensive for families.

### Priority Area 3: Program Operations

3



**Issue:** The costs to operate an infant/toddler early care and education program are often greater than the revenue programs generate.

Blueprint can be accessed using this [link](#) and at: <https://childcare.lacounty.gov>.

### Priority Area 4: Workforce compensation

4



**Issue:** Early educators – a workforce disproportionately comprised of women of color – earn low wages and receive few benefits.

### Priority Area #5: Workforce Pathways and Qualifications

5



**Issue:** Early educators encounter barriers to accessing training and professional development to strengthen their skills, knowledge, and qualifications.



-  There are not enough licensed early care and education spaces available for infants and toddlers.

## Recommendation 1.3:

Increase partnerships between Local Education Agencies and early care and education programs to **repurpose school district facility space** for use by infant/toddler child care programs.





2

**Infant and toddler child care is difficult to locate and expensive for families.**

Recommendation 2.2:

**Strengthen the capacity of key Los Angeles County departments and community staff who support parents of infants/toddlers on how to connect families to early care and education resources.**

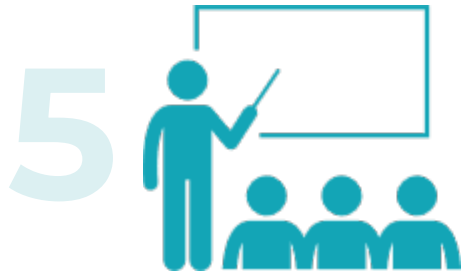
3



The costs to operate an infant/toddler early care and education program are often greater than the revenue programs generate.

## Recommendation 3.2:

Establish County and community-based **partnerships that connect family child care homes and Family, Friend, and Neighbor** providers serving infants and toddlers to resources that reduce operational costs.



Early educators – a workforce disproportionately comprised of women of color – earn low wages and receive few benefits.

## Recommendation 4.1:

Establish the **state's subsidy reimbursement rates** for licensed early care and education providers serving infants and toddlers at 100 percent of the true cost of care which includes compensation at a living wage with benefits.



Early educators encounter barriers to accessing training and professional development to strengthen their skills, knowledge, and qualifications.

## Recommendation 5.3:

Expand partnerships between institutions of higher education and **infant/toddler ECE programs for apprenticeships**, as well as unit-bearing professional development of early educators caring for infants and toddlers.



## Questions, Reflections, and Ideas

For additional information and resources,  
please visit [childcare.lacounty.gov](https://childcare.lacounty.gov)