Our Vision
The vision of the Task Force is to ensure that all families who live work or attend school in Santa Monica have access to affordable, high quality childcare and early education, and that those who provide these services are appropriately educated and compensated.

Welcome and Introductions: Laila Taslimi convened the meeting at 1:10 pm.

Attendees:
The sign-in sheet for the March 20, 2019 meeting was not collected.

City Staff:
Ivy Chang
Andrew Gibson
Natasha Guest-Kingscote

Approval of February 2019 Meeting Minutes – The minutes of the January 16, 2019 meetings were approved as amended by general consent.

Reports:

First 5 LA
- There is discussion on the increased need for more early childhood workers, trainers, and teachers if proposed State programs receive proposed funding.
  - The Task Force discussed Community Colleges system as a means to address this need.
- First 5 continues to look at continued evolution of their strategic plan process.

LA County Child Care Planning Committee
- The Planning Committee continues to work on a joint strategic plan with the Policy Round Table.
  - A presentation to the Task Force may be beneficial during the community outreach process.

FSMMUSD EC DAC
- The DAC submitted mid-year discussion to their charges for the year.
- The district had their second vertical alignment day and discussed transfer of information/data as students’ progress through the system.

Pinwheel Project
- The Social Skills group is wrapping up; a second round is starting up and looking to be full.
- The Nutrition and Parenting group is recruiting.
- The project is ramping up on family engagement and how to get parents more involved.
FSSM-ECWP
• 24/25 families spots are currently filled with a two referrals pending.
• There has been an increase in families using clinical services and FSSM continues to emphasize these services.

City of Santa Monica / SM Cradle to Career
• The Final Stewards of Children workshop has been rescheduled to April 25.
• The ECTF Digest is now online.
• The next C2C meeting is tentatively happening in May.

Building Blocks Campaign
• Kindergarten teachers are wrapping up EDI entry.
• An update to and streamlining of the Kindergarten Readiness handbook is being considered.
  o The Task Force discussed looking at additional parent engagement opportunities.

EC Lab School
• The building is on track for Fall 2020.
• Representatives of the City and SMC spoke at the Growing Place board about the partnership.

Santa Monica College
• The Annual Advisory Board meeting is on Wednesday, April 24.
• There will be an Education and EC Job Fair in early summer.
• Non-credit courses will culminate into Certificate in Mindful Parenting

Parks/Child Friendly City
• The City hosted a community workshop at Tongva Park regarding parks and recreation priorities.

KPCC Early Childhood Engagement, Stefanie Ritoperard
• Stefanie Ritoperard, Engagement Producer with KPCC, presented her work to determine ways to engage with potential audiences, including print materials and in-person meetings, to develop content based on community input.
• The Public Interest Network is an online engagement tool to connect reporters to lived experiences on various topics. Looking for input from parents and providers.
  o The Task Force discussed ideas for engagement and future stories.

Announcements
• April 6: Financial Independence Day @ VAP
• April 21: Women Who Shape Santa Monica will take place on
• April 24: Connections for Children’s Betsy Awards

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm by Laila Taslimi.