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: Meghan Moroney convened the meeting at 1:05 pm.

Attendees:
- Judy Abdo
- Donna Ayers
- Nicki Backlar
- McKenna Belgarde
- Fran Chasen
- Liz Cruz
- Shari Davis
- Linda Gordon
- Betsy Hiteshew
- Losmeiya Huang
- Ashley Itzhakian
- Louise Jaffe
- Iao Katagiri
- Heidy Lara
- Joanne Leavitt
- Sonia Maddix
- Pauline McPeake
- Meghan Moroney
- Sonia Nochez
- Terry Ogawa
- Patti Oblath
- Shirley Perez
- Lara Sando
- David Sonnenschein
- Lenore St. John
- Julie Taren
- Jo Ellen Tullis

City of Santa Monica, Human Services Staff:
- Ivy Chang
- Andrew Gibson
- Natasha Kingscote
- Setareh Yavari

Welcome and Introductions
- The Task Force and guests recognized Betsy Hiteshew for her contributions to early childhood and recognized her 90th birthday, including proclamations from the County Board of Supervisors and City of Santa Monica.

Approval of May 2019 Meeting Minutes
- The minutes of the May 15, 2019 meeting were approved by general consent.

Guest speaker: Pauline McPeake, Growing Place Director, on international study tour
- Pauline McPeake presented on an international tour taken by the Growing Place.
- The purpose of this tour was to ensure that Growing Place instructors could observe the Reggio Emilia approach first-hand ahead of the opening of the Lab School.
- In addition, a smaller delegation visited “forest schools” in Denmark.
- The Task Force discussed the language surrounding “children with special rights” in Reggio schools.
First 5 LA
- The County has a goal of expanding home visits to every child born in the county.
- First 5 LA currently funds 14 home visiting programs, focusing on areas most in need.
- If home visiting programs expand, there will be need to expand a workforce of home visitors.

LA County Child Care Planning Committee
- The Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education has hired Deborah Cullen as its Director.
- Planning Committee is wrapping up their strategic plan with the Policy Roundtable.
- Julie Tarren will serve as Chair and Ernesto Saldana will serve as Vice Chair.
- Jackie B. Majors will serve as Chair of the Policy Roundtable and Karla Pleitez Howell will serve as Vice Chair.
- The fiscal study is in the final stages and draft recommendations were shared at the Policy Roundtable meetings.
- The facilities study is going to the County Board of Supervisors.

FSMMUSD EC DAC
- Susan Samarge-Powell reviewed a short form data collection form to smooth the hand-off from pre-school to Kindergarten.

Pinwheel Project
- Focusing on end-of-year data entry.
- Final numbers for the year have been submitted: 350 receiving universal services, 70 receiving targeted services, and 67 receiving individual services.
- Making an offer to an additional staff person.

FSSM-ECWP
- Enrollment has reached the goal of 25 families for the year.
- 12-15 families, including 5-6 ECWP families, participated in a program with Community Corp on parental self-care and child development.

Santa Monica Library
- SMPL has over 200 programs this summer.
- Expanded outreach by 50%.
- This year they will be measuring engagement by school.
- Launching Ready Rosie, short films with pre-literacy tips for parents, in July.

City of Santa Monica / SM Cradle to Career
- Stewards of Children workshop will continue quarterly.
- The Human Services Division is holding focus groups on the landscape of social services programs in Santa Monica.
- Cradle to Career continues to work on marketing and youth videos.

Connections for Children / Building Blocks Campaign
- Continuing to work on Kindergarten Readiness handbook.
- Connections for Children is offering a summer series on the Growing Brain.

EC Lab School
- Construction remains on schedule.
- A proposal for start-up funding will be going to City Council.

Announcements
- Laila Taslimi was thanked for her service as Chair; Shari Davis will begin as co-chair in September.
- U.S. Department of Education has awarded Sing & Speak for Kids a contract.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 2:43 pm by Meghan Moroney.